



# St. Thomas Aquinas Church

1501 S. Atlantic Blvd., Monterey Park, CA 91754  
323-264-4447



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 12, 2020

## From the Desk of Our Pastor

**Sr. Veronica is moving to a new assignment**

Dear Parishioners,

Sr. Veronica arrived here August 2019. She has served our parish as the Director of Religious Education, Liturgy Director and also overlooked the Spanish ministry. During the past four months she has worked tirelessly using Zoom and other means of communication to minister to parishioners under her care. She also provided classes and educational materials for catechists and students to complete their First Communion and Confirmation programs without any interruptions.

Sr. Veronica's community has reassigned her to a new parish. Her last day with STA will be July 31<sup>st</sup>. We are grateful to her and appreciate her dedication to our parish community. She will be present at all Masses the weekend of July 18/19 to say farewell to the parishioners. Since we cannot gather for any kind of receptions due to the Covid 19 situation, I encourage anyone who would like to give any gift of appreciation for Sr. Veronica to bring it to Mass on July 18/ 19 or to the parish office before the end of July.

### Our Next Step

For the past five years we were blessed to have the community of Missionary Sisters Servants of the Word, as part of our parish ministry and staff. With Sr. Veronica's transfer, her community will not be able to provide us with another sister to replace her. I am in the process of interviewing a few candidates to take her place. Please keep Sr. Veronica in your prayers as she moves on to a new chapter in her life.

Fr. John

★  
★  
THANK  
YOU!  
★ for ★  
everything



## From the Desk of Sr. Veronica Alcazar



Dear Parishioners,

As a religious missionary that I am, I have always kept in mind that a mission is not forever but rather an opportunity to serve God in the place, time and people that he places in my life.

Two words come to my mind right now: **thanks and blessing**. Thanks, first of all, to God for the opportunity he gave me during this year to serve him through you. Even though it was a difficult time due to the pandemic and because we had to learn new ways of being connected to each other, it was an enriching experience for me. Thanks to all of you with whom I had the opportunity to share more closely, Fr. John and Fr. Justin, STA staff, catechists, families, children and youth of religious education, the Hispanic community, the young people of the ignite group and to all of you. I really learned a lot from you. Thank you for your acceptance, friendship, affection and for a thousand other reasons.

The second word: Blessing, As I move on to my new mission, I pray for you that God may continue to bless you in all ways of life. May our faith continue to grow as we journey to return to normal life during this time of trials with the virus and other problems in the world. Pray for me as I pray for you. May God bless us as we continue to serve in his kingdom. Amen.

Queridos hermanos y hermanas, como Religiosa misionera que soy, siempre he tenido presente que una misión no es para siempre sino que es una oportunidad para servir a Dios en el lugar, tiempo y a las personas que él pone en mi vida.

Por lo tanto vienen dos palabras a mi mente en este momento: **gracias y bendición**. Gracias, primeramente a Dios por esta oportunidad que me dio durante este año de servirle a través de ustedes aunque fueron tiempos difíciles por la pandemia y porque tuvimos que aprender nuevas formas de estar conectados unos a otros fue una experiencia enriquecedora para mí. Gracias, a todos ustedes con los que tuve la oportunidad de compartir más de cerca, al P. John y P. Justin, al personal de STA, a los catequistas, a las familias, niños y jóvenes de la educación religiosa, a la comunidad hispana, a los jóvenes del ignite group y a todos ustedes, realmente aprendí mucho de ustedes, gracias por su aceptación, amistad, cariño y por mil motivos más.

La segunda palabra: Bendición, A medida que avanzo hacia mi nueva misión, oro por ti para que Dios continúe bendiciendote en todas las formas de vida. Que nuestra fe continúe creciendo mientras caminamos para regresar a la vida normal durante este tiempo de pruebas con el virus y otros problemas en el mundo. Me encomiendo a sus oraciones y tengo por seguro que yo lo hare por ti. Que Dios nos bendiga mientras continuamos sirviendo en su reino. Amén.

**Con Cariño**

**Han. Veronica Alcazar, hmsp**

# GIVE BLOOD

*You can make a difference.*



**Red Cross Community Blood Drive**  
**Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**10 AM – 4 PM Parish Hall**

**Discover Your Antibody Test Status When You Give Blood:** For a limited time, the American Red Cross will test all blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies as an additional health service to their donors. This testing may provide critical insight into whether donors may have possibly been exposed to this coronavirus. An antibody test screens for antibodies in your blood, which are formed when fighting an infection, like COVID-19. **Please note the Red Cross is *not* testing donors to diagnose illness, including COVID-19.** They are practicing social distancing at all blood drives. Please visit: [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and **enter: stthomasmp** to schedule an appointment.

All donors will automatically be entered for a chance to win a trip for four to Knotts Berry farm or Cedar Pont. Includes travel, hotel, park admission and more!

## Happy 102<sup>nd</sup> Birthday William Sanchez



We would like to congratulate William Sanchez, one of our founding members, on the celebration of his 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday on Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>. William, a highly decorated and distinguish World War II veteran has shared his talents with our parish, school and local community for decades.

His family is organizing a drive by celebration on **July 18<sup>th</sup> starting promptly at 4:00 PM.** They have invited our parish to join the fun. **The address is: 1501 Hillside Street, Monterey Park.** Their home is directly across the street from Brightwood School. The procession will start at the top of the hill, going south. The family has requested that no cards of gifts be dropped off, but they would appreciate your participation. They know William would love to see his STA family. Come out and help make William's 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday a memorable event.

## Thank You for Sanitizing Our Church

We are committed to sanitize the church after each mass and would not be able to do so without all our wonderful volunteers. We would like to thank everyone who continues to help with the sanitization. We could not keep to our mass schedule without your involvement. God bless you for all you do.

## Give Your Envelopes the Summer Off

Thank you for being a part of our St. Thomas Aquinas family. The past few months have been challenging for all of us. Despite temporary closures of churches like ours, we have never waned in our faith as Catholics or in our commitment to our shared mission and ministry. We appreciate all that you do for our parish and community by sharing your God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure. Your active participation in the life of our parish helps us to fulfill our vision and mission.

This summer, we pray that you will have some quiet and restful time that includes the love, joy and peace of being with family. During these summer months your generosity through Faith Direct can help provide the consistent resources we need to operate our parish.

Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our **church code: CA779** or visit our website STAMPK.ORG. Click eGving button and follow the simple directions.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

**Weekly Expenses: \$7,500.00**

6/27-6/28 Offertory/Online: \$5,825.00

Over/(Under):                    -(\$1,675.00)

7/4-7/5 Offertory/Online:     \$5,983.00

Over/(Under):                    -(\$1,517.00)

## School News

STA School is now registering students from TK-8th grade. We will return to daily in-person instruction this Fall, beginning on August 17.

The safety of our students, families, faculty and staff is very important to us. Please see below what precautions we are taking:

1. Health screening questions and temperature checks for each student and faculty/staff member entering campus each day.
2. In classrooms, student desks spaces minimum 4-6 feet apart.
3. Indoors, all students and faculty/staff must wear either a mask or a face shield.
4. Additional hand washing stations being installed on the main playground and kinder playground.
5. Staggered recess and lunch times in order to allow freezer groups of students on the yard at a time.
6. Students will remain in grade level cohorts throughout the day.
7. One direction hallways to limit congestion.
8. In middle school, teachers will switch classes, not the students.
9. Frequent cleaning (3 times a day) of high touched surfaces (doorknobs, light switches, railings, and bathrooms) and classrooms disinfected at the end of each day.

For additional information on how we are protecting our students, please contact the office at (323) 261-6583 or by emailing us at [info@stampkschool.org](mailto:info@stampkschool.org).

## Mass Intentions For the Week

### Saturday, July 11th

5:30 PM Brianna Tretter (Health)

### Sunday, July 12th

8 AM Joe Saragueta (D)  
Joseph Nguyen (D)  
Agnes Nguyen (D)  
Henry Carranza (Health)  
In thanksgiving to all who  
prayed for John Arroyo

11:30 AM Thomas Ayala (D)  
Raul Mena Sr. (D)  
Robert Lopez (Health)

1:30 PM STA Parishioners

### Tuesday, July 14th

8 AM Brianna Tretter (Health)  
Ai Min Lau (Well-being)

### Thursday, July 16th

8 AM Brianna Tretter (Health)  
Ai Min Lau (Well-being)

### Friday, July 17th

8 AM Brianna Tretter (Health)  
Ai Min Lau (Well-being)

### Saturday, July 18th

8 AM William Sanchez  
(102<sup>nd</sup> Birthday)  
Ai Min Lau (Well-being)