

# St. Thomas More Catholic Church

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

*The Baptism of the Lord*  
*Sunday, January 10, 2021*



## 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](http://stmccatholicalhambra.org)  
or [facebook.com/lacatholics](https://facebook.com/lacatholics).

ALL EVENTS ARE CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Visit our website at [stmccatholicalhambra.org](http://stmccatholicalhambra.org)  
for more information and updates.

## PARISH OFFICE (RECTORY) HOURS

|               |              |                                     |
|---------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Monday-Friday | 8 AM to 5 PM | <b>**Closed to the Public**</b>     |
| 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](mailto:frthaile@yahoo.com)

**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Jeremiah O'Neill

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

**Safeguard the Children Contact:** Gabriella Ramos  
(ext. 139) or (626) 457-5302 [stmdrealhambra@gmail.com](mailto:stmdrealhambra@gmail.com)

**Director of Catechetical Sunday School :** Gabriella Ramos  
(ext. 139) or (626) 457-5302 [stmdrealhambra@gmail.com](mailto:stmdrealhambra@gmail.com)

**Liturgy & Music Coordinator:** Sr. Andrea Johnson  
(ext. 137) [stmmusiclit@gmail.com](mailto:stmmusiclit@gmail.com)

**Accounting Manager:** Lucy Lai  
(ext. 141) [acct\\_stm@yahoo.com](mailto:acct_stm@yahoo.com)

**Youth Ministry & Confirmation Coordinator:** Francisco Ramos  
[stm lifeteenymc@gmail.com](mailto:stm lifeteenymc@gmail.com)

**Parish Secretary:** Lucia Alcantar  
(ext. 112) [stm\\_secretary@live.com](mailto: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](http://www.stmcsa.org)

**School Email:** [ngibson@stmfalcons.net](mailto:ngibson@stmfalcons.net)

This is My  
Beloved Son



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**Thank You!**

### Collections for Christmas & Sunday 12/27/20

|                      | Envelopes         | Loose             | Total             |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Christmas Eve masses | \$1,300.00        | \$428.00          | \$1,728.00        |
| Christmas Day masses | \$2,951.00        | \$319.00          | \$3,270.00        |
| Sunday masses        | \$1,445.00        | \$635.00          | \$2,080.00        |
| By mail &/or online  | \$1,250.00        |                   | \$1,250.00        |
| Bldg Fund            | \$505.00          |                   | \$505.00          |
| Solemnity of Mary    | \$155.00          |                   | \$155.00          |
| School Support       | \$180.00          |                   | \$180.00          |
|                      | <b>\$7,786.00</b> | <b>\$1,382.00</b> | <b>\$9,168.00</b> |

### Collections for 1/1/21 & 1/4/21

|                     |                   |                 |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Sunday masses       | \$2,331.00        | \$454.00        | \$2,785.00        |
| By mail &/or online | \$2,975.00        |                 | \$2,975.00        |
| Bldg Fund           | \$310.00          |                 | \$310.00          |
| Altar Society       | \$106.00          |                 | \$106.00          |
| Christmas env       | \$590.00          |                 | \$590.00          |
| Solemnity of Mary   | \$245.00          |                 | \$245.00          |
|                     | <b>\$6,557.00</b> | <b>\$454.00</b> | <b>\$7,011.00</b> |

**Reading I****Is 42:1-4, 6-7**

Thus says the LORD: Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations, not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street. a bruised reed he shall not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench, until he establishes justice on the earth; the coastlands will wait for his teaching.

I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

**Responsorial Psalm****Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10**

**R.** The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Give to the LORD, you sons of God, give to the LORD glory and praise, give to the LORD the glory due his name; adore the LORD in holy attire.

**R.** The Lord will bless his people with peace.

The voice of the LORD is over the waters, the LORD, over vast waters. The voice of the LORD is mighty; the voice of the LORD is majestic.

**R.** The Lord will bless his people with peace.

The God of glory thunders, and in his temple all say, "Glory!" The LORD is enthroned above the flood; the LORD is enthroned as king forever.

**R.** The Lord will bless his people with peace.

**Reading II****Acts 10:34-38**

Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered in the house of Cornelius, saying: "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the Israelites as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him."

**Alleluia****Cf. Jn 1:29**

**R.** Alleluia, alleluia.

John saw Jesus approaching him, and said: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

**R.** Alleluia, alleluia.

**Gospel****Mk 1:7-11**

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John.

On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."



Hello!

How long can you hold your breath underwater? We cannot survive for long underwater because our lungs need oxygen to breathe. Experts say that even someone in good health can hold their breath underwater for about two minutes.

After failing to obey God, humans' first parents, Adam and Eve, were submerged into the dark abyss of sin and its misery. Their offspring were born and marked by the wounds of their parents. The original sin weakened human will that paved the way for embracing evil and selfish passion.

Terribly, original sin caused humanity to be groggy and distanced from God's divine care and love. However, God could not ignore His Creation living in suffering and pain. Therefore, He sent His Son, who shed his blood to reconcile us with Him.

Today the Church celebrates the Baptism of the Lord. All of today's readings underscore earthly images of water, wilderness, and the Holy Trinity. Above all, the gospel illustrates the moment when Jesus came up from the water surrounded by the Spirit. Adam and Eve, lured by the Serpent, were submerged into the darkness of sin, closing the gates of Heaven to humanity. Jesus was immersed to sanctify the water—to bring humanity back to the righteous path and reopen Heaven's gates for all believers.

The Church teaches that "Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church, and made sharers in her mission" (Catholicism of the Catholic Church, 1213).

Baptized Christians can find new hope and life because Jesus has opened the gates of Heaven. We are no longer doomed to drown under the waters of sin: We too can emerge from the water with new life provided through the Church's Sacraments. Baptized Catholics experience the Sacraments that nurture their faith, hope, and trust necessary for their spiritual journey. Therefore, in the Sacraments, God gives His grace to believers.

For baptized Catholics, Jesus and His Church are an indispensable aspect of their lives because He has done things that no one else, and nothing else, could do on their behalf. Although at some points along the journey, they might have failed physically and spiritually, Catholics never gave up because they have Jesus as their loyal companion. Such people can be called successful people because even after many failures in their lives, they still rise, reconnect, and move forward. Catholics are not slaves to their past sins and wounds guiding their future. Instead, Catholics believe Heaven is opened for them; they strike to fulfill their destiny through their daily good deeds.

However, some individuals cannot perceive Heaven in life. They are struggling to place their hope and trust in the new glory gained for them by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. They may choose to hide under the surface, comfortable with life in darkness! Such lifestyles eliminate God and His Church's Sacraments. As a result, they conceal their Baptism's virtues—to share good deeds and words through daily life. Christians without missions make individuals vulnerable, and as a result, can easily give in to temptations by demons.

All baptized Christians need to know that there are only two options: stay underwater and suffer eternal death or rise from the baptismal water and embrace eternal life. When Adam and Eve wanted to compete with God, the Serpent showed up and led them to eternal death. God knew humanity was manipulated continuously by corrupted enemies. He knew His absence is the presence of the Serpent, which is the Devil. God knows humanity alone could not fight with the Devil to liberate themselves from suffering. Hence, God sent His Son to rescue us. Today, we are reminded that Jesus' Baptism begins his mission: preaching, suffering, death, and resurrection leads us on the right path—to eternal life. Through Baptism, we accept a new life; we also receive a new mission to follow the examples of Jesus.

God bless!

Fr. Thai Le

¡Hola!

¿Cuánto tiempo puedes contener la respiración bajo el agua? No podemos sobrevivir mucho tiempo bajo el agua porque los pulmones necesitan oxígeno para respirar. Los expertos dicen que incluso alguien con buena salud puede contener la respiración bajo el agua durante unos dos minutos.

Después de no obedecer a Dios, los primeros padres de los humanos, Adán y Eva, se sumergieron en el oscuro abismo del pecado y su miseria. Sus crías nacieron y quedaron marcadas por las heridas de sus padres. El pecado original debilitó la voluntad humana que allanó el camino para abrazar el mal y la pasión egoísta. Terriblemente, el pecado original hizo que la humanidad estuviera atontada y se alejara del cuidado y amor divinos de Dios. Sin embargo, Dios no podía ignorar a Su Creación viviendo en sufrimiento y dolor. Por tanto, envió a su Hijo, quien derramó su sangre para reconciliarnos con él.

Hoy la Iglesia celebra el Bautismo del Señor. Todas las lecturas de hoy subrayan imágenes terrenales de agua, desierto y la Santísima Trinidad. Sobre todo, el evangelio ilustra el momento en que Jesús salió del agua rodeado por el Espíritu. Adán y Eva, atraídos por la Serpiente, fueron sumergidos en la oscuridad del pecado, cerrando las puertas del Cielo a la humanidad. Jesús fue sumergido para santificar el agua, para devolver a la humanidad al camino recto y reabrir las puertas del cielo para todos los creyentes.

La Iglesia enseña que “el santo bautismo es la base de toda la vida cristiana, la puerta de entrada a la vida en el Espíritu y la puerta que da acceso a los demás sacramentos. Mediante el bautismo somos liberados del pecado y renacemos como hijos de Dios; nos convertimos en miembros de Cristo, nos incorporamos a la Iglesia y nos hacemos partícipes de su misión” (Catolicismo de la Iglesia Católica, 1213).

Los cristianos bautizados pueden encontrar nueva esperanza y vida porque Jesús ha abierto las puertas del cielo. Ya no estamos condenados a ahogarnos bajo las aguas del pecado: nosotros también podemos salir del agua con nueva vida proporcionada a través de los sacramentos de la Iglesia. Los católicos bautizados experimentan los sacramentos que nutren su fe, esperanza y confianza necesarias para su viaje espiritual. Por tanto, en los sacramentos, Dios da su gracia a los creyentes.

Para los católicos bautizados, Jesús y Su Iglesia son un aspecto indispensable de sus vidas porque Él ha hecho cosas que nadie más, y nada más, podría hacer en su nombre. Aunque en algunos puntos del viaje pudieron haber fracasado física y espiritualmente, los católicos nunca se rindieron porque tienen a Jesús como su fiel compañero. Estas personas pueden llamarse personas exitosas porque incluso después de muchos fracasos en sus vidas, todavía se levantan, se vuelven a conectar y siguen adelante. Los católicos no son esclavos de sus pecados pasados y las heridas que guían su futuro. En cambio, los católicos creen que el cielo está abierto para ellos; atacan para cumplir su destino a través de sus buenas obras diarias.

Sin embargo, algunas personas no pueden percibir el cielo en la vida. Están luchando por poner su esperanza y confianza en la nueva gloria obtenida para ellos por la muerte y resurrección de Jesucristo. ¡Pueden optar por esconderse bajo la superficie, cómodos con la vida en la oscuridad! Tales estilos de vida eliminan a Dios y los sacramentos de Su Iglesia. Como resultado, ocultan las virtudes de su bautismo, para compartir buenas obras y palabras a través de la vida diaria. Los cristianos sin misiones hacen que las personas sean vulnerables y, como resultado, pueden ceder fácilmente a las tentaciones de los demonios.

Todos los cristianos bautizados deben saber que solo hay dos opciones: permanecer bajo el agua y sufrir la muerte eterna o resucitar del agua bautismal y abrazar la vida eterna. Cuando Adán y Eva quisieron competir con Dios, la Serpiente apareció y los llevó a la muerte eterna. Dios sabía que la humanidad estaba continuamente manipulada por enemigos corruptos. Sabía que Su ausencia es la presencia de la Serpiente, que es el Diablo. Dios sabe que la humanidad por sí sola no podría luchar con el Diablo para liberarse del sufrimiento. Por eso, Dios envió a Su Hijo para rescatarnos. Hoy, se nos recuerda que el bautismo de Jesús comienza su misión: la predicación, el sufrimiento, la muerte y la resurrección nos llevan por el camino correcto: a la vida eterna. A través del Bautismo aceptamos una nueva vida; también recibimos una nueva misión para seguir los ejemplos de Jesús.

¡Dios bendiga!

P. Thai Le

**MASS SCHEDULE and INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, January 09, 2021**

*No Confessions*

**Sunday, January 10, 2021**

|                     |                                                   |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 AM Fr. Thai    | Peter Sinh Nguyen† Anne Bikiy Mak† Jonathan Chan† |
| 9:15 AM Fr. Charlie | Carlos Vega† Roberto Natividad† Norma Cuadra†     |
| 10:30 AM Fr. Thai   | Martha Cano† Albert & Gertrude Hernandez†         |

**Monday, January 11, 2021**

**Tuesday, January 12, 2021**

8:30 AM Fr. Thai Jonathan Chan†

**Wednesday, January 13, 2021**

**Thursday, January 14, 2021**

**Friday, January 15, 2021**

8:30 AM Fr. Andrew Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Prompt Succor

**Saturday, January 16, 2021**

*No Confessions*

**Sunday, January 17, 2021**

|                    |                                       |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 8:00 AM Fr. Andrew | Peter Sinh Nguyen† Jonathan Chan†     |
| 9:15 AM Fr. Thai   | Carlos Vera† Norma Cuadra† Lisa Tsui† |
| 10:30 AM Fr. Thai  | Martha Cano† Roberto Natividad†       |

**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

*Pray for the Dead*

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Martha Cano       | Carlos Moya         |
| Norma Cuadra      | Robert Natividad    |
| Ronald Guerra Sr. | Diego Palacios      |
| Romeo Hernandez   | Victoria Ann Rincon |
| Isaias Hernandez  | Vincent Sotelo      |
| Anna Bik Mak      | Louis Velasco       |

**Please Pray for the Sick**

Fr. Jeremiah O'Neill

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