

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

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

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, November 8, 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 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
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Director of Religious Education: Gabriella Ramos
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Liturgy & Music Coordinator: Sr. Andrea Johnson
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Accounting Manager: Lucy Lai
(ext. 141) acct_stm@yahoo.com

Youth Ministry & Confirmation Coordinator: Francisco Ramos
stmccatholiclifeteenymc@gmail.com

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.stmcas.org

School Email: ngibson@stmfalcons.net

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Wisdom is easily discerned by those who love her (Wisdom 6:12-16).

Psalm — My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God (Psalm 63).

Second Reading — Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 [13-14]).

Gospel — Stay awake! You know neither the day nor the hour (Matthew 25:1-13).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9;
1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22

Tuesday: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14; Ps 37:3-4, 18, 23, 27, 29;
Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday: Ti 3:1-7; Ps 23:1b-6; Lk 17:11-19

Thursday: Phlm 7-20; Ps 146:7-10; Lk 17:20-25

Friday: 2 Jn 4-9; Ps 119:1-2, 10-11, 17-18; Lk 17:26-37

Saturday: 3 Jn 5-8; Ps 112:1-6; Lk 18:1-8

Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128:1-5;
1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — La sabiduría la encuentran los que la buscan (Sabiduría 6:12-16).

Salmo — Mi alma está sedienta de ti, oh Señor, mi Dios (Salmo 63 [62]).

Segunda lectura — No se acongojen como los que no tienen esperanza (1 Tesalonicenses 4:13-18 [13-14]).

Evangelio — Las vírgenes necias no estaban preparadas para la llegada del novio (Mateo 25:1-13).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Sal 46 (45):2-3, 5-6, 8-9;
1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22

Martes: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14; Sal 37 (36):3-4, 18, 23, 27, 29;
Lc 17:7-10

Miércoles: Ti 3:1-7; Sal 23 (22):1b-6; Lc 17:11-19

Jueves: Flm 7-20; Sal 146 (145):7-10; Lc 17:20-25

Viernes: 2 Jn 4-9; Sal 119 (118):1-2, 10-11, 17-18;
Lc 17:26-37

Sábado: 3 Jn 5-8; Sal 112 (111):1-6; Lc 18:1-8

Domingo: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Sal 128 (127):1-5;
1 Tes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]

STAY AWAKE,
FOR YOU KNOW
NEITHER THE DAY
NOR THE HOUR.

MATTHEW 25:13



NOVEMBER

8

2020

THIRTY-SECOND
SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Thomas More Eucharistic Celebrations

OUTDOOR TENT MASSES



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

COVID-19 RISKS

COVID-19 (Coronavirus, 2019) is a potentially deadly illness. Attending mass is voluntary and a personal decision. St. Thomas More cannot accept responsibility for your personal choice to attend mass. Please consider the risks, your health, and alternatives before attending any public event.

OUTDOOR/TENT LOT MASSES

STM will be holding masses in a tent between the church and hall.

REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES

Please do not attend if you have tested positive, have any symptoms, or are expected to self-quarantine.

- * Face coverings are required at all times.
- * Always maintain six-foot distance from others.

MAXIMUM CAPACITY

The tent's capacity is 60 people at any time.

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

Collections for 11/01/20

	Envelopes	Loose	Total
All Masses	\$1,565.00	\$689.00	\$2,254.00
By Mail and Online	\$1,570.00		\$1,570.00
Building Fund	\$185.00		\$185.00
Special Projects	\$13.00		\$13.00
Altar Society	\$131.00		\$131.00
School Support	\$18.00		\$18.00
All Saints	\$146.00		\$146.00
All Souls	\$446.00		\$446.00
	\$4,074.00	\$689.00	\$4,763.00

Month of Remembrance

November is the month the Catholic Church commemorates the faithful departed uniquely. The community of St. Thomas More Catholic parish will remember and pray for those who have died, especially during the past seven months.

This November, we ask that you please **email or send** photo(s) of your loved ones, including their names and ten words or fewer, to dear-God@yahoo.com.

The photos will be posted on a board and placed in the tent in the first week of November. Then all photos will remain in the parish hall throughout November.

Mail/email Photos: Starting October 24, 2020

PRAYER IN A TIME OF PANDEMIC

*O God of compassion,
your people are anxious
in this time of pandemic.*

*Send your Holy Spirit among us
to dispel our fears.*

*We cry out to you in our confusion;
comfort us in our affliction.*

*Grant our leaders wisdom to guide us.
Strengthen and sustain those who are ill,
and be with those who care for them.*

*Help us to travel this road
in solidarity with our neighbors,
with our eyes fixed on the salvation
promised us through the death and
resurrection of your Son,
who is Lord forever and ever.*

Amen.



Hello!

How do we build *relationships*? Some relationships are built after testing for compatibility, endurance, or fidelity, or knowledge. Other relationships are established first, on trust, then test for compatibility and other desirable traits as time goes on. These approaches to building relationships are not new. The Old Testament records, on many occasions, God testing His people with trials and tribulations before establishing a covenant – a relationship – with His people.

Today's gospel tells us the story of how a bridegroom wants to build a relationship with people. That is, ten virgins waiting for the bridegroom had the same gifts—lamps, oil, space, and opportunity. The virgins were free to choose how and when to use those gifts. With freewill given, they end up completely different places! Five of the virgins did not have enough oil to welcome the bridegroom when he arrived. Without their gifts for the bridegroom, those maidens remained outside!

In comparison, the five virgins who saved enough oil for their lamps when the bridegroom arrived were welcome into the party. The traditional covenant of bringing gifts fulfilled the relationship between host and guest. These five girls demonstrated strength-of-will, patience, and fidelity.

Why did these five wise women have enough oil to shine through the darkness of the night? They acknowledged the bridegroom would return at any moment. They were also aware of the gifts they possessed — the lamps, oil, light, and opportunity, which they used wisely. Their test was to wait longer than expected and more than was comfortable. The girls did not lose faith in the bridegroom or God by thinking these were merely inconvenient burdens — they simply did not give up. Instead, these wise virgins remained firm because they knew what was essential.

Have we lost our focus on what is essential in life? It has been eight months since we started facing the odd darkness of the COVID-19 pandemic. It perturbs us. Even minor matters that we would have ignored in prior years now terrify us. Some of us are frustrated because the plans for ourselves, and our families are on hold. We may feel that we no longer control our lives as we used to. Some days we might even feel like we are under a dark and crushing shadow. Even worse, we don't know when it will end or how we'll get out from under this pandemic.

Living through this pandemic is like the virgin's suffering and perseverance in today's gospel. We may feel bored, tired, disappointed, or confused by not know when our waiting will be over. However, it's not only a story of a bridegroom or a pandemic, but a story of life and faith. To be sure, there is no life without some darkness. None of us are immune from a journey through trials and tribulations that seem to extinguish the light out of our lives. The good news is that we are not alone: Jesus and the religious community are here to help us.

Religion is a source of strength for us to build real relationships that help us through life. Religion constantly triggers the rational mind when we cannot fully comprehend our experiences. Religion also feeds the emotional brain, helping us calm our anxieties and fears with hope, peace, and fidelity. Many of you have probably experienced a heightened state of peace while praying the Rosary or meditating before the Crucifixion, the Blessed Virgin Mary, or other Saints. Emotions like fear, love, grief, and happiness are real. Religion helps us manage our emotions wisely as we journey through life.

Although the world does not guarantee lasting relationships with other people, God has always wanted to establish a permanent human relationship. The Incarnation of His Son Jesus Christ shows that God wants to build a *lasting relationship* with us. Wise people choose to cultivate what is essential in life to sustain their peace, faith, and hope until Jesus returns.

God bless!

Fr. Thai Le

¡Hola!

¿Cómo construimos relaciones? Algunas relaciones se construyen después de probar la compatibilidad, la resistencia, la fidelidad o el conocimiento. Primero se establecen otras relaciones, basadas en la confianza, luego se prueban la compatibilidad y otros rasgos deseables a medida que pasa el tiempo. Estos enfoques para construir relaciones no son nuevos. El Antiguo Testamento registra, en muchas ocasiones, que Dios puso a prueba a su pueblo con pruebas y tribulaciones antes de establecer un pacto, una relación, con su pueblo.

El evangelio de hoy nos cuenta la historia de cómo un novio quiere entablar una relación con la gente. Es decir, diez vírgenes que esperaban al novio tenían los mismos dones: lámparas, aceite, espacio y oportunidad. Las vírgenes eran libres de elegir cómo y cuándo usar esos dones. ¡Con el libre albedrío, terminan en lugares completamente diferentes! Cinco de las vírgenes no tenían suficiente aceite para recibir al novio cuando llegó. Sin sus regalos para el novio, esas doncellas se quedaron afuera.

En comparación, las cinco vírgenes que guardaron suficiente aceite para sus lámparas cuando llegó el novio fueron bienvenidas a la fiesta. El pacto tradicional de traer regalos cumplía la relación entre anfitrión e invitado. Estas cinco mujeres demostraron fuerza de voluntad, paciencia y fidelidad.

¿Por qué estas cinco sabias tenían suficiente aceite para brillar en la oscuridad de la noche? Reconocieron que el novio regresaría en cualquier momento. También estaban conscientes de los dones que poseían: las lámparas, el aceite, la luz y la oportunidad, que utilizaron sabiamente. Su prueba consistió en esperar más de lo esperado y más de lo que era cómodo. Las niñas no perdieron la fe en el novio o en Dios al pensar que se trataba simplemente de cargas inconvenientes, simplemente no se dieron por vencidas. En cambio, estas vírgenes prudentes se mantuvieron firmes porque sabían lo que era esencial.

¿Hemos perdido nuestro enfoque en lo que es esencial en la vida? Han pasado ocho meses desde que comenzamos a enfrentarnos a la extraña oscuridad de la pandemia de COVID-19. Nos perturba. Incluso los asuntos menores que hubiéramos ignorado en años anteriores ahora nos aterrorizan. Algunos de nosotros estamos frustrados porque los planes para nosotros y nuestras familias están en suspenso. Podemos sentir que ya no controlamos nuestras vidas como solíamos hacerlo. Algunos días incluso podríamos sentirnos como si estuviéramos bajo una sombra oscura y aplastante. Peor aún, no sabemos cuándo terminará o cómo saldremos de esta pandemia.

Vivir esta pandemia es como el sufrimiento y la perseverancia de la virgen en el evangelio de hoy. Puede que nos sentamos aburridos, cansados, decepcionados o confundidos por no saber cuándo terminará nuestra espera. Sin embargo, no es solo la historia de un novio o una pandemia, sino una historia de vida y fe. Sin duda, no hay vida sin oscuridad. Ninguno de nosotros es inmune a un viaje a través de pruebas y tribulaciones que parecen apagar la luz de nuestras vidas. La buena noticia es que no estamos solos: Jesús y la comunidad religiosa están aquí para ayudarnos.

La religión es una fuente de fortaleza para que podamos construir relaciones reales que nos ayuden en la vida. La religión activa constantemente la mente racional cuando no podemos comprender completamente nuestras experiencias. La religión también alimenta el cerebro emocional, ayudándonos a calmar nuestras ansiedades y miedos con esperanza, paz y fidelidad. Muchos de ustedes probablemente hayan experimentado un estado de paz elevado mientras rezaban el Rosario o meditaban antes de la Crucifixión, la Santísima Virgen María u otros santos. Las emociones como el miedo, el amor, el dolor y la felicidad son reales. La religión nos ayuda a manejar nuestras emociones sabiamente mientras viajamos por la vida.

Aunque el mundo no garantiza relaciones duraderas con otras personas, Dios siempre ha querido establecer una relación humana permanente. La Encarnación de Su Hijo Jesucristo muestra que Dios quiere construir una relación duradera con nosotros. Las personas sabias eligen cultivar lo que es esencial en la vida para mantener su paz, fe y esperanza hasta que Jesús regrese.

¡Dios bendiga!

P. Thai Le

MASS SCHEDULE and INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 07, 2020

8:30 AM Private Mass Parishioners of St. Thomas More
4:00 PM Confessions Fr. Thai
5:00 PM Private Mass Patrick Yiu† Selvia Inado†

Sunday, November 08, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Andrew Anna Tran† Orlando A. Dizon† Diego Palacios†
9:15 AM Fr. Thai Helidorio & Daniel Altamirano† Luis Hernandez†
10:30 AM Fr. Thai Rafael Garcia Sr.† Gregoria Cuahutle de Mendieta† Margarita Duran†
12:30 PM Private Mass

Monday, November 09, 2020

8:30 AM Fr. Andrew Parishioners of St. Thomas More

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Thai Humberto Magallanes†

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

8:30 AM Private Mass Parishioners of St. Thomas More

Thursday, November 12, 2020

8:30 AM Private Mass Helidorio & Daniel Altamirano†

Friday, November 13, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Thai Helidorio & Daniel Altamirano† Remie Encinas†

Saturday, November 14, 2020

8:30 AM Private Mass Parishioners of St. Thomas More
4:00 PM Confessions Fr. Thai
5:00 PM Private Mass Patrick Yiu†

Sunday, November 15, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Andrew Anna Tran† Diego Palacios†
9:15 AM Fr. Thai Helidorio & Daniel Altamirano† Richard Luna†
10:30 AM Fr. Thai Juan Garcia: Healing
12:30 PM Private Mass

PARISH CHURCH CLOSED

Mass will be celebrated outdoors in a tent between the church and hall

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

- All attendees and volunteers must wear face masks
- Observe social distancing of six-feet
- Do not have COVID-19, any symptoms, or flu-like symptoms

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	Christopher Maimone
Olivia Altamirano	Evelyn Manza
Elias Alvarez	Felipe Martinez
Francis Araiza	Henrietta Martinez
Noreen Arroyo	Fred Maroon
Kelly Artozgui	Jean Miceli
George Astacio	Arianne Miller
Rosa Astacio	Familia Montañez-Flores
B Aletha Bailey	Ariana Alonso Morales
Carla Baker	Barbara Moreno
Michele Baker	Bertha Moreno
Paul Beers	Cheryl Morten
Harlene Breaux	Betty Murray
C Celia Carmona	N Gloria Natividad
Erik M. Casillas	John Ng
Daniel Cerpa	O Rosaleen Ocampo
Eli Chavez	P Arcadio Pablo
Patricia Cisneros	Manuel Pacheco Jr.
Leah Grace Cisneros	Fernando Parra
Roman Covarrubias	Albert Pelaez
Rosalba Covarrubias	Ernestina Placencio
Catalina Cruz	R Virginia Reyes
Mary Louise Cruz	Cheryl Ann Reynoso
D Imelda De La Cruz	Ryan Reynoso
Julio Diaz	Salvador Reynoso
Jesus M. Dulay	Laura Rico
Do Duong	Francisco Rios
E Jan Edwards	Juan Rios
F Donna Finocchio	Armando Rivera
Louis Finocchio	Familia Rivera
Familia Flores	Domenic Rizzi
Daniel Fuentes	Familia Rodriguez-Flores
G Claudia Godinez	S Mason Saldaña
Daniel Gonzalez	Familia Sanchez-Flores
J Maria Ivy Lynn Jimenez	Francisco Sanchez
Raymond Jimenez	Dylan Silva
Gary Jones	Nicole Smith
K Erin Kametani	Lilian Smitter
L Jeff Lamb	Connie Sotelo
Andrea Leija	Angie Stockwell
Pauline Lemire	T Mike Teong
Gudalio Lim	Jennies Tiu
David Lindsey	V Romeo Villafranca
Anna Lovoy	Ricardo & Felicidad Villegas
M Danilo Magsino	Therese Huyen-Duong Thi Vu
	W Terry Wilson

Pray for the Dead

Daniel Altamirano	Louie Richard Ortiz
Helio Altamirano	Diego Palacios
Dominga Holguin	Rosario Pineda Yumul
Orlando A. Dizon	Armando Martinez Sr.

CONTACT PAGE

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