



St. Thomas Aquinas Church

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



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 16, 2020

From the Desk of Our Pastor

"The catechist is a Christian who is mindful of God, who is guided by the memory of God in his or her entire life and who is able to awaken that memory in the hearts of others". Pope Francis

Dear Parishioners,

Please meet our catechist team who will be teaching our students in the Religious Education Program under the leadership of Ana Patricia Martinez. *Please welcome our catechists and keep them in your prayers as they take on this responsibility of teaching our faith.*

First Holy Communion Program- This two-year program prepares small children to receive reconciliation and communion.

Catechists for Year 1:

Laura and Alex Mena
Christian Nguyen
Kim Nguyen

Catechists for Year 2:

Jacqueline Chavez
Lisa Arias

Confirmation Program- This two-year program teaches teens who need sacraments of confirmation.

Catechists for Year 1:

Jesus Padron
Jose Arias

Catechists for Year 2:

Jessica Quach
Leslee Hernandez

Catechists for First Holy Communion Teens:- These catechists assist those teens who need the sacraments of baptism and first communion. After they receive these sacraments, they proceed to the confirmation program. *Julia Jauregui and Vanessa Padilla*

Confirmation Team- Our confirmation team is made up of the youth who received the sacrament of confirmation here in our Parish and have decided to return and share with others their faith experience. We welcome them with open arms: *Alizé Ochoa, Andrea Gutierrez, Hazel Acob, Isabella Jimenez, Jacob Perez, Alexis Ramirez, Christopher Sandoval and Diego Camarena.*

Adult Faith Formation Program:- This program teaches adults who need sacraments of either baptism, first communion or confirmation. The program also provides classes to parishioners who have received these sacraments but want to renew or deepen their faith.

Catechist for Adult Faith Formation:

Divina Rodriguez, Dennis Rodriguez, Henry Ayala

Standing on the shoulders of others: As the above-mentioned catechists take on a new role or continue their calling, their efforts are built on the shoulders of other catechists who have served us. Much appreciation to the following catechists who have now taken a break from teaching, so they can focus in other areas in their lives. Their dedication and commitment have enriched many people over the years. Sergio Garcia, Elga Kunkle, Warren G. Kunkle III, Gloria Gamboa, Edna Barajas, Carmen Chavez, and Edie Mahon.

Fr. John

RCIA Rite of Initiation

As we care for one another in the health crisis, remember to pray for our 10 RCIA candidates who received their sacraments of Initiation this past Saturday, August 15th. We welcome them to our Catholic family and wish them well on their continued faith journey.



- MengNan Chen
- Jian Hua W Chou
- Yan Zhu Griffin
- Yuxuan Huang
- Zilin Huang *baptism only*
- Fang Liu
- Peng Lyu
- Dan Qing Xiang
- KuanJu Zheng
- Zhen Zhao

Outdoor Mass Attendance Continues to Grow

Many of our parishioners are enjoying our outdoor setting for masses. The opportunity to attend mass while enjoying the beautiful weather has resulted in an increase of attendance. This past week we added more canopies to our outdoor “church” increasing the seating capacity. We invite you to join us. Feel free to bring your own chair!

In Gratitude for Gifts Received



We appreciate your on-going generous support during these uncertain times. As people of faith, we know that the Lord will guide us through these challenging days. eGiving through Faith Direct is the easiest and most convenient way for St. Thomas Aquinas to receive your weekly offering and other Church support. eGiving through Faith Direct will also save you time while helping St. Thomas Aquinas reduce our expenses.

You can go online to faith.direct/CA779, this is a safe and secure site. Thank you for your prayerful support of St. Thomas Aquinas.

Blood Drive Life Saving Success

The Red Cross is truly grateful to all STA blood donors and to STA for the use of our parish hall. Last week’s blood drive surpassed their goal. They collected 28 pints of blood which means up to 84 hospital patients will be affected, so thank you so much! Your blood donation will help address the Red Cross’s emergency appeal for blood and platelet. You may have saved a life!



**Bible Study
Wednesdays at 7 PM**

Bible Study continues on every Wednesday at 7 PM using Zoom. They are currently studying Matthew's Gospel, the first Gospel (an account of Jesus' life and ministry) in the New Testament. In Matthew, Jesus teaches people what it means to be part of his kingdom, the "kingdom of heaven."

Text Henry Ayala at (323) 717-1126 to receive the meeting ID for the Zoom meeting.

**Safeguard The Children
DID YOU KNOW?**

Back to school preparations during a pandemic

In August, families are usually preparing to start a new school year, with all the excitement and anxiety that brings. But this year, in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, no one knows what lies ahead for school children. Talk to your children about how they're feeling and what they're worried about. Many people, including young children, are struggling with anxiety and depression during this pandemic, so be sure to check in frequently, and provide a safe space where children can talk about their concerns. For more information, visit lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Weekly Expenses: \$7,500.00

8/8-8/9 Offertory/Online: \$7,129.30

Over/(Under): (\$370.70)

Thank you for your support!

**Mass Intentions
For the Week**

Saturday, August 15th

5:30 PM Frank Soto (D)
Jose Rodas (well-being)

Sunday, August 16th

8 AM Jose Rodas (well-being)

11:30 AM Thomas Ayala (D)
Celia Dennis (D)
Frank Soto (D)
Eva Magdalena Huerta (D)
Espy Gutierrez (B-Day)

1:30 PM All STA Parishioners

Tuesday, August 18th

8 AM Ai Min Lau (Well-being)
Frank Soto (D)

Thursday, August 20th

8 AM All STA Parishioners
7 PM Frank Soto (D)

Friday, August 21st

8 AM All STA Parishioners

Saturday, August 22nd

8 AM All STA Parishioners