

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION
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 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*
Ingrid Gooding, *Bookkeeper*
Ron Biba, *Facilities Manager*
Xenia Avalos, *Receptionist*

Religious Education

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

Office of Music

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

Parish School

Saint Thomas More Catholic School

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

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*
Kathy Muras, *Secretary*

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*

Mass and Confession Schedule

WEEKDAY MASS
MISA ENTRE SEMANA

Monday – Friday
6:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Bulletin announcements are due Monday, 12 noon for the following Sunday. Please email your announcement to shamilton@stmhouston.org. Requests subject to approval and space availability.

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.
1:00 p.m. (español)

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends in Christ,

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, and at Mass we recall the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem to accomplish his Paschal Mystery. As we enter into the week, I want to highlight some of the beautiful liturgical celebrations that take place during it.

Chrism Mass: This Mass traditionally takes place on the morning of Holy Thursday (this year it will take place on Tuesday evening of Holy week). The Bishop consecrates the Chrism and blesses the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of Catechumens. The Chrism is a mixture of olive oil and perfume, and it's used to anoint infants after Baptism, those who are to be confirmed, Bishops and Priests at their Ordination, and altars and churches at the time of their dedication. It is desirable that the Bishop concelebrate this Mass with the priests of the Archdiocese, which shows the unity of the presbyterate. At this Mass, priests also renew their priestly promises that they made on the day of their Ordination.

Thursday of the Lord's Supper: This Mass starts the Sacred Paschal Triduum and commemorates some principal mysteries of our faith, namely, the institution of the Holy Eucharist and of the Priestly Order, and the commandment of the Lord concerning fraternal charity. At the end of this Mass, there is a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the altar of repose.

Friday of the Passion of the Lord [Good Friday]: At this celebration, we remember Jesus' passion and death. It generally takes place at three o'clock in the afternoon, which is traditionally understood to be the hour that Jesus died. It is a day of mourning and sadness, and various aspects of the liturgy reflect this mood. It is also the one day of the year when there isn't a celebration of the Eucharist (i.e., there is no consecration). This liturgical service consists of the Liturgy of the Word (which concludes with the "Solemn Intercessions"), the Adoration of the Cross, and Holy Communion (from the hosts consecrated the night before). This celebration begins and concludes in silence.

Holy Saturday: The rubrics from the Roman Missal say, "On Holy Saturday the Church waits at the Lord's tomb in prayer and fasting, meditating on his Passion and Death and on his Descent into Hell, and awaiting his Resurrection. The Church abstains from the Sacrifice of the Mass, with the sacred table left bare, until after the solemn Vigil, that is, the anticipation by night of the Resurrection, when the time comes for paschal joys, the abundance of which overflows to occupy fifty days".

Easter Sunday: This is the day we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection. It begins with the Vigil, which "even if celebrated before midnight, is a paschal Mass of the Sunday of the Resurrection," and "which is the greatest and most noble of all solemnities." This Vigil consists of the blessing of Paschal Candle, the Easter Proclamation (Exsultet), the Liturgy of the Word (consisting of 9 readings), the Baptismal liturgy (where Catechumens formally enter the Catholic Church through Baptism and Confirmation), the Liturgy of the Eucharist, and concluding with a Solemn Blessing that says, "May almighty God bless you through today's Easter Solemnity and, in his compassion, defend you from every assault of sin. And may he, who restores you to eternal life in the Resurrection of his Only Begotten, endow you with the prize of immortality. Now that the days of the Lord's Passion have drawn to a close, may you who celebrate the gladness of the Paschal Feast come with Christ's help, and exulting in spirit, to those feasts that are celebrated in eternal joy."

I hope you have a Holy Week!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Clark

Palm Sunday

Almighty ever-living God,
who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Savior to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



The Last Supper
Master of Portillo
1523

On the cover...

JESUS RIDES INTO JERUSALEM
LIPPO MEMMI
(1291-1356)

Stewardship for March 21, 2021

Thank you for your generous donations.

Collection	\$13,282.00
Online Giving	\$12,468.10
Total	\$25,750.10



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 your donations.

You can scan the QR code above or visit our parish homepage at **STMHOUSTON.ORG** for details and registration.



2021 Goal	\$150,000.00
Collected	<u>22,606.00</u>
Remaining	\$127,394.00

KIDVENTURE SUMMER CAMP

Kidventure's Camp St. Thomas More Summer Camp is coming to St. Thomas More Catholic School for the summer of 2021 and registration is taking place now.

Choose from any of our nine camp sessions beginning June 1st for campers age 3yrs.-5 yrs. and campers entering 1st grade-entering 5th grade. This summer our kids will need camp like never before. Register at <https://kidventure.com/houston-summer-camp/>

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 28-Palm Sunday

7:30 am *Chavez Family Intentions
 9:00 am *Missa Pro Populo
 11:00 am †John of the Jayme Family
 1:00 pm *Ariana & Brien Barton

Monday, March 29

6:30 am †Osvaldo Rodriguez
 5:30 pm *Prima Nwachukwo

Tuesday, March 30

6:30 am †Lanh Nguyen
 5:30 pm †Mary Bernadette Foley

Wednesday, March 31

6:30 am †Erma Gozdick
 5:30 pm †Cindy Dixon

Thursday, April 1-Holy Thursday

7:00 pm †Ugochukwu Nwachukwo

Friday, April 2-Good Friday, No Masses today

12:00 pm Divine Mercy Novena
 3:00 pm Service in English
 7:00 pm Service in Spanish

Saturday, April 3-Holy Saturday

8:30 pm *Terry Burnaman

† (Deceased)
 * (Special Intention)



**STM MEN'S RETREAT
 APRIL 9-11, 2021**

The annual **Men's Retreat** is being held at the Holy Name Retreat Center, 430 Bunker Hill Road (between I-10 and Memorial Drive). This is the weekend *after* Easter and the theme is "Lord it is good that we are here."

Covid protocols are in place and the total allowed attendance is 45 men.

Register today at <https://holynameretreatcenter.com/catholic-men-retreat-april-9-11-2021/> or contact Hiatt Ives at 832-372-6900 or Hiatt@HiattIves.com for more information.

SACRAMENTS AND FAITH FORMATION

Please visit our website for details about our Sacramental preparation:

<https://stmhouston.org/sacraments>

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.

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.

Please visit our website for details regarding our Faith Formation programs:

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

RCIA (The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or do you know someone who is? Consider joining our RCIA program.

You can go to our website for more information, www.stmhouston.org Fill out the registration form and our office will be notified of your interest. Currently, programs are being conducted online via Zoom.



HOLY WEEK AT ST. THOMAS MORE

Sunday, March 28, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Regular Mass Schedule

Monday, March 29— Regular Schedule

Tuesday, March 30—Chrism Mass 6:00 PM at the Co-Cathedral, no 5:30 PM Mass or Confessions at STM, there will still be the 7:00 PM Holy Hour

Wednesday, March 31—Regular Mass and Confession schedule. Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 10AM-10PM in church.

Holy Thursday, April 1— Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00 PM (this is the only Mass today)

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, April 2— 10:00 AM Living Stations of the Cross, 12 Noon Opening of Divine Mercy Novena, Confessions 12—2 PM, 3:00 PM English Service, 7:00 PM Spanish Service. *Today is a day of fast and abstinence. No Fish Fry today, no evening Stations of the Cross*

Holy Saturday, April 3— Easter Vigil, 8:30 PM (this is the only Mass today)

Easter Sunday, April 4— Regular Mass schedule: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 AM in English and 1:00 PM in Spanish. If needed there will be overflow Masses in Servant Hall starting at 9:15 & 11:15 AM and 1:15 PM

PARISH OFFICES WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON HOLY THURSDAY AND REOPEN ON THE TUESDAY AFTER EASTER

Del escritorio del P. Clark

Queridos amigos en Cristo,

El Domingo de Ramos marca el comienzo de la Semana Santa, y en la Misa recordamos la entrada de Jesús a Jerusalén para realizar su Misterio Pascual. Al entrar en la semana, quiero destacar algunas de las hermosas celebraciones litúrgicas que tienen lugar durante ella.

Misa Crismal: Tradicionalmente, esta Misa se lleva a cabo en la mañana del Jueves Santo (este año tendrá lugar el martes por la noche de la Semana Santa). El Obispo consagra el Crisma y bendice el Óleo de los enfermos y el Óleo de los catecúmenos. El Crisma es una mezcla de aceite de oliva y perfume, y se usa para ungir a los infantes después del Bautismo, a los que serán confirmados, a los Obispos y Sacerdotes en su Ordenación, y a los altares e iglesias en el momento de su dedicación. Es deseable que el Obispo concelebrará esta Misa con los sacerdotes de la Arquidiócesis, que muestra la unidad del presbiterio. En esta Misa, los sacerdotes también renuevan las promesas sacerdotales que hicieron el día de su ordenación.

Jueves de la Cena del Señor: Esta Misa inicia el Sagrado Triduo Pascual y conmemora algunos de los principales misterios de nuestra fe, a saber, la institución de la Sagrada Eucaristía y de la Orden Sacerdotal y el mandamiento del Señor sobre la caridad fraterna. Al final de esta Misa, hay una procesión del Santísimo Sacramento hasta el altar del reposo.

Viernes de la Pasión del Señor [Viernes Santo]: En esta celebración recordamos la pasión y muerte de Jesús. Generalmente tiene lugar a las tres de la tarde, que tradicionalmente se entiende como la hora en que Jesús murió. Es un día de duelo y tristeza, y varios aspectos de la liturgia reflejan este estado de ánimo. También es el único día del año en que no hay celebración de la Eucaristía (es decir, no hay consagración). Este servicio litúrgico consiste en la Liturgia de la Palabra (que concluye con las "Intercesiones Solemnes"), la Adoración de la Cruz y la Sagrada Comunión (de las hostias consagradas la noche anterior). Esta celebración comienza y concluye en silencio.

Sábado Santo: Las rúbricas del Misal Romano dicen: "El Sábado Santo la Iglesia espera en la tumba del Señor en oración y ayuno, meditando en su Pasión y Muerte y en su Descenso a los Infiernos, y esperando su Resurrección. La Iglesia se abstiene del Sacrificio de la Misa, dejando al descubierto la mesa sagrada, hasta después de la Vigilia solemne, es decir, la anticipación nocturna de la Resurrección, cuando llega el momento de los gozos pascuales, cuya abundancia se desborda para ocupar cincuenta días.

Domingo de Pascua: Este es el día en que celebramos la Resurrección de Jesús. Comienza con la Vigilia, que "aunque se celebre antes de la medianoche, es una misa pascual del domingo de la Resurrección", y "que es la más grande y noble de todas las solemnidades". Esta Vigilia consiste en la bendición del Cirio Pascual, el Proclamación Pascual (Exsultet), la Liturgia de la Palabra (que consta de 9 lecturas), la Liturgia Bautismal (donde los Catecúmenos ingresan formalmente a la Iglesia Católica a través del Bautismo y la Confirmación), la Liturgia del Eucaristía, y concluyendo con una bendición solemne que dice: "Que Dios todopoderoso los bendiga a través de la solemnidad pascual de hoy y, en su compasión, los defienda de cada asalto del pecado. Y que él, que os devuelve a la vida eterna en la resurrección de su Unigénito, os conceda el premio de la inmortalidad. Ahora que los días de la Pasión del Señor han llegado a su fin, que ustedes, que celebran la alegría de la fiesta pascual, vengan con la ayuda de Cristo, y exultantes de espíritu, a esas fiestas que se celebran con gozo eterno".

¡Espero que tengas una Semana Santa!

Sinceramente suyo en Cristo,

Padre Clark

Domingo de Ramos

Dios todopoderoso y eterno, quien, como ejemplo de humildad a seguir para la raza humana, hizo que nuestro Salvador se encarnara y se sometiera a la Cruz, concede con gracia que podamos escuchar su lección de sufrimiento paciente y por eso merecen una participación en su resurrección. Que vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, por los siglos de los siglos.



Cristo crucificado
Diego Velázquez
1632