



St. Thomas More Catholic Church

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



PARISH OFFICE (RECTORY) HOURS

Monday-Friday	8 AM to 5 PM
Saturday	Closed
Sunday	Closed

PASTOR
Father Thai Le

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time—October 24, 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

World Mission Sunday

October 24, 2021—Second Collection

All Saints' Day

November 1, 2021

“Remembrance of the Dead” Month

November 2021

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

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.

www.stmcatholicalhambra.org

“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 Saints

Monday, November 1, 2021, All Saints is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year. The parish will have Mass on **Monday at 8:30 am**. To honor all Saints, children and adults are invited to dress as their favorite saints. Your costumes of saints will remind the congregation of saints who constantly intercede with God on our behalf. In addition, on this day I encourage you to read stories of your favorite or patron saint and learn some simple facts about their lives.

Who Are the Saints?

We live in a world where the word “saint” is hardly mentioned. It could be because the modern believers are not comfortable being named as: “living saints.” Nevertheless, what about the next life? According to World Health Organization, the average life expectancy was 73.4 years in 2019. No one can live forever. Where will we go after leaving this place? Heaven must be our eternal home where we will be united and called “saints.” Hence, the end of life must be Heaven.

Saints are home with God, and they intercede for their loved ones who are still here. Their prayers are powerful because they have become close friends with God, living with Him.

Celebrating the Feast of All Saints is an experience of joy and hope—that we have patrons and friends in Heaven who will listen to our prayers. God’s love and the saint’s pleas are the driving forces for our faithfulness while still walking on earth.

World Mission Sunday

This weekend we celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis invites the Universal Church to support mission dioceses in many countries worldwide where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the neediest communities. Would you please keep the Pope’s missions in your daily prayers and share your blessings in today’s second collection.

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.

NEED MARRIAGE HELP?

¿Necesita Ayuda Matrimonial?

HelpOurMarriage.org

The Christian Catholic-based **Retrouvaille** ministry exists to help marriages and families avoid the pain and destruction of broken homes. **Seventy-six (76) percent** of couples who complete the *six-month* Retrouvaille program **are still together after five years!** *Married couples of any, or no, religious beliefs are welcomed.*

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

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https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20201221_nota-vaccini

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Please Pray for the Sick

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 Shu Mei My Wu† Rosa Astacio†
Juan Antonio Garcia: Healing

Monday, October 25, 2021

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

8:30 AM Fr. Thai Shu Mei My Wu†

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

8:30 AM Fr. Thai Michael Sun†

Thursday, October 28, 2021

8:30 AM Fr. Thai Vivian Nguyen†

Friday, October 29, 2021

8:30 AM Fr. Thai Simon Nguyen†

Saturday, October 30, 2021

5:00 PM Fr. Thai Shu Mei My Wu† Michael Sun†

Sunday, October 31, 2021

8:00 AM Fr. Thai Patrick Yiu† Peter Sinh Nguyen†
Juanita Montuis†
9:15 AM Fr. Charlie Vivian Nguyen† Dr. Erlinda Koo†
Anna Nguyen An & Michel Vu San†
10:30 AM Fr. Lorenzo Rafael Garcia Sr,† Adalberto & Maria Raigoza†

A George Astacio **K** Sister Marie Kronheimer
B Aletha Bailey **L** Jeff Lamb
Paul Beers Chuy Lara
C Roman Covarrubias **M** Henrietta Martinez
D Gerald Darrah Maria Martinez
Carol De Alaiza Edgardo Merin
Imelda De La Cruz Barbara Moreno
E Jan Edwards Betty Murray
F Familia Flores **O** Maria Ortega
G Isaiah Gutierrez **P** Manuel Pacheco Jr.
H Lonna Hernandez Fernando Parra
Gullermo Herrera **R** Ryan Reynoso
J Gary Jones Armando Rivera
V Donna Viramontes

Note: The sick list has been *cleaned up* since the status of many people listed was no longer known. If you know of someone who should be on the sick list or you would like to add, please contact the Rectory, or visit our website at stmcatholicalhambra.org/request-for-prayers.

Pray for the Dead



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

**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

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 or call (213) 637-7070 for more information and access to financial assistance.

Collections for 10/17/21

Attendance: 345

	Envelopes	Loose	Total
Sunday Masses	\$2,596.00	\$866.00	\$3,462.00
By Mail and Online	\$535.00		\$535.00
Building Fund	\$374.00		\$374.00
Special Projects	\$203.00		\$203.00
All Saints	\$55.00		\$88.00
All Souls	\$35.00		\$35.00
	\$3,798.00	\$866.00	\$4,697.00



**World
Mission
Sunday**



Hello!

Our brains are influenced and pressured by people and events in everyday life, which changes how we think. As a result, we become more sensitive toward new information, such as from the news, we may not have even bothered to think about twenty months ago. Our external perceptions can cause us anxiety and discouragement, which are our natural reactions.

A few years ago, a man told me he was uncomfortable attending Mass on Sunday and Christmas by himself and his children. He felt alone and feared the judgment of others in the congregation. His fear kept him from practicing his faith and receiving Jesus in the Eucharist. I admire those young and senior members who overcame all obstacles to reach out to receive Jesus in the Eucharist.

Today's gospel tells a story of a blind beggar named Bartimaeus who has many obstacles. He suffers from a disease that makes him unable to see. In public, he was considered an unhealthy or unclean person. He was not allowed to move about freely without first seeking permission. Since he cannot see, he sits and passively waits while others are constantly on the move. He lives off the charities of passersby. However, as the gospel story continues, the blind man demonstrates that he could see beyond the limits of human vision through his faith in Jesus. For that reason, from a concealed space within Bartimaeus, there is always a ray of hope. Such discipline motivates him to wait in the hope of meeting Our Lord passing by.

By calling Jesus' name, Bartimaeus professes Jesus' authority – His power to do good. Also, the blind man makes sure the bystanders get it! Jesus' character is also with the lowly, needy, poor, outcast, and marginalized. With that trust, the beggar placed his faith and hope in Jesus, his true Healer, when he called out, "Son of David, have pity on me." Paradoxically, the voices of the people whose visions are apparent want to silence him from calling Jesus. However, none of them could stop him. Why the crowd imposes this attitude on the beggar? Perhaps, they have seen him as a beggar for a while and wanted him to remain on the side of the road for the rest of his life; it could make things easy for them to maneuver. Alternatively, they feel guilty when someone calls the name of Jesus. Another, the crowd might be "too far away" from Jesus, so they could not see His passing by. Alternatively, they thought it was a fake call for the blind beggar.

In life, there are people, things, and events that can be overly distracted, discouraged, and preoccupied our sights and willingness to see Jesus, who is passing by many times. We get extremely busy with work, school, entertainment, sport, or addictions. Consequently, we may not have enough time and energy to pray and participate in the life of the Church. We need to build a healthy and spiritual habit that there is always time and space to listen and hear the voices of God in the Scriptures and prayers. The blind beggar could foster his hope and trust in Jesus, and there is no reason we cannot do like him.

If we want to walk with Jesus along this journey, we must have the courage to welcome him—to realize we depend upon Jesus for loving mercy. That is, our spiritual life must center on our faith, trust, and relationship with Jesus. We must foster those elements. When things around seem gloomy, our direction can be swayed. We turn to our inner space. The soul and the core of our being will help us to see the Light of Truth. God has instilled in us that Light from the moment of our conception - its purpose is to help guide our paths when we face the doubts of uncertainty.

God bless!

Fr. Thai Le

¡Hola!

Nuestros cerebros están influenciados y presionados por personas y eventos de la vida cotidiana, lo que cambia nuestra forma de pensar. Como resultado, nos volvemos más sensibles a la nueva información, como la de las noticias, es posible que ni siquiera nos hayamos molestado en pensar hace veinte meses. Nuestras percepciones externas pueden causarnos ansiedad y desánimo, que son nuestras reacciones naturales.

Hace unos años, un hombre me dijo que se sentía incómodo al asistir a misa los domingos y Navidad solo y con sus hijos. Se sentía solo y temía el juicio de otros en la congregación. Su miedo le impidió practicar su fe y recibir a Jesús en la Eucaristía. Admiro a los miembros jóvenes y mayores que superaron todos los obstáculos para llegar a recibir a Jesús en la Eucaristía.

El evangelio de hoy cuenta la historia de un mendigo ciego llamado Bartimeo que tiene muchos obstáculos. Sufre de una enfermedad que le impide ver. En público, se le consideraba una persona malsana o inmunda. No se le permitió moverse libremente sin antes pedir permiso. Como no puede ver, se sienta y espera pasivamente mientras otros están en constante movimiento. Vive de las caridades de los transeúntes. Sin embargo, a medida que continúa la historia del evangelio, el ciego demuestra que podía ver más allá de los límites de la visión humana a través de su fe en Jesús. Por eso, desde un espacio escondido dentro de Bartimeo, siempre hay un rayo de esperanza. Tal disciplina lo motiva a esperar con la esperanza de encontrarse con Nuestro Señor que pasa.

Al llamar el nombre de Jesús, Bartimeo profesa la autoridad de Jesús: su poder para hacer el bien. Además, ¡el ciego se asegura de que los transeúntes lo entiendan! El carácter de Jesús también es con los humildes, los necesitados, los pobres, los marginados y los marginados. Con esa confianza, el mendigo puso su fe y esperanza en Jesús, su verdadero Sanador, cuando gritó: "Hijo de David, ten compasión de mí". Paradójicamente, las voces de las personas cuyas visiones son aparentes quieren silenciarlo para que no llame a Jesús. Sin embargo, ninguno de ellos pudo detenerlo. ¿Por qué la multitud impone esta actitud al mendigo? Quizás, lo han visto como un mendigo por un tiempo y querían que permaneciera a un lado del camino por el resto de su vida; podría facilitarles la maniobra. Alternativamente, se sienten culpables cuando alguien llama el nombre de Jesús. Otro, la multitud podría estar "demasiado lejos" de Jesús, por lo que no podían ver su paso. Alternativamente, pensaron que era una llamada falsa para el mendigo ciego.

En la vida, hay personas, cosas y eventos que pueden distraer, desanimar y preocupar demasiado nuestra vista y nuestra voluntad de ver a Jesús, que pasa muchas veces. Estamos muy ocupados con el trabajo, la escuela, el entretenimiento, el deporte o las adicciones. En consecuencia, es posible que no tengamos suficiente tiempo y energía para orar y participar en la vida de la Iglesia. Necesitamos construir un hábito saludable y espiritual de que siempre hay tiempo y espacio para escuchar y escuchar las voces de Dios en las Escrituras y en las oraciones. El mendigo ciego podría fomentar su esperanza y confianza en Jesús, y no hay ninguna razón por la que no podamos hacer como él.

Si queremos caminar con Jesús a lo largo de este viaje, debemos tener el valor de darle la bienvenida, de darnos cuenta de que dependemos de Jesús para la misericordia amorosa. Es decir, nuestra vida espiritual debe centrarse en nuestra fe, confianza y relación con Jesús. Debemos fomentar esos elementos. Cuando las cosas a nuestro alrededor parecen sombrías, nuestra dirección puede cambiar. Pasamos a nuestro espacio interior. El alma y el núcleo de nuestro ser nos ayudarán a ver la Luz de la Verdad. Dios nos ha inculcado esa Luz desde el momento de nuestra concepción, su propósito es ayudar a guiar nuestros caminos cuando enfrentamos las dudas de la incertidumbre.

¡Dios los bendiga!

P. Thai Le