December 21, 2025



Welcome to St. Thomas More Catholic Church

Thank you for celebrating with us today! We warmly welcome you to our humble place of worship,

where we hope you will have a loving experience of God.

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 tradition of proclaiming and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Sustainable only by your contributions, your generosity is sincerely appreciated.

> Once again, we welcome you, and thank you for celebrating with us.

Mass Schedule

Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. Friday (STM School Mass) 8:00 a.m. Saturday 8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. Sunday 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. (Español)

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

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Coordinator *Alicia Perez*, Alli Fuentes, Cesar Paez, Sylvia Garcia, Noe Carrizales, & Ruben Alvarado

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

David Allen - Coordinator RoseMarie Evancho, Michele Allen. Rita Davis & Charles Lange

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

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. (English)

Marriage & Quinceañera's

Contact the Pastor at least 9 months prior to desired ceremony date.

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.

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

EMAIL FrGonzales.STMC@GMAIL.COM

Parochial Vicar - Rev. Man Nguyen

Pastoral Associate -

Deacon (RET) Timothy M. Tate, Sr. EXT. 106

Deacon - Rolando Guerra

Deacon - Dennis Caballero

Administrative Assistant – Monica Aguirre...... EXT. 100

Bookkeeper - Rhonda Villalobos

Director of Religious Education / Sacramental Records -

Martha Guerra..... EXT 101

Facilities Manager – Jose Luis Hernandez

St. Thomas More Catholic Church 4411 Moana Drive

San Antonio, Texas 78218

OFFICE HOURS Monday-Friday

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

CLOSED FOR LUNCH 12 - 1 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

CONTACT US 210.655.5070 (Office)

EMAIL:

STMParish@Live.Com WEBSITE:

ThomasMoreSATX.Org

Gospel Meditation:

A priest friend recently told me a remarkable story. One of his cousins reported having a vivid dream in which an angel told him the family needed to exhume their grandmother's body from a cemetery in New York and return it to her birthplace in Romania. She had been dead nearly 10 years. As you might expect, the family thought it was, well, crazy. But astonishingly they exhumed her body. It was incorrupt, showing no signs of decomposition. That experience sparked healing, faith, and reconciliation throughout the family.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Joseph also receives a dream. He's confused, afraid. But in the quiet of sleep, God speaks: "Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home" (*Matthew 1:20*). When he wakes, Joseph acts. He doesn't overanalyze or dismiss the message. He trusts, and acts.

God still speaks — not necessarily through literal dreams but through those deeper intuitions of the heart. St. Ignatius of Loyola taught that God's voice draws us into peace, courage, and love. But we have to listen to it. Advent is a time for stillness. As we prepare for Christ's coming, we're invited to enter that quiet space where God's voice can be heard.

When and how do you become most receptive to God? Is it in silence? In prayer? In nature? At Mass? This week, go there. Be still. Listen. And like Joseph, have the courage to act on what God shows you.

— Father John Muir

Meditación del Evangelio:

Un amigo sacerdote me contó recientemente una historia extraordinaria. Uno de sus primos contó haber tenido un sueño vívido en el que un ángel le dijo que la familia debía exhumar el cuerpo de su abuela de un cementerio en Nueva York y devolverlo a su lugar de nacimiento en Rumanía. Llevaba casi 10 años muerta. Como era de esperar, la familia pensó que era, bueno, una locura. Pero, sorprendentemente, exhumaron su cuerpo. Era incorrupto, sin mostrar signos de descomposición. Esa experiencia provocó sanación, fe y reconciliación en toda la familia.

En el Evangelio de este domingo, José también recibe un sueño. Está confundido, asustado. Pero en la quietud del sueño, Dios habla: "No tengáis miedo de acoger a María, tu esposa, en tu casa" (Mateo 1:20). Cuando despierta, Joseph actúa. No sobreanaliza ni descarta el mensaje. Confía y actúa.

Dios sigue hablando — no necesariamente a través de sueños literales, sino a través de esas intuiciones más profundas del corazón. San Ignacio de Loyola enseñó que la voz de Dios nos lleva a la paz, el valor y el amor. Pero tenemos que escucharlo. El Adviento es un tiempo de quietud. Mientras nos preparamos para la llegada de Cristo, estamos invitados a entrar en ese espacio tranquilo donde se puede oír la voz de Dios.

¿Cuándo y cómo te vuelves más receptivo a Dios? ¿Es en silencio? ¿En oración? ¿En la naturaleza? ¿En misa? Esta semana, ve allí. Estate quieto. Escucha. Y como José, ten el valor de actuar según lo que Dios te muestra.

— Padre John Muir

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

December 14, 2025

Sunday Collection\$	5,947.85
Vigil Candles\$	215.25
Retired Religious\$	424.85
Mass Intentions\$	130.00
Donations\$	50.00
Bulletin Ads\$	100.00
Truck Raffle\$	3,660.00
Immaculate Conception\$	20.00
Christmas Flowers\$	100.00
BINGO\$	1,326.40

Second Collection at ALL Christmas Masses: To Support Assumption Seminary

Second Collection: Dec 27 - 28

To Support Our STM School

Special Notice Lectors and all who follow the readings

Readings for all Christmas Masses

(Vigil, Midnight, and 'Day-of')
will use the readings for the Night Mass
(found on page 58 of the missalette)

Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3,11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Aviso Especial

<u>Lectores y todos los que siguen las lecturas</u> Las lecturas de <u>todas las Misas de Navidad</u>

(Vigilia, Medianoche y 'Día de')
utilizarán las lecturas de la Misa de Noche
(Se encuentra en la página 59 del missalette)

Is 9:1-6; Sal 95:1-3,11-13; Tit 2:11-14; Lc 2:1-14

Fourth Sunday of Advent Page 2

For your review: A financial analysis showing Income and Expenses for the past 2 fiscal years (2023-2024 and 2024-2025) as well as budgeted numbers for this / upcoming fiscal year (July 2025-June 2026).

Please address any comments / questions to the Parish Office.

Fr. Ed

INCOME	July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 Actual Dollars for Fiscal Year			July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 Actual Dollars for Fiscal Year			July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 Budgeted Dollars for Fiscal Year		
	Sunday & Holy Day Contribution	324,520			356,695			360,000	
Archbishop's Appeal Rebate	6,084			64,944			5,000		
Building Fund and Other	113,466			78,148			63,500		
Fundraising Activities	168,490			12,640			155,000		
Religious Education & Faith Formation	8,222			9,815			12,306		
Parish Organization & Special Projects	20,818			15,375			11,500		
Total Income	641,600			537,617			607,306		
Pastoral & Administrative Expenses									
Administration		215,660			225,789			226,780	
Insurance		21,827			53,084			56,100	
Repair & Maintenance		28,171			176,207			15,200	
Utilities		41,448			27,111			31,090	
Other Expenses **		100,686			145,747			116,725	
Archdiocese Assistance		41,484			45,036			49,908	
Fundraising Expense		73,844			1,355			65,000	
Parish Organization & Special Projects		25,529			14,633			14,500	
Subtotal of Pastoral & Admin.		548,649			688,963			575,303	
TOTAL INCOME, EXPENSES & NET FOR EACH YEAR	641,600	548,649	92,951	537,617	688,963	(151,346)	607,306	575,303	32,003



Christmas 2025 Appeal



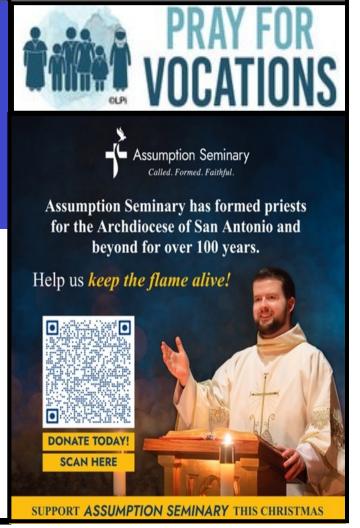
Assumption Seminary,

the seminary of the Archdiocese of San Antonio, is pleased to keep the flame alive for over 100 years as we form priests for the archdiocese and beyond.

Led by Rector, Bishop Gary Janak, and your generous support, our seminarians can grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, develop their intellect as full time students in philosophy and theology, engage in profound pastoral ministry experiences, and grow as wholesome, joyful men of God.

Your financial gift to the Christmas Day 2nd Collection, in person or online, is critical to the formation of your future pastors, spiritual directors, confessors and pastoral leaders.

Thank you for your generosity





A CHRISTMAS WISH:

During this most holy time of the year, my prayer is that the Christ Child and His Mother, Mary most holy, continue to bless our parish and each of you during this Christmas Season and throughout the coming year.

On behalf of myself, Fr. Man, our Parish Staff, Deacons, School Faculty and Staff, and all our various Organizations and Ministries...

Merry Christmas... and God Bless.

Fr. Ed

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son and His name shall be called Emmanuel.

Liturgical Schedule for Christmas

Wed, Dec 24: 5 pm - Vigil Mass

Thurs, Dec 25: Midnight

(Music begins at 11:30 pm)

10 am

Noon - Spanish

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Wed, Dec 31: 6 pm

-

Thurs, Jan 1: 10 am

Noon - Spanish

During Christmas Holidays, The <u>Parish Offices will be closed</u> on the following Holy Days and Holidays:

Wed, Dec 24th - Christmas Eve Thurs, Dec 25th - Christmas Day Fri, Dec 26th - In Observance of Christmas

Thurs, Jan 1st - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God











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St. Thomas More Catholic Church & School Truck Raffle

2025 Ford Ranger XLT Valued at \$32,453. Tickets are \$100 / each Winner is responsible for Tax, Title, License

If you would like to purchase a ticket, call (210) 655-5070 or Stop by the Rectory.

Tickets will also be available after all Masses.

Drawing will be held: Saturday, February 21, 2026 Prize must be claimed by 5 pm, Friday, February 27, 2026 or Winner forfeits prize and a new winner will be drawn.

Purchase of ticket IS <u>NOT</u> Tax Deductible. All proceeds benefit St. Thomas More Catholic Church



This Week at Our Parish

*** Truck Raffle Ticket Sale - after all Masses This Weekend ***

Sunday, December 21, 2025

Guadalupanos Mass - Church 8:00 am

Monday, December 22, 2025 Tuesday, December 23, 2025

5:30 pm Divine Mercy - Rectory Mtg Room-1 6:00 am Festival Mtg - Rectory Mtg Room

7:00 pm Coro Alegria Choir Practice - Rectory Mtg Room-1

*** Parish Offices Closed Wed, Thurs, Fri - Christmas ***

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 All Activities/ Meetings - Cancelled

Thursday, December 25, 2025 - Christmas Day

All Activities/ Meetings - Cancelled

December 26, 2025 Friday, All Activities/ Meetings - Cancelled

*** Truck Raffle Ticket Sale - after all Masses This Weekend ***

Saturday, December 27, 2025

3:30 pm Cenaculo de la Divina Misericordia - Rectory Mtg Rm-1

Sunday, December 28, 2025 10:00 am CDA Mass - Church



Sanctuary Light Intention: †Abigail Rovayo

(12/27 - 1/27)

Lecturas de la Semana del 22 - 27 dec

Lunes: 1Sm 1:24-28: 1Sm 2:1.4-8: Lc 1:46-56

Martes: Mal 3:1-4,23-24; Sal 24:4-5,8-10,14; Lc 1:57-66 **Miércoles**: *Día*: 2Sm 7:1-5,8-12,14,16; Sal 88:2-5,27,29;

Lc 1:67-79

Vigilia: Is 62:1-5; Sal 88:4-5,16-17,27,29;

Hch 13:16-17,22-25; Mt 1:1-25

Jueves: Medianoche: Is 9:1-6; Sal 95:1-3,11-13;

Tit 2:11-14; Lc 2:1-14

Día: Is 52:7-10; Sal 97:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Viernes: Hch 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Sal 30:3-4,6,8,16,17;

Mt 10:17-22

Sábado: 1Jn 1:1-4; Sal 96:1-2,5-6,11-12; Jn 20:1:2-8

Domingo: Eclo 3:2-6,12-14; Sal 127:1-5; Col 3:12-21;

Mt 2:13-15,19-23

Readings for the week of Dec 22 - 27

1Sm 1:24-28; 1Sm 2:1,4-8; Lk 1:46-56 Mon:

Mal 3:1-4,23-24; Ps 25:4-5,8-10,14; Lk 1:57-66

Wed: *Day*: 2Sm 7:1-5,8-12,14,16; Ps 89:2-5,27,29;

Lk 1:67-79

Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5,16-17,27,29;

Acts 13:16-17,22-25; Mt 1:1-25

Thurs: *MidNight*: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3,11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3-4,6,8,16,17; Fri:

Mt 10:17-22

Sat: 1Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12; Jn 20:1-8

Sun: Sir 3:2-6,12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21;

Mt 2:13-15,19-23

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 20, 2025

2:00 pm †Dearly Departed - First Christmas in Heaven 5:00 pm †Julio & Guadalupe Mendoza by Mendoza Family

†Christina C. Dominguez by Dominguez Family by Richard Perez Family †Martha Brinkmann

by Family †Ruben Sr & Beatrice Rodriguez †Gregorio Cisneros by Family Special Intention for Thanksgiving—Rosa Saldiva

Sunday, December 21, 2025 - Fourth Sunday of Advent STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased 8:00 am

10:00 am tJuan & Mike Urbano by Urbano Family †Katie Sweet by Conce Lemus

by Dale †Jon Ware

†Peter S. Johnson, Jr. by Johnson Family †Salome H. & Carolina B. Briseno by Briseno / Morales Families

12:00 pm †Marcellino Llanas by Talley Family

Monday. **December 22, 2024**

†Philip McCoy 8:00 am

Tuesday, December 23, 2024 - St. John of Kanty, Priest 8:00 am Rosemary Saldiva by Mom

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 - Christmas Eve

by Family 8:00 am †San Juana E. Reyes 5:00 pm †Rafael Garza by Theresa Garza

Thursday, December 25, 2025 - Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

†Edward & Diana Ramirez 12:00 am by Family 10:00 am †Deceased Mbrs - Oswald & Evancho Families by Evancho Family

12:00 pm STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased

Friday, December 26, 2025 - St. Stephen, the First Martyr

8:00 am †Santiago (Jimmy) Perez

December 27, 2025 - St. John, Apostle and Evangelist Saturday, by Cisneros family 8:00 am Almas del Pulgatorio

5:00 pm †Carmen Yanez by Family †San Juana E. Reyes by Family

by Richard Perez Family †Martha Brinkmann

†Ruben Sr & Beatrice Rodriguez by Family

Sunday, December 28, 2025 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

8:00 am

†Marguerite McCoy STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased 10:00 am 12:00 pm

†Marcellino Llanas by Talley Family , †Jose Alcantar & Jesse Alcantar by Family †Deyanira Tello by Hermanas Tello



Liturgical Roles

Saturday, December 27, 2025

5:00 pm Celebrant - Fr. Ed

Altar Servers - Volunteers

Eucharistic Ministers- Dcn Rolando, T.Garza, R.Saldiva,

S.Chapa, T.Guerrero

Lector - T.Guerrero

Sunday, December 28, 2025 8 am Celebrant - Fr. Ed

Altar Servers - Max.Planchon

Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, B.Trevino, M.Nguyen,

R.Castaneda

Lector - Y.Cione

10 am Celebrant - Fr. Ed

Altar Servers - M.Lawson, C.Hartsfield, M.Pereida

Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Dennis, CDA

Lector - CDA

12 pm Celebrant - Fr. Ed

Altar Servers - S.Obregon, A.Gomez, M.Gonzalez Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Dennis, C.Hernandez, M.Pina,

C.Martinez, A.Chavez, D+F.Malacara

Lector - L.Lopez / M.Pina



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 David A Bernal 210-669-5899.

Catholic Daughters of America #2683



Monthly Meeting: 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m Contact Regent Belinda Treviño at 210-275-6529

In Memory of The Leo Oswald & The Fred Lansing **Families**







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In Memory of Jose Luis Maldonado Jr. " Sweet Lou" on behalf of

The Maldonado Family & The Dominguez Family





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





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In Loving Memory Florencio Baiza, Louise Baiza Garza, Robert Garza Ruben Sr.& Beatrice Rodriguez

Online Giving:





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

St. Thomas More Guadalupanos Society

Invites all men & women to our group. **Our Monthly Meeting & Fellowship Meets** the 3rd Sunday of the month, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. For more information call Esther Nunez @210.288.7579

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 (877) 700-1888 or email: ovase@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.





In Loving Memory Santiago G. Garcia Sr. L Martha C. Garcia on behalf of The Garcia Family

NAILS by HELEN

Salons at The Oaks

Mon-Sat: 9:30-6pm (832) 466-9818

2914 Old Thousand Oaks Suite 108, San Antonio, TX, 78247