

Gospel Meditation:

As a boy my favorite board game was "Chutes and Ladders."

The players roll dice to move from the start to the finish, from the bottom of the board to the top.

If you land on a chute, you slide back and down. It was a bummer. Land on a ladder, and you jump well up the board and near the goal. It was a thrill to find a ladder and draw closer to the goal. That's life, isn't it?

At every moment, we're either moving closer or farther from the goal of our lives.

How do we win? Jesus tells us the secret of life's chutes and ladders hinges on getting our loves rightly ordered.

What we love in life is meant to be a ladder, drawing us up into God's love — including our family, friends, work, play, food, and drink. Even to give your water to someone out of love for Christ leads to a sure reward.

But those ladders of our loves can become chutes. If we love even our family members more than Christ, we slide down and back. If we love the persons and things in our life for the sake of Christ, He says we "surely will not lose our reward." The key difference between a chute and ladder, between our spiritual regression and advancement, is our willingness to renounce everything - even our own life - for the love of Jesus. To allow everything and everyone we love to draw us to love him more — that's the difference between chutes and ladders.

— Father John Muir

Meditación del Evangelio:

Cuando era niño, mi juego de mesa favorito era "Chutes and Ladders".

Los jugadores tiran los dados para moverse desde el principio hasta el final, desde la parte inferior del tablero hasta la parte superior. Si aterrizas en un tobogán, te deslizas hacia atrás y hacia abajo. Fue un fastidio. Aterrizas en una escalera, y saltas bien arriba de la tabla y cerca de la meta. Fue emocionante encontrar una escalera y acercarme a la meta. Así es la vida, ¿no? En cada momento, nos estamos acercando o alejando de la meta de nuestras vidas.

¿Cómo ganamos? Jesús nos dice que el secreto de las rampas y escaleras de la vida depende de ordenar correctamente nuestros amores. Lo que amamos en la vida está destinado a ser una escalera, que nos lleva al amor de Dios, incluyendo a nuestra familia, amigos, trabajo, juego, comida y bebida. Incluso dar su agua a alguien por amor a Cristo conduce a una recompensa segura.

Pero esas escaleras de nuestros amores pueden convertirse en toboganes. Si amamos incluso a los miembros de nuestra familia más que a Cristo, nos deslizamos hacia abajo y hacia atrás. Si amamos a las personas y cosas en nuestra vida por causa de Cristo, Él dice que "ciertamente no perderemos nuestra recompensa". La diferencia clave entre una rampa y una escalera, entre nuestra regresión espiritual y avance, es nuestra voluntad de renunciar a todo, incluso a nuestra propia vida, por el amor de Jesús. Permitir que todo y todos los que amamos nos atraigan a amarlo más, esa es la diferencia entre rampas y escaleras.

— Father John Muir

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

June 25, 2023

Sunday Collection	\$ 5,131.76
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 196.90
Facilities Improvement.....	\$ 12.00
Helping Hands.....	\$ 10.00
STM School.....	\$ 1,044.04
Raffle.....	\$ 4,000.00
Mass Intentions.....	\$ 20.00
VBS Donations.....	\$ 300.00

Second Collection July 8 - 9:

Facilities Improvement Fund



Catholic Women's CONFERENCE
"Come to Me"
Matthew 11:28

July 28 & 29, 2023
Friday & Saturday
Phoenixian Ballroom | San Antonio
St. George Maronite Church
+ Virtual Livestream Option

Auxiliary Bishop of San Antonio
Most Rev. Gary Janak

Featuring Eucharistic Adoration: Time with Jesus the Divine **Healer**

Speaking on Prayer
Fr. Paul Melgarejo

Healing Through God the Father's Heart
Sister Elizabeth Ann Dockery
Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ

Consolation Through Heavenly Mother's Heart
Mary Jane Fox
Conference Founder, Pilgrim Center of Hope

Answering the Call: Doing Something Beautiful for God

Veronica Peña-Montalvo
Founder, The Great Commission Theatre

Discerning God's Will In Our Lives: How Listening to the Lord Can Bring Enlightenment and Direction

Paula Umara
Wife, Mother, Former Athlete
Retiring from Costa Rica, Paula is a former professional tennis player. After her 5th childbirth, she suddenly became sick due to a nervous system disorder called CDP which left her quadriplegic. She now shares her story of faith to inspire others.

St. Thomas More Catholic School's Annual

PURSE BINGO

***WIN DESIGNER PURSES * SILENT AUCTION**

Friday, August 4, 2023

5:00 PM Doors Open 6:30 PM Bingo Starts

TICKETS: \$40 Individual Ticket (Includes 12 games and food)
Reserved table: \$500 (Includes reserved seating for 10 guests, 12 games, special game pack, and food)

Carolann Hall 4427 Moana Dr. San Antonio, TX 78218

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS NOW SPACE IS LIMITED!

Call: 210-655-2882

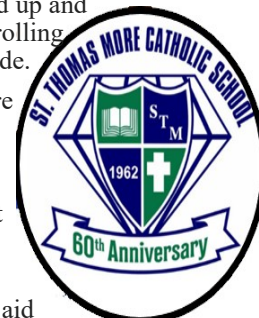
Scan QR Code to purchase tickets, be sure to include name and number of tickets for "will call" when purchasing on PayPal.



St. Thomas More Catholic School Where "EXCELLENCE IS AFFORDABLE."

St. Thomas More Child Development Center has space available for children 18 months and up and St. Thomas More School is now enrolling children 3 years old through 8th grade.

If you are looking for a school where Christ is present and prayer is important, where your child is challenged academically and spiritually, come take a tour of what our parish school and child development center has to offer.



We have scholarships and financial aid available too. Call the school or stop in, see the bulletin for the website and phone number or just Google us!

We look forward to showing off our school and welcoming your child.

An affordable tuition and GREAT Education are within your reach! **CALL TODAY 210-655-2882 or APPLY AT WWW.ST-THOMAS-MORE-SCHOOL.ORG**

Scholarships are still available up to \$1500 off tuition.

Well... Here we are again. Summer starting to wind down... and our Religious-Ed / Faith Formation Classes are 'gearing-up' for a new year. By our Baptism we are called to "Go... and make disciples of all nations..."

We are all called to Evangelize and Witness to our faith.

We owe it to our children... we owe it to our parish... to God... and our Church...

Jesus' command to teach was not directed only to the bishops, priests, deacons and religious... it was directed to all His disciples! It was directed to **YOU** and to **ME**! When our children are baptized we promised that we will bring them up in the faith! That means more than just passing by a church and telling them 'God lives there.'

We owe it to our children to let them *know* God and His love. Don't let them down! Teach them at home- yes... Send them to Faith Formation- yes... but take it that 1-step farther and volunteer your time and talent to those children whose parents may not be as dedicated as you are.

We need you! We can't do it without you! Don't use the excuse, "I don't know enough."...

You know more than the children... What you don't know... we'll teach you.

Don't say, "It's OK, someone else will do it"... thinking someone else will step up.

(they're thinking that exact same thing while looking at you!)

To help you in your discernment whether you should volunteer or not, I've compiled 10 reasons why **YOU should consider becoming a catechist**. Here they are... Beginning with #10:

10. The best way to learn... is to teach. This is a win-win scenario...
The kids/students learn while you reinforce your own faith.
9. Catechists tell the truth. As long as you follow Scripture and Tradition... you'll have no problem.
8. Sharing the Faith is an honor. Doing God's work is always an honor...
7. Your own faith will come alive! As you prepare your lessons, etc... you'll find yourself learning!
You'll begin seeing through the eyes of a child... and that's a good thing.
Seeing the faith through your student's eyes will open *your* eyes!
6. You become an active part of the most active part of our Parish.
5. As a catechist... you are a Role Model! People look up to 'Sunday School Teachers' / Catechists.
4. You will be practicing stewardship. Stewardship is nothing more than caring for the gifts God has given us...
and what more precious gift is there than his children and their families?
3. You show your family, friends, and fellow parishioners that you value Religious Education.
2. It's Fun! You've heard the old saying... 'Try it... You'll like it!' in this instance... it's true!
I invite you to have the time of your life!

And, Here it is... The Number-1 Reason you should be a Catechist... *(Drum-roll please...):*

1. It's what we are called to do!

If you feel you are called in any way, simply contact Mrs Guerra in the parish office... talk to Father Mike, or one of your deacons. Thanks in advance for responding to this call. Until next time... God Bless- DT

Registration for our Religious Education Classes is coming soon!!

Registration will begin August 1st and continue through August 31, 2023
at the parish office,
Monday-Friday 9am to 3pm.

Classes Begin as follows,

English – September 10th
Spanish – September 16th
Confirmation – September 24th

For more information, required documentation, or
general questions, please contact
Martha Guerra, DRE,
at the parish office at (210) 655-5070

Note: Masks in the classroom will be optional, however, for the safety of your children
temperature checks will still be required at the door.

¡La inscripción para nuestras clases de educación religiosa llegará pronto!

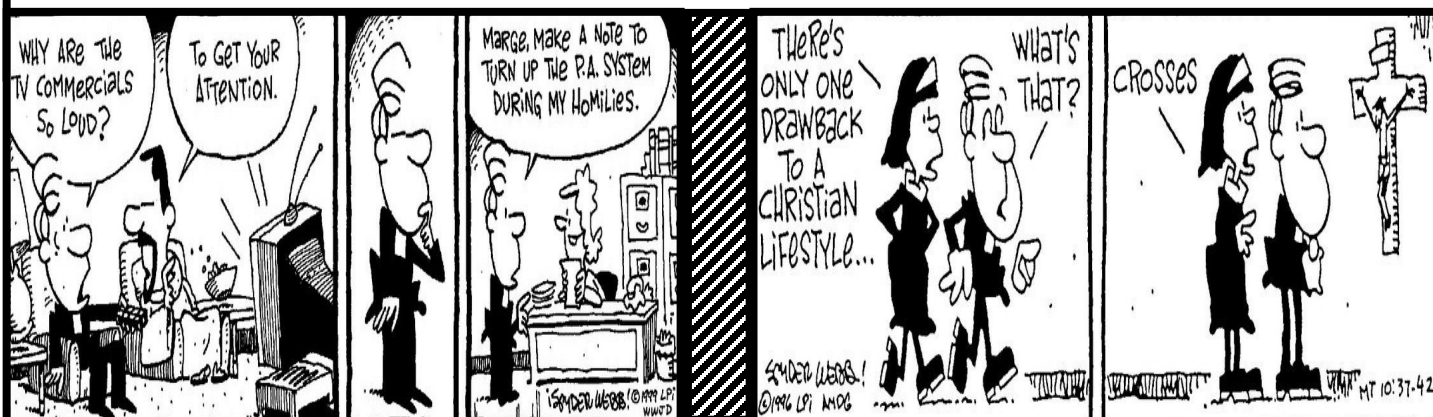
La inscripción comenzará el 1 de agosto y continuará hasta el 31 de agosto
de 2023 en la oficina parroquial,
de lunes a viernes de 9 am a 3 pm

Las clases empiezan de la siguiente manera,

Inglés – 10^{de} septiembre
Español – 16^{de} septiembre
Confirmación – 24^{de} septiembre

Para más información, documentación requerida,
o preguntas generales, por favor contacte a
Martha Guerra, DRE,
en la oficina parroquial al (210) 655-5070

Nota: Las máscaras faciales en el salón serán opcionales. Sin embargo, para la seguridad de
sus hijos, Todavía se requerirán verificaciones de temperatura en la entrada.

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)**

Summer is here! Fall is right around the corner!

Interested in: Joining the Catholic Faith?

Completing your Sacraments of Initiation (*Holy Communion and / or Confirmation*)?

Just knowing more about the Catholic Faith?

I invite you to join us on Thursday evenings beginning Sept 7th at 7 pm (*mark your calendar*)

More to come...

This Week at Our Parish**Sunday, July 2, 2023***** **KC BBQ Ticket Sales - Outside Church** ***

10:00 am KoC Mass - Church

1:30 pm VBS General Mtg - Carolan Hall

Monday, July 3, 2023**Tuesday, July 4, 2023***** **Parish Offices Closed** *****Wednesday, July 5, 2023**

10:30 am Charismatic Prayer Grp Board Mtg - RMR

6:30 pm KC 3rd Degree Officers Mtg - Carolan Hall

7:00 pm Guadalupanos Choir Practice - Church

Thursday, July 6, 2023

6:00 pm Holy Hour / Charismatic Prayer Grp - Church

7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion (men's Retreat Prep) - RMR

Friday, July 7, 2023

3:00 pm Charismatic Prayer Grp / Retreat Setup - Carolan Hall

6:30 pm Guitar / Choir Practice - Rectory Mtg Room

7:00 pm La Hora Santa / Grupo de Oracion - Church

Saturday, July 8, 2023

7:00 am Charismatic Prayer Grp (Day Retreat) - Carolan Hall

Sunday, July 9, 2023

1:30 pm VBS General Mtg - Carolan Hall

Holy Hour / la Hora SantaThursday, July 6th
Beginning at 6 pmCome...
spend some quiet,
quality time with
Our Lord in the
Most Blessed
Sacrament.
Hope to see you there.Viernes, 7 de julio
a las 7 pm.Ven...
Pasa un rato
tranquilo 'uno-a-uno'
tiempo con Nuestro
Senor - Jesu Cristo!
Espero verte alli.**Lecturas de la Semana del 3 - 9 julio****Lunes:** Ef 2:19-22; Sal 116:1,2; Jn 20:24-29**Martes:** Gn 19:15-29; Sal 25:2-3,9-12; Mt 8:23-27**Miércoles:** Gn 21:5,8-20; Sal 33:7-8,10-13; Mt 8:28-34**Jueves:** Gn 22:1-19; Sal 113:1-6,8-9; Mt 9:1-8**Viernes:** Gn 23:1-4,19; 24:1-8,62-67; Sal 105:1-5;
Mt 9:9-13**Sábado:** Gn 27:1-5,15-29; Sal 134:1-6; Mt 9:14-17**Domingo:** Zac 9:9-10; Sal 144:1-2,8-11,13-14;
Rom 8:9,11-13; Mt 11:25-30**Readings for the week of July 3 - 9****Monday:** Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1,2; Jn 20:24-29**Tuesday:** Gn 19:15-29; Ps 26:2-3,9-12; Mt 8:23-27**Wednesday:** Gn 21:5,8-20a; Ps 34:7-8,10-13;
Mt 8:28-34**Thursday:** Gn 22:1b-19; Ps 115:1-6,8-9; Mt 9:1-8**Friday:** Gn 23:1-4,19; 24:1-8,62-67; Ps 106:1b-5;
Mt 9:9-13**Saturday:** Gn 27:1-5,15-29; Ps 135:1b-6; Mt 9:14-17**Sunday:** Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2,8-11,13-14;
Rom 8:9,11-13; Mt 11:25-30**Mass Intentions****Saturday, July 1, 2023**

8:00 am †Thuy Duong

by Volpenhein

In Thanksgiving

by Kim Nguyen

5:00 pm †Christina C. Dominguez

by Dominguez Family

STM Parishioners - Living and †Deceased**Sunday, July 2, 2023**

8:00 am †Arturo Cuellar

by Gloria Villa

†Donald Dotson

by Volpenhein Family

10:00 am †Alice Ramirez

by Her Children

†Medardo E. Morales and Evangelina G. Morales

by Morales & Briseno Families

12:00 pm †Kathryn Marie Sweet

by Maria T. Sweet

†Enrique Orozco Luevano

by Pereida-Orozco Family

Monday, July 3, 2023

8:00 am †Rafael Garza

by Mrs T.S.Garza

†Theresa Hoi

by Kim Nguyen

Tuesday, July 4, 2023

8:00 am †Al Weinheimer

by Carolyn Weinheimer

†Souls in Purgatory

by Villegas Family

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

8:00 am †Rosie Reyes & Suzell Waller

by Eddie Reyes

†Souls in Purgatory

by Villegas Family

Thursday, July 6, 2023 (Communion Service)8:00 am **Ordained Clergy and Religious****Friday, July 7, 2023**

8:00 am †John Duong

by Nguyen Family

†Andres & Olivia Flores

by Stella Lopez & Sisters

Saturday, July 8, 20238:00 am **All Souls**

by Kim Nguyen

5:00 pm †Joseph J. Weich

by Pat Weinert

†Rafael D. Garza, Jr

by Richard & Dorothy Perez

Sunday, July 9, 2023

8:00 am †Mona Anderson & Frances Dugosh

by Rosa Saldiva

STM Parishioners - Living and †Deceased

10:00 am †Yolanda Faz

by Jesse Perez & Family

†Salome H. Briseno and Carolina B. Briseno

by Morales & Briseno Families

12:00 pm **†Souls in Purgatory**

by Villegas Family

**Sanctuary Light Intention:****Baby Dawn, Misty Dawn, Jeremy &
Roxanne Espinoza****Liturgical Roles****Saturday, July 8, 2023**

5 pm Altar Servers - (None)

Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, R.Alvarado, T.G.Garza, T.Guerrero,
(+1 Vol)

Lector - T.Guerrero

Sunday, July 9, 2023

8 am Altar Servers - (None)

Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, M.Nguyen, R.Saldiva,
T.S.Garza, (+1 Vol)

Lector - S.McCarthy

10 am Altar Servers - A.Mata, Z.Ramirez, (Vol)

Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, J+And.Perez, Y.Aguilar, A.Fuentes,
E.Garcia, V.Smith

Lector - Abi.Perez

12 pm Altar Servers - S.Obregon, A.Gomez, Volunteer

Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, H.Gomez, R.Gomez, A.Chavez,
D+F.Malacara

Lector - R.Borrego / M.Cisneros