

**St. Thomas More
Catholic Church
Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time
January 19, 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 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. We welcome you, again, and thank you for celebrating with us.

Mass Schedule

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

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

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

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

Gospel Meditation:

A friend invited me to an invitation-only wine-tasting event. There were over two hundred varieties of wine. Having no idea how to approach such a massive selection, I wandered aimlessly among the tables, sipping this and that. At the end of the evening my friend asked if I had tried some of the exceptionally expensive wines. I hadn't. "*The really good stuff disappears first,*" he said. "*My man, you missed out on some amazing vino.*" I was so disappointed. I wasted my chance for amazing once-in-a-lifetime wine. The wine I tasted was, well, blah.

Don't we often feel a similar disappointment in life? I missed this or that opportunity. If only I had known. Optimism sputters and fades. The glory days are gone. The chances, it seems, for the really great things in life come and go so quickly. Then they are gone forever. The good stuff goes first. Then life is just blah.

Not so with the Lord Jesus. In Jesus' miracle at the wedding at Cana, the steward of the feast says, "*Everyone serves good wine first, and then...an inferior one*" (John 2:10). That's the natural downward progression of life. The good stuff disappears quickly. But he says of the groom (*who symbolizes Jesus*), "*But you have kept the good wine until now.*" This is the ever-improving trajectory of the realm of God's grace. With Jesus, the "**good wine**" of divine love, hope and peace gets better as our journey of faith progresses. Where are your greatest disappointments? Don't give in to the lie that the really good stuff is gone. Tell Jesus you've run out. Then learn how to taste that amazingly good wine, because he saves the best until now.

— Father John Muir

Meditación del Evangelio:

Un amigo me invitó a un evento de cata de vinos al que solo se podía acceder por invitación. Había más de doscientas variedades de vino. Al no tener idea de cómo abordar una selección tan masiva, deambulé sin rumbo entre las mesas, bebiendo esto y aquello. Al final de la noche, mi amigo me preguntó si había probado algunos de los vinos excepcionalmente caros. No lo había hecho. "*Las cosas realmente buenas desaparecen primero*", dijo. "*Hombre, te perdiste un vino increíble*". Estaba tan decepcionado. Perdí mi oportunidad de tomar un vino increíble y único en la vida. El vino que probé fue, bueno, blah.

¿No sentimos a menudo una decepción similar en la vida? Perdí tal o cual oportunidad. Ojalá lo hubiera sabido. El optimismo chisporrotea y se desvanece. Los días de gloria se han ido. Las oportunidades, al parecer, para las cosas realmente grandes de la vida van y vienen muy rápido. Luego se van para siempre. Lo bueno es lo primero. Entonces la vida es simplemente blah.

No es así con el Señor Jesús. En el milagro de Jesús en las bodas de Caná, el mayordomo de la fiesta dice: "*Todos sirven primero el buen vino, y luego... uno inferior*" (Juan 2:10). Esa es la progresión natural hacia abajo de la vida. Lo bueno desaparece rápidamente. Pero él dice del novio (*que simboliza a Jesús*): "*Pero tú has guardado el buen vino hasta ahora*". Esta es la trayectoria cada vez mejor del reino de la gracia de Dios. Con Jesús, el "**buen vino**" del amor divino, la esperanza y la paz mejora a medida que avanza nuestro camino de fe. ¿Dónde están tus mayores decepciones? No cedas a la mentira de que las cosas realmente buenas se han ido. Dile a Jesús que has salido corriendo. Luego aprende a degustar ese vino increíblemente bueno, porque guarda lo mejor hasta ahora.

— Father John Muir

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

January 12, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 6,216.87
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 146.76
Assumption Seminary.....	\$ 1,000.00
Donations	\$ 500.00
Mass Intentions.....	\$ 10.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$ 71.00
Bulletin Ads.....	\$ 180.00

*Second Collection Jan 25 - 26:
to Support the Church in Latin America*



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

It Takes All Kinds

St. Therese of Lisieux wrote,
"If every flower wanted to be a rose, spring would lose its loveliness."

Who is God asking you to be today?
 One obvious answer springs to mind....
 Yes, God wants you to be a good person
 (father/mother, husband/wife, friend).

But this answer fails to get to the heart of the question. We are all striving to serve the same Spirit, but we are given different gifts to do so. One who has the gift of knowledge may fail if he decides he wants to be a healer. One who has the gift of healing might falter in the expression of wisdom.

Think about the wedding at Cana... the servers, the guests, the bride and groom... They all had a unique role to play. Although it was to the servers that Mary gives the instruction, *"Do whatever he tells you,"* her words apply to all.

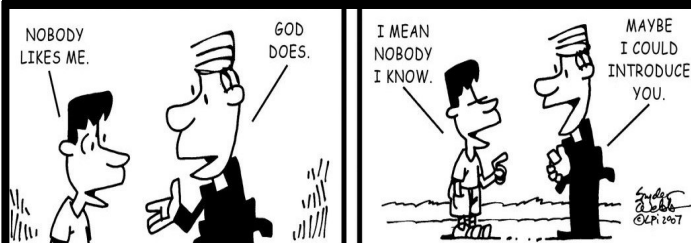
Today, are we called to be servers.
 Ask yourself: Do you carry out God's instruction, no matter how foolish or impossible it may seem? We asked to be His disciples... bearing witness and giving testimony. We are called to imitate the Blessed Mother herself... giving encouragement to one another to follow God's word.

Examine your gifts and listen in the silence of your heart to the direction of the Spirit.
 Then... *Do whatever He tells you.*

Bottom line... ***God is asking us all to be a saint!***
 But remember... He already has a St. Therese...
 a St. Francis... etc.

What He is looking for now... is a **St. YOU!**

God Bless-

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St. Thomas More Church and School's

60th Anniversary

DENIM DIAMONDS

Gala

An evening of celebration
 *DINNER *CASINO GAMING *DANCING *SILENT AUCTION

SATURDAY | 25TH JANUARY | 6:00 PM - 11:00PM

CAROLAN HALL
 4427 Moana Dr. San Antonio, TX
 78218

CMC - Catholic Men's Conference
ALL MEN ARE WELCOME



***"Master, I want to see."* (Mark 10:51)**

Have a powerful transformative experience
 in a spiritually-charged environment

Sat, Feb 22, 2025 from 8 am- 4:30 pm
Holy Trinity Banquet Hall
 (20523 Huebner Rd, San Antonio, TX 78258)

Speakers: **Mr. Jim Beckman,**
Fr. Stephen Dufrene, CFR, and
Mr. Dave Lambert.

Reserve your seat...

Invite a Brother in Christ to attend with you.

Learn More / Register today at:

CMCSanAntonio.com or
 call (210) 521-3377.

Please join us for the

**Archbishop's Appeal
 for Ministries**

**APPRECIATION
 MASS & BRUNCH**

with
Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller, MSPS

Saturday, February 8, 2025

St. Pius X Catholic Church
 3303 Urban Crest
 San Antonio, TX 78209

Mass begins at 10am
 Brunch to follow

RSVP to Deborah.Montez@archsa.org or
 call (210) 734.1641 by January 31, 2025



I'm a firm believer in the KISS (*Keep It Simple Stupid*) principle!

I was thinking... How can I express the concept of Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist to someone who doesn't believe? When talking to an adult about the Real Presence we'd normally jump right into the Gospel of John, *Chapter 6 to be more specific*, and go from there.

But... in keeping with the KISS principle... I asked myself... "How could you explain the *Real Presence* to a 6-year old?" That's the question that's been rumbling around in the back of my poor little mind for a while now... I think the approach for both an adult... *AND* a little one might be similar.

First... I think we need a little more background information. Ask... do you believe in God? (*that's a must or you've got a little more work to do*). Then, Talk about God for a bit... How He's all powerful, all knowing, all loving, etc.

Review what He did in the beginning. He created the universe, the earth, all the plants and animals... he created man (*Adam and Eve*). Remind them how we, mankind, had it made but we strayed and were forced to leave the Garden of Eden. But how God loves us so much that He didn't leave us with nothing...

He promised to send someone to save us - His Son.

All throughout the years... from Adam and Eve until the time Jesus was born, God was with His people guiding them and working with them... even when they didn't listen or live the way He wanted them to.

Then, at the proper time, Jesus was born - Jesus, the Son of God... Jesus, God Himself in the Second person of the Blessed Trinity!

Look at all the things Jesus did: He changed water into wine; He walked on water; He calmed storms; He multiplied a few loaves and fish to feed thousands! He cured the sick the paralyzed and the lame; He cast out demons; He forgave sinners! He even raised the dead back to life! There was nothing He couldn't do!

Jesus told His followers that He was the Bread of Life... The Living Bread that came down from heaven and that whoever would eat his flesh and drink His blood would have life. Many of his followers had a hard time with this. But, He didn't water-down what He said. He simply asked if they couldn't believe in Him... were they going to leave?

Then, at the **Last Supper**, He took bread, blessed it giving thanks and glory to the Father.

He then gave it to the Apostles and told them "**Eat, This is my body.**" Then he did the same with a cup of wine saying, "**Take and drink, This is my blood.**" Now, if we believe that Jesus *really is* God... and we believe He *really did* all those things we looked at just a second ago... Don't you think He could change bread and wine into His body and blood?

If He isn't God... If He is lying or crazy or something... then everything we believe... everything every Christian has believed for the past 2000 years is wrong!

After changing the bread and wine into His body and blood, He told the Apostles to "... **do this** in memory of Me." We don't do this just to "**REMEMBER**" Him! We **REMEMBER** Him in so many other ways... all those things mentioned above plus His Passion and death on the cross... and the Resurrection. This "**Remember**" or "**In Memory Of**" is prefixed by the phrase / words "**DO THIS**" - meaning change this bread and wine into my body and blood!

Jesus knew that His time had come and He wanted this celebration (*this Mass*) to continue after His death.

But, it wouldn't make any sense to just pass this '**gift only**' to the Apostles and have them be the only ones able to perform this *miracle*. They would all die before long, too. He was building His Church and He would want this miracle to continue until the end of time when He would return. So, as the Church grew and matured (*got older*), it was too big for the 12 apostles to do it all so they appointed others as their helpers and successors - other elders / bishops - and in turn they appointed helpers (*priests*) to service all Christian disciples.

So, when the Bishop or Priest says the words of Consecration, he speaks 'in persona Christi' - (*in the person of Christ*) It's Jesus Himself, in union with the Holy Spirit, changing the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus... just as at that first Mass - the Last Supper.

I think that looking at it this way... and looking at all the Eucharistic Miracles that have taken place all around the world and all through the years (simply Google: **Eucharistic Miracles**), we have to agree that it is really Jesus... **the Real Presence of Jesus... present in the bread and wine - body and blood - consecrated at Mass.**

What do you think? Think this will work? Give me your thoughts / ideas.

'till Next Time... God Bless- DT



"Are you passionately Pro-Life"

A Woman's Haven Pregnancy Crisis Center needs you!
We are busier than ever!

Workers are needed to serve women and their babies.
Counselor, Nurse, & Receptionist positions are available.

We provide all training.

For more information, Email: Susan.perez@awomanshaven.org

"Be the change you wish to see in the world and light up the darkness."

This Week at Our Parish

Sunday, January 19, 2025
8:00 am Guadalupanos Mass & Meeting - *Church / Carolan Hall*
School Gala Ticket Sale / all Masses - *Outside Church*

Monday, January 20, 2024
*** *Martin Luther King Day - Parish Offices Closed* ***

Tuesday, January 21, 2024
4:00 pm Finance Council Mtg - *Rectory Mtg Room*
5:30 pm Divine Mercy - *Rectory Mtg Room*
6:00 pm CDA General Mtg - *Carolan Hall*
6:30 pm Coro Alegria Choir Practice - *Rectory Mtg Room-1*
7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion Choir Practice - *Church*

Wednesday, January 22, 2025
9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration Study Grp - *Rectory Mtg Room*
6:00 pm KC 4th Degree Monthly Mtg - *Carolan Hall*

Thursday, January 23, 2025
5:00 pm Charismatic Prayer Grp - *Church*
7:00 pm OCIA - *Rectory Mtg Room*

Friday, January 24, 2025
9:00 am Friday Adoration - *Church*
6:00 pm KC Breakfast Prep - *Carolan Hall*
7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion Fellowship - *Carolan Hall*

Saturday, January 25, 2025
3:30 pm Cenaculo de la Divina Misericordia - *Rectory Mtg Rm*
6:00 pm Denim & Diamonds Gala - *Carolan Hall*

*** **Catholic Schools Week Begins** ***

Sunday, January 26, 2025
8:00 am KC Breakfast - *Carolan Hall*
10:00 am CDA / Catholic School-Week Mass - *Church*

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 18, 2025 - *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins*
5:00 pm †Edward & Katey Shortner by Biermer Family
†Albina Vahalik by Perez Family
†John & Priscilla Lowrance by Sr. Cabrini
†Martita Perez by Marta Dixon

Sunday, January 19, 2025 - *2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*
STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased
8:00 am †Phoebe Stensland
10:00 am †Roberto Rosas, Sr by Rosas Family
12:00 pm †Martha Rivera by Rosas Family
†Martita Perez by Martz Dixon

Monday, January 20, 2024 - *St. Fabian, Pope & Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr*
8:00 am †Gary & Esperanza Nauman

Tuesday, January 21, 2024 - *St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr*
8:00 am †Ruben P. Villa by Gloria Villa

Wednesday, January 22, 2025 - *Day of Prayer - for the unborn*
8:00 am †Paul & Erna McClintock

Thursday, January 23, 2025 - *St. Vincent, Deacon & Mrtr; St. Marianne Cope, Vgn*
8:00 am †Hugh & Annie Tate

Friday, January 24, 2025 - *St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and DoC*
8:00 am †Dean Lansing

Saturday, January 25, 2025 - *Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle*
8:00 am †Albert & Phoebe Stensland
5:00 pm †Domingo Delgado

Sunday, January 26, 2025 - *3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*
Jerome & Pat Klar and Family by Sr. Cabrini
8:00 am **STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased**
10:00 am †Erika Daniela Cardona by Carmen Martinez
12:00 pm



Sanctuary Light Intention:
Deacon Rolando Guerra

Lecturas de la Semana del 20 - 26 enero

Lunes: Heb 5:1-10; Sal 109:1-4; Mc 2:18-22
Martes: Heb 6:10-20; Sal 110:1-2,4-5,9,10;
Mc 2:23-28
Miércoles: Heb 7:1-3,15-17; Sal 109:1-4; Mc 3:1-6
Jueves: Heb 7:25-8:6; Sal 39:7-10,17; Mc 3:7-12
Viernes: Heb 8:6-13; Sal 84:8,10-14; Mc 3:13-19
Sábado: Hch 22:3-16; Sal 116:1,2; Mc 16:15-18
Domingo: Neh 8:2-6,8-10; Sal 18:8-10,15;
1Co 12:12-30; Lc 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Readings for the week of Jan 20 - 26

Monday: Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2,4-5,9,10c;
Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3,15-17; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday: Heb 7:25-8:6; Ps 40:7-10,17; Mk 3:7-12
Friday: Heb 8:6-13; Ps 85:8,10-14; Mk 3:13-19
Saturday: Acts 22:3-16; Ps 117:1bc,2; Mk 16:15-18
Sunday: Neh 8:2-6,8-10; Ps 19:8-10,15;
1Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21



St. Thomas More Guadalupanos
Kickapoo Lucky Eagle Casino
Bus Trip

\$40 per person

Monday, February 17, 2025
(Presidents Day)

Meet at Carolan Hall Parking Lot

For more information contact:
Clem Davila @ (210) 723-7985

**Liturgical Roles**

Saturday, January 25, 2025
5:00 pm **Altar Servers** - Volunteers
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, L.Adams, T.Guerrero,
T.Garza, R.Saldiva
Lector - T.Garza

Sunday, January 26, 2025
8 am **Altar Servers** - Mem.Planchon, Max.Planchon
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Jim, S.Trimm, N.Carrizales,
M.Nguyen, P.Klar
Lector - L.Trimm

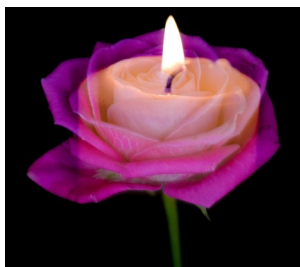
10 am **Altar Servers** - L.McCaffery, M.Pereida, B.Pereida
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, CDA
Lector - CDA

12 pm **Altar Servers** - A.Gomez, S.Obregon, A.Llanas
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Jim, C.Hernandez, C.Martinez,
D+F.Malacara, D.Llanas, R.Gomez
Lector - E.Licon / L.Lopez



**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

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



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

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**



In Memory of
Dr. Steven D. Sprague
on behalf of
The Sprague Family



St. Thomas More Guadalupanos Society
Invite all men & women to our group.
Out Monthly Meeting & Fellowship Meets
The 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 (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
OF REX A. BRIEN
&
MR. & MRS.
HILDO CASTELLÓN

**PRAY FOR THE 3 MOST
FORGOTTEN SOULS IN
PURGATORY**



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



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

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

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