

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

2510 So. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803
(626) 284-8333 Website: stmccatholicalhambra.org

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, August 16, 2020



COVID-19 SCHEDULES

SEE PAGE 5 FOR EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

REQUIRED
SOCIAL DISTANCING AND SAFE PRACTICES

Parish facilities are closed until further notice

Attend Mass online at stmccatholicalhambra.org
or [facebook.com/lacatholics](https://www.facebook.com/lacatholics).

ALL EVENTS ARE CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Visit our website at stmccatholicalhambra.org
for more information and updates.

PARISH OFFICE (RECTORY) HOURS

Monday-Friday	8 AM to 5 PM	**Closed to the Public**
Saturday	Closed	Office hours are for staffing only, for responding to emails, and
Sunday	Closed	answering phone calls.

PARISH STAFF

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

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

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Jeremiah O'Neill

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

Safeguard the Children Contact: To be Announced
(ext. 139) or (626) 457-5302 stmdealthambra@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education: Mae Ho
(ext. 139) or (626) 457-5302 stmdealthambra@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
stm1lifecyclenyc@gmail.com

Assistant Coordinator: Gabriella Ramos (ext. 135)

Parish Secretary: Lucia Alcantar
(ext. 112) stm_secretary@live.com

Parish Receptionist: Mimi Lewis

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

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Thus says the LORD: "Stand firm in justice; do what is right" (Isaiah 56:1, 6-7).

Psalm — O God, let all the nations praise you! (Psalm 67).

Second Reading — The gifts and the calling of God are unable to be revoked (Romans 11:13-15, 29-32).

Gospel — Recognizing the Canaanite woman's great faith, Jesus told her, "It shall be done as you wish" (Matthew 15:21-28).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ez 24:15-24; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35cd-36ab; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 23:1-12

Sunday: Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Mi salvación se viene acercando; mi justicia está a punto de aparecer (Isaías 56:1, 6-7).

Salmo — Que te alaben, Señor, todos los pueblos de la tierra (Salmo 67 [66]).

Segunda lectura — Los dones y la llamada de Dios son irrevocables (Romanos 11:13-15, 29-32).

Evangelio — Mujer, ¡qué grande es tu fe! (Mateo 15: 21-28).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Ez 24:15-24; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 19:16-22

Martes: Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35cd-36ab; Mt 19:23-30

Miércoles: Ez 34:1-11; Sal 23 (22):1-6; Mt 20:1-16

Jueves: Ez 36:23-28; Sal 51 (50):12-15, 18-19; Mt 22:1-14

Viernes: Ez 37:1-14; Sal 107 (106):2-9; Mt 22:34-40

Sábado: Ez 43:1-7ab; Sal 85 (84):9ab, 10-14; Mt 23:1-12

Domingo: Is 22:19-23; Sal 138 (137):1-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20





*O woman,
great is
your faith!*
MATTHEW 15:28

AUGUST 16, 2020
TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Thomas More Eucharistic Celebrations

OUTDOOR PARKING LOT MASSES

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT THE STM
WEBSITE AT: stmccatholicalhambra.org

OUTDOOR/PARKING LOT MASSES

Due to recent outbreaks, STM will be holding masses in the south (large) parking lot. The church is closed for all masses, but will remain open for confessions on Saturdays.

REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES

Follow all traffic directions for everyone's safety. Remain in your cars. Holy Communion will be distributed after mass at the exits from the parking lot. Please do not attend if you have any flu-like or COVID-19 symptoms, or are expected to self-quarantine. You also must be healthy enough to wear a face covering for a prolonged period of time. Face coverings are required when receiving Holy Communion by hand.

REMAIN IN YOUR CAR

For safety reasons, we are asking everyone to remain in their vehicles before, during, and after services. If you must leave your car, do so safely: Watch for traffic, wear a face mask, maintain social distancing, and disinfect your hands.

COVID-19 RISKS

COVID-19 (Coronavirus, 2019) is a severe and contagious illness that is potentially deadly. Participating in any public gathering increases your risk of contracting or transmitting COVID-19.

Attending mass is voluntary and a personal decision. The Los Angeles Archdiocese has a special Eucharist dispensation in place (you may pray in place of receiving Holy Communion) and masses may be viewed online.



COVID-19 RISKS, continued

St. Thomas More has taken reasonable precautions to keep everyone safe while offering services. However, St. Thomas More cannot accept responsibility for your personal choice to attend mass. Please consider the risks, your health, and alternatives before attending.

HOLY COMMUNION

After mass, staff and volunteers will direct each vehicle to leave the parking lot. On exiting the parking lot, the priest and Eucharistic Ministers will distribute Holy Communion by hand only (not on the tongue). Please wear a face mask when receiving Holy Communion. Take a moment to safely consume the Holy Communion. Do not drive while consuming the Holy Communion. Afterwards, please leave immediately so others may also receive Holy Communion.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION, HELP,
AND LOVE FOR THE STM PARISH COMMUNITY**

Thank you!

Collections for 8/9/20

	Envelopes	Loose	Total
8:00 AM	\$1,271.00	\$164.00	\$1,435.00
9:15 AM	\$465.00	\$234.00	\$699.00
10:30 AM	\$185.00	\$269.00	\$454.00
By Mail and Online	\$2,800.00		\$2,800.00
Building Fund	\$340.00		\$340.00
Special Projects	\$5.00		\$5.00
Altar Society	\$20.00		\$20.00
Air Conditioning	\$10.00		\$10.00
School Support	\$50.00		\$50.00
	\$5,146.00	\$667.00	\$5,813.00



Hello!

What picture best represents families in contemporary society? Is everyone smiling and well dressed, happily spending time with each other? It is tough to talk about family bonding and activity these days because we are facing many challenges and difficulties that prevent such joyfully gatherings and visits with our families.

Today's gospel talks about a woman who faces many challenges and difficulties for her family.

During the time of our Lord, a woman without her husband or oldest son around could not go out in public. Therefore, the gospel implies the woman had no husband or sons and had to venture out on her own. She must have struggled to get to Jesus: Being a lone woman, her daughter's illness, and she was a Gentile – not belonging to a chosen people. The disciples might have felt offended by her overt approach. When she meets their rejection and silence from Jesus, how does she respond?

While seeking out help for her daughter, the woman did not give up. Even though social standards dictate she's not worthy to approach Jesus and the disciples, she doesn't stop, which reveals her faith in Jesus. At the same time, when she approaches Jesus, she does not display an attitude of entitlement, such as being owed healing for her daughter! In other words, her faith is humble, not arrogant.

Today's gospel gives us an excellent example of faith and trust in Jesus, especially when things in life do not align with our plans. We learn that when the unexpected, confusing, or challenging times are upon us, that we should humbly submit ourselves to the Lord. We can all trust in Jesus in times of turmoil: Faith is the wisest characteristic we possess.

Therefore, to be healed, we must approach Jesus in humble persistence and prayer. A trusting relationship with Jesus is the essence of faith. Prayers build our patience, deliver peace of mind, and help us accept God's timeline, not ours. God's plan is unknown to us, and prayer reminds us of our faith in God. Many times, we may think God does not answer our prayers. We might feel disappointment and question His love and mercy for us. Some folks may conclude that there is no God.

How many times was the woman in today's gospel afraid that Jesus might not heal her daughter? She faced arduous travels, obstacles, and – near the end – was rejected by the disciples and unanswered by Jesus. Yet, this bramble woman bolsters her emotions in times of distress. Today's story is a striking example of authentic faith and persistence that we should ponder and practice in everyday life.

The trails of faith and the persistence of prayer are excellent opportunities for purification of our spiritual life. In today's gospel at the first stage of the encounter, we can see between Jesus and Canaanite woman a surprising, mysterious relationship. On the outside, it was a broken relationship, rejection, and abandonment because of the barricades of social traditions. However, Jesus broke that obstacle, which sprouts a profound connection between the two.

What is our faith and relationship with Jesus, mainly when things in life go bad? Do we know how to explain our challenges? The Canaanite woman remained focused on her daughter's health and not her difficult journey or unfair treatment. Instead of allowing circumstances and people to confuse our thoughts, remain steadfast, and cry out to Jesus, "Lord, help me."

The real value of life is that life us better with Jesus than without. The wisdom of the Canaanite woman in today's gospel is that there is no excuse—one must be persistent in coming to Jesus. God has His plan that we cannot comprehend now. However, when we have faith and trust in Him, His love and strength will lessen our burden, sadness, suffering, and confusion. Thus, if we want Jesus to heal our problems, we need to be patient and wait for his blessing and guidance. When faced with frustration, loneliness, illness, disappointment, or sadness, we know who we can turn to!

God bless!

Fr. Thai Le

¡Hola!

¿Qué imagen representa mejor a las familias en la sociedad contemporánea? ¿Están todos sonriendo y bien vestidos, pasando tiempo felices juntos? Es difícil hablar sobre la vinculación y la actividad familiar en estos días porque enfrentamos muchos desafíos y dificultades que impiden reuniones y visitas con tanta alegría a nuestras familias.

El evangelio de hoy habla de una mujer que enfrenta muchos desafíos y dificultades para su familia. Durante el tiempo de nuestro Señor, una mujer sin su esposo o su hijo mayor cerca no podía salir en público. Por lo tanto, el evangelio implica que la mujer no tenía esposo ni hijos y tuvo que aventurarse por su cuenta. Ella debió haber luchado para llegar a Jesús: ser una mujer solitaria, la enfermedad de su hija, y ella era una gentil, no perteneciente a un pueblo elegido. Los discípulos podrían haberse sentido ofendidos por su acercamiento abierto. Cuando se encuentra con el rechazo y el silencio de Jesús, ¿cómo responde?

Mientras buscaba ayuda para su hija, la mujer no se rindió. Aunque las normas sociales dictan que no es digna de acercarse a Jesús y a los discípulos, no se detiene, lo que revela su fe en Jesús. Al mismo tiempo, cuando se acerca a Jesús, no muestra una actitud de derecho, como que se le deba la curación de su hija. En otras palabras, su fe es humilde, no arrogante.

El evangelio de hoy nos da un excelente ejemplo de fe y confianza en Jesús, especialmente cuando las cosas en la vida no se alinean con nuestros planes. Aprendemos que cuando nos sobrevienen tiempos inesperados, confusos o desafiantes, debemos someternos humildemente al Señor. Todos podemos confiar en Jesús en tiempos de confusión: la fe es la característica más sabia que poseemos.

Por tanto, para ser sanados, debemos acercarnos a Jesús con humilde persistencia y oración. Una relación de confianza con Jesús es la esencia de la fe. Las oraciones fortalecen nuestra paciencia, brindan paz mental y nos ayudan a aceptar la línea de tiempo de Dios, no la nuestra. El plan de Dios nos es desconocido y la oración nos recuerda nuestra fe en Dios. Muchas veces, podemos pensar que Dios no responde a nuestras oraciones. Podríamos sentirnos decepcionados y cuestionar Su amor y misericordia por nosotros. Algunas personas pueden concluir que Dios no existe.

¿Cuántas veces temió la mujer del evangelio de hoy que Jesús no sanara a su hija? Ella enfrentó arduos viajes, obstáculos y, cerca del final, fue rechazada por los discípulos y sin respuesta de Jesús. Sin embargo, esta mujer zarza refuerza sus emociones en momentos de angustia. La historia de hoy es un ejemplo sorprendente de fe auténtica y perseverancia que debemos ponderar y practicar en la vida cotidiana.

Los senderos de la fe y la perseverancia en la oración son excelentes oportunidades para la purificación de nuestra vida espiritual. En el evangelio de hoy en la primera etapa del encuentro, podemos ver entre Jesús y la mujer cananea una relación misteriosa y sorprendente. Por fuera, fue una relación rota, rechazo y abandono por las barricadas de las tradiciones sociales. Sin embargo, Jesús rompió ese obstáculo, del que brota una profunda conexión entre los dos.

¿Cuál es nuestra fe y nuestra relación con Jesús, principalmente cuando las cosas van mal en la vida? ¿Sabemos cómo explicar nuestros desafíos? La mujer cananea permaneció concentrada en la salud de su hija y no en su difícil viaje o en su trato injusto. En lugar de permitir que las circunstancias y las personas confundan nuestros pensamientos, permanezca firme y clame a Jesús: "Señor, ayúdame".

El valor real de la vida es que vivamos mejor con Jesús que sin él. La sabiduría de la mujer cananea en el evangelio de hoy es que no hay excusa: uno debe ser persistente en venir a Jesús. Dios tiene su plan que no podemos comprender ahora. Sin embargo, cuando tenemos fe y confiamos en Él, Su amor y fortaleza disminuirán nuestra carga, tristeza, sufrimiento y confusión. Por lo tanto, si queremos que Jesús sane nuestros problemas, debemos ser pacientes y esperar su bendición y guía. Cuando nos enfrentamos a la frustración, la soledad, la enfermedad, la decepción o la tristeza, ¿sabemos a quién acudir!

¡Dios bendiga!

P. Thai Le

MASS SCHEDULE and INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 15, 2020

8:30 AM No Mass

4:00 PM Confessions Fr. Thai

5:00 PM No Mass Patrick Yiu†

Sunday, August 16, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Andrew Teresa Phan† Mariano Cimatú Jr.†

9:15 AM Fr. Thai Yu Po Lin† Tina Camodag: Special Intentions

10:30 AM Fr. Thai Juan García†, Hermelinda Nuguid: Special Intentions

12:30 PM No Mass

Monday, August 17, 2020

8:30 AM No Mass Yu Po Lin† Ricardo Gutierrez†

Tuesday, August 18, 2020

8:30 AM No Mass Elena Alatorre†

Wednesday, August 19, 2020

8:30 AM No Mass Yu Po Lin†

Thursday, August 20, 2020

8:30 AM No Mass Teresa Vickie Phan† Monica Perez: Birthday

Friday, August 21, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Andrew Teresa Vickie Phan† Rudy Lee†

Saturday, August 22, 2020

8:30 AM No Mass

4:00 PM Confessions Fr. Thai

5:00 PM No Mass Patrick Yiu† Teresa Vickie Phan†

Sunday, August 23, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Andrew Teresa Phan† Yu Po Lin†

9:15 AM Fr. Thai Ramon Lai† Selvia Inado†

10:30 AM Fr. Thai Rafael Garcia Jr.† Mercy Gonzales†

12:30 PM No Mass

PARISH CHURCH CLOSED

Mass will be celebrated outdoors at the Church's large parking lot

Confessions

- Saturday **4:00 pm (in the church)**

Masses

- Friday **8:00 am**
- Sunday **8:00 am & 9:15 am in English**
- Sunday **10:30 am in Spanish**

- Please remain inside your cars
- The Priest and Ministers will distribute Holy Communion at the parking lot exits

Visit the STM website for more information.

God Bless!
Fr. Thai Le

Please Pray for the Sick

Fr. Jeremiah O'Neill

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| A Lucia Adame | M Danilo Magsino |
| Mary Louise Aluzzi | Ruben Magsino |
| Elias Alvarez | Evelyn Manza |
| Francis Araiza | Ariana Alonso Morales |
| Noreen Arroyo | Barbara Moreno |
| Kelly Artozgui | Bertha Moreno |
| George Astacio | Fred Maroon |
| Rosa Astacio | Felipe Martinez |
| Brianna Ayestas | Henrietta Martinez |
| B Aletha Bailey | Jean Miceli |
| Carla Baker | Arianne Miller |
| Michele Baker | Cheryl Morten |
| Harlene Breaux | Betty Murray |
| Steven Brown | N Gloria Natividad |
| Tod and Rose Marie Brown | Mario Nieto |
| C Rita Campanella | John Ng |
| Celia Carmona | P Arcadio Pablo |
| Erik M. Casillas | Alebert Pelaez |
| Daniel Cerpa | Fernando Parra |
| Joan Cervantes | Ernestina Placencio |
| Patricia Cisneros | R Virginia Reyes |
| Leah Grace Cisneros | Cheryl Ann Reynoso |
| Roman Covarrubias | Ryan Reynoso |
| Rosalba Covarrubias | Salvador Reynoso |
| Catalina Cruz | Laura Rico |
| Mary Louise Cruz | Francisco Rios |
| D Julio Diaz | Armando Rivera |
| Do Duong | Domenic Rizzi |
| Jesus M. Dulay | Mike Romano |
| E Jan Edwards | S Mason Saldaña |
| F Donna Finocchio | Francisco Sanchez |
| Louis Finocchio | Dylan Silva |
| Daniel Fuentes | Nicole Smith |
| G Ramona Garcia | Lilian Smitter |
| Daniel Gonzalez | Connie Sotelo |
| Carolina Guzman | Angie Stockwell |
| I Francisco Ibarra | T Mike Teong |
| J Gary Jones | Jennies Tiu |
| K Erin Kametani | V Romeo Villafranca |
| L Adolphes Lages | Ricardo & Felicidad Villegas |
| Minoy Lee | Therese Huyen-Duong Thi Vu |
| Andrea Leija | W Terry Wilson |
| Gudalio Lim | Janny Wong |
| David Lindsey | Jennifer Wong |
| Anna Lovoy | Maria Wong Vasquez |
| M Christopher Maimone | Z Christine Zampese |

Pray for the Dead

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Lynn Sue Chang | Efren Moreno |
| Mariano Cimatú Jr. | Paz Peña |
| Simon Darensbourg | Mary Rodriguez |
| Dr. Jason Hwang | Columba Sanchez |