

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON—HOUSTON



**SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

10330 HILLCROFT ST. | HOUSTON, TX 77096 | (713) 729-0221

[WWW.STMHOUSTON.ORG](http://WWW.STMHOUSTON.ORG)

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends in Christ,

What has transpired in the last week is truly unprecedented in our lifetime. What was once dismissed by many of us as far-fetched and impossible has become reality. The Coronavirus has become a worldwide pandemic, and our governments are taking major precautionary measures in order to limit its spread and spare our healthcare system. Policies are changing daily, so whatever the norm is today might be completely different tomorrow. The fluidity and volatility of the situation has caused a lot of angst and uncertainty in our society.

Our local Church in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston has to address the situation as well. We are taking precautionary measures in order to limit the spread of the virus. As you are probably aware, public Masses have been suspended until further notice. Funerals and weddings are limited to minimal crowds. The Archdiocese will continue to observe the situation and work with public officials to help form the best policies moving forward. Like our society, there is a lot of angst and uncertainty in our Church.

What are we supposed to do during this time? I encourage you to look at this current health crisis as an opportunity. An opportunity to slow down. An opportunity to reevaluate your life. An opportunity to recognize your limitations. An opportunity to grow closer to your family. An opportunity to grow closer to God. You are encouraged to spend time in quiet prayer, recite the rosary, read the Bible, etc. While we cannot have public Mass during this time, our main church will remain open for private prayer the following times:

**Monday – Saturday: 8:00am – 6:00pm**

**Sunday: 12pm – 5pm**

The Cardinal has also asked that priests try to make the sacrament of confession available, so we will offer our regularly scheduled confession times. Of course, if you would like to take extra precaution, you can always try to make an appointment with a priest as well.

As this situation continues to evolve, it would not be unreasonable to suspect that our policies might change as well. Please continue to check the St. Thomas More website ([stmhouston.org](http://stmhouston.org)) and our Facebook Page. We will have regular updates and provide various content. Remember, this situation is a first for all of us. Let's try to remain calm and trust in the Lord more than ever.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Fr. Clark*

## Open Church Hours

**Monday - Saturday**  
8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Sunday**  
12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

## Confession Schedule

**Tuesday**  
6:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
6:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday**  
3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

## Saint of the Week



Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

March 25



## Del escritorio del P. Clark

Queridos amigos en Cristo:

Lo ocurrido en la última semana no tiene precedentes en nuestra vida. Lo que una vez descartamos muchos de nosotros como descabellado e imposible se ha convertido en realidad. El coronavirus se ha convertido en una pandemia mundial, y nuestro gobierno está tomando medidas preventivas importantes para limitar su propagación y preservar nuestro sistema de salud. Las políticas cambian a diario, por lo que cualquiera que sea la norma hoy podría ser completamente diferente mañana. La fluidez y volatilidad de la situación ha causado mucha angustia e incertidumbre en nuestra sociedad.

Nuestra Iglesia local en la Arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston también tiene que abordar la situación. Estamos tomando medidas de precaución para limitar la propagación del virus. Como probablemente sepa, las Misas públicas se han suspendido hasta nuevo aviso. Los funerales y las bodas se limitan a un mínimo de multitudes. La Arquidiócesis continuará observando la situación y trabajará con los funcionarios públicos para ayudar a formar las mejores políticas en el futuro. Al igual que nuestra sociedad, hay mucha angustia e incertidumbre en nuestra Iglesia.

¿Qué se supone que debemos hacer durante este tiempo? Le animo a que considere esta crisis de salud actual como una oportunidad. Una oportunidad para frenar. Una oportunidad para reevaluar tu vida. Una oportunidad para reconocer tus limitaciones. Una oportunidad para acercarse a su familia. Una oportunidad para acercarse a Dios. Se le anima a pasar tiempo en oración, rezar el rosario, leer la Biblia, etc. Si bien no podemos tener misa pública durante este tiempo, nuestra iglesia permanecerá abierta para la oración privada los siguientes horarios:

**Lunes – sábado 8:00am – 6:00pm**

**Domingo: 12pm – 5pm**

El Cardenal también ha pedido que los sacerdotes intenten poner a disposición el sacramento de la confesión, por lo que ofreceremos nuestros horarios de confesión programados. Por supuesto, si desea tomar precauciones adicionales, siempre puede intentar hacer una cita con un sacerdote.

A medida que esta situación continúa evolucionando, no sería irrazonable sospechar que nuestras políticas también podrían cambiar. Continúe visitando el sitio web de St. Thomas More ([stmhouston.org](http://stmhouston.org)) y nuestra página de Facebook. Tendremos actualizaciones periódicamente y proporcionaremos diversos contenidos. Recuerde, esta situación es la primera para todos nosotros. Tratemos de mantener la calma y confiar en el Señor más que nunca.

De ustedes en Cristo,

*Fr. Clark*

## Horario en que la Iglesia estará abierta

**Lunes - Sábado**  
8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Domingo**  
12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

## Horario de Confesión

**Martes**  
6:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Miércoles**  
6:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

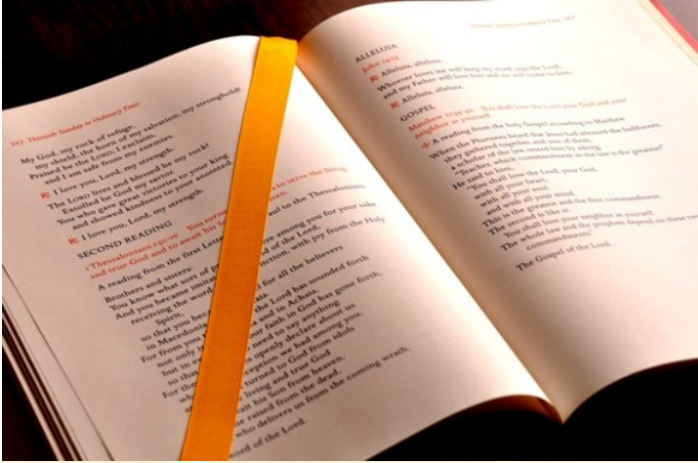
**Sábado**  
3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

## Santo de la semana



Solemnidad de la Anunciación del Señor

25 de marzo



## Mass Intentions

All scheduled Mass Intentions will be moved to a later time. The intention will still be honored and Mass will be said but adjusted to when the public Masses and regular schedule are reinstated by the Cardinal Archbishop.

## On The Cover

## WEEKLY READINGS

*Scripture Readings for the Week of March 22, 2020*

Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Lent 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-4
Monday	Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday	Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday	Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47
Friday	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday	Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday	Fifth Sunday of Lent Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

## LECTURAS SEMANALES

*Lecturas de las Escrituras por la Semana del 22 de Marzo de 2020*

Domingo	Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma 1 Sm 16, 1b. 6-7. 10-13a; Ef 5, 8-14; Jn 9, 1-41
Lunes	Santo Toribio de Mogrovejo, Obispo Is 65, 17-21; Jn 4, 43-54
Martes	Ez 47, 1-9. 12; Jn 5, 1-16
Miércoles	Solemnidad de la Anunciación del Señor Is 7, 10-14; 8, 10; Heb 10, 4-10; Lc 1, 26-38
Jueves	Ex 32, 7-14; Jn 5, 31-47
Viernes	Sab 2, 1a. 12-22; Jn 7, 1-2. 10. 25-30
Sábado	Jer 11, 18-20; Jn 7, 40-53
Domingo	Quinto Domingo de Cuaresma Ez 37, 12-14; Rom 8, 8-11; Jn 11, 1-45

### *Healing of a Blind Man*

By Duccio di Buoninsegna

1311, tempera on panel

The National Gallery, London

## Prayer in Times of Epidemics

Vouchsafe to hear us, O God, our only salvation! And through the intercession of the glorious and blessed Mary, Mother of God and ever Virgin, of thy blessed martyr, Sebastian and of all the saints, deliver thy people from the terrors of thy wrath, and restore their confidence by the outpouring of thy compassion.

Be moved to pity, O Lord, at our earnest entreaties, and heal the illnesses of body and soul; so that experiencing thy forgiveness we may ever rejoice in thy blessing.

We beseech thee, O Lord, grant us a hearing as we devoutly raise our petitions to thee, and graciously turn away the epidemic of plague which afflicts us; so that mortal hearts may recognize that these scourges proceed from thine indignation and cease only when thou art moved to mercy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

## Upcoming Events

All meetings, social events, ministries, faith formation classes, and public devotions are canceled until further notice.

## Online Catholic Resources

While we all hunker down to help stop the spread of the coronavirus, FORMED provides the very best Catholic content from more than 60 organizations to help parishes, families and individuals explore their faith anywhere. Supporting thousands of movies, children's programs, ebooks, audio, parish programs and studies direct to your browser, mobile or connected device.

### Here's how to get the content:

- Visit [formed.org](http://formed.org) with a web browser (The link can also be found on STM's [homepage](#))
- Click the "Sign Up" button
- Click the "I belong to a Parish or Organization" option, then click "Next"
- Enter Parish Access Code: **JTDG76** and click "St. Thomas More"
- Then follow the steps by completing the personal data fields.

### En español por Magnificat.net

<https://latina.magnificat.net/gratis>

## Stay Up-to-Date

[STM Homepage](#)

[STM Facebook](#)

[STM YouTube Channel](#)

### Stewardship for March 15, 2020

Collection	\$13,618.00
Online Giving	\$3,957.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,575.97</b>

### Upcoming Special Collections

Holy Land Collection (Good Friday)  
April 10, 2020

Home Missions Collection  
April 26, 2020



### Parish Goal: \$193,000.00

Total Amount Pledged:	\$44,734.00
Total Amount Paid:	27,204.00
Total Number of Participant:	131
Total Number of Households:	4184
Average Participant Pledge:	\$341.48
Paid Over (Under) Goal:	(\$165,796.00)
Pledged Over (Under) Goal:	(\$148,266.00)
Percent Paid:	14.10%

### Online Giving

**Please remember STM while away from the parish.** Our church's website has instructions on how to register for convenient on-line giving. You will have full control of your contribution account and scheduling. Visit our homepage at [STMHOUSTON.ORG](http://STMHOUSTON.ORG) for details and registration.