

St. Thomas More Catholic Church  
2nd Sunday of Easter, April 7, 2024

# DIVINE MERCY Sunday

"Humanity will not find peace until it turns trustfully to Divine Mercy."

- St. Faustina



## Welcome to St. Thomas More Catholic Church

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We warmly welcome you to our humble place of worship. Our Lord Jesus comes to us in word and sacrament as we celebrate His life, death and resurrection at Holy Mass. If this is your first time visiting, we hope you find a new spiritual home away from home. Founded in 1964, our parish has a long history of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Sustainable only by your contributions, your generosity is sincerely appreciated. We welcome you, again, and thank you for celebrating with us.

### Mass Schedule

Monday thru Thursday	8:00 a.m.
Friday (S.T.M. School Mass)	8:00 a.m.
Saturday	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. (Español)

### Holy Days of Obligation

#### Day Before Holy Day

Vigil Mass 6:30 p.m.

#### Actual Holy Day

8:00 a.m.

6:30 p.m.

(Español)

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Maggie Briseño - Coordinator  
Gilbert Cantú, Alli Fuentes, Alicia Perez,  
Cesar Paez & Vicky Smith.

### PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

David Allen - Coordinator  
RoseMarie Evancho, Michele Allen & Rita Davis

**"The parish does not ask for favors either by email or text to parishioners asking to purchase gift cards of any sort."**

### Holy Sacraments

#### Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30 to 4:45 p.m.  
or by Appointment

#### Baptism

Parents and God-Parents must attend class prior to the Baptism.

#### Celebrated on:

The 4th Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. (Spanish)  
The 4th Saturday of the month at 5:00 p.m. (Vigil Mass)

#### Marriage & Quinceañera's

Contact the Pastor at least 6 months prior to date of celebration.

#### Anointing of the Sick

Those facing hospitalization, surgery or have a significant illness and desire physical & spiritual healing are asked to call the office to schedule an anointing.

#### Eucharistic Adoration

Friday Adoration after Mass until 5:00 p.m.  
Monthly English Holy Hour is the 1st Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m.  
La Hora Santa Mensual es el primer Viernes del mes a las 7:00 p.m.

#### Religious Education Office

We offer Religious Education (including Sacramental Preparation) in English & Spanish for children in grades 1 through 12.  
Please call the Rectory for more information.

#### St. Thomas More Catholic School

**Our school offers excellent Academic opportunities for children beginning at 18 months up to 8th grade. Tuition assistance programs are available for families that qualify. For more information please call 210-655-2882 or visit our website:www.St-Thomas-More-School.org**

#### **HOME OF THE KNIGHTS**

### PARISH OFFICE STAFF

**PASTOR - REV. ED GONZALES** .....  
**EMAIL** ..... **FRGONZALES.STMC@GMAIL.COM**

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE -  
DEACON (RET) TIMOTHY M. TATE SR. .... EXT. 106

DEACON - ROLANDO GUERRA

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - FLOR MATA . . . . EXT. 100

BOOKKEEPER - RHONDA VILLALOBOS

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
/SACRAMENTAL RECORDS - MARTHA GUERRA. . . EXT. 101

FACILITIES MANAGER - JOSE LUIS HERNANDEZ

4411 Moana Drive

San Antonio, Texas 78218

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday

8:30 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.

**CLOSED FOR LUNCH**

12:00 P.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

#### CONTACT US

210.655.5070 (Office)

EMAIL :

**STMPARISH@LIVE.COM**

WEBSITE:

**THOMASMORESATX.ORG**

## PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

*God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons.*

*Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call.*

*May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults.*

*Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.*

*Amen*

## ORACIÓN POR LAS VOCACIONES

*Dios Padre nuestro, te damos gracias por llamar a hombres y mujeres a servir en el Reino de tu Hijo como sacerdotes, diáconos y personas consagradas.*

*Envía tu Espíritu Santo para ayudar a otros a responder generosa y valientemente a tu llamado.*

*Que nuestra comunidad de fe apoye vocaciones de amor sacrificial en nuestros jóvenes y jóvenes adultos.*

*A través de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, que vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, por los siglos de los siglos.*

*Amén*

## *Walking United in Christ*

Make a gift to the Archbishop's Appeal for Ministries and support our community from conception to natural death



## Ways to Give:

Visit [archsa.org/archbishops-appeal](http://archsa.org/archbishops-appeal)

Call (210) 734-1910

Mail to PO Box 7374  
Kensington, CT 06037

Scan the QR code:



## YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

March 31, 2024

Sunday Collection .....	\$ 8,102.05
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 191.35
Facilities Improvement.....	\$ 25.00
Helping Hands.....	\$ 250.00
Mass Intentions.....	\$ 20.00
STM School.....	\$ 75.00
Rice Bowl.....	\$ 400.75
Shrines of the Holy Land.....	\$ 791.00

*Second Collection April 13 - 14:  
Catholic Home-Missions Appeal*



## La Campaña del Arzobispo para los Ministerios

La Campaña del Arzobispo para los Ministerios es una campaña anual que apoya a más de **30 ministerios**

compartidos que promueven la misión de la Iglesia Católica en nuestra área.

Considere realizar un donativo, de manera que ***Caminando Unidos en Cristo***, podamos cuidar constantemente de aquellos que dependen de la Arquidiócesis y de nuestros programas para sustentar la vida y la fe.

¡Visite [archsa.org/archbishops-appeal](http://archsa.org/archbishops-appeal) para donar hoy!

¿Tiene preguntas?  
Por favor llame al (210) 734-1910.

**June Jamboree**  
Friday, June 7th, 2024  
6:00 - 11:00 pm

Honoring  
Msgr. Patrick Ragsdale  
Rev. James Conway

Sponsored By: Friends of Padua and Knights of Columbus San Antonio Chapter

Benefiting: Padua Place Retirement Home for Priests & Deacons

Pedrotti's North Wind Ranch  
13715 FM1560, Helotes, Texas

SAVE THE DATE  
YOU ARE INVITED

**Gospel Meditation:**

A protestant pastor friend of mine was invited to meet Pope Francis with a group of other pastors. He noticed the Pope's chair was especially ornate and set at the head of the group. He somewhat playfully said, "Holy Father, why do you get that special chair?"

The group chuckled nervously at my friend's audacious chide.

The following year, the group was invited to return. They entered the room to find only simple chairs placed in a circle. Pope Francis entered, sat down in one of the humble chairs and, looking directly at my friend, with a twinkle in his eye, asked, "What do you think of my chair now?"

My friend was stunned that the Pope remembered his concerns — and took the time to answer them.

Thomas the apostle was certainly stunned by the Risen Jesus displaying his wounds in person.

But he also must have been equally shocked that Jesus knew and answered his particular questions, worries, and even demands related to his faith. How humbled — and perhaps a bit terrified — he must have been to realize God remembers his concerns and cares enough to answer them.

What questions or demands about Jesus do you find in your heart?

Like Thomas, will you be bold enough to voice them this week?

How wonderful to know that if we do so, God will remember and respond even to our most audacious desires.

— Father John Muir

**Meditación del Evangelio:**

Un pastor protestante amigo mío fue invitado a conocer al Papa Francisco con un grupo de otros pastores.

Se dio cuenta de que la silla del Papa estaba especialmente ornamentada y colocada a la cabeza del grupo.

Un poco juguetonamente dijo: "Santo Padre, ¿por qué tiene esa silla especial?" El grupo se rió nerviosamente ante la audaz reprimenda de mi amigo.

Al año siguiente, el grupo fue invitado a regresar. Entraron en la habitación y solo encontraron sillas simples colocadas en círculo. El Papa Francisco entró, se sentó en una de las humildes sillas y, mirando directamente a mi amigo, con un brillo en los ojos, preguntó: "¿Qué piensas ahora de mi silla?" Mi amigo se sorprendió de que el Papa recordara sus preocupaciones y se tomara el tiempo para responderlas.

El apóstol Tomás ciertamente estaba atónito por el hecho de que Jesús resucitado mostrara sus heridas en persona. Pero también debe haber estado igualmente sorprendido de que Jesús supiera y respondiera a sus preguntas, preocupaciones e incluso demandas particulares relacionadas con su fe. Cuán humilde, y tal vez un poco aterrorizado, debe haber estado al darse cuenta de que Dios recuerda sus preocupaciones y se preocupa lo suficiente como para responderlas.

¿Qué preguntas o demandas acerca de Jesús encuentras en tu corazón? Al igual que Thomas, ¿te atreverás a expresarlos esta semana? Qué maravilloso es saber que si lo hacemos, Dios recordará y responderá incluso a nuestros deseos más audaces.

— Father John Muir

**Everyone is invited to join us today (April 7th), Mercy Sunday, at 3 o'clock for a Holy Hour to celebrate Jesus' Divine Mercy!!**

At that time we will: - Bless and Venerate our Divine Mercy Image.

- Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet...

*1st, 3rd, and 5th decades in Spanish ... 2nd and 4th in English.*

**Hope to see you there!** 'till then... God Bless- DT.

Todos están invitados a unirse a nosotros hoy (el 7 de Abril), el Domingo de la Misericordia, a las 3 pm por una Hora Santa

para celebrar la Divina Misericordia de Jesús

En ese momento: - Bendeciremos y veneraremos nuestra imagen de la Divina Misericordia.

- Rezará la Coronilla de la Divina Misericordia... 1ª, 3ª y 5ª décadas en español... 2ª y 4ª en inglés.

**¡Espero verte allí!** Dios los bendiga- DT.





To Believe! To be a person of faith... to believe without having seen! Jesus' commission to the Apostles... and to us... **to preach and spread the Good News!** And it all funnels down to our celebration of Mercy... His Divine Mercy... Today.

It's easy to be a person of faith when everything is going well... When life isn't handing you a bunch of lemons to deal with... But when something happens... when we hit a rough patch... our faith may be tested... we may even experience doubts... but that doesn't necessarily mean that we have lost our faith... In fact... It's usually a call to a deeper faith.

When problems occur... we all pray for help... "God, heal my husband... my wife... my child... protect our loved ones in harms-way..." Prayers of petition and deliverance are all good and well... and our faith can grow... especially when our prayers are answered... but how much greater is our faith when we simply *Trust in the Lord*... even when our prayers don't seem to be answered... or at least not answered in the way we wanted... or hoped for.

As Our Lord told the doubting Thomas... *"Blessed are those who have not seen yet believe."*

When the unforeseen happens... we may argue with God... we may even get angry with Him... **"How could you let this happen!"** We forget that God does not *do* bad things... or even *cause* them to happen... he does, however, *allow* things to happen... For us to say, "I love you, Lord... I believe and Trust in you despite everything..." demonstrates a deeper faith than we had before our faith was challenged.... A crisis... this crisis... that crisis... **any crisis**... while not **caused** by God, can lead us to a deeper faith than we had previously known.

Last Sunday we were called to believe in and celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus.  
This Sunday we are called to believe in... and celebrate His Divine Mercy!...

The message of The Divine Mercy is a powerful reminder of who God is and who He **has been** from the very beginning. This truth that God is... in His very nature... Love and Mercy is given to us by our Judeo-Christian faith and God's self-revelation. He fully revealed Himself to us thru Jesus. Conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary... Our **unseen** God was made visible. It was Jesus, through His words and actions, who revealed God as He truly is... a loving Father, rich in mercy and abounding in great kindness and love.

Through the Divine Mercy Image... Our Lord promises... *"... that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish...."* He says... *"I Myself will defend it as My own glory."* (Diary, 47, 48) Our Lord gives us a special gift today... Mercy Sunday... A gift just for you!... me... each of us! According to St. Faustina, Our Lord promises the remission of the guilt and the punishment of sins to those who have gone to confession and receive Holy communion on... Mercy Sunday. He said, *"...On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet... My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. (D, 699)*

Keep in mind that the receipt of these graces is not magic... it involves the opening of our hearts to Jesus' Divine Mercy.  
**We are told... Be Merciful as Your Father is Merciful! We are called to bring God's Kingdom here... into the world!**

And just in case you're like I was... and you think... *"Hey, I'm just 1 person... what difference can I make!"*... I'd like to share a thought given to me by a young man sometime back... an artist... He said... *"A person with a 'little' talent... but who is willing to use-it and share-it with others... Brings more to the world than someone who may have 'All the Talent in the World'... But who, for whatever reason, chooses not to use or share it!"*

So you and me... by sharing God's Gifts... God's mercy with others... can and will impact other people's lives... and in turn they can, and probably will, be merciful to others... and impact **their** life.

Our Commission... Our Call...

**Happy Easter! Happy Divine Mercy Sunday...**

*God Bless-DT*



**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**and WELCOME!**

To all RCIA / RCIA-C individuals who received the Sacraments of Initiation this past weekend.  
May God Bless you all and continue to walk with you on your faith journey.



**St. Thomas More**  
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

We have begun planning for this year's VBS -  
**but**  
We need your help to make it a success!  
It is to be held: 17-21 June 2024.

This years' theme is:  
***Come to the Table***  
and is focused on the Eucharist.

The program is for Kinder through 5th grade.  
***(teenagers are welcome to help and earn volunteer hours)***

Please come to our next planning meeting -  
Saturday, April 13th, at 10 a.m.  
in Carolan Hall

*Hope to see you there.*



**This Week at Our Parish**

**Sunday, April 7, 2024**  
 KC 3 Degree Selling BBQ Plate Tickets after 8am & 10am Masses  
 10:00 am KC 3 Degree Mass - Church  
 3:00 pm Divine Mercy Holy Hour - Church

**Monday, April 8 2024**  
 6:00 pm KC 3 Degree Council Mtg - Carolan Hall

**Tuesday, April 9, 2024**  
 5:30 pm Divine Mercy - Rectory Mtg Room  
 6:30 pm Coro Alegria Choir Practice - Rectory Mtg Room  
 7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion Choir Practice - Church

**Wednesday, April 10, 2024**  
 6:30 pm CDA Spiritual Retreat Prep - Rectory Dining Room  
 7:00 pm Guadalupanos Choir Practice - Church  
 Pastoral Council Mtg - Rectory Mtg Room

**Thursday, April 11, 2024**  
 6:00 pm CDA Board Mtg - Rectory Dining Room  
 Charismatic Prayer Grp - Church  
 7:00 pm RCIA - Rectory Mtg Room

**Friday, April 12, 2024**  
 9:00 am (Cancelled UFN) Friday Adoration - Church  
 6:00 pm KC 3 Degree Breakfast Prep - Carolan Hall  
 6:15 pm Guadalupanos Monthly Rosary - Church  
 7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion Fellowship - Carolan Hall

**Saturday, April 13, 2024**  
 10:00 am VBS Planning Mtg - Carolan Hall

**Sunday, April 14, 2024**  
 9:00 am KC 3 Degree Breakfast - Carolan Hall

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, April 6, 2024**  
 8:00 am †Paul & Rebecca Becker  
 5:00 pm †Christina C. Dominguez by Dominguez Family  
**STM Parishioners - Living & Deceased**

**Sunday, April 7, 2024 - Mercy Sunday**  
 8:00 am †Carlos & Olivia Rodriguez by Elda Garcia  
 †Rene DeLa Rosa by Sylvia Roman  
 10:00 am †Martha Oconnor by Evancho Family  
 †Medardo E. Morales & Evangelina G. Morales by Morales / Briseno Families  
 12:00 pm †Jose Guadalupe Cisneros and Emelia Zavala by Guadalupe Soria  
**Health and Recovery - Felipa Camarillo** by Family

**Monday, April 8, 2024**  
 8:00 am †Rafael Garza by Theresa Garza  
 †Julian Reyes by Reyes Family

**Tuesday, April 9, 2024**  
 8:00 am †Vicente Khanh by Kim Nguyen  
**Torres Family - Living and †Deceased** by Ramona Yglesias

**Wednesday, April 10, 2024**  
 8:00 am †Michael McDonald by the Trimms

**Thursday, April 11, 2024**  
 8:00 am †Arthur Acosta by Acosta Family  
**All Ordained Clergy and Religious**

**Friday, April 12, 2024**  
 8:00 am †Paul Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen

**Saturday, April 13, 2024**  
 8:00 am †Phoebe Stensland  
 5:00 pm †Bruce A. St. Laurent by Wife  
 †Alfredo Sanchez by 4th Degree Assembly 2748

**Sunday, April 14, 2024**  
 8:00 am **Henk Family - Living and †Deceased** by Ramona Yglesias  
 10:00 am †Salome H Briseno & Carolina Briseno by Morales / Briseno Families  
 12:00 pm †Kathryn Marie Sweet by Maria T. Sweet  
**Fast Recovery - Aydee Cardona** by Carmen Martinez



**Lecturas de la Semana del 8 - 14 apr**

**Lunes:** Is 7:10-14; Sal 39:7-11; Heb 10:4-10;  
 Lc 1:26-38

**Martes:** Hch 4:32-37; Sal 92:1-2,5; Jn 3:7-15

**Miércoles:** Hch 5:17-26; Sal 33:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

**Jueves:** Hch 5:27-33; Sal 33:2,9,17-20; Jn 3:31-36

**Viernes:** Hch 5:34-42; Sal 26:1,4,13-14; Jn 6:1-15

**Sábado:** Hch 6:1-7; Sal 32:1-2,4-5,18-19;  
 Jn 6:16-21

**Domingo:** Hch 3:13-15,17-19; Sal 4:2,4,7-9;  
 1Jn 2:1-5; Lc 24:35-48

**Readings for the week of Apr 8 - 14**

**Monday:** Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-11;  
 Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday:** Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2,5; Jn 3:7b-15

**Wednesday:** Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

**Thursday:** Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2,9,17-20;  
 Jn 3:31-36

**Friday:** Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1,4,13-14; Jn 6:1-15

**Saturday:** Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2,4-5,18-19;  
 Jn 6:16-21

**Sunday:** Acts 3:13-15,17-19; Ps 4:2,4,7-9;  
 1Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48



**Sanctuary Light Intention:**  
*Steven Lee Waldron*

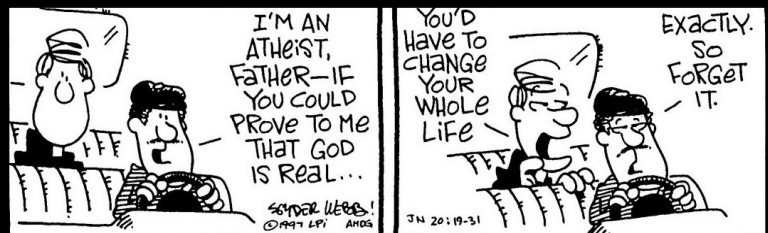
**Liturgical Roles**

**Saturday, April 13, 2023**  
 8:00 pm **Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Rolando, R.Alvarado, K.Ball,  
 T.Guerrero, M.Fisher  
**Lector** - M.Fisher

**Sunday, April 14, 2023**  
 8 am **Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Tim, P.Klar, R.Castaneda,  
 R.Davila, M.Aguirre  
**Lector** - S.Castaneda

10 am **Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Tim, M.Briseno, H.Rodriguez,  
 N.Rodriguez, V.Smith, W+M.Torres  
**Lector** - Ali.Perez

12 pm **Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Rolando, C.Hernandez,  
 R.Borrego, A.Chavez, H.Gomez, R.Gomez,  
 F.Hernandez  
**Lector** - D+F.Malacara



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**ST. THOMAS MORE**  
 Knights of Columbus Council # 7386  
 Meets 2nd Monday of each month  
 at 7:00 p.m.  
 For more information call  
 Rick Briseño at 210-834-7017

Catholic Daughters of America #2683  
 Monthly Meeting:  
 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.  
 Contact Regent  
 Vicky Smith at 210-724-4994

In Memory of  
 The Leo Oswald &  
 The Fred Lansing  
 Families



IN LOVING MEMORY  
 OF  
 REX A. BRIEN  
 &  
 MR. & MRS.  
 HILDO CASTELLON

PRAY FOR THE 3 MOST  
 FORGOTTEN SOULS IN  
 PURGATORY



In Loving Memory  
 of  
 Joe Canales  
 On behalf of  
 The Canales Family  
 Love Always



In Loving Memory of  
 Medardo E. Morales  
 &  
 Evangelina G. Morales  
 on behalf of  
 The Morales  
 &  
 Briseño Families

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In Memory of  
 Christina C. Dominguez  
 on behalf of  
 The Dominguez Family



In Memory of  
 Steven D. Sprague  
 on behalf of



*In Loving Memory*



In Loving Memory  
 of  
 Florencio Baiza,  
 Louise Baiza Garza,  
 Robert Garza  
 &  
 Mr. & Mrs.  
 Ruben Rodriguez Sr.

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In Memory of  
 Jose (Joe) Galvan,  
 Joseph (Joe) Galvan  
 & Billy Sheridan  
 on behalf of  
 The Family

St. Thomas More Guadalupano Society  
 Invite all men & women to our group.  
 Our Monthly Meeting & Fellowship Meets  
 3rd Sunday of the month after the  
 8:00 a.m. Mass. For more information call  
 Will Torres at 210.620.2745

Archdiocese of San Antonio  
 Procedures for Reporting Abuse  
 If you or someone you know has been  
 a victim of sexual abuse by a priest,  
 deacon, or other church personnel  
 and you wish to file a complaint:  
 Contact the Office of Victim  
 Assistance & Safe Environment at  
 (210) 734-7786  
 or 1-877-700-1888  
 or email: ovaee@archsa.org.  
 You have the right to contact law  
 enforcement or CPS at any time.  
 All calls or emails will be  
 responded to within 48 hours.

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In Loving Memory  
 of  
 Santiago G. Garcia Sr.  
 on behalf of  
 The Garcia Family  
 &  
 In Loving Memory  
 of  
 Eva M. Quiñones  
 On behalf of  
 The Quiñones  
 Grandchildren