



# St. Thomas More Catholic Church

2510 So. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803  
(626) 284-8333



## PARISH OFFICE (RECTORY) HOURS

<b>Monday-Friday</b>	8 AM to 5 PM
<b>Saturday</b>	Closed
<b>Sunday</b>	Closed

**PASTOR**  
Father Thai Le

## Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time — October 17, 2021

### PARISH STAFF

**Office:** (626) 284-8333 **Fax:** (626) 282-4459

**Pastor:** Fr. Thai Le  
(ext. 110) frthaile@yahoo.com

**Deacon Couple:** Rogelio and Emilia Garcia  
rogelio.emilia@hotmail.com (626) 705-1072

**Safeguard the Children Contact:** Gabriella Ramos  
(ext. 139) or (626) 457-5302 stmdrealhambra@gmail.com

**Director of Catechetical Sunday School :** Gabriella Ramos  
(ext. 139) or (626) 457-5302 stmdrealhambra@gmail.com

**Liturgy & Music Coordinator:** Sr. Andrea Johnson  
(ext. 137) stmmusiclit@gmail.com

**Accounting Manager:** Lucy Lai  
(ext. 141) acct\_stm@yahoo.com

**Youth Ministry & Confirmation Coordinator:** Francisco Ramos  
stm lifeteenymc@gmail.com

**Parish Secretary:** Lucia Alcantar  
(ext. 112) stm\_secretary@live.com

### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

#### Confessions

First and Third Saturdays, or by appointment  
*Meet by the Rectory's garage*

#### Masses

- Tue-Fri **8:30 am** Sat **5:00 pm**
- Sunday **8:00 am & 9:15 am in English**
- Sunday **10:30 am in Spanish**

### UPCOMING EVENTS & SPECIAL SERVICES

**RCIA:** Thursdays from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm  
On Zoom (Zoom ID TBA)

**“Remembrance of the Dead” Month**  
November 2021

### COVID-19 INFORMATION & NOTICE

COVID-19 remains a highly contagious and life-threatening disease. Following state, local, and Archdiocese guidelines, this parish no longer requires social distancing or facemasks for guests who are fully vaccinated.

*Due to the spread of the Delta Variant of COVID-19, Los Angeles guidelines encourage everyone continue wearing masks and social distance while indoors.*

St. Thomas More Parish does not provide COVID-19 vaccination religious-exemption letters.

Please check our website for up-to-date information.

### SCHOOL STAFF

**School Office:** (626) 284-5778 **Fax:** (626) 284-3303

**Principal:** Norma Gibson (ext. 128)

**Secretary:** Mary Helen Lazo, (ext. 129)

**School Website:** www.stmcsa.org

**School Email:** ngibson@stmfalcons.net

[www.stmcatholicalhambra.org](http://www.stmcatholicalhambra.org)

## CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

Hello St. Thomas More Families and Visitors Confirmation Registration completed in August. However, if you are interested in attending Confirmation education to receive the sacrament, additional registration dates are listed below, or contact the Confirmation Coordinator, Frank Ramos, at (626)808-8033

### 1st Year Orientation

Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hall

### 2nd Year Orientation

Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hall

## "Remembrance of the Dead" Month

November 2021

November is the month of remembrance in which the Catholic Church commemorates the faithful departed. The community of St. Thomas More will join to celebrate and pray for our loved ones who have passed. You are welcome to bring a 5 x 7 photo of your deceased loved ones so we can display it on the table in the sanctuary throughout November.

*Photo Dropoff:* starting **Monday, October 18**

Parish Office Monday – Friday from 8 am - 2 pm

*Photo Pickup:* **November 30, 2021**

*After November 30, remaining photos will be stored in the "crying room" to reserve space in the church for Advent preparation.*

## ALL Sacraments

**The Sacrament of Confirmation:** Perhaps for some reason, you have not received this Sacrament. It is time to pick up a phone, call the parish office, and ask the staff what the steps you would need to do. If you or someone you know never confirmed, received **First Holy Communion**, or is not **married** in the Catholic Church, please call the parish office, and we will help you with this matter. It could be easier than you think. Alternatively, Fr. Thai can meet with you virtually and learn more about your situation. It will not cost you much time as you make first contact.

## Your Child Has Not Missed!

Faith Formation Classes started two weeks ago, but it is not too late for your child to join with other students on Sunday, Catechetical School. The Sunday Mass begins at 9:15, and then the students walk with their parents to the Parish Hall and O' Neill Center. All classes begin at 10:30 am – 12 noon. We offer classes from 1st through 8th grade.

## Pray for Others

*During these challenging times, please pray for those who are ill. Each weekend we will have a list of names in the parish bulletin. Kindly remember those who have passed away in the past weeks and months. Your prayers for these people are greatly appreciated.*

## Called to Renew Update

**Goal:** \$400,000

**Pledged:** \$446,298

**Paid:** \$205,793

**Balance:** \$240,505

- Parish Hall New LED Lights installed
- The interior walls are being painted starting Monday, October 4.

Thank you very much for your financial contributions to the parish project and the common good.

## The Synod on Synodality

Last Sunday, Pope Francis invited bishops from across the globe to Rome for a Synod to prepare ways to draw more people in the decision-making manner that involves the Universal Church. The theme is: "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission." We pray for the wisdom and guidance of the Holy Spirit throughout this preparation.

## Hispanic Catechetical Leadership: A Case Study

Tuesday, October 19 at 4 p.m. EDT

In this free webinar, Dr. Gerardo 'Ialo' Salazar discusses how Hispanic catechetical leadership is transforming the life of the Church based on the findings and pastoral guidelines found in a case study of Hispanic catechetical leaders.

Visit the STM Website for a registration website link, or call: 1.800.221.5175

## Religious Exemption for Vaccination

St. Thomas More Parish does **not** provide religious exemption letters for COVID-19 vaccinations. Below are some helpful links:

[https://www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc\\_con\\_cfaith\\_doc\\_20201221\\_nota-vaccini](https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20201221_nota-vaccini)

[rc\\_con\\_cfaith\\_doc\\_20201221\\_nota-vaccini](https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20201221_nota-vaccini)

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[rc\\_con\\_cfaith\\_doc\\_20201221\\_nota-vaccini](https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20201221_nota-vaccini)

**Mass Schedule and Intentions**

**Saturday, October 16, 2021**  
 5:00 PM Fr. Thai Arianne & Annabel Miller: Special Intentions

**Sunday, October 17, 2021**  
 8:00 AM Fr. Andrew Patrick Yiu† Peter Sinh Nguyen† Anna Nguyen An & Vivian Nguyen†  
 9:15 AM Fr. Thai Simon Nguyen† Dr. Erlinda Koo† Isaiah Gutierrez: Healing  
 10:30 AM Fr. Lorenzo Rafael Garcia † Michael Sun† Jaime & Elsa Almazar: Healing

**Monday, October 18, 2021**  
**Tuesday, October 19, 2021**  
 8:30 AM Fr. Thai Shu Mei My Wu† Michael Sun†

**Wednesday, October 20, 2021**  
 8:30 AM Fr. Thai Vivian Nguyen†

**Thursday, October 21, 2021**  
 8:30 AM Fr. Donovan Shu Mei My Wu†

**Friday, October 22, 2021**  
 8:30 AM Fr. Thai Simon Nguyen†

**Saturday, October 23, 2021**  
 5:00 PM Fr. Thai Dr. Erlinda Koo† Shu Mei My Wu† Domitila & Francisca Orandien†

**Sunday, October 24, 2021**  
 8:00 AM Fr. Charlie Patrick Yiu† Peter Sinh Nguyen† Mary Diaz†  
 9:15 AM Fr. Thai Vivian Nguyen† Dr. Erlinda Koo† Anna Nguyen An & Michel Vu San†  
 10:30 AM Fr. Thai Rafael Garcia † Michael Sun†

**St. Thomas More School**  
**Preschool—8th Grade Enrollment**

⇒ Quality Education with Updated Curriculum  
 ⇒ Affordable Tuition and Sibling Discounts  
 ⇒ In-Person Learning with great Student : Teacher Ratio

For information and registration, visit our website:  
[stmcatholicalhambra.org](http://stmcatholicalhambra.org)

**Affordable Catholic Education & Tuition Assistance**

Catholic school students are now back in the classroom! The Catholic Education Foundation of Los Angeles has received a \$50 million gift to provide financial support to new grade-school students enrolling in an Archdiocesan school in Los Angeles, Ventura, and Santa Barbara counties. Families interested in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Catholic schools are encouraged to visit [lacatholicalschools.org](http://lacatholicalschools.org) or call (213) 637-7070 for more information and access to financial assistance.

**Collections for 10/10/21**

*Attendance: 329*

	Envelopes	Loose	Total
Sunday Masses	\$2,356.00	\$915.00	\$3,271.00
By Mail and Online	\$1,050.00		\$1,050.00
Building Fund	\$2,130.00		\$2,130.00
Special Projects	\$181.00		\$181.00
Altar Society	\$30.00		\$30.00
School Support	\$33.00		\$33.00
	<b>\$5,780.00</b>	<b>\$915.00</b>	<b>\$6,695.00</b>

**Please Pray for the Sick**

<b>A</b> Mary Louise Aluzzi	<b>L</b> Anna Lovoy
Elias Alvarez	<b>M</b> Evelyn Manza
Kelly Artozgui	Henrietta Martinez
<b>B</b> Aletha Bailey	Maria Martinez
Paul Beers	Edgardo Merin
<b>C</b> Rita Campanella	Ariana Alonso Morales
Ceres Family	Barbara Moreno
Roman Covarrubias	Betty Murray
<b>D</b> Gerald Darrah	<b>N</b> Gloria Natividad
Carol De Alaiza	John Ng
Imelda De La Cruz	<b>O</b> Rosaleen Ocampo
Mary Diaz	Maria Ortega
<b>E</b> Jan Edwards	<b>P</b> Manuel Pacheco Jr.
<b>F</b> Familia Flores	Fernando Parra
<b>G</b> Christine Garcia	<b>R</b> Mina Renteria
Claudia Godinez	Cheryl Ann Reynoso
Isaiah Gutierrez	Ryan Reynoso
<b>H</b> Lonna Hernandez	Armando Rivera
Gullermo Herrera	<b>S</b> Ruben Santana
<b>J</b> Maria Ivy Lynn Jimenez	Nicole Smith
Raymond Jimenez	Connie Sotelo
Gary Jones	<b>V</b> Romeo Villafranca
<b>K</b> Erin Kametani	Ray & Ofelia Villalobos
Sister Marie Kronheimer	Donna Viramontes
<b>L</b> Jeff Lamb	<b>W</b> Terry Wilson
Chuy Lara	

**Pray for the Dead**



Anna Nguyen An	Norma Murray
Camilo D. Cadenas	Michael Ou San
Eli Chavez	Mary Stone
Mary Diaz	Julia Padilla Tavares
Jose Luis Garcia	Angelina Tierre
Mary Garcia	Teresita Yu



Hello!

In many countries, public transportation systems have signs showing “priority seats,” reserving places for disabled passengers, pregnant women, and women with infants. These people receive that privilege to ensure their safety and sit down while others must stand. Such benefits are acceptable.

In today’s gospel, we learn that two brothers ask for privileged seats as well. James and John, two of Jesus’ close friends, ask for “favored seats,” a place of honor and respect. What is their motivation for this? They see Jesus as a famous person, and He could eventually liberate Israel from the Romans. Jesus would become the King of the nations. So, they figured they could hold positions of authority and share the glory with Jesus. However, the question these two brothers asked was a bit immature. They thought that public power, position, and prestige were their ultimate good, and that was the way to follow Jesus. However, Jesus directs them to a cup: They need to drink the cup if they want to follow Jesus all the way.

What is this cup Jesus is referring to? The cup of being baptized with Jesus. That is, the willingness to go extra steps that other people may not want to take or may not want to see us carry. Jesus took the cup of humility; He drank all the sins of humanity to Himself—the cup of sins caused by humans’ disobedience to God. In public view, Jesus was captured and mocked by almost all people. He drank the cup when He walked through the road to Calvary. Along the way, He was humiliated, tortured, and suffered and eventually died on the cross. Who would believe the Son of God could endure such humility?

Some of us may have been persecuted because of our faith in Jesus Christ. It could happen at home, school, work, or social events. It is not necessary to be crushed or humiliated like Jesus. To some degree, we are all discriminated against, slandered, or shunned, even by family members or friends, because we practice our faith. I knew parents whose daughter was dating a man. She invited him to her family dinner on Thanksgiving Day. Her whole family made the sign of the cross and prayed before dinner. Her parents were very devout Catholics and shared their beliefs in Jesus, which annoyed the man. Indeed, days later, they learned that their daughter’s boyfriend would not want to revisit the parents because he didn’t feel comfortable with the conversation regarding their faith. I imagine his response was a problematic cup for the parents to drink from, let alone swallow every drop.

We may try to tolerate, or at least please, all people regardless of their beliefs. We may cultivate a colossal amount of earthly wealth, a lovely vacation home, or a mansion. We may come to a stage that we are cheered or honored by all people along the journey of life. However, we ask this question: are these people and events preparing us for lasting happiness? We cannot take honor, power, and prestige to the next life. We remember the words of St. Paul when he wrote, “For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it,” 1 Timothy 6:7. The essential things that we need to cultivate are eternal power, which can only be achieved by following Jesus.

We can build a networking system that ensures our “priority seats” on this planet earth. We can make ourselves look good or important. In addition, we can invest our wealth for our future retirement. We can support our relationships with others that may cause our lives more pleasant. Nevertheless, have we ever thought to invest in our relationship with God through Jesus Christ? There is no earthly position, stature, investment, or legacy that can be brought to the next life. They will fade as time passes. Only by drinking from the cup of challenging humility will we find our eternal honor and privilege with Jesus.

God bless!

Fr. Thai Le

¡Hola!

En muchos países, los sistemas de transporte público tienen letreros que muestran "asientos prioritarios", reservando lugares para pasajeros discapacitados, mujeres embarazadas y mujeres con bebés. Estas personas reciben ese privilegio para garantizar su seguridad y sentarse mientras que otros deben estar de pie. Estos beneficios son aceptables.

En el evangelio de hoy, aprendemos que dos hermanos también piden asientos privilegiados. Santiago y Juan, dos de los amigos cercanos de Jesús, piden "asientos privilegiados", un lugar de honor y respeto. ¿Cuál es su motivación para esto? Ven a Jesús como una persona famosa y eventualmente podría liberar a Israel de los romanos. Jesús se convertiría en el Rey de las naciones. Entonces, pensaron que podrían ocupar puestos de autoridad y compartir la gloria con Jesús. Sin embargo, la pregunta que hicieron estos dos hermanos fue un poco inmadura. Pensaban que el poder público, la posición y el prestigio eran su bien supremo, y esa era la manera de seguir a Jesús. Sin embargo, Jesús los dirige a una copa: necesitan beber la copa si quieren seguir a Jesús hasta el final.

¿A qué se refiere esta copa Jesús? La copa de ser bautizado con Jesús. Es decir, la voluntad de dar pasos adicionales que otras personas tal vez no quieran dar o no quieran que llevemos a cabo. Jesús tomó la copa de la humildad; Bebió todos los pecados de la humanidad para Sí mismo: la copa de los pecados causados por la desobediencia de los humanos a Dios. A la vista del público, casi todas las personas capturaron y se burlaron de Jesús. Bebió la copa cuando caminó por el camino hacia el Calvario. En el camino, fue humillado, torturado y sufrido y finalmente murió en la cruz. ¿Quién creería que el Hijo de Dios podría soportar tanta humildad?

Algunos de nosotros podemos haber sido perseguidos por nuestra fe en Jesucristo. Podría suceder en el hogar, la escuela, el trabajo o eventos sociales. No es necesario ser aplastado o humillado como Jesús. Hasta cierto punto, todos somos discriminados, calumniados o rechazados, incluso por familiares o amigos, porque practicamos nuestra fe. Conocí a padres cuya hija estaba saliendo con un hombre. Ella lo invitó a su cena familiar el Día de Acción de Gracias. Toda su familia hizo la señal de la cruz y oró antes de la cena. Sus padres eran católicos muy devotos y compartían sus creencias en Jesús, lo que molestó al hombre. De hecho, días después, se enteraron de que el novio de su hija no quería volver a visitar a los padres porque no se sentía cómodo con la conversación sobre su fe. Me imagino que su respuesta fue una taza problemática para que los padres bebieran, y mucho menos se tragaran cada gota.

Podemos tratar de tolerar, o al menos complacer, a todas las personas independientemente de sus creencias. Podemos cultivar una cantidad colosal de riqueza terrenal, una hermosa casa de vacaciones o una mansión. Podemos llegar a una etapa en la que todas las personas a lo largo del camino de la vida nos aplauden o nos honran. Sin embargo, nos hacemos esta pregunta: ¿estas personas y eventos nos están preparando para una felicidad duradera? No podemos llevar el honor, el poder y el prestigio a la próxima vida. Recordamos las palabras de San Pablo cuando escribió: "Porque nada trajimos al mundo y nada podemos sacar de él", 1 Timoteo 6: 7. Las cosas esenciales que debemos cultivar son el poder eterno, que solo se puede lograr siguiendo a Jesús.

Podemos construir un sistema de redes que asegure nuestros "asientos prioritarios" en este planeta tierra. Podemos hacer que nos veamos bien o importantes. Además, podemos invertir nuestro patrimonio para nuestra futura jubilación. Podemos apoyar nuestras relaciones con otros que pueden hacer que nuestras vidas sean más placenteras. Sin embargo, ¿alguna vez hemos pensado en invertir en nuestra relación con Dios a través de Jesucristo? No existe una posición, estatura, inversión o legado terrenal que pueda llevarse a la próxima vida. Se desvanecerán con el paso del tiempo. Solo bebiendo de la copa de la desafiante humildad encontraremos nuestro honor y privilegio eternos con Jesús.

¡Dios los bendiga!

P. Thai Le