

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH
ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON—HOUSTON



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

Parish Office

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

10330 Hillcroft St.
Houston, TX 77096
(713) 729-0221
(713) 729-3294 fax
www.stmhouston.org

Parish School

Saint Thomas More Catholic School

5927 Wigton Drive
Houston, TX 77096
(713) 729-3434
(713) 721-5644 fax
www.stthomasmore-school.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*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Ryan Lambert, *Director of Faith Formation*
Xenia Avalos, *Faith Formation, Admin Assistant*
Mary-Therese Hafernik, *Youth Confirmation Coord.*

Office of Music:

Chris Bearer, *Director*, (713) 980-3111
Jian Guang Shi, *Organist* (713) 988-9829

School Office Hours

Monday to Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Staff

Carolina Bowman, *Principal*
Noel Novak, *Dean of Students*
Kathleen Prado, *Director of Advancement*
Judy Gentempo, *Admissions*
Anjie Ellis-Scales, *Accountant*
Rebeka Zepeda, *Nurse*
Andrea Osborne, *School Counselor*

Parish Ministries

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Deacon John Krugh, *Director*

Respect Life Committee

Marianne Kahlich, *Director*

Building and Grounds Committee

Vince Stasio, *Chairman*

Current Mass and Confession Schedule

**WEEKDAY MASS
MISA ENTRE SEMANA**

Monday – Friday
6:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

**CONFESSION
CONFESIONES**

Tuesdays • Martes
6:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

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
9:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY • DOMINGO
7:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends in Christ,

Not too long ago I was having a fun discussion (aka a debate) with one of my priest friends. The topic of conversation centered on the precepts of the Church. As we got to talking, we wondered if many Catholics know that the Church has precepts. We wondered if many Catholics know what the precepts of the Church are? Do you know what the precepts of the Church are?

The precepts of the Church are also known as the Commandments of the Church. The Catechism teaches, "The precepts of the Church are set in the context of a moral life bound to and nourished by liturgical life. The obligatory character of these positive laws decreed by the pastoral authorities is meant to guarantee to the faithful the very necessary minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth in love of God and neighbor" (CCC 2041). In other words, the precepts of the Church set the bar for what we should be doing as Catholics... and the bar is pretty low! We can always do more than the bare minimum!

1. You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor. Sunday is the Day we celebrate the Lord's Resurrection. We come together as a community, and together, we keep this living memory alive. Whether you realize it or not, you need Mass... and the community needs you! While COVID-19 has temporarily suspended our obligation to attend Mass, we are still obliged to keep Sunday holy.

2. You shall confess your sins at least once a year. Reconciliation helps prepare our souls for receiving the Eucharist. If we are in the state of mortal sin, we are supposed to refrain from receiving the Eucharist until we go to confession and confess our sins.

3. You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season. Receiving the Eucharist during the Easter Season "guarantees as a minimum the reception of the Lord's Body and Blood in connection with the Paschal feasts, the origin and center of the Christian liturgy" (CCC 2042).

4. You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church. Days of fasting include Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. We abstain from meat on these days as well. We also abstain from meat on the other Fridays of Lent. Fasting and abstinence help prepare us for liturgical feasts and help us acquire mastery over our passions. (Did you know that we are supposed to do a penance every Friday throughout the year? The bishops encourage us to refrain from eating meat every Friday, though they have given us the option of selecting our own penances.)

5. You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church. We are supposed to help provide for the material needs of the Church, and the primary way we do this is by donating our money. For some reason, Catholics are some of the lowest givers compared to other denominations. Most Catholics spend more money on their cell phone bills than they give to their own parish. I ask you to please consider helping the material needs of St. Thomas More. To put my two cents in (pun intended), I find that our online payment system is much easier and much more convenient than envelopes!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

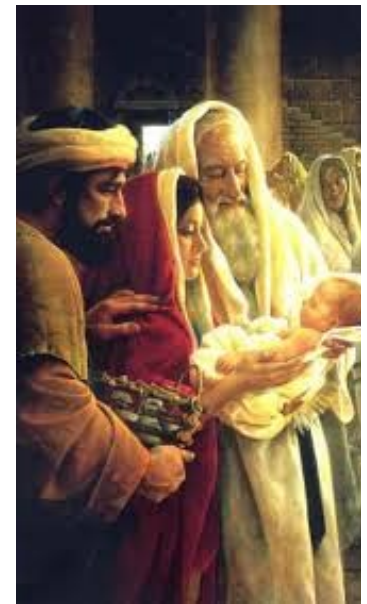
Fr. Clark

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honor you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

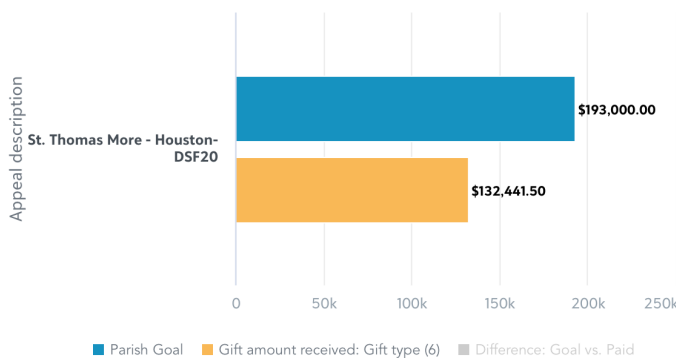
FEBRUARY 2ND

Stewardship for January 24, 2021

Collection	\$11,720.00
Online Giving	\$11,509.13
Total	\$23,229.13



Goal vs. Paid - Parish



The Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) for the 2020 year has ended we would like to thank everyone who contributed and helped us attempt to reach our goal. Contributions received by the Diocese after January 6, 2021 will be applied to your DSF 2021 contribution.

Please save the date for DSF weekend February 7, 2021. The presentation will go into detail on how more than 60 programs receive all or part of their funding from DSF and all funds are spent within Archdiocesan boundaries. The broad areas of ministry that receive DSF support include: Catholic education of children and adults; pastoral ministries for the sick, the poor and the incarcerated; the formation and education of church leadership; social service programs such as San José Clinic, St. Dominic Village and Catholic Charities.

Mass Intentions

Sunday, January 31

7:30am †Osita Obidigbo
 9:00am †Mary Pamela Ezugwu
 11:00am*Missá Pro Populo
 1:00pm †David Flores

Monday, February 1

6:30am †Stephen Dols
 5:30pm † James T. Griffing

Tuesday, February 2

6:30am †Joseph Fogarty
 5:30pm †Jean Marie Womack

Wednesday, February 3

6:30am *Mr. & Mrs. Herb Espinosa
 5:30pm †Richard H. Garza

Thursday, February 4

6:30am *Michelle Kanu
 5:30pm †Matthew

Friday, February 6

6:30am †Fred Hafernick
 5:30pm †Appolonia Nwachukwu

Saturday, February 7

9:00am †Deceased STM Legion of Mary members
 5:00pm †Nick Pickett

† (Deceased)
 * (Special Intention)



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

“The Mass is the most perfect form of prayer!”

- Pope Paul VI

Sacraments

Please visit our website for more details regarding all of our Faith Formation programs at:

<https://stmhouston.org/faith-formation>

Infant Baptism Preparation

- You must be a registered parishioner or live in zip codes 77096 and 77035 to register
- Infants 6 years old and under
- Children over 6 years old require RCIA for children.
- The process is personalized to the family and we hope you will utilize www.formed.org and Zoom.
- Attendance is required for parents and is highly recommended for godparents.

Please call the Religious education office for access to our registration 713-729-3435.

First Sacrament Preparation (CCE Only)

We have opened up the registration for First Sacraments (Reconciliation and Communion). Call the CCE office for more information regarding registration at 713-729-3435 or email rlambert@stmhouston.org. Your children must be completing 2 years of CCE or Catholic school to enroll. Students enrolled in the STM parish school do not need to be in this program.

Adult Confirmation

If you or someone you know are above the age of 18 and desire to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, now is the time to act! Sessions will be offered in English for the Spring semester of 2021 starting January 12th from 7pm-8:30pm. Please call 713-729-3435 or email rlambert@stmhouston.org for more information.

Youth Ministry & Confirmation

Middle School: Registration is still open. It will be in person as long as we can stay within our Covid-19 restrictions. Otherwise, we will make adjustments.

High School: Youth ministry is separate from our Confirmation program. Confirmation registration is closed at this time. High School Youth Ministry is in person and online, but will also follow Covid-19 restrictions.

Anointing of the Sick

If you or a loved one is suffering from a serious illness please call the parish office to request this sacrament, 713-729-0221.

Lent 2021

Ash Wednesday is February 17; not that far away. How will you spend your Lent this year?

Tuesdays, 7 - 8 PM Holy Hour with Exposition in the church, starting February 23.

Wednesdays, 10 AM – 10 PM Exposition and Adoration in the church. Please consider signing up for an hour. It would be helpful if you could sign up for the same hour every week, but not necessary. This will start on February 24. Contact shamilton@stmhouston.org to sign up for a Lenten holy hour.

Fridays, Stations of the Cross in the church.

Knights of Columbus Southwest Council No. 3910

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

“Drive Thru” Fish Fry



Friday, February 5, 2021
4:30 PM-6:30 PM

PERPETUAL EXPOSITION AND ADORATION RETURNING TO ST. THOMAS MORE

In February 1981 we began round the clock Exposition and Adoration at our parish, the second parish in the Archdiocese to do so. This has been a great blessing. The pandemic has disrupted many aspects of parish life and this has been one of them, but as life returns to “normal”, we hope to revive this devotion. Many of you have been participants, giving one hour of your busy week to pray before Jesus truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. We hope you return! And if you have never participated, we will need many new adorers since we want to fill 24 hours each day in the chapel with 2 people per hour. **We will reopen our chapel when we have enough people registered to fill all of the hours.** We also have a new system of record keeping. Go here to create an account and sign up for a Holy Hour

www.stmhouston.weadorehim.com

Questions? Contact Bob Brill by texting him at 713-598-4838.

Del escritorio del P. Clark

Queridos amigos en Cristo

No hace mucho tiempo estaba teniendo una discusión divertida (también conocida como debate) con uno de mis amigos sacerdotes. El tema de conversación se centró en los preceptos de la Iglesia. Cuando comenzamos a hablar, nos preguntamos si muchos católicos saben que la Iglesia tiene preceptos. Nos preguntamos si muchos católicos saben cuáles son los preceptos de la Iglesia. ¿Sabes cuáles son los preceptos de la Iglesia?

Los preceptos de la Iglesia también se conocen como los Mandamientos de la Iglesia. El Catecismo enseña: "Los preceptos de la Iglesia se establecen en el contexto de una vida moral ligada y alimentada por la vida litúrgica. El carácter obligatorio de estas leyes positivas decretadas por las autoridades pastorales está destinado a garantizar a los fieles lo mínimo necesario en el espíritu de oración y esfuerzo moral, en el crecimiento en el amor a Dios y al prójimo" (CCC 2041). En otras palabras, los preceptos de la Iglesia establecen la barra de lo que deberíamos estar haciendo como católicos ... ¡y la barra es bastante baja! ¡Siempre podemos hacer más que lo mínimo!

1. Deberá asistir a misa los domingos y días santos de obligación y descansar del trabajo servil. El domingo es el día en que celebramos la resurrección del Señor. Nos unimos como comunidad, y juntos, mantenemos vivo este recuerdo. Si te das cuenta o no, necesitas misa ... ¡y la comunidad te necesita!

2. Confesarás tus pecados al menos una vez al año. La reconciliación ayuda a preparar nuestras almas para recibir la Eucaristía. Si estamos en el estado de pecado mortal, se supone que debemos abstenernos de recibir la Eucaristía hasta que confesamos nuestros pecados.

3. Recibirás el sacramento de la Eucaristía al menos durante la temporada de Pascua. Recibir la Eucaristía durante la temporada de Pascua "garantiza como mínimo la recepción del Cuerpo y la Sangre del Señor en relación con las fiestas pascales, el origen y el centro de la liturgia cristiana" (CIC 2042).

4. Observarán los días de ayuno y abstinencia establecidos por la Iglesia. Los días de ayuno incluyen el Miércoles de Ceniza y el Viernes Santo. Nos abstenemos de la carne en estos días también. También nos abstenemos de la carne los otros viernes de Cuaresma. El ayuno y la abstinencia nos ayudan a prepararnos para las fiestas litúrgicas y nos ayudan a dominar nuestras pasiones. (¿Sabía que debemos hacer una penitencia todos los viernes durante todo el año? Los obispos nos alientan a no comer carne todos los viernes, aunque nos han dado la opción de seleccionar nuestras propias penitencias).

5. Ayudarás a satisfacer las necesidades de la Iglesia. Debemos ayudar a satisfacer las necesidades materiales de la Iglesia, y la forma principal de hacerlo es donando nuestro dinero. Por alguna razón, los católicos son los que donan menos dinero en comparación con otras denominaciones. La mayoría de los católicos gastan más dinero en sus facturas de teléfono celular de lo que dan a su propia parroquia. Les pido que consideren ayudar a las necesidades materiales de St. Thomas More. Para poner mis dos centavos (juego de palabras), ¡encuentro que nuestro sistema de pago en línea es mucho más fácil y mucho más conveniente que los sobres!

De Ustedes in Cristo

Padre Clark

Cuarto Domingo de Tiempo ordinario

Concédenos, Señor Dios nuestro, que te honremos con toda nuestra mente, y amar a todos con la verdad de corazón.

Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo, tu Hijo, que vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, por los siglos de los siglos.

Amen



**LA PRESENTACIÓN
DEL SEÑOR**

2 DE FEBRERO