

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

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

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Sunday, December 27, 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;
Sunday	Closed	responding to emails and
		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: Gabriella Ramos
(ext. 139) or (626) 457-5302 stmccatholicalhambra@gmail.com

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

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

Accounting Manager: Lucy Lai
(ext. 141) acct_stm@yahoo.com

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

Parish Secretary: Lucia Alcantar
(ext. 112) stmccatholicalhambra@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@stmccatholicalhambra.org

HOLY FAMILY



Thank You!

Collections 12/8 - 12/13/2020

	Envelopes	Loose	Total
Sunday Masses	\$2,296.00	\$605.00	\$2,901.00
Immaculate Conception & Our Lady of Guadalupe Masses	\$1,093.00	\$401.00	\$1,494.00
By Mail and Online	\$3,435.00		\$3,435.00
Building Fund	\$890.00		\$890.00
Christmas Flowers	\$100.00		\$100.00
Christmas	\$40.00		\$40.00
	\$7,854.00	\$1,006.00	\$8,860.00
Retirement Fundfor Religious	\$470.00		

Reading 1

SIR 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them. When he prays, he is heard; he stores up riches who reveres his mother. Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard. Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother.

My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him; revile him not all the days of his life; kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins—a house raised in justice to you.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

R. (7a, 8a) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Give thanks to the LORD, invoke his name; make known among the nations his deeds. Sing to him, sing his praise, proclaim all his wondrous deeds.

R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Glory in his holy name; rejoice, O hearts that seek the LORD! Look to the LORD in his strength; constantly seek his face.

R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

You descendants of Abraham, his servants, sons of Jacob, his chosen ones! He, the LORD, is our God; throughout the earth his judgments prevail.

R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

He remembers forever his covenant which he made binding for a thousand generations which he entered into with Abraham and by his oath to Isaac.

R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.**Reading 2**

Col 3:12-17

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body.

And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Alleluia

COL 3:15A, 16A

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Let the peace of Christ control your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.**Gospel**

Lk 2:22, 39-40

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.



Hello!

The movie “Hope Springs” tells the story of an empty nest married couple who face problems in their marriage relationship. The couple could not find the feelings and experiences they used to have during their earlier years of marriage and family life. Moreover, the husband does not recognize the issue, which furthers the distances between them. Fortunately, they were humble enough to seek out assistance. Their therapist invites them to relive the moment of their first encounter when they fell in love with each other.

Indeed, first impressions are crucial because they lead to further development and relationship. Notably, in marriage, the first moment is a spark that leads two hearts and minds to unite and eventually establish a new family. In biblical wisdom, we can see that when the Israelites initially fell into affiliation with the mundane world and gods. Their prophets reminded them to return to the desert to rediscover their identity and vocation because it was in the desert; their ancestors became the Chosen people of God by covenant. The same is true with married couples who should reflect upon God’s wisdom to strengthen their commitment and affection.

On the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, the gospel tells Mary and Joseph’s story of presenting Jesus in the Temple. This presentation is depicted as an indispensable family tradition of commitment to God. All Christian families are called to reflect upon sources that nurture *marriage, family, and life*. First, some challenges need to be recognized.

Family dynamics have changed so much over time. Fifty years ago, husbands returning home from work could anticipate a respite waiting for them at home when they arrived. That was a tremendous comfort from a straightforward family lifestyle. Today, however, both spouses must work outside their home. They both carry their daily burdens from work to their home, sharing their afflictions and comparisons rather than providing relief. These concerns can spark complications among family members and willingness to interact.

Furthermore, Christian couples often experience difficulties practicing their faith in God through religion. Before bonding under new family commitments, several engaged couples struggle to accept the Church’s Sacraments as necessities for their journey together. Outwardly, engaged couples have many things to prepare and worry about. They may look happy, firm, and professional in many areas of daily life, but inwardly there may be no room to prepare for God through the Sacrament of Matrimony. To be sure, God, the Father who instituted marriage and family; therefore, Catholics’ engaged and married couples need to accept and practice what God has established for them.

The Holy Family practiced and made it visible to all Christian families. They did not prioritize their self-righteous mentality by denying the Sacred Tradition of Marriage and Family. Nor did they replaced God’s institution with their morality to justify their freedom. In other words, the Holy Family was based on Biblical authority.

Family traditions are powerful experiences that bring people together. Family rituals usually include celebrating a newborn baby, Baptism, birthdays, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, weddings, anniversaries, and the departed remembrance. Such traditions are important because they tell us who we are and how we honor our ancestors and our Creator. One family custom that is simple and easy to practice is taking time to pray together before each meal and before bed. Before falling asleep, a nightly prayer is an excellent opportunity to remind children to give thanks to Almighty God as their provider and protector. Spending time together as a family to pray each night helps the family bond and nurture spiritual and emotional needs, especially children. This tradition allows children to learn that they do not journey alone—that God’s Spirit always accompanies them.

The Feast of the Holy Family reveals that God dwelt in a human family to be with us—to identify with us in all aspects of family life. The Holy Family also encountered difficulties; the difference is that they responded with faith and trust in God. During this Christmas Season and this celebration, we honor and pray for all married couples and their families that when faced with daily challenges, they return to faithfulness to be restrengthened by God’s love and protection, just as the Holy Family modeled for them. We also pray for those married couples and families struggling with their lives, marriage, and commitment that the Holy Family will protect and guide them through daily challenges.

God bless!

Fr. Thai Le

¡Hola!

La película “Hope Springs” cuenta la historia de un matrimonio de *nidos vacíos* que enfrentan problemas en su relación matrimonial. La pareja no pudo encontrar los sentimientos y experiencias que solían tener durante sus primeros años de matrimonio y vida familiar. Además, el marido no reconoce el problema, lo que amplía las distancias entre ellos. Afortunadamente, fueron lo suficientemente humildes como para buscar ayuda. Su terapeuta los invita a revivir el momento de su primer encuentro cuando se enamoraron el uno del otro.

De hecho, las primeras impresiones son cruciales porque conducen a un mayor desarrollo y relación. En particular, en el matrimonio, el primer momento es una chispa que lleva a dos corazones y mentes a unirse y eventualmente establecer una nueva familia. En la sabiduría bíblica, podemos ver eso cuando los israelitas inicialmente cayeron en afiliación con el mundo mundano y los dioses. Sus profetas les recordaron que regresaran al desierto para redescubrir su identidad y vocación porque estaba en el desierto; sus antepasados se convirtieron en el pueblo elegido de Dios por pacto. Lo mismo ocurre con las parejas casadas que deben reflexionar sobre la sabiduría de Dios para fortalecer su compromiso y afecto.

En la Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José, el evangelio cuenta la historia de María y José de presentar a Jesús en el Templo. Esta presentación se describe como una tradición familiar indispensable de compromiso con Dios. Todas las familias cristianas están llamadas a reflexionar sobre las fuentes que nutren el matrimonio, la familia y la vida. Primero, es necesario reconocer algunos desafíos.

La dinámica familiar ha cambiado mucho con el tiempo. Hace cincuenta años, los esposos que regresaban a casa del trabajo podían anticipar un respiro esperándolos en casa cuando llegaran. Eso fue un tremendo consuelo de un estilo de vida familiar sencillo. Hoy, sin embargo, ambos cónyuges deben trabajar fuera de su hogar. Ambos llevan sus cargas diarias del trabajo a su hogar, compartiendo sus aflicciones y comparaciones en lugar de brindar alivio. Estas preocupaciones pueden generar complicaciones entre los miembros de la familia y la voluntad de interactuar.

Además, las parejas cristianas a menudo experimentan dificultades para practicar su fe en Dios a través de la religión. Antes de unirse bajo nuevos compromisos familiares, varias parejas comprometidas luchan por aceptar los sacramentos de la Iglesia como una necesidad para su viaje juntos. En apariencia, las parejas comprometidas tienen muchas cosas de las que prepararse y de qué preocuparse. Pueden parecer felices, firmes y profesionales en muchas áreas de la vida diaria, pero interiormente puede que no haya lugar para prepararse para Dios a través del Sacramento del Matrimonio. Sin duda, Dios, el Padre que instituyó el matrimonio y la familia; por lo tanto, las parejas católicas comprometidas y casadas deben aceptar y practicar lo que Dios ha establecido para ellos.

La Sagrada Familia la practicó y la hizo visible a todas las familias cristianas. No dieron prioridad a su mentalidad moralista al negar la Sagrada Tradición del Matrimonio y la Familia. Tampoco reemplazaron la institución de Dios con su moralidad para justificar su libertad. En otras palabras, la Sagrada Familia se basó en la autoridad bíblica.

Las tradiciones familiares son experiencias poderosas que unen a las personas. Los rituales familiares generalmente incluyen la celebración de un bebé recién nacido, el bautismo, los cumpleaños, la primera comunión, la confirmación, las bodas, los aniversarios y el recuerdo de los difuntos. Estas tradiciones son importantes porque nos dicen quiénes somos y cómo honramos a nuestros antepasados y a nuestro Creador. Una costumbre familiar que es simple y fácil de practicar es tomarse un tiempo para orar juntos antes de cada comida y antes de acostarse. Antes de conciliar el sueño, una oración nocturna es una excelente oportunidad para recordar a los niños que deben dar gracias al Dios Todopoderoso como su proveedor y protector. Pasar tiempo juntos como familia para orar todas las noches ayuda a la familia a vincularse y nutrir las necesidades espirituales y emocionales, especialmente los niños. Esta tradición permite a los niños aprender que no viajan solos, que el Espíritu de Dios siempre los acompaña.

La Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia revela que Dios habitó en una familia humana para estar con nosotros, para identificarse con nosotros en todos los aspectos de la vida familiar. La Sagrada Familia también encontró dificultades; la diferencia es que respondieron con fe y confianza en Dios. Durante esta temporada navideña y esta celebración, honramos y oramos por todas las parejas casadas y sus familias que cuando se enfrentan a los desafíos diarios, regresan a la fidelidad para ser fortalecidos por el amor y la protección de Dios, tal como la Sagrada Familia los modeló. También oramos por aquellas parejas casadas y familias que luchan con sus vidas, matrimonio y compromiso de que la Sagrada Familia los protegerá y guiará a través de los desafíos diarios.

¡Dios bendiga!

P. Thai Le

MASS SCHEDULE and INTENTIONS

Please Pray for the Sick

Fr. Jeremiah O'Neill

Saturday, December 26, 2020

4:00 PM No Confessions

4:30 PM Fr. Charles Patrick Yiu† Christopher Pinkus† Julietta Reta†

Sunday, December 27, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Andrew Peter Huong Phan† Anna Kim Bui†
Dante Panganiban†

9:15 AM Fr. Thai Vincent Sotelo† Roberto Natividad†
Carlos Vera†

10:30 AM Fr. Thai Rafael Garcia Jr.†
Albert & Gertrude Hernandez†

Monday, December 28, 2020

Tuesday, December 29, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Thai Jerry Lemire†

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

Thursday, December 31, 2020 New Years Eve

Friday, January 01, 2020 New Years Day

8:30 AM TBA Fr. Thai Le & Family

Saturday, January 02, 2020

4:00 PM Confessions

4:30 PM TBA Patrick Yiu†

Sunday, January 03, 2020

8:00 AM TBA Peter Huong Phan† Anna Kim Bui†

9:15 AM TBA Teresa Vicky Phan† Roberto Natividad†

10:30 AM TBA Martha Cano† Albert & Gertrude Hernandez†

PARISH CHURCH CLOSED

We will celebrate mass outdoors in the large parking lot south of the church.

Confessions

- First and Third Sundays, or by appointment (meet by the Rectory's garage)

Masses

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

- Everyone 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

A Lucia Adame

Mary Louise Aluzzi

Olivia Altamirano

Elias Alvarez

Francis Araiza

Noreen Arroyo

Kelly Artozgui

George Astacio

Rosa Astacio

B Aletha Bailey

Carla Baker

Michele Baker

Paul Beers

Harlene Breux

C Celia Carmona

Erik M. Casillas

Daniel Cerpa

Eli Chavez

Patricia Cisneros

Leah Grace Cisneros

Roman Covarrubias

Rosalba Covarrubias

Catalina Cruz

Mary Louise Cruz

D Imelda De La Cruz

Julio Diaz

Jesus M. Dulay

Do Duong

E Jan Edwards

F Donna Finocchio

Louis Finocchio

Familia Flores

Daniel Fuentes

G Claudia Godinez

Daniel Gonzalez

J Maria Ivy Lynn Jimenez

Raymond Jimenez

Gary Jones

K Erin Kametani

L Jeff Lamb

Andrea Leija

Pauline Lemire

Gudalio Lim

David Lindsey

Anna Lovoy

M Danilo Magsino

Ruben Magsino

Christopher Maimone

M Evelyn Manza

Felipe Martinez

Henrietta Martinez

Fred Maroon

Jean Miceli

Arianne Miller

Familia Montañez-Flores

Ariana Alonso Morales

Barbara Moreno

Bertha Moreno

Cheryl Morten

Betty Murray

N Gloria Natividad

John Ng

O Rosaleen Ocampo

P Arcadio Pablo

Manuel Pacheco Jr.

Fernando Parra

Albert Pelaez

Thomas Phan

Ernestina Placencia

R Virginia Reyes

Cheryl Ann Reynoso

Ryan Reynoso

Salvador Reynoso

Laura Rico

Francisco Rios

Juan Rios

Armando Rivera

Familia Rivera

Domenic Rizzi

Familia Rodriguez-Flores

S Mason Saldaña

Familia Sanchez-Flores

Francisco Sanchez

Dylan Silva

Nicole Smith

Lilian Smitter

Connie Sotelo

Angie Stockwell

T Mike Teong

Jennies Tiu

V Romeo Villafranca

Ricardo & Felicidad Villegas

Therese Huyen-Duong Thi Vu

W Terry Wilson

Y Teresita Yu

Pray for the Dead

Daniel Altamirano

Helio Altamirano

Martha Cano

Orlando A. Dizon

Romeo Hernandez

Armando Martinez Sr.

Robert Natividad

Diego Palacios

Vincent Sotelo