

19TH 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:

**LE CHRIST ET LA CANANÉENNE -
CHRIST AND THE CANAANITE WOMAN
JEAN GERMAIN DROUAI (1763-1788)**

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

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, *Priest 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 of Faith Formation*
Mary-Therese Hafernik, *Youth Confirmation Coordinator*

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*
Mary Heard, *Secretary*
Rebecka Zepeda, *Nurse*
Andrea Osborne, *School Counselor*

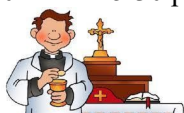
Current Mass and Confession Schedule

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,

I have already been at St. Thomas more for over a year and I have to admit, it's pretty hard to believe! Time has flown by! There have been so many blessings I've encountered since my arrival... like meeting and getting to know many of you. There have also been some challenges along the way as well. I thought that the burst pipe that flooded the church back in January would be as challenging as it gets... then COVID-19 hit. Nothing could have prepared anyone for this current health crisis!

You may have wondered why our parish is doing some of the things we're doing (or not doing). Parishes and pastors have to follow the guidelines of the Cardinal and the Archdiocese. For example, the only public events we are allowed to have on campus are Masses. Additionally, the Mass guidelines we follow come straight from the Cardinal's office. Due to the current health crisis, we are taking the necessary and required precautions we are asked to take. The basic *modus operandi* is to keep things as simple as possible for the time being... and, to be honest, it feels like we are pretty "hemmed in!"

All that being said, that does not mean we are just twiddling our thumbs. This is a great time to plan and prepare for the things we want to do whenever we get out of the current health crisis. We have to keep our eyes fixed on an overall vision, and we will come out of this crisis stronger than ever! The Acts of the Apostles reveals the life of the early Christian community and provides us with the blueprint of parish community life: "They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers" (Acts 2:42).

The Teaching of the Apostles: Jesus taught the apostles and gave them the authority to continue teaching in his name (Mt 28:20). Our parish will focus on the opportunities to learn more about our Catholic faith, which is centered on Jesus Christ. These opportunities will include activities like bible studies, CCE, adult education classes and conferences. We will also have a revamped program to engage our youth.

Communal Life: Faith is lived in community and, as our world becomes more and more secular, we need the support of each other to effectively live our faith today. Mutual support means we have to know each other. Our parish will focus on the building up our communal life by offering the opportunities for fellowship. I can't wait until we are able to have more community events because, as helpful as it might be, Zoom and YouTube can only go so far!

The Breaking of the Bread: This is an unmistakable reference to the Eucharist. The Eucharist and the other sacraments "touch all the stages and all the important moments of Christian life: they give birth and increase, healing and mission to the Christian's life of faith" (CCC 1210). Our parish will focus on liturgical life and celebrate the Mass in accordance with the overall vision of the Catholic Church.

Prayers: St. John Damascene defines prayer as the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God. Prayer is indispensable for the Christian life. When our society has a better handle on COVID-19, we will open up our adoration chapel so that perpetual prayer can happen on campus. For the time being, our church is open all day between Masses for private prayer. We will continue to look at ways to foster a good prayer life for our parish.

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 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

Saint of the Week



Feast of
St. Maximilian Kolbe
Feast Day: August 14

WEEKLY READINGS

Scripture Readings for the Week of August 9 2020

Sunday	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 1Ki 19:9a,11-13a,Ps 85:8,9,10,11-12,13-14, Rom 9:1-5,Mt 14:22-33
Monday	St. Lawrence 2Cor 9:6-10, Ps112:1-2,5-6,7-8,9,Jn 12:24-26
Tuesday	St. Philomena Ez 2:8-3:4, Ps 119:14,24,72,102,111,131, Mt. 18:1-5, 10,12-14
Wednesday	St. James Nam Ez 9:1-7,10:18-22, Ps 113:1-2,3-4,5-6, Mt 18:15-20
Thursday	St. Maximus the Confessor Ez 12:1-2, Ps 78:56-57,58-59,61-62, Mt 18- 21,19:1
Friday	St. Maximilian Kolbe Ez 16:1-15,60,63 or Ez 16:59-63, Is 12:2-3, 4BCD,5-6, Mt 19:3-12
Saturday	Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16,16;1-2, Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14, 1 Cor 15:54B-57
Sunday	Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Is.56:1,6-7,Ps 67:2-3,4,5,6,8,Rom 11:13-15, 29-32, Mt 15:21-28

LECTURAS SEMANALES

Lecturas de las Escrituras para la Semana del 9 agosto de 2020

Domingo	Décimonoveno Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario 1Rey 19-9a,11-13a,Sal 85:8,9,10,11-12,13-14, Rom 9:1-5,Mt 14-22-33
Lunes	San Lorenzo 2 Cor 9:6-10, Ps 112:1-2,5-6,7-8,9, Jn 12:24-26
Martes	Santa Philomena Ez 2:8-3:4, Sal 119:14,24,72,102,111,131, Mt. 18:1-5, 10,12-14
Miercoles	San Jaime Nam Ez 9:1-7,10:18-22, Sal 113:1-2,3-4,5-6, Mt 18:15 - 20
Jueves	San Maximus el Confesor Ez 12:1-2, Ps 78:56-57,58-59,61-62, Mt 18- 21,19:1
Viernes	San Maximiliano Kolbe Ez 16:1-15,60,63 o Ez 16:59-63, Is 12:2-3, 4BCD,5-6, Mt 19:3-12
Sabado	Solemnidad de la Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María Vigilia 1 Cró 15:3-4, 15-16,16;1-2, Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14, 1 Cor 15:54B-57
Domingo	Vigésimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario Is. 56:1.6-7, Sal 67:2-3,4,5,6,8, Rom 11:13-15, 29-32, Mt 15:21-28



Dear STM Family,
THANK YOU for participating in last weekend’s food drive. The pantry is restocked and grocery bags are pre-filled for our next distribution.

The diapers and powdered milk will be a huge help to the young families who are ill or without income and transportation. May God bless you for your generous hearts and donations!

During the month of July, 97 families received food bags which fed 197 individuals. A total of \$14,133 was disbursed for rent or utilities assisting 25 families (75 individuals). Funds for this assistance was provided by our SVdP council.

We remain in need of bi-lingual volunteers. Please contact us if you would like to volunteer by e-mailing us at svdp.district3stm@gmail.com or leaving your name and number at 713-980-3113

Please join us in PRAYER AGAINST CORONAVIRUS:

Lord Jesus Christ, our Divine Physician, we ask you to guard and protect us from Coronavirus COVID-19 and all serious illness. For all that have died from it, have mercy; for those that are ill now, bring healing. For those searching for a remedy, enlighten them; for medical caregivers helping the sick, strengthen and shield them. For those working to contain the spread, grant them success; for those afraid, grant peace. May your precious blood be our defense and salvation. By your grace, may you turn the evil of disease into moments of consolation and hope. May we always fear the contagion of sin more than any illness. We abandon ourselves to your infinite mercy. Amen. -Pedro de la Cruz

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



JOIN US IN PRAYING THE ROSARY
MONDAY-FRIDAY
6:00 A.M.
IN THE CHURCH

Mass Intentions

Sunday, August 9

7:30am * Alma Perez
 9:00am † Patricia Hart
 11:00am * Missa Pro Populo
 1:00 pm

Monday, August 10

6:30am † Bruce Henry
 5:30pm * Donald Kanu

Tuesday, August 11

6:30am * Greg Hamilton
 5:30pm * Families struggling financially during COVID

Wednesday, August 12

6:30am * Guy Peterson Family
 5:30pm * Fr. Binny Philips

Thursday, August 13

6:30am * Prima Nwachukwu
 5:30pm † Margaret Biondi

Friday, August 14

6:30 am * Eric & Theresa Schueler
 5:30pm * Josie Pizzini

Saturday, August 15

5:00pm † Ed Landry

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 August 2, 2020

Collection	\$15,046.00
Online Giving	\$12,711.88
Total	\$ 27,757.88

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:

Ya llevo más de un año en Santo Tomas y tengo que admitir que es bastante difícil de creer. ¡El tiempo ha pasado volando! He recibido muchas bendiciones desde mi llegada ... como la oportunidad de conocer muchos de ustedes. También ha habido algunos desafíos en el camino también. Pensé que la tubería reventada que inundó la iglesia en enero sería desafiante ... pero luego llego el golpe COVID-19. ¡Nada nos podría haber preparado para esta crisis de salud actual!

Es posible que se haya preguntado por qué nuestra parroquia está haciendo algunas de las cosas que estamos haciendo (o no haciendo). Las parroquias y los pastores deben seguir las pautas del Cardenal y la Arquidiócesis. Por ejemplo, los únicos eventos públicos que tenemos permitido tener en el campus son misas. Además, las pautas de Misa que seguimos provienen directamente de la oficina del Cardenal. Debido a la actual crisis de salud, estamos tomando las precauciones necesarias y requeridas que se nos pide que tomemos. El básico *modus operandi* es mantener las cosas lo más simples posible por el momento ... y, para ser honesto, ¡parece que estamos bastante "encerrados"!

Dicho todo esto, eso no significa que solo estamos haciendo girar nuestros pulgares, este es un buen momento para planificar y prepararse para las cosas que queremos hacer una vez que salgamos de la actual crisis de salud. Tenemos que mantener nuestros ojos fijos en una visión general, ¡y saldremos de estas crisis más fuertes que nunca! Los Hechos de los Apóstoles revela la vida de la comunidad cristiana primitiva y nos proporciona el plan de vida de la comunidad parroquial: "Se dedicaron a la enseñanza de los apóstoles y a la vida comunitaria, a partir el pan y a las oraciones." (Hechos 2:42).

1. La enseñanza de los apóstoles: Jesús enseñó a los apóstoles y les dio la autoridad para continuar enseñando en su nombre (Mt 28:20). Nuestra parroquia se centrará en las oportunidades para aprender más sobre nuestra fe católica, que se centra en Jesucristo. Estas oportunidades incluirán actividades como estudios bíblicos, CCE, clases de educación de adultos y conferencias. También tendremos un programa renovado para involucrar a nuestros jóvenes.

2. Vida comunitaria: la fe se vive en comunidad y, a medida que nuestro mundo se vuelve más y más secular, necesitamos el apoyo mutuo para vivir efectivamente nuestra fe hoy. El apoyo mutuo significa que tenemos que conocernos. Nuestra parroquia se enfocará en la construcción de nuestra vida comunitaria al ofrecer oportunidades de compañerismo. ¡No puedo esperar hasta que podamos tener más eventos de la comunidad porque, por muy útil que sea, Zoom y YouTube solo pueden llegar tan lejos!

3. La Partida del Pan: Esta es una referencia inconfundible a la Eucaristía. La Eucaristía y los otros sacramentos "tocan todas las etapas y todos los momentos importantes de la vida cristiana: dan a luz y aumentan, sanan y misión a la vida de fe del cristiano" (CCC 1210). Nuestra parroquia se enfocará en la vida litúrgica y celebrará la Misa de acuerdo con la visión general de la Iglesia Católica.

4. Oraciones: San Juan Damasceno define la oración como la elevación de la mente y el corazón de uno a Dios o la solicitud de cosas buenas de Dios. La oración es indispensable para la vida cristiana. Cuando nuestra sociedad tenga un mejor manejo de COVID-19, abriremos nuestra capilla de adoración para que la oración perpetua pueda ocurrir en el campus. Por el momento, nuestra iglesia está abierta todo el día entre misas para la oración privada. Continuaremos buscando maneras de fomentar una buena vida de oración para nuestra parroquia.

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

Santo de la semana



Fiesta de
San Maximiliano Kolbe
Fiesta: 14 de Agosto