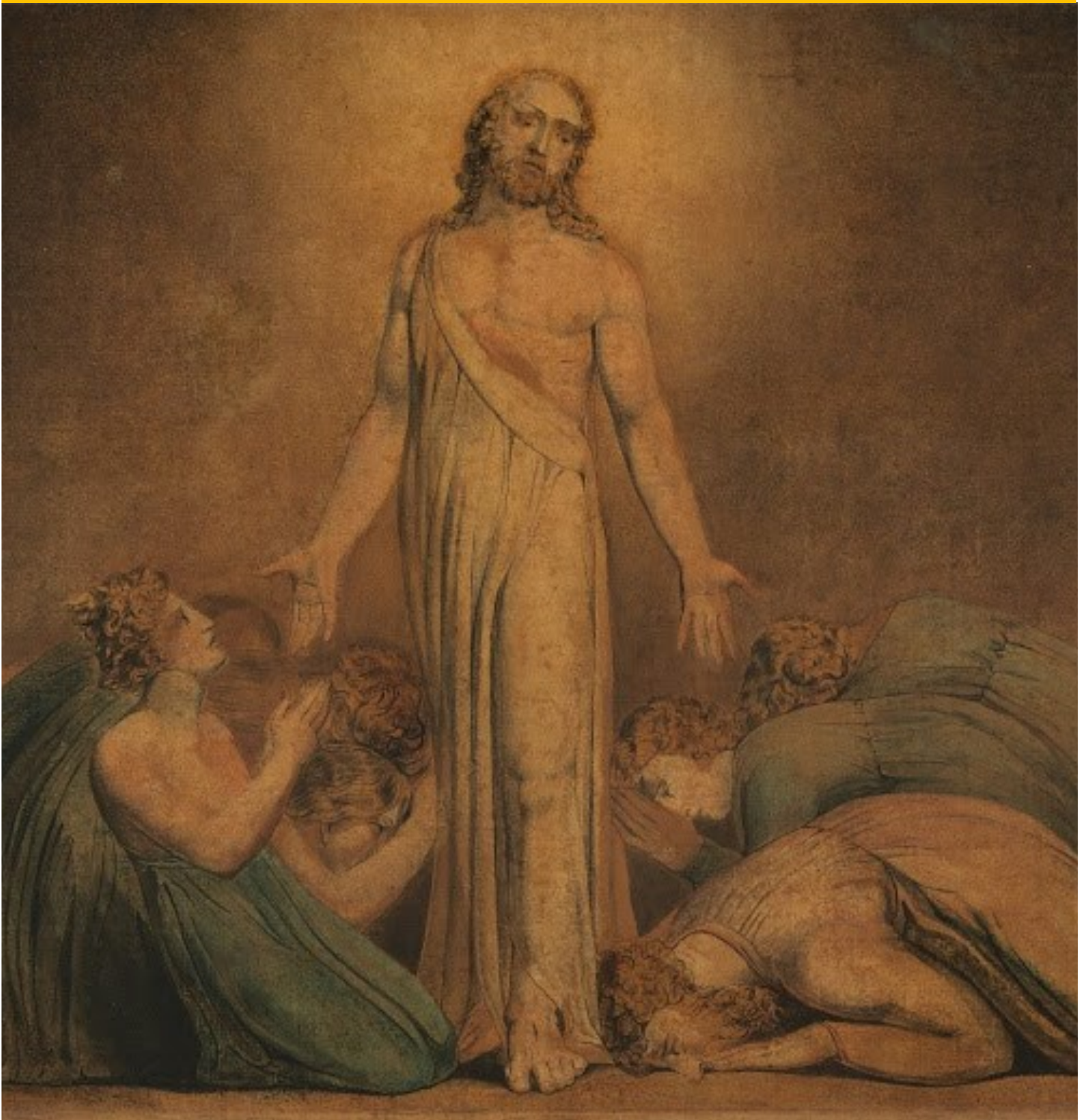


THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH
ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON—HOUSTON



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 (Closed from 12-1 PM for lunch)

Monday to Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

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*

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

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & EXPOSITION

In February 1981 we began round the clock Exposition and Adoration at our parish. This has been a great blessing and we hope to revive this devotion. We will need many adorers since our goal is to fill 24 hours each day in the chapel with at least 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 electronic system for registering and record keeping. Go here to create an account and sign up for a Holy Hour:

stmhouston.weadorehim.com

Questions? Text Bob Brill, 713-598-4838 or Edna Valdez, 713-425-9506.

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 AM - 4:30 PM

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, *Front Office Assistant*

Sacraments

Please visit our website for details about our Sacramental preparation:

<https://stmhouston.org/sacraments>

Infant Baptism Preparation & Registration

- ◆ You must be registered in the parish, or live in either of the following zip codes: **77096 or 77035**
- ◆ Infant Baptism is for children under 7 years of age.
- ◆ Children 7 years and older must attend RCIA for children.
- ◆ The preparation is personalized to the family and we hope that you will use www.formed.org and Zoom.
- ◆ Attendance is required for parents and is highly recommended for Godparents.

Please call the Faith Formation Office for access to our registration, 713-729-3435.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK

If you or a loved one is suffering from a serious illness please contact the Parish Office 713-729-0221.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends in Christ,

One of my favorite things to do is to say hello to many of you outside the church after Mass. It's one of the best opportunities I have to have a real interpersonal interaction with you. These brief conversations also allow me to get a pulse on some of the things our parishioners might be curious about... and two good questions came to my attention this past week.

1. Why did the opening prayer at Mass change? The opening prayer at Mass, also known as the "Collect," changed on Ash Wednesday this year. You may recall how the Collect used to end with, "Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, **one God**, forever and ever." If you listen closely, the prayer now says, "Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, **God**, forever and ever." "One God" has simply become "God."

Why the change? The official language of the Catholic Church is Latin, which means that all the prayers of the Mass that we hear in English are based on translations from Latin. The prayer that we had been using in English was an incorrect translation. There is no mention of "one God" in the original Latin; it simply says, "God" (Per Dóminum nostrum Iesum Christum Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, **Deus**, per ómnia sácula sáculórum). The translation change may seem overly fastidious and/or a waste of time, but clarity in language can make all the difference in shaping our worldview (for example, imagine calling one of your best friends by the wrong name!). This specific form of the opening prayer is supposed to be directed towards Jesus, and the prayer itself affirms what we believe... that Jesus is God.

The Catholic Church has rightly mandated the translation change and, as a Catholic priest and a "steward of the mysteries of God," I have a duty to follow what the Church instructs me to do regarding the liturgy so that the faithful can celebrate the liturgy as the Church envisions it to be celebrated.

2. Why are we using this Gloria at Mass? The music at Mass normally changes according to the liturgical season. During this Easter season, we are using a Mass setting called *Missa de Angelis* ("The Mass of the Angels"). This Mass setting is actually one of the best known and most universally used Gregorian Chant Mass settings today. Parts of this setting originated in northern France and date back as far as the 11th Century. If you haven't heard it before, it can be a little unfamiliar. However, as Catholic hymnals teach, "The Order of Mass is familiar to all who regularly join in this assembly. It is learned through repetition." (You are more than welcome to take a worship aide home and continue to familiarize yourself with it. You can also listen to it online.)

You may also notice that this Gloria is sung in Latin, which raises another question, "Why do we use Latin in Mass?" The Church expanded the use of the vernacular during Mass back in the 60's. While the use of the vernacular language has been very helpful in listening to and understanding things like the scriptures and other prayers, many people wrongly assume that the Church did away with the use of Latin altogether. *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, teaches that while the mother tongue can be used, "Steps should be taken so that the faithful may also be able to say or to sing together in Latin those parts of the Ordinary of the Mass which pertain to them." We use Latin in some parts of the Mass because the Church wants us to use Latin in some Mass parts. She obviously believes that there is something connected with it that helps us enter more deeply into the liturgy... but that is another topic of conversation!

One day after Mass, someone told me that they watched Mass with Pope Francis at St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican. They said that they heard the music at that Mass and they were familiar with it... they were familiar because they had heard it before at STM!

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Fr. Clark



St. Anselm
April 21

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday
6:30 AM & 5:30 PM
Saturday
9:00 AM

Saturday Vigil
5:00 PM
Sunday
7:30, 9:00, 11:00 AM
1:00 PM (español)

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

**Tuesday &
Wednesday**
6:15-7:00 PM
Saturday
3:30-4:45 PM

On the cover:

**"Christ Appears to
the Apostles after the
Resurrection"**
William Blake
1757-1827

Stewardship for April 11, 2021

Thank you for your generous donations!

Collection	\$29,251.00
<u>Online Giving</u>	<u>\$11,911.24</u>
	\$41,162.24



2021 Goal	\$150,000.00
Collected	<u>34,921.00</u>
Remaining	\$115,079.00



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.

STM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



HARRIS COUNTY RENT ASSISTANCE AND LEGAL AID

SATURDAY, MAY 1ST – 12:00-4:00
BakerRipley Gulfton/Sharpstown Campus
6500 Rookin St., Houston TX 77074

Having trouble paying your rent? Join us for this free drive-through event for help applying for assistance to pay back rent and utilities and connect with attorneys who can walk you through the declaration form for the CDC eviction moratorium.

Volunteers Needed: https://actionnetwork.org/forms/help-keep-gulfton-housed?source=direct_link&

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, April 18

- 7:30 am †Carrie Finley Voinché
- 9:00 am †Martha
- 11:00 am *Missa Pro Populo
- 1:00 pm *Oscar Quintanilla

Monday, April 19

- 6:30 am *William “Tudey” Teten
- 5:30 pm †Apollonia Nwachuku

Tuesday, April 20

- 6:30 am †John Andrzejewski
- 5:30 pm *The Miles Family

Wednesday, April 21

- 6:30 am *Prima Nwachukwu
- 5:30 pm †Gregory & Hattie Mozisek

Thursday, April 22

- 6:30 am †Charlotte McCrate
- 5:30 pm *Mary Pat & Mike Baringer Family

Friday, April 23

- 6:30 am †Lanh Nguyen
- 5:30 pm †Nereida Emiliani

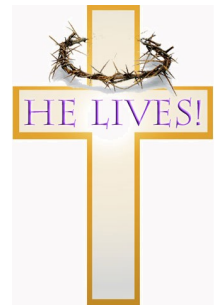
Saturday, April 24

- 9:00 am †Ugochukwo Nwachukwu
- 5:00 pm *Maria Gonsalves

Sunday, April 25

- 7:30 am *Joan Finley
- 9:00 am *Missa Pro Populo
- 11:00 am †Mark Lesniewicz
- 1:00 pm *Rosario Alvarado

† (Deceased)
 * (Special Intention)



STM CENSUS

We are preparing a second mailout that will be sent to all of the registered parishioners that we did not hear back from after the first census letter was mailed in February. If you did not receive that first letter, it is possible that you are not registered in the parish. Please do not hesitate to call the church office with any questions, 713-729-0221.

STM PARISH SCHOOL

Our school's annual auction, *Find Your Escape 2021*, took place this past weekend and was a great success. We hosted a virtual live event on Saturday night which also included a Paddles-Up event. Our Paddles-Up this year was focused on the rebuild of our preschool center. The funds collected will allow us to update the technology in the classrooms, purchase interactive boards, and decorate the halls with pieces that promote and strengthen our Catholic identity. We hope our brand-new and fresh building will make us more competitive and attract new families to our school. If you would like to donate to this great cause, you can do so by sending a check or calling Kathy Prado at the school. 712-329-3434.

In Christ,
Carolina Bowman, Principal



ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH SCHOOL
Reaching Minds · Touching Hearts · Shaping Souls

SACRED MUSIC

NEW YOUTH CHOIR FORMING

If you are a parent and are interested in finding out more about our Youth Choir (3rd-8th grade singers), please join us for an informational/planning meeting on Tuesday, April 27 at 7pm in Servant Hall. Only parent(s) need to attend, youth singers do not need to attend as this is a preliminary planning meeting. We will discuss the choir scope and objectives, and rehearsal scheduling etc.

Questions?
Contact Chris Bearer, cbearer@stmhouston.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

SACRED MUSIC CONCERT
THE STM CHOIR
WILL PERFORM A SETTING OF
THE MAGNIFICAT
IN HONOR OF MARY DURING
THE MONTH OF MAY
AND OTHER SACRED MUSIC

FRIDAY, MAY 21
7:30 PM
IN THE CHURCH

FAITH FORMATION

Congratulations to all those who entered the Church at the Easter Vigil: Noelia Martinez Medina, Leonardo Santos Rosales and Angel Santos Rosales and to all the children who were received this past Sunday.

We look forward to growing in faith together. Welcome!



PROLIFE INITIATIVE

There is a recent effort in Congress to overturn the Hyde Amendment, which prohibits direct taxpayer funding of abortion on demand. The USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) is asking you to sign a petition in favor of keeping the Hyde Amendment intact. The Hyde amendment has been in effect since 1977 and it is estimated that it has saved 2.4 million lives.

To sign the petition in favor of keeping the Hyde Amendment intact, the USCCB has created a website:

<https://www.notaxpayerabortion.com>

Signing the petition takes only a few seconds. Please sign today!



ASISTENCIA DE RENTA Y AYUDA LEGAL DEL CONDADO DE HARRIS

SATURDAY, MAY 1ST – 12:00-4:00
BakerRipley Gulfton/Sharpstown Campus
6500 Rookin St, Houston TX 77074

¿Tiene problemas para pagar el alquiler?

Unase a nosotros en este evento gratuito de autoservicio para obtener ayuda para solicitar asistencia para pagar el alquiler atrasado y los servicios públicos y comunicarse con abogados que pueden guiarlo a través del formulario de declaración para la moratoria de desalojo de los CDC.

Volunteers Needed: https://actionnetwork.org/forms/help-keep-gulfton-housed?source=direct_link&

Del escritorio del P. Clark

Queridos amigos en Cristo,

Una de mis cosas favoritas es saludar a muchos de ustedes fuera de la iglesia después de la misa. Es una de las mejores oportunidades que tengo para tener una interacción interpersonal real con ustedes. Estas breves conversaciones también me permiten tomar el pulso sobre algunas de las cosas por las que nuestros feligreses podrían tener curiosidad ... y dos buenas preguntas me llamaron la atención la semana pasada.

1. ¿Por qué cambió la oración de apertura en la Misa? La oración de apertura de la Misa, también conocida como "Colecta", cambió el Miércoles de Ceniza de este año. Tal vez recuerden cómo la Colecta solía terminar con: "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". Si escuchan atentamente, la oración ahora dice: "Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo, tu Hijo, que vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, **Dios**, por los siglos de los siglos". "Un Dios" simplemente se ha convertido en "Dios".

¿Por qué el cambio? El idioma oficial de la Iglesia Católica es el latín, lo que significa que todas las oraciones de la Misa que escuchamos en inglés se basan en traducciones del latín. La oración que habíamos estado usando en inglés era una traducción incorrecta. No hay mención de "un Dios" en el latín original; simplemente dice "Dios" (Per Dóminum nostrum Iesum Christum Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǎcula sǎculórum). El cambio de traducción puede parecer demasiado fastidioso y / o una pérdida de tiempo, pero la claridad en el lenguaje puede marcar la diferencia en la configuración de nuestra cosmovisión (por ejemplo, ¡imagina llamar a uno de tus mejores amigos por el nombre equivocado!). Se supone que esta forma específica de la oración de apertura está dirigida hacia Jesús, y la oración misma afirma lo que creemos ... que Jesús es Dios.

La Iglesia Católica ha ordenado correctamente el cambio de traducción y, como sacerdote católico y "administrador de los misterios de Dios", tengo el deber de seguir lo que la Iglesia me instruye que haga con respecto a la liturgia para que los fieles puedan celebrar la liturgia. como la Iglesia prevé que se celebre.

2. ¿Por qué usamos este Gloria en la misa? La música en la Misa normalmente cambia según el tiempo litúrgico. Durante esta temporada de Pascua, estamos usando un escenario de Misa llamado Missa de Angelis ("La Misa de los Ángeles"). Este escenario de Misa es en realidad uno de los escenarios de Misa de Canto Gregoriano más conocidos y más utilizados universalmente en la actualidad. Partes de este entorno se originaron en el norte de Francia y se remontan al siglo XI. Si no lo ha escuchado antes, puede ser un poco desconocido. Sin embargo, como enseñan los himnarios católicos, "El orden de la Misa es familiar para todos los que se unen regularmente a esta asamblea. Se aprende a través de la repetición". (Es más que bienvenido a llevar a un asistente de adoración a casa y continuar familiarizándose con él. También puede escucharlo en línea).

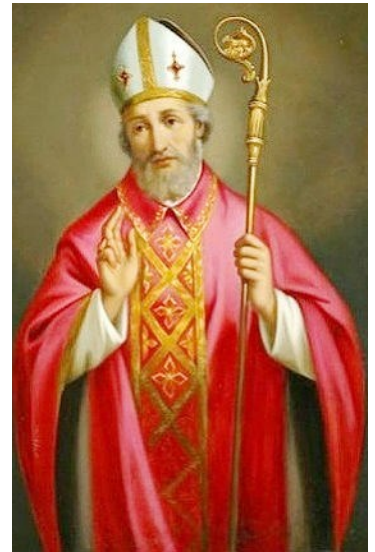
También puede notar que esta Gloria se canta en latín, lo que plantea otra pregunta: "¿Por qué usamos latín en la misa?" La Iglesia expandió el uso de la lengua vernácula durante la misa en los años 60. Si bien el uso de la lengua vernácula ha sido muy útil para escuchar y comprender cosas como las Escrituras y otras oraciones, muchas personas asumen erróneamente que la Iglesia eliminó por completo el uso del latín. Sacrosanctum Concilium, la Constitución sobre la Sagrada Liturgia, enseña que si bien se puede usar la lengua materna, "se deben tomar medidas para que los fieles también puedan decir o cantar juntos en latín aquellas partes del Ordinario de la Misa que pertenecen a ellos". Usamos latín en algunas partes de la Misa porque la Iglesia quiere que usemos latín en algunas partes de la Misa. Ella obviamente cree que hay algo relacionado con eso que nos ayuda a adentrarnos más profundamente en la liturgia ... ¡pero ese es otro tema de conversación!

Un día después de la Misa, alguien me dijo que vieron la Misa con el Papa Francisco en la Basílica de San Pedro en el Vaticano. Dijeron que escucharon la música en esa misa y que estaban familiarizados con ella ... ¡estaban familiarizados porque la habían escuchado antes en STM!

Sinceramente suyo en Cristo,

Padre Clark

Que tu pueblo se regocije para siempre, oh Dios, en renovada juventud de espíritu, para que, regocijándonos ahora en la gloria restaurada de nuestra adopción, podemos mirar hacia adelante con esperanza confiada al regocijo del día de la resurrección. 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.



San Anselmo

21 de Abril