

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

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

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, August 23, 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.

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 answering phone calls.
Sunday	Closed	

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 stmcdrealhambra@gmail.com

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

Liturgy & Music Coordinator: Sr. Andrea Johnson
(ext. 137) stmusiclit@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 — Eliakim is destined by God to be a father to those who live in Jerusalem (Isaiah 22:19-23).

Psalm — Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands (Psalm 138).

Second Reading — How deep are the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! (Romans 11:33-36).

Gospel — Jesus asked the disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" Peter replied, "You are the Christ" (Matthew 16:13-20).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10-13; Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Ps 128:1-2, 4-5;
Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-7; Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-21; Mk 6:17-29

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2;
Mt 16:21-27

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Pondré en sus manos la llave de la Casa de David (Isaías 22:19-23).

Salmo — Señor, tu amor perdura eternamente; obra tuya soy, no me abandones (Salmo 138 [137]).

Segunda lectura — Los designios de Dios son impenetrables, no se pueden comprender sus caminos (Romanos 11:33-36).

Evangelio — Tú eres el Cristo, el Hijo de Dios vivo (Mateo 16:13-20).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Ap 21:9b-14; Sal 145 (144):10-13, 17-18;
Jn 1:45-51

Martes: 2 Tes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Sal 96 (95):10-13; Mt 23:23-26

Miércoles: 2 Tes 3:6-10, 16-18; Sal 124 (123):1-2, 4-5;
Mt 23:27-32

Jueves: 1 Cor 1:1-9; Sal 145 (144):2-7; Mt 24:42-51

Viernes: 1 Cor 1:17-25; Sal 33 (32):1-2, 4-5, 10-11;
Mt 25:14-30

Sábado: 1 Cor 1:26-31; Sal 33 (32):12-13, 18-21;
Mc 6:17-29

Domingo: Jer 20:7-9; Sal 63 (62):2-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2;
Mt 16:21-27

PATIENCE

Patience is the companion of wisdom.
—St. Augustine



Simon Peter said to Jesus,
**“You are the Christ,
 the Son of the
 living God.”**

Matthew 16:16

AUGUST **23**
 2020

**Twenty-First 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 8/16/20

	Envelopes	Loose	Total
Assumption Vigil	\$326.00	\$85.00	\$411.00
8:00 AM	\$796.00	\$94.00	\$890.00
9:15 AM	\$340.00	\$351.00	\$691.00
10:30 AM	\$165.00	\$170.00	\$335.00
By Mail and Online	\$2,780.00		\$2,780.00
Building Fund	\$185.00		\$185.00
Special Projects	\$412.00		\$412.00
Assumption Envelopes	\$130.00		\$130.00
Air Conditioning	\$20.00		\$20.00
	\$5,154.00	\$700.00	\$5,854.00
National Needs			\$25.00



Hello

In 1978 when Rome elected a Polish Cardinal as their bishop, many people were worried, especially in communist countries. As a young boy, I could hear my grandfather discussing with his friends: “This is the end of the Catholic Church, and we will have to go underground.” He implied that Pope John Paul II came from the communist country of Poland, would be compromised and absorbed by communist ideologies. However, to the world’s surprise, three major capitals that played significant roles in leading the collapse of the Soviet Union were London, Washington, and the Vatican.

Today’s gospel articulates similar external perceptions and misconceptions. Jesus picks a man named Simon to lead his Church! How did the first disciples react to this appointment? They may have silently blamed Jesus for his choice—why not choose James, John, a lawyer, or a religious leader? These people had outstanding qualities and knowledge to compare to Simon. Instead, he picked a fisherman! The name “Simon” means a “reed,” which is not an impressive name.

Moreover, Simon was impulsive, talkative, emotional, reacted impulsively without taking time to process all information. However, Jesus took this “reed” and transformed it into a “rock.” Who could do that? Indeed, Simon changed into a different person – Peter!

When our Lord offered Peter a new name, it also came with a demand. Jesus gave Peter a key, which signified the authority of his kingdom on earth, and Peter was faithful to carry out that *responsibility* until his death. In hindsight, Simon died to his fear, impulsiveness, habits, and other lifestyles to become Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit. Although Peter did not have essential qualities like others, he had a dominant trait, acknowledging and professing Jesus’ full nature.

The lesson in today’s gospel reminds us that once Jesus touches our lives, he asks something from us. Firstly, God is present in our lives, blessing us with many things such as; love, health, family and friends, possessions, and especially His Son, Jesus Christ. But we need to give up something to follow Jesus. For example, if both of your hands are holding a fork and knife and someone tries to hand you a gift, you will need at least one hand free. If you refuse to let go of something, you cannot receive the gift!

Is there anything about yourself that you may want Jesus to change? Throughout our lives, we face a variety of challenges, strife, and crises. We may feel that we don’t know how to respond to both internal and external dilemmas so we can move forward healthily and productively. We want Jesus to change our uncertainty and obstacles into stability and growth. If we take time for prayer – to recollect and turn to Jesus, asking him to change our lives – our weakness transforms into a “rock,” which enables us to respond productively to an unstable world.

While humans tend to view others based on a perception of current physical appearances, Jesus looks through to a person’s heart – who they are now and who they will become in the future. If you want to know your future, it is wise to hang around with Jesus! Religiously speaking, your fate rests upon how well you know Jesus and follow his teachings. We know for sure Jesus always wants to be with us in solidarity because he wants what is best for our lives. God provides his gifts for us, but we need to prioritize the best gift and embrace it for this journey. We, like Saint Peter and many Church leaders, will be continuously transformed far beyond our imagination.

God bless!
Fr. Thai Le

Hola

En 1978, cuando Roma eligió a un Cardenal Polaco como Obispo, mucha gente estaba preocupada, especialmente en los países comunistas. Cuando yo era niño, escuche a mi abuelo discutir con sus amigos: "Este es el fin de la Iglesia Católica, y tendremos que pasar a la clandestinidad". Insinuó que el Papa Juan Pablo II provenía del país comunista de Polonia, estaría comprometido y absorbido por ideologías comunistas. Sin embargo, para sorpresa del mundo, las tres principales capitales que desempeñaron un papel importante en la conducción del colapso de la Unión Soviética fueron Londres, Washington y el Vaticano.

El evangelio de hoy articula percepciones externas y conceptos erróneos similares. ¡Jesús elige a un hombre llamado Simón para dirigir su Iglesia! ¿Cómo reaccionaron los primeros discípulos a este nombramiento? Es posible que hayan culpado a Jesús en silencio por su elección; ¿por qué no escogió a Santiago, Juan, un abogado o un líder religioso? Estas personas tenían cualidades y conocimientos sobresalientes para comparar con Simón. En cambio, ¡ eligió un pescador! El nombre "Simón" significa "caña", que no es un nombre impresionante.

Además, Simon era impulsivo, conversador, emocional, reaccionaba impulsivamente sin tomarse el tiempo para procesar toda la información. Sin embargo, Jesús tomó esta "caña" y la transformó en una "roca". ¿Quién podría hacer eso? De hecho, Simón se transformó en una persona diferente: ¡Pedro!

Cuando nuestro Señor le ofreció a Pedro un nuevo nombre, también vino con una demanda. Jesús le dio a Pedro una llave, que significaba la autoridad de su reino en la tierra, y Pedro fue fiel en llevar a cabo esa responsabilidad hasta su muerte. En retrospectiva, Simón murió a causa de su miedo, impulsividad, hábitos y otros estilos de vida para convertirse en Pedro, lleno del Espíritu Santo. Aunque Pedro no tenía cualidades esenciales como los demás, tenía un rasgo dominante, reconociendo y profesando la plena naturaleza de Jesús.

La lección del evangelio de hoy nos recuerda que una vez que Jesús toca nuestras vidas, nos pide algo. En primer lugar, Dios está presente en nuestras vidas, bendiciéndonos con muchas cosas como; amor, salud, familia y amigos, posesiones, y especialmente a su Hijo, Jesucristo. Pero tenemos que renunciar a algo para seguir a Jesús. Por ejemplo, si sus dos manos sostienen un tenedor y un cuchillo y alguien intenta entregarle un regalo, necesitará al menos una mano libre. Si te niegas a dejar ir algo, ¡no puedes recibir el regalo!

¿Hay algo en ti que quieras que Jesús cambie? A lo largo de nuestras vidas, enfrentamos una variedad de desafíos, luchas y crisis. Es posible que sintamos que no sabemos cómo responder a los dilemas internos y externos para poder avanzar de manera saludable y productiva. Queremos que Jesús cambie nuestra incertidumbre y obstáculos en estabilidad y crecimiento. Si nos tomamos un tiempo para orar, para recordar y volvernos a Jesús, pidiéndole que cambie nuestras vidas, nuestra debilidad se transforma en una "roca" que nos permite responder productivamente a un mundo inestable.

Mientras que los humanos tienden a ver a los demás basándose en una percepción de las apariencias físicas actuales, Jesús mira a través del corazón de una persona: quiénes son ahora y quiénes serán en el futuro. Si quieres saber tu futuro, ¡es prudente andar con Jesús! Hablando desde el punto de vista religioso, tu destino depende de lo bien que conozcas a Jesús y sigas sus enseñanzas. Sabemos con certeza que Jesús siempre quiere estar con nosotros en solidaridad porque quiere lo mejor para nuestras vidas. Dios nos proporciona sus dones, pero debemos priorizar el mejor regalo y abrazarlo para este viaje. Nosotros, como San Pedro y muchos líderes de la Iglesia, seremos transformados continuamente más allá de nuestra imaginación.

¡Dios bendiga!

P. Thai Le

MASS SCHEDULE and INTENTIONS

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

Monday, August 24, 2020

8:30 AM No Mass Teresa Vickie Phan†

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

8:30 AM No Mass Teresa Vickie Phan†

Wednesday, August 26, 2020

8:30 AM No Mass Yu Po Lin†

Thursday, August 27, 2020

8:30 AM No Mass Yu Po Lin†

Friday, August 28, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Andrew Yu Po Lin†

Saturday, August 29, 2020

8:30 AM No Mass

4:00 PM Confessions Fr. Thai

5:00 PM No Mass Patrick Yiu†

Sunday, August 30, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Andrew Teresa Phan† Hector Loya†

9:15 AM Fr. Thai Yu Po Lin† Dr. Jason Hwang†

10:30 AM Fr. Thai Mercy Gonzales† Rosario Velasquez†

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

Pray for the Dead

Mariano Cimat Jr.
Simon Darensbourg
Dr. Jason Hwang
Adolphus Iages

Paz Peña
Mary Rodriguez
Columba Sanchez
Lynn Sue Chang