

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
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

ON THE COVER:

PARABLE OF THE HIDDEN TREASURE

REMBRANDT OR GERARD DOU-CIRCA 1630

The Parish Office is open during regular business hours
 Monday-Friday
 8:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m.
 Closed 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
 and is fully staffed. Please call 713-729-0221 for more information. If you visit us in person, please wear a mask for your safety and ours.

Bulletin announcements are due Monday by 5:00 p.m. for the following Sunday. Please contact Rosio Contreras at rcontreras@stmhouston.org to request a bulletin announcement for your group or ministry. All requests are subject to approval and space availability and will be formatted to fit the overall design of the bulletin.

Thank you.

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

(713) 729-0221
 (713) 729-3294 fax
 www.stmhouston.org
Parish Office Hours
 Monday to Friday
 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 (Closed from 12:00-1:00 p.m. for lunch)

Clergy

Rev. Clark Sample, *Pastor*
 Rev. Thuc Nguyen, *Parochial Vicar*
 Rev. Binny Philip, *In Residence*
 Deacon John Krugh
 Deacon Danny Naranjo

Parish Staff

Suzie Hamilton, *Pastoral Associate*
 Eloise Starr, *Secretary*
 Rosio Contreras, *Receptionist*
 Ingrid Gooding, *Bookkeeper*
 Ron Biba, *Facilities Manager*

Faith Formation

Ryan Lambert, *Director*
 Mary-Therese Hafernik, *Confirmation*

Office of Music

Chris Bearer, *Director*, (713) 980-3111

Saint Thomas More Catholic School

(713) 729-3434
 (713) 721-5644 fax
 www.stthomasmore-school.org

School Office Hours (Summer)

Monday to Thursday
 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Staff

Carolina Bowman, *Principal*
 Kathleen Prado, *Director of Advancement*
 Judy Gentempo, *Admissions*
 Noel Novak, *Dean of Students*
 Doris Cook, *Business Manager*
 Mary Heard, *Secretary*
 Rebecka Zepeda, *Nurse*
 Andrea Osborne, *School Counselor*

Current Mass and Confession Schedule

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday – Friday
 6:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

MISA ENTRE SEMANA (INGLÉS)

Lunes-Viernes
 6:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.



**CONFESSION
CONFESIONES**

Wednesday • Miércoles
 6:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Saturday • Sábado
 3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.



**WEEKEND MASSES
MISAS DEL FIN DE SEMANA**

SATURDAY • SÁBADO
 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY • DOMINGO
 7:30 a.m.
 9:00 a.m.
 11:00 a.m.
 1:00 p.m. (español)

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends in Christ,

As a Catholic priest and the spiritual leader of a relatively large community, I interact with a lot of people. These last several months have been an interesting social experiment. Emotions and temperaments have been across the board. I've seen sadness and I've seen joy. I've seen fear and I've seen courage. I've seen restlessness and I've seen patience. A lot of us have seen these sentiments in other people, and many of us have experienced them ourselves. One particular emotional state that seems to be on the rise is anger.

On June 30, the Washington Post published an article entitled, "Americans are Living in a Big 'Anger Incubator.'" The article states, "We're dealing with anger provoked by the coronavirus pandemic: anger at public officials because they've shut down parts of society, or anger because they aren't doing enough to curb the virus. Anger about being required to wear a mask, or anger toward people who refuse to wear a mask. Anger at anyone who doesn't see things the 'right' way. We're living, in effect, in a big anger incubator." I have to say, this citation encapsulates my observational experience of our society. In order to address anger, we have to understand the source of anger.

Anger is a basic human emotion that involves a response to a perceived hurt or threat. Anger can be good or bad, but most of the anger I have observed has not been good anger. Uncontrollable anger (wrath) is a capital sin and can lead us to act irrationally. When we act out of wrath, we tend to make decisions we later regret. Wrath is detrimental to our society, it's detrimental to our family and friends, it's detrimental to ourselves, and it's detrimental to our relationship with God.

Oftentimes, anger is associated with feelings of fear and/or sadness. No wonder our society is living in an "anger incubator." We are dealing with an unprecedented health crisis that is having or could potentially have disastrous side effects, e.g., ill health, negative economic consequences, etc. It's like we are in the middle of a storm; we don't know what's going to happen and we don't know when it's going to end. It's like the story in the Gospels: "Suddenly a violent storm came up on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by waves; but he was asleep. They came and woke him, saying, 'Lord, save us! We are perishing!'" He said to them, "Why are you terrified, O you of little faith?" Then he got up, rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was great calm" (Matthew 8:24-26).

Many of us are both afraid and sad, which can cause us to become angry. When we find ourselves becoming angry, we should always try to pinpoint the source of our anger. We should ask ourselves, "Why am I terrified? Why am I afraid? Why am I sad?" We should ask ourselves how much our emotions are affecting the way we think and act. We should bring these questions to prayer. We should ask the Lord for help. We have to trust that the Lord is in control. When we realize that fact, it will bring calm to this storm in our lives.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Clark

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 mo-
ment receive You sacra-
mentally, 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

Saints of the Week



Feast of St. Joachim
& St. Anne

Feast Day: July 26

WEEKLY READINGS

Scripture Readings for the Week of July 26, 2020

Sunday	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 1Kings 3-5,7-12 Ps 119:57,72,76-77, 97a,127-128,129-130,Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 or Mt 13:44-46
Monday	Blessed Antonio Lucci Jer 13:1-11; Ps Deut 32:18-19, 20, 21; Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday	Blessed Stanley Rother Jer 14:17-22; Ps 79:8,9,11, 13, Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday	Saint Martha Jer 15:10,16-21; Ps 58:2-3,4-5a,10-1,17,18; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
Thursday	Blessed Solanus Casey Jer 18:1-6; Ps 145, 2abc,2d-4,5-6; Mt 13:47-53
Friday	Saint Ignatius of Loyola Jer 26:1-9; Ps 69:5,8-10,14; Mt 13:54-58
Saturday	Saint Alphonsus of Ligouri Jer 26:11-16,24; Ps 68,15-16,30-31,33-34, Mt 14:1-12
Sunday	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Isa 55:1-3,Ps 145:8-9,15-16,17-18 Rom 8:35,37-39,Mt 14:13-21

LECTURAS SEMANALES

Lecturas de las Escrituras por la Semana del 26 de Julio de 2020

Domingo	Décimo Séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario 1Reyes 3;5,7-12; Sal 119, 57, 72,76-77, 97a, 127-128, 129-130, Rom 8: 28-30; Mt 13,44-52 o Mt 13, 44-46
Lunes	Beato Antonio Lucci Jer 13:1-11; Sal Deu 32:18-19,20,21; Mt 13:31-35
Martes	Beato Stanley Rother Jer 14:17-22; Sal 79,8,9, 11, 13; Mt 13:36-43
Miércoles	Santa Martha Jer 15,10, 16-21; Sal 58,2-3,4-5a,10-11, 17,18; Jn 11:19-27, o Lc 10:38-42
Jueves	Beato Solanus Casey Jer 18:1-6; Sal 145,2abc,2d-4,5-6; Mt 13:47-53
Viernes	San Ignacio de Loyola Jer 26:1-9; Sal 68,35,8-10,14; Mt 13:54-58
Sábado	Fiesta de Santiago, Apóstol Jer 26:11-16, 24; Sal 68,15-16,30-31,33-34; Mt 14:1-12
Domingo	Décimo Octavo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario Is 55:1-3 Sal 145,8-9,15-16,17-18; Rom 8, 35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21



Dear STM Family,

Your fellow parishioner Vincentians are hard at work to meet the needs of our neighborhood friends with the support of your donations and prayers. Thank you for your unwavering support. In addition to your financial donations, we were blessed with Covid-19 relief funds via our SVdP council. And, just this past week we received a much needed cooler from a Houston Food Bank donor. Effective in June the food pantry established new operating hours on Tuesdays from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm (distribution from parking lot only). Below is a summary of the last quarter’s activity which is reflective of the increased need. We have been able to assist 65 out of approximately 240 requests for financial assistance during this period.

Food distributed via parking lot drive thru Assistance provided for rent or utilities

	<u>Households</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Est. Value</u>	<u>Households</u>		<u>Individuals Disbursed</u>
April	-0-	-0-	n/a	10	40	\$ 2,550
May	72	310	\$ 2,160	16	62	\$ 3,777
June	93	352	\$ 2,790	49	146	\$ 17,430

Due to the increasing and dire needs of our neighborhood we appeal to you for help once again. The continued lack of employment, the threats of evictions, the spread of Covid-19 and the deportation of loved ones among the families we serve, has created a serious crisis. First and foremost, please unite with us in prayer** and if you are able, assist in any of the following ways:

- FOOD:** Peanut butter, tomato sauce, cereal, powdered milk and diapers sizes 3-6.
- GIFT CARDS:** Walmart, Fiesta, HEB or Kroger
- FINANCIAL:** Checks payable to SVdP or via STM On-line Giving
- VOLUNTEERS:** Fill grocery bags, deliver food to those without transportation or quarantined, or handle phone calls (bi-lingual speakers greatly needed). All these volunteer tasks can be done safely and at the convenience of your schedule. Only STM staff and volunteers are allowed in pantry. All are required to wear masks and social distance at all times.

Mass Intentions

Sunday, July 26

7:30am † Nnamdi Nwachukwu
 9:00am † Irvin Meyer
 11:00am * Missa Pro Populo
 1:00 pm

Monday, July 27

6:30am * Izy Uzoh Family
 5:30pm * Leo J. Dolan

Tuesday, July 28

6:30am * Michelle Kanu
 5:30pm † Virgil Treviño

Wednesday, July 29

6:30am † Keith Winter
 5:30pm * For the newly married young
 Adult couples

Thursday, July 30

6:30am * Donald Kanu
 5:30pm † Dorothy Flaherty

Friday, July 31

6:30 am † Michael Fleming
 5:30pm * Nnamdi & Chigozie
 Nwachukwu

Saturday, August 1

5:00pm † Vessie Peters

*One may request Mass Intentions by visiting
 the parish office from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm,
 Monday - Friday.*



*Uno puede solicitar Intenciones visitando la
 oficina parroquial 8:00 am - 5:00 pm,
 Lunes - Viernes*

Stewardship for July 19, 2020

Collection	\$13, 204.92
Online Giving	\$ 11,621.00
Total	\$24,825.92

Upcoming Second Collections

Infirm Priests
 August 9, 2020



Parish Goal: \$193,000.00

Total Amount Pledged: \$75,364.50
 Total Amount Paid: \$56,034.00
 Total Number of Participant: 208
 Total Number of Households: 4184
 Average Participant Pledge: \$362.33
 Paid Over (Under) Goal: (\$136,966.00)
 Pledged Over (Under) Goal: (\$117,635.50)
 Percent Paid: 29.03%

Online Giving

The parish 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 for details and registration.

Del escritorio del P. Clark

Queridos amigos en Cristo:

Como sacerdote católico y líder espiritual de una comunidad relativamente grande, interactúo con mucha gente. Estos últimos meses han sido un experimento social interesante. Las emociones y los temperamentos han estado en todos los ámbitos. He visto tristeza y he visto alegría. He visto miedo y he visto valentía. He visto inquietud y he visto paciencia. Muchos de nosotros hemos visto estos sentimientos en otras personas, y muchos de nosotros los hemos experimentado. Un estado emocional particular que parece estar en aumento es la ira.

El 30 de junio, el Washington Post publicó un artículo titulado, "Los estadounidenses están viviendo en una gran 'Incubadora de ira'". El artículo dice: "Estamos lidiando con la ira provocada por la pandemia de coronavirus: ira contra los funcionarios públicos porque han cerrado partes de la sociedad o enojo porque no están haciendo lo suficiente para frenar el virus. Ira por la obligación de usar una máscara, o ira hacia las personas que se niegan a usar una máscara. Ira contra cualquiera que no vea las cosas de la manera "correcta". Estamos viviendo, en efecto, en una gran incubadora de ira." Tengo que decir que esta cita resume mi experiencia de observación de nuestra sociedad. Para abordar el enojo, tenemos que entender la fuente del enojo.

La ira es una emoción humana básica que implica una respuesta a un daño o amenaza percibido. La ira puede ser buena o mala, pero la mayor parte de la ira que he observado no ha sido buena. La ira incontrolable (ira) es un pecado capital y puede llevarnos a actuar irracionalmente. Cuando actuamos por ira, tendemos a tomar decisiones que luego lamentamos. La ira es perjudicial para nuestra sociedad, es perjudicial para nuestra familia y amigos, es perjudicial para nosotros mismos y es perjudicial para nuestra relación con Dios.

A menudo, la ira se asocia con sentimientos de miedo y / o tristeza. No es de extrañar que nuestra sociedad esté viviendo en una "incubadora de ira". Estamos lidiando con una crisis de salud sin precedentes que está teniendo o podría tener efectos secundarios desastrosos, por ejemplo, mala salud, consecuencias económicas negativas, etc. Es como si estuviéramos en medio de una tormenta; no sabemos qué va a pasar y no sabemos cuándo va a terminar. Es como la historia en los Evangelios: "De repente, una tormenta violenta se produjo en el mar, de modo que el bote fue inundado por las olas; Pero él estaba dormido. Ellos vinieron y lo despertaron, diciendo: "¿Señor, sálvanos! ¡Estamos pereciendo! Él les dijo: "¿Por qué estás aterrizado, hombre de poca fe?" Luego se levantó, reprendió a los vientos y al mar, y hubo una gran calma (Mateo 8: 24-26).

Muchos de nosotros tenemos miedo y tristeza, lo que puede hacernos enojar. Cuando nos encontramos enojados, siempre debemos tratar de identificar la fuente de nuestra ira. Deberíamos preguntarnos: "¿Por qué estoy aterrizado? ¿Por qué tengo miedo? ¿Por qué estoy triste? Debemos preguntarnos cuánto afectan nuestras emociones la forma en que pensamos y actuamos. Deberíamos llevar estas preguntas a la oración. Deberíamos pedirle ayuda al Señor. Tenemos que confiar en que el Señor tiene el control. Cuando nos demos cuenta de este hecho, traerá calma a esta tormenta en nuestra vida.

De ustedes en Cristo,

Fr. Clark

Oración de Comunión espiritual

Jesús mío, creo que estás presente en el Santísimo Sacramento.

Te amo sobre todas las cosas y deseo recibirte en mi alma.

Como no puedo recibirte en este momento sacramentalmente, entra al menos espiritualmente en mi corazón.

Te abrazo como si ya estuvieras allí.

Y me uno totalmente a ti.

Nunca permitas que me separe de ti.

Amen

Santos de la semana



Fiesta de
Santo Joaquín &
Santa Ana
Fiesta: 26 de julio