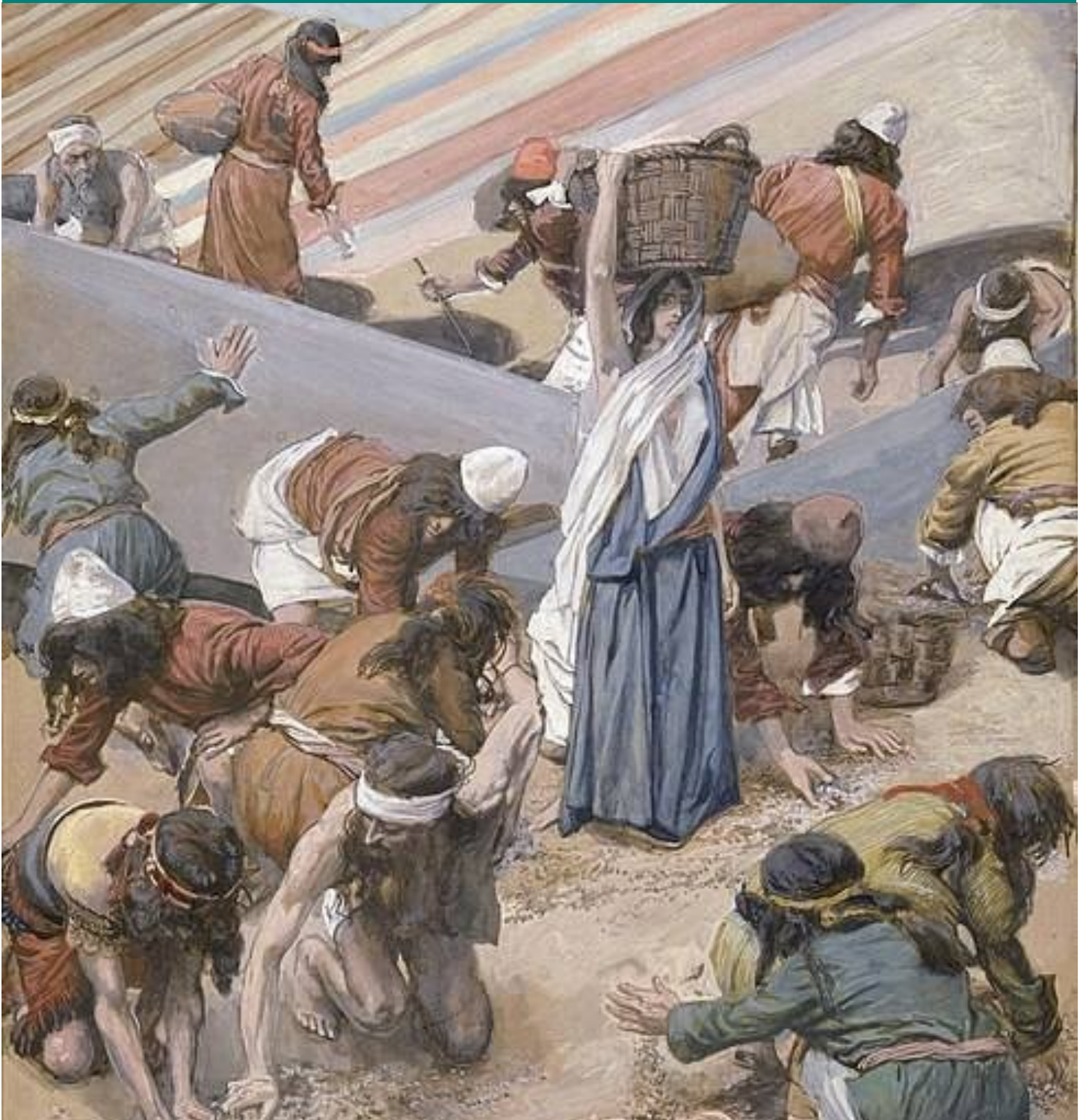


EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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 Office Hours (Closed from 12-1 PM for lunch)

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

SACRAMENTS

Please visit our website for details about our
Sacramental preparation:

<https://stmhouston.org/sacraments>

Come fly with us!

Blessed is She invites you to join us for two nights of unique worship, engaging talks, Eucharistic Adoration and Confession. All women 18+ are invited! Monday and Tuesday, August 16-17 at St. Thomas More Catholic Church from 7-9pm. Come lean into the Father's love and learn to fly in trust and surrender. Grab your tickets and find out more info at blessedisshe.net/revivals.

STM 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 (Summer)

Monday to Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Summer for our teachers has come to a close. Monday, August 2nd, our teachers return to our campus to begin the preparations for the 2021-2022 school year. Please pray for our school as we embark on this new year. We still have spaces in most grade levels and are conducting tours for our future students. Currently, we are actively looking for a Middle School English and Reading teacher and a lower school teacher assistant. Call 713-729-3434 and see what wonderful opportunities STM holds for you.

Yours in Christ,
Carolina Bowman, School Principal

CARDINAL DINARDO ON THE HYDE AMENDMENT

I write to inform you of a new threat to the unborn under consideration by the federal government and to urge you to act now on behalf of our unborn brothers and sisters.

The Hyde Amendment, included in every federal budget since 1976, is a historically bipartisan, common sense measure that prohibits taxpayer funding of elective abortions. It is estimated that, since its inception, this Amendment has saved the lives of over 2.4 million unborn persons. Disturbingly, the recently-proposed federal budget aims to do away with Hyde and other longstanding protections for the unborn, making taxpayer funds available for elective abortions and further imperiling the lives of our most vulnerable brothers and sisters.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has created a petition for Catholics, asking Congress to maintain the Hyde Amendment and similar provisions for the current budget. This petition can be found at NoTaxpayerAbortion.com. The USCCB will present all signatures to Congress in advance of a final vote on the federal budget. I urge all Catholics to join me in reaching out to the U.S. Congress today.



From the Pastor's Desk

A reflection from Pope Benedict:

The Reading of the sixth chapter of John's Gospel continues in the Liturgy of the Word of this Sunday. We are in the synagogue of Capharnaum where Jesus was giving his well-known discourse after the multiplication of the loaves. The people had sought to make him king but Jesus had withdrawn, first, to the mountain with God, with the Father, and then to Capharnaum. Since they could not see him, they began to look for him, they boarded the boats in order to cross the lake to the other shore and had found him at last. However, Jesus was well aware of the reason for this great enthusiasm in following him and he says so, even clearly: "you seek me, not because you saw signs, [because you were deeply impressed] but because you ate your fill of the loaves" (v. 26).

Jesus wants to help the people go beyond the immediate satisfaction — albeit important — of their own material needs. He wants to open them to a horizon of existence that does not consist merely of the daily concerns of eating, of being clothed, of a career. Jesus speaks of a food that does not perish, which it is important to seek and to receive. He says: "do not labour for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of man will give to you" (v. 27).

The crowd does not understand, it believes that Jesus is asking for the observance of precepts in order to obtain the continuation of that miracle, and asks: "what must we do, to be doing the works of God?" (v. 28). Jesus' answer is unequivocal: "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent" (v. 29). The centre of existence — which is what gives meaning and certain hope in the all too often difficult journey of life — is faith in Jesus, it is the encounter with Christ.

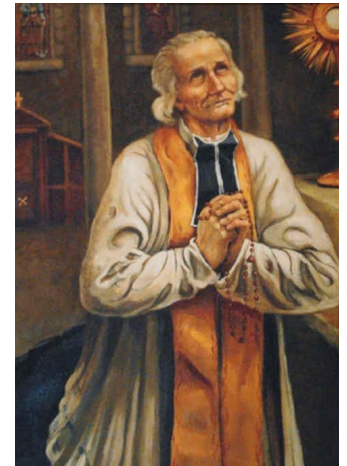
We too ask: "what must we do to have eternal life?". And Jesus says: "believe in me". Faith is the fundamental thing. It is not a matter here of following an idea or a project, but of encountering Jesus as a living Person, of letting ourselves be totally involved by him and by his Gospel. Jesus invites us not to stop at the purely human horizon and to open ourselves to the horizon of God, to the horizon of faith. He demands a single act: to accept God's plan, namely, to "believe in him whom he has sent" (v. 29).

Moses had given Israel manna, the bread from heaven with which God himself had nourished his people. Jesus does not give some thing, he gives himself: he is the "true bread that which comes down from heaven". He is the living Word of the Father; in the encounter with him we meet the living God.

"What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" (v. 28), the crowd asks, ready to act in order to perpetuate the miracle of the loaves. But Jesus, the true bread of life that satisfies our hunger for meaning and for truth, cannot be "earned" with human work; he comes to us only as a gift of God's love, as a work of God to be asked for and received.

Dear friends, on days that are busy and full of problems, but also on days of rest and relaxation, the Lord asks us not to forget that if it is necessary to be concerned about material bread and to replenish our strength, it is even more fundamental to develop our relationship with him, to reinforce our faith in the One who is the "bread of life" which satisfies our desire for truth and love. May the Virgin Mary, on the day on which we recall the dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major in Rome, sustain us on our journey of faith.

Benedict XVI, Angelus, Castel Gandolfo, August 5, 2012



St. John Marie Vianney
August 4

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:

**The Gathering of
the Manna**
James Tissot
1896

Stewardship for July 25, 2021
Thank you for your generous donations!

Collection	\$10,119.00
<u>Online Giving</u>	<u>\$ 9,631.47</u>
	\$19,750.47



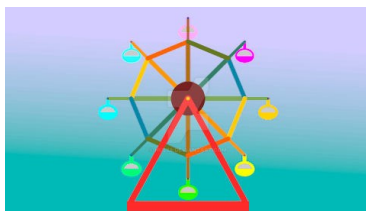
2021 Goal	\$150,000.00
Collected	<u>84,259.00</u>
Remaining	\$ 65,741.00

Contributing Parishioners: 257

DSF Spotlight: The Catholic Schools Office (CSO) serves the largest private school system in Texas. The CSO provides support to pastors and principals in 56 schools in the areas of accreditation, administration, assessment, catechist certification, curriculum development, facilities, finance, best practices in instruction, personnel, religious certification, serving the needs of all students, and technology. The CSO exists to support school pastors, principals, teachers, and communities as they work together to form students as they grow in holiness and become disciples of Jesus Christ that will transform the world.

MINISTRY FAIR, AUGUST 28-29

Life is slowly coming back to “normal” and it is time that we reinvigorate the life of the parish. Mass attendance is on the increase and we are readying the campus and our meeting spaces to welcome back our ministries and groups.



The parish is planning a Ministry Fair for the weekend of August 28-29, after all Masses. If you were/are a leader of a ministry or group at STM, please contact us and let us know that you wish to participate in the fair. Perhaps you have an idea for a new group or ministry? Let us know. Contact Suzie Hamilton, shamilton@stmhouston.org or 713-729-0221.


MASS INTENTIONS

- Sunday, August 1**
 7:30 am †Richard Gramar
 9:00 am *Missa Pro Populo
 11:00 am †John Luke Hughston
 1:00 pm †Jose Francisco Guerrero Mata
- Monday, August 2**
 6:30 am *Chavez Intention
 5:30 pm †Robert Schwartz
- Tuesday, August 3**
 6:30 am *Nnamdi Nwachukwu
 5:30 pm *Noelle Guajardo
- Wednesday, August 4**
 6:30 am *Michelle Kanu
 5:30 pm †Cruz Jose Barelas
- Thursday, August 5**
 6:30 am †Maurice Hendrix
 5:30 pm †Tim Twardowski
- Friday, August**
 6:30 am †Fr. Peter Ferguson
 5:30 pm †Deceased St. Thomas More Clergy
- Saturday, July 31**
 9:00 am †Elenora Lutringer
 5:00 pm †Brian LeMaire

- Sunday, August 1**
 7:30 am *Betty & Gabriel Ikeakor Family
 9:00 am †Peter Vincent Lomonte Jr.
 11:00 am *Missa Pro Populo
 1:00 pm *Xitaly Diaz
- † (Deceased)
 * (Special Intention)

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 here or visit our parish homepage at STMHOUSTON.ORG for details and registration.

SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS

Registration for all summer activities for both middle and high school students is available on our website along with the calendar of events we are offering throughout the summer. Be sure to check it out online under <https://stmhouston.org/summer>. Email irodriguez@stmhouston.org if you have any questions.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK/
COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND**

If you or a loved one is suffering from a serious illness and needs to be anointed or is unable to make it to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office, 713-729-0221.

Please pray for the souls of our parishioners who have recently died.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Robert Willis | Manuel de Jesus Lara |
| Rosa Cotoc Pum | Henry Krason |
| Filiberto C. Cerezo | Bill Gorton |
| Salvador Rodriguez | Stanford Dupaty |

**Summer Choir Camp—a few spots left!
For Youth Singers 4th – 8th grade**

This year’s camp will focus on music for the Solemnity of the Assumption.

Dates: Monday-Friday
August 9-13 from 9am-Noon*
AND Sunday, August 15, 9am Mass*

Tuition: \$50/singer participant
for instruction, materials, daily snack and t-shirt

Visit the website to register:
<https://stmhouston.org/annual-choir-camp>

For more information please contact
Chris Bearer

cbearer@stmhouston.org or 713-729-0221

*to participate you must commit to attend the full week and the 9am Mass.

**PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC
EXPOSITION & ADORATION**

Go here to create an account and sign up for a Holy Hour or as a substitute.

stmhouston.weadorehim.com

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



This is the current Adoration Chapel schedule:

- Monday 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM**
- Tuesday 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM**
- Wednesday 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM**
- Thursday 7:00 AM – Sunday 11:00 PM** *(the chapel is open around the clock during these days.)*

We hope this schedule is temporary. As soon as all of our hours are filled we will start Perpetual Exposition and Adoration. Please pray that more people volunteer to be adorers.

Following are the hours that need to be filled in order for our chapel to be open all the time (Perpetual Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration):

- Monday: 3:00 AM**
- Tuesday: 3:00 AM**
- Thursday: 3:00 AM**

ALL WE NEED ARE 3 PEOPLE TO COMMIT TO TAKE ONE OF THESE HOURS ON A WEEKLY BASIS AND OUR ADORATION CHAPEL CAN REMAIN OPEN AROUND THE CLOCK.

GRANTED, THESE ARE HARD HOURS, BUT IS JESUS CALLING YOU TO BE ONE OF THE THREE?

Del escritorio del P. Clark

Queridos hermanos y hermanas:

En la liturgia de la Palabra de este domingo prosigue la lectura del capítulo sexto del Evangelio de san Juan. Nos encontramos en la sinagoga de Cafarnaúm donde Jesús está pronunciando su conocido discurso después de la multiplicación de los panes. La gente había tratado de hacerlo rey, pero Jesús se había retirado, primero al monte con Dios, con el Padre, y luego a Cafarnaúm. Al no verlo, se había puesto a buscarlo, había subido a las barcas para alcanzar la otra orilla del lago y por fin lo había encontrado. Pero Jesús sabía bien el porqué de tanto entusiasmo al seguirlo y lo dice también con claridad: «Me buscáis no porque habéis visto signos (porque vuestro corazón quedó impresionado), sino porque comisteis pan hasta saciaros» (v. 26). Jesús quiere ayudar a la gente a ir más allá de la satisfacción inmediata de sus necesidades materiales, por más importantes que sean. Quiere abrir a un horizonte de la existencia que no sea simplemente el de las preocupaciones diarias de comer, de vestir, de la carrera. Jesús habla de un alimento que no perece, que es importante buscar y acoger. Afirma: «Trabajad no por el alimento que perece, sino por el alimento que perdura para la vida eterna, el que os dará el Hijo del hombre» (v. 27).

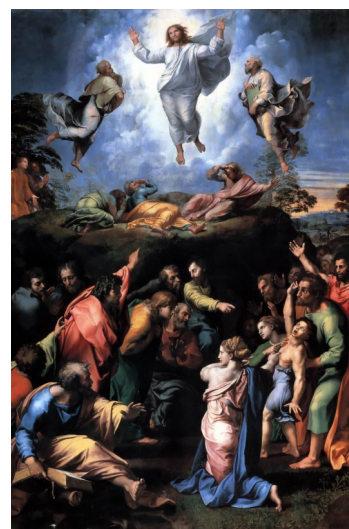
La muchedumbre no comprende, cree que Jesús pide observar preceptos para poder obtener la continuación de aquel milagro, y pregunta: «¿Qué tenemos que hacer para realizar las obras de Dios?» (v. 28). La respuesta de Jesús es clara: «La obra de Dios es esta: que creáis en el que él ha enviado» (v. 29). El centro de la existencia, lo que da sentido y firme esperanza al camino de la vida, a menudo difícil, es la fe en Jesús, el encuentro con Cristo. También nosotros preguntamos: «¿Qué tenemos que hacer para alcanzar la vida eterna?». Y Jesús dice: «Creed en mí». La fe es lo fundamental. Aquí no se trata de seguir una idea, un proyecto, sino de encontrarse con Jesús como una Persona viva, de dejarse conquistar totalmente por él y por su Evangelio. Jesús invita a no quedarse en el horizonte puramente humano y a abrirse al horizonte de Dios, al horizonte de la fe. Exige sólo una obra: acoger el plan de Dios, es decir, «creer en el que él ha enviado» (cf. v. 29). Moisés había dado a Israel el maná, el pan del cielo, con el que Dios mismo había alimentado a su pueblo. Jesús no da algo, se da a sí mismo: él es el «pan verdadero, bajado del cielo», él la Palabra viva del Padre; en el encuentro con él encontramos al Dios vivo.

«¿Qué tenemos que hacer para realizar las obras de Dios?» (v. 28) pregunta la muchedumbre, dispuesta a actuar, para que el milagro del pan continúe. Pero Jesús, verdadero pan de vida que sacia nuestra hambre de sentido, de verdad, no se puede «ganar» con el trabajo humano; sólo viene a nosotros como don del amor de Dios, como obra de Dios que es preciso pedir y acoger.

Queridos amigos, en los días llenos de ocupaciones y de problemas, pero también en los de descanso y distensión, el Señor nos invita a no olvidar que, aunque es necesario preocuparnos por el pan material y recuperar las fuerzas, más fundamental aún es hacer que crezca la relación con él, reforzar nuestra fe en Aquel que es el «pan de vida», que colma nuestro deseo de verdad y de amor. Que la Virgen María, en el día en que recordamos la dedicación de la basílica de Santa María la Mayor en Roma, nos sostenga en nuestro camino de fe.

*Benedicto XVI, Angleus, Patio del palacio pontificio de Castelgandolfo
Domingo 5 de agosto de 2012*

Acércate a tus siervos, oh
Señor,
y responde a sus oraciones
con incesante bondad,
que, para aquellos que se
glorían en ti como su
Creador y guía,
puedes restaurar lo que
has creado
y guarda lo que has res-
taurado.
Por nuestro Señor Jesu-
cristo, tu Hijo,
que vive y reina contigo
en la unidad del Espíritu
Santo,
un solo Dios, por los sig-
los de los siglos.



**La Transfiguración
del Señor
6 de Agosto**