12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Saint Thomas More Catholic Church
Archdiocese of Galveston—Houston

Father’s Day
Celebrate his love

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church
10330 Hillcroft St. | Houston, TX 77096 | (713) 729-0221
www.stmhouston.org
From the Pastor’s Desk

“You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.” Matthew 7:5

Plainly stated, for it is plain to see, we in America have a plank in our eye with regard to racism. This is a tough but necessary reality to confront, because we cannot address a problem until we acknowledge it. This includes us as members of the Catholic Church.

Many in our society have been protesting in a show of solidarity with our brothers and sisters of color to push forward reforms to change our society. The vast majority of the protestors have done so peacefully, while insisting - with determination and courage – that our nation change for the better. Unfortunately, the use of violence by a small minority dilutes our focus away from the urgency of the reforms.

In the past, leaders of the Church frequently refrained from speaking out when acts of racial violence or other injustices have come to light. No more.

As the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) declared in their important and inspiring work “Open Wide Our Hearts” in November of 2018:

There have been many times when the Church has failed to live as Christ taught—to love our brothers and sisters. Acts of racism have been committed by leaders and members of the Catholic Church—by bishops, clergy, religious, and laity—and her institutions. Consequently, we all need to take responsibility for correcting the injustices of racism and healing the harms it has caused.

For Catholics, this is particularly an issue of faith because of our principles of social justice. The sin of racism is a pro-life issue. All human life is made in the image and likeness of God without regard to race, national origin, culture, or religion.

Since 2018, the USCCB has been conducting listening sessions; providing resources about racism to dioceses and parishes to begin important conversations about this evil. We too in the Archdiocese have been engaged. For more than a year, our Archdiocesan Pastoral Council has been working on goals and objectives, which essentially include the overcoming of racism.

Like many of you, in these recent days filled with anguish and pain, I have also been moved by the acts of kindness and good from persons of all races and faiths – who have responded to this fundamental, genuine tragedy with the best in the human spirit. I think especially of the grace demonstrated by the Floyd family, insisting that their loved one’s killing inspire positive change.

Jesus, our Lord and Savior, calls us to reform and invites us to a new life. To love your neighbor as yourself is part of the Great Commandment that Jesus proclaimed. To forget self and serve others is part of our creed.

We must remember whoever exalts himself will be humbled. Whoever views or holds themselves as superior to others has substituted their judgment for that of the Lord. That is a sin against God, and humanity. And it must end.

But we need more than words. We need action.

Quoting again from “Open Wide Our Hearts”:

The Christian community should draw from this central, ongoing encounter with Christ and seek to combat racism with love, recalling the insight of Pope Francis that “if we have received the love which restores meaning to our lives, how can we fail to share that love with others?” With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, this wellspring of strength and courage must move us to act. Consequently, we all need to take responsibility for correcting the injustices of racism and healing the harms it has caused.

George Floyd, like Eric Garner before him, died after pleading, “I cannot breathe.” We can only breathe again rightly with the help of the Holy Spirit, if we make it our constant work to eliminate the sin of racism in our society.

Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston

The Parish Office is open during regular business hours and is fully staffed. Please call 713-729-0221 for more information. If you visit us in person, please wear a mask.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You are already there.

And unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen
Del escritorio del P. Clark

“Hipócrita, saca primero el tronco que tienes en tu ojo y así verás mejor para sacar la pelusa del ojo de tu hermano.” Mateo 7:5

En pocas palabras, porque es evidente, nosotros en Estados Unidos tenemos un tablón en nuestros ojos con respecto al racismo. Esta es una realidad difícil pero necesaria para enfrentar, porque no podemos abordar un problema hasta que lo reconozcamos. Esto nos incluye a nosotros como miembros de la Iglesia Católica.

Muchos en nuestra sociedad han estado protestando en una muestra de solidaridad con nuestros hermanos y hermanas de color para impulsar reformas para cambiar nuestra sociedad. La gran mayoría de los manifestantes lo han hecho de manera pacífica, mientras insisten, con determinación y coraje, en que nuestra nación cambie para mejor. Desafortunadamente, el uso de la violencia por una pequeña minoría diluye nuestro enfoque lejos de la urgencia de las reformas.

En el pasado, los líderes de la Iglesia con frecuencia se abstuvieron de hablar cuando los actos de violencia racial u otras injusticias salieron a la luz. No más.

Como declaró la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de EE. UU. (USCCB) en su importante e inspirador trabajo "Abrir bien nuestros corazones" en noviembre de 2018:

Ha habido muchas ocasiones en que la Iglesia no ha podido vivir como Cristo enseñó: amar a nuestros hermanos y hermanas. Los actos de racismo han sido cometidos por líderes y miembros de la Iglesia Católica, por obispos, clérigos, religiosos y laicos, y sus instituciones. En consecuencia, todos debemos asumir la responsabilidad de corregir las injusticias del racismo y sanar los daños que ha causado.

Para los católicos, este es particularmente un tema de fe debido a nuestros principios de justicia social. El pecado del racismo es un problema pro-vida. Toda la vida humana está hecha a imagen y semejanza de Dios sin tener en cuenta la raza, el origen nacional, la cultura o la religión.

Desde 2018, el USCCB ha llevado a cabo sesiones de escucha; proporcionando recursos sobre racismo a las diócesis y parroquias para comenzar conversaciones importantes sobre este mal. Nosotros también en la Arquidiócesis nos hemos comprometido. Durante más de un año, nuestro Consejo Pastoral Arquidiocesano ha estado trabajando en metas y objetivos, que esencialmente incluyen la superación del racismo.

Como muchos de ustedes, en estos últimos días llenos de angustia y dolor, también me han conmovido los actos de bondad y bien de personas de todas las razas y religiones, que han respondido a esta tragedia fundamental y genuina con lo mejor del espíritu humano. Pienso especialmente en la gracia demostrada por la familia Floyd, al insistir en que el asesinato de su ser querido inspire un cambio positivo.

Jesús, nuestro Señor y Salvador, nos llama a reformar y nos invita a una vida nueva. Amar a tu prójimo como a ti mismo es parte del Gran Mandamiento que Jesús proclamó. Olvidarnos y servir a los demás es parte de nuestro credo.

Debemos recordar que quien se exalta a sí mismo será humillado. Quien se considera superior a los demás ha sustituido su juicio por el del Señor. Ese es un pecado contra Dios y la humanidad. Y debe terminar.

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Pero necesitamos más que palabras. Necesitamos acción. Citando nuevamente de "Abrir bien nuestros corazones":

La comunidad cristiana debe aprovechar este encuentro central y continuo con Cristo y tratar de combatir el racismo con amor, recordando la idea del Papa Francisco de que “si hemos recibido el amor que restaura el significado de nuestras vidas, ¿cómo podemos dejar de compartir ese amor? ¿con otros?” Con la guía del Espíritu Santo, esta fuente de fuerza y coraje debe movernos a actuar. En consecuencia, todos debemos asumir la responsabilidad de corregir las injusticias del racismo y sanar las daños que ha causado.

George Floyd, como Eric Garner antes que él, murió después de suplicar: "No puedo respirar". Solo podemos respirar de nuevo correctamente con la ayuda del Espíritu Santo, si hacemos nuestro trabajo constante para eliminar el pecado del racismo en nuestra sociedad.

Daniel Cardenal DiNardo, Arzobispo de Galveston-Houston

Un Acto de Comunión Espiritual

Creo, Jesús mío, que estás real y verdaderamente en el cielo y en el Santísimo Sacramento del Altar.

Os amo sobre todas las cosas y deseo vivamente recibirte dentro de mi alma, pero no pudiendo hacerlo sacramentalmente, Venid al menos espiritualmente a mi corazón.

Y como si ya os hubiese recibido, os abrazo y me uno del todo a Ti.

Señor, no permitas que jamás me aparte de Ti.

Amén
### Mass Intentions

All scheduled weekday Mass intentions are being fulfilled. You will be notified if it is necessary to reschedule your requested intention for a Saturday or Sunday Mass.

### Weekly Readings

**Scripture Readings for the Week of June 21, 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jer 20:10-13; Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Saint Paulinus of Nola, Bp.; Saints John Fisher, Bp., and Thomas More, Martyrs</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Ps 60:3, 4-5, 12-13; Mt 7:1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36; Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11; Mt 7:6, 12-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vigil: Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab and 17; 1 Pt 1:8-12; Lk 1:5-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Day: Is 49:1-6; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>2 Kgs 24:8-17; Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9; Mt 7:21-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>2 Kgs 25:1-12; Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6; Mt 8:1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Saint Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Ps 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-21; Mt 8:5-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Lecturas Semanales**

**Lecturas por Semana del 21 de Junio de 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Lectura</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domingo</td>
<td>Décimo Segundo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jer 20, 10-13; Sal 68, 8-10; 14 y 17, 33-35; Rom 5, 12-15; Mt 10, 26-33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunes</td>
<td>San Paulino de Nola, Obispo; San Juan Fisher, Obispo, y Santo Tomás Moro, Mártires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Re 17, 5-8; 13-15a. 18; Sal 59, 3. 4-5. 12-13; Mt 7, 1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martes</td>
<td>2 Re 19, 9b-11. 14-21. 31-35a. 36; Sal 47, 2-3a. 3b-4. 10-11; Mt 7, 6. 12-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miércoles</td>
<td>Solemnidad de la Natividad de San Juan Bautista</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vigilia: Jer 1, 4-10; Sal 70, 1-2. 3-4a. 5-6ab. 15ab y 17; 1 Pe 1, 8-12; Lc 1, 5-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Día: Is 49, 1-6; Sal 138, 1-3. 13-14. 15; He 13, 22-26; Lc 1, 57-66. 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jueves</td>
<td>2 Re 24, 8-17; Sal 78, 1-2. 3-5. 8. 9; Mt 7, 21-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viernes</td>
<td>2 Re 25, 1-12; Sal 136, 1-2. 3. 4-5. 6; Mt 8, 1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sábado</td>
<td>San Cipriano de Alejandría, Obispo y Doctor de la Iglesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lam 2, 10-14. 18-19; Sal 73, 1-2. 3-5a. 5b-7. 20-21; Mt 8, 5-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domingo</td>
<td>Décimo Tercer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Re 4, 8-11. 14-16a; Sal 88, 2-3. 16-17. 18-19; Rom 6, 3-4. 8-11; Mt 10, 37-42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FORMED** provides the very best Catholic content from more than 60 organizations to help parishes, families and individuals explore their faith anywhere.

**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.
Dear STM Parishioners,

The last few months were quite a challenge! SVdP food pantry not only temporarily closed mid-March due to limitations posed by the coronavirus, but also discontinued ordering from the Houston Food Bank (HFB) because of the lack of capacity to store perishables.

It was a pleasure to see you in person and quite entertaining to see your creative expressions of love for our clergy during the mobile food drive the week of April 27 and, more importantly, you filled a much needed gap in our food supply and funds. Thank you! We recently found new friendship with Westbury Community Gardens (WCG) who donated freshly picked produce and look forward to partnering with them to serve nutritious produce to our friends in the future.

Although our city is now in the process of re-opening, many in our community are unemployed and some facing the prospects of eviction with the state moratorium now lifted. Your generous donations enabled us to gradually and cautiously reopen the pantry with drive-thru food distributions during the month of May and resume rent and utility assistance, relieving some of the anxiety and financial pressure of our unfortunate neighbors.

We rely on your essential help and support for food and money - our sole means of existence! Moreover, we also require more volunteers to assist with food distribution and collect phone calls and, preferably, bi-lingual individuals to return pantry phone calls. Based on the availability of volunteers, we plan to establish new pantry hours.

If you are able to support SVdP in any way, you may drop off food donations at the Food Pantry on Tuesdays, 10am-2pm or at the Parish Office during office hours; check donations to SVDP may be delivered to the Parish Office or in the collection basket. For those among you who use STM’s On-line Giving, we would like to ask you to remember our work for the poor by a weekly contribution to SVDP of any amount you can afford.

We praise God for His many blessings and for your ongoing support of our mission to help those less fortunate in our immediate area. May God bless and protect our STM Family of Families!

“Charity is the cement which binds Communities to God and persons to one another . . .” - St. Vincent de Paul

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**Stewardship for June 14, 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collection</td>
<td>$15,063.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Giving</td>
<td>$8,679.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$23,743.68</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Upcoming Special Collections**

- Peter’s Pence: June 28, 2020
- St. Vincent de Paul Society Black Bag: July 12, 2020

**Parish Goal:** $193,000.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Amount Pledged</td>
<td>$73,219.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Amount Paid</td>
<td>$53,317.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Participant</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Households</td>
<td>4184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Participant Pledge</td>
<td>$358.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Over (Under) Goal</td>
<td>($139,683.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledged Over (Under) Goal</td>
<td>($119,780.50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Paid</td>
<td>27.63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.
Beginning June 22, the Feast of Saints Thomas More and John Fisher, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops celebrates Religious Freedom Week. Join us in promoting religious freedom For the Good of All.

All people desire to know their Creator. All people have a natural impulse to seek the good and to live in accordance with that good. All people can flourish when they pursue the truth about God and respond to the truth.

Religious freedom means that all people have the space to flourish. Religious freedom is both an American value and an important part of Catholic teaching on human dignity. When we promote religious freedom, we promote the common good and thus strengthen the life of our nation and the community of nations.

Learn more at www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek!

www.usccb.org/freedom
Twitter: @USCCBFreedom
For text and action alerts, text “FREEDOM” to 84576
The 7:30 a.m. Sunday Mass will resume starting June 28.

The 6:30 a.m. daily Mass, Monday through Friday, will resume starting Monday, June 29.

The church will be open for private prayer and meditation during the week, Monday through Friday, starting on June 29. This prayer time will start at 1:00 p.m. and will end before the 5:30 p.m. Mass so that the pews can be sanitized. There will be pieces of paper available so that you can mark the place where you sit to pray. This will enable us to sanitize the needed areas. Please try to sit in the front half of the church.

Confessions have been moved to the church: Wednesday 6:15-7:00 p.m. & Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m. We ask that you remain standing in the confessional and stay behind the screen.

All of these changes are dependent on no further restrictions from the state or county government.

O GOD OUR CREATOR,
from your provident hand we have received
our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
You have called us as your people and given us
the right and the duty to worship you, the only true God,
and your Son, Jesus Christ.
Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit,
you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world,
bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel
to every corner of society.

We ask you to bless us
in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty.
Give us the strength of mind and heart
to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened;
give us courage in making our voices heard
on behalf of the rights of your Church
and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith.

Grant, we pray, O heavenly Father,
a clear and united voice to all your sons and daughters
gathered in your Church
in this decisive hour in the history of our nation,
so that, with every trial withstood
and every danger overcome—
for the sake of our children, our grandchildren,
and all who come after us—
this great land will always be “one nation, under God,
indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Mary Immaculate
Patroness of Our Country
Pray for Us

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