

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

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

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, August 30, 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
(ext. 139) or (626) 457-5302 stmdrealhambra@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education: Mae Ho
(ext. 139) or (626) 457-5302 stmdrealhambra@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
stmlifeteenymc@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 — The name of the LORD has become like fire burning in Jeremiah's heart (Jeremiah 20:7-9).

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

Second Reading — Be transformed; renew your mind; discern what is good (Romans 12:1-2).

Gospel — Those who lose their lives for Jesus' sake will find them (Matthew 16:21-27).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97-102; Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday:	1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-14; Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday:	1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-15, 20-21; Lk 4:38-44
Thursday:	1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1bc-4ab, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11
Friday:	1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37:3-6, 27-28, 39-40; Lk 5:33-39
Saturday:	1 Cor 4:6b-15; Ps 145:17-21; Lk 6:1-5
Sunday:	Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Me sedujiste, Señor, y me dejé seducir por ti (Jeremías 20:7-9).

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

Segunda lectura — No se dejen llevar por las cosas del mundo, más bien transórmense por la renovación de su mente (Romanos 12:1-2).

Evangelio — Si quieres seguirme, renuncia a ti mismo, carga con tu cruz y sígueme (Mateo 16:21-27).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes:	1 Cor 2:1-5; Sal 119 (118):97-102; Lc 4:16-30
Martes:	1 Cor 2:10b-16; Sal 145 (144):8-14; Lc 4:31-37
Miércoles:	1 Cor 3:1-9; Sal 33 (32):12-15, 20-21; Lc 4:38-44
Jueves:	1 Cor 3:18-23; Sal 24 (23):1bc-4ab, 5-6; Lc 5:1-11
Viernes:	1 Cor 4:1-5; Sal 37 (36):3-6, 27-28, 39-40; Lc 5:33-39
Sábado:	1 Cor 4:6b-15; Sal 145 (144):17-21; Lc 6:1-5
Domingo:	Ez 33:7-9; Sal 95 (94):1-2, 6-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

THE SON OF MAN WILL COME
WITH HIS ANGELS IN
HIS FATHER'S GLORY,
AND THEN HE WILL REPAY ALL
ACCORDING TO THEIR CONDUCT.

Matthew 16:27



St. Thomas More Eucharistic Celebrations

OUTDOOR TENT 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 a tent between the church and hall. 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. 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 at all times, including when receiving Holy Communion by hand.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Always maintain six-feet distance from others. Members of the same household may sit closer together.

MAXIMUM CAPACITY

The tent's capacity of 60 people at any time. There will be some overflow seating available.

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 parishioners to come up to the altar to receive holy communion. Please continue to observe all safety guidelines, including wearing face coverings and social distancing. Members from the same household are asked to observe social distancing during holy communion.

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

Thank you!

Collections for 8/23/20

	Envelopes	Loose	Total
8:00 AM	\$945.00	\$118.00	\$1,063.00
9:15 AM	\$880.00	\$275.00	\$1,155.00
10:30 AM	\$128.00	\$167.00	\$295.00
By Mail and Online	\$1,265.00		\$1,265.00
Building Fund	\$369.00		\$369.00
Special Projects	\$13.00		\$13.00
Assumption Envelopes	\$11.00		\$11.00
Air conditioning	\$33.00		\$33.00
School Support	\$100.00		\$100.00
	\$3,744.00	\$560.00	\$4,304.00

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 30, 2020



Hello!

One crucial component of human communication is the speakers' face – particularly the eyes and mouth. In recent months, priests have had to cover their faces during the Eucharistic celebration. Also, faithful participants remained distanced: In church, in our cars, under tents, or beneath canopies in the shade. Why then are we still coming to mass under such conditions? Because of *faith*! Faith motivates us to go beyond our usual limits of stamina, discomfort, logic, and emotions.

Faith helps us follow Jesus' teachings, even things that we can not fully comprehend. In today's gospel, Jesus makes a compelling statement, "take up your cross and follow me." Why was it a cross but not something more elegant and monumental? For the faithful, The Cross embodies the concepts of wounds, suffering, death, and isolation by rejection. Without faith, one perceives a cross as merely a symbol of corporal punishment, and therefore easily dismissed.

In my third year at the seminary, I went to work at a Catholic hospital for three weeks during summertime. One day, I learned that the hospital would soon be removing all the crucifixes. The reason for doing this was because some patients and family members felt offended when they saw a crucifix hanging in their rooms. Coping with pain and illness is difficult for anyone in a hospital. Understandably, some perspectives may find a man suffering on a cross to be a mockery of their situation. Indeed, in such a moment, the crucifixion can make it difficult for some to believe God manifested His love through such tribulation.

To respond to Jesus' invitation effectively, we must acknowledge two aspects of our faith: The Cross is real and its meaning. For the faithful, hiding behind Jesus' suffering and death is sacrifice and redemption for our sins. Christ's salvation for us not merely a token or symbol but is made real through action – His physical death on the cross! If Jesus chose to come down from the cross without suffering, he could have saved himself. However, he could not have saved us.

Without faith, the cross does not have any power to forgive our sins and is merely an empty, even abominable object. Who would want a painful reminder of traumatic events of agony, humiliation, and rejection? When a symbol represents an obstacle to healing, we can understand why some people would want it removed from sight. Conversely, faith reminds us that the cross not merely a place where Jesus Christ died for our sins; it also offers the healing of emotion and pain.

Throughout our lives, we find our crosses: Painful events, bad thoughts, regretful actions, and physical illnesses. However, some folks bounce back from distress, rejection, or conflict of quickly and move on with lives. These people accept the cross as part of life's journey and know how to carry them. They know who to turn to when their cross seems overwhelming to carry on. They know Jesus is their cradle. In Jesus' love and strength, they will confidently embrace their crosses and carry on with joy!

In recent months due to the Covid-19 virus, we are carrying a new cross! At first, we did not like it. Over time, with God's grace, we are making good signs of progress by responding to this reality. We learn life is a package – an intermingling of good and bad times. For instance, if you want to study and get a college degree, you cannot say, "I am impressed by the professors' lectures, but I do not want to take the tests." If you believe that, you'd never get a degree!

Jesus did not incarnate on Earth to explain to us the meaning of suffering, nor did he take away suffering. He shares our pain and carries the suffering of humanity. Sometimes crosses seem too heavy, and we'll run out of energy to carry our crosses. Let us remain humble enough to realize that there is no life without a cross, and there is no cross more powerful or durable than God's love for us when we begin to ponder on life's plights through eyes of faith and go beyond our senses, feelings, and reason.

God bless!

Fr. Thai Le

¡Hola!

Un componente crucial de la comunicación humana es el rostro de los hablantes, en particular los ojos y la boca. En los últimos meses, los sacerdotes han tenido que cubrirse el rostro durante la celebración eucarística. Además, los fieles participantes permanecieron distanciados: en la iglesia, en nuestros autos, debajo de las carpas o debajo de las marquesinas a la sombra. Entonces, ¿por qué seguimos llegando a la misa en tales condiciones? ¡Por la fe! La fe nos motiva a ir más allá de nuestros límites habituales de resistencia, incomodidad, lógica y emociones.

La fe nos ayuda a seguir las enseñanzas de Jesús, incluso las cosas que no podemos comprender por completo. En el evangelio de hoy, Jesús hace una declaración convincente: "Toma tu cruz y sígueme". ¿Por qué era una cruz y no algo más elegante y monumental? Para los fieles, La Cruz encarna los conceptos de heridas, sufrimiento, muerte y aislamiento por rechazo. Sin fe, uno percibe una cruz como un mero símbolo de castigo corporal y, por lo tanto, se puede descartar fácilmente.

En mi tercer año en el seminario, fui a trabajar en un hospital católico durante tres semanas durante el verano. Un día me enteré de que el hospital pronto retiraría todos los crucifijos. La razón para hacer esto fue porque algunos pacientes y familiares se sintieron ofendidos cuando vieron un crucifijo colgado en sus habitaciones. Hacer frente al dolor y la enfermedad es difícil para cualquier persona en un hospital. Es comprensible que algunas perspectivas encuentren que un hombre que sufre en una cruz es una burla de su situación. De hecho, en ese momento, la crucifixión puede dificultar que algunos crean que Dios manifestó Su amor a través de tal tribulación.

Para responder con eficacia a la invitación de Jesús, debemos reconocer dos aspectos de nuestra fe: La Cruz es real y su significado. Para los fieles, detrás del sufrimiento y la muerte de Jesús está el sacrificio y la redención por nuestros pecados. La salvación de Cristo para nosotros no es simplemente una muestra o símbolo, sino que se hace realidad a través de la acción: ¡Su muerte física en la cruz! Si Jesús eligió bajar de la cruz sin sufrir, podría haberse salvado a sí mismo. Sin embargo, no podría habernos salvado.

Sin fe, la cruz no tiene ningún poder para perdonar nuestros pecados y es simplemente un objeto vacío, incluso abominable. ¿Quién querría un recordatorio doloroso de eventos traumáticos de agonía, humillación y rechazo? Cuando un símbolo representa un obstáculo para la curación, podemos entender por qué algunas personas querrían que se lo quitara de la vista. Por el contrario, la fe nos recuerda que la cruz no es simplemente un lugar donde Jesucristo murió por nuestros pecados; también ofrece la curación de la emoción y el dolor.

A lo largo de nuestra vida, encontramos nuestras cruces: eventos dolorosos, malos pensamientos, acciones de arrepentimiento y enfermedades físicas. Sin embargo, algunas personas se recuperan rápidamente de la angustia, el rechazo o el conflicto y siguen adelante con sus vidas. Estas personas aceptan la cruz como parte del camino de la vida y saben cómo llevarla. Saben a quién acudir cuando su cruz parece abrumadora para continuar. Saben que Jesús es su cuna. En el amor y la fuerza de Jesús, ¡abrazarán con confianza sus cruces y seguirán adelante con alegría!

En los últimos meses debido al virus Covid-19, ¡estamos cargando una nueva cruz! Al principio, no nos gustó. Con el tiempo, con la gracia de Dios, estamos dando buenos signos de progreso respondiendo a esta realidad. Aprendemos que la vida es un paquete, una mezcla de buenos y malos tiempos. Por ejemplo, si desea estudiar y obtener un título universitario, no puede decir: "Estoy impresionado por las conferencias de los profesores, pero no quiero tomar las pruebas". Si crees eso, ¡nunca obtendrás un título!

Jesús no se encarnó en la Tierra para explicarnos el significado del sufrimiento, ni nos quitó el sufrimiento. Él comparte nuestro dolor y lleva el sufrimiento de la humanidad. A veces las cruces parecen demasiado pesadas y nos quedamos sin energía para cargar nuestras cruces. Seamos lo suficientemente humildes para darnos cuenta de que no hay vida sin una cruz, y que no hay una cruz más poderosa o duradera que el amor de Dios por nosotros cuando comenzamos a reflexionar sobre las dificultades de la vida a través de los ojos de la fe y vamos más allá de nuestros sentidos, sentimientos, y razón.

¡Dios bendiga!

MASS SCHEDULE and INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 29, 2020

8:30 AM Private Mass
4:00 PM Confessions Fr. Thai
5:00 PM Private 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 Private Mass

Monday, August 31, 2020

8:30 AM Private Mass Yu Po Lin†

Tuesday, September 01, 2020

8:30 AM Private Mass Ana Bui Nhan† Peter Huong Phan†

Wednesday, September 02, 2020

8:30 AM Private Mass Ana Bui Nhan† Peter Huong Phan†

Thursday, September 03, 2020

8:30 AM Private Mass Ana Bui Nhan† Peter Huong Phan†

Friday, September 04, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Thai Fr. Thai Le and Family

Saturday, September 05, 2020

8:30 AM Private Mass
4:00 PM Confessions Fr. Thai
5:00 PM Private Mass Patrick Yiu† Ana Bui Nhan† Peter Huong Phan†

Sunday, September 06, 2020

8:00 AM Fr. Thai Ana Bui Nhan† Peter Huong Phan†
9:15 AM Fr. Andrew Yu Po Lin† Mr. & Mrs. Ernesto Benitez: Thanksgiving
10:30 AM Fr. Thai Dr. Jason Huong† Josefa C. Villafranca†
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	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	O Rosaleen Ocampo
Celia Carmona	P Arcadio Pablo
Erik M. Casillas	Alebert Pelaez
Daniel Cerpa	Fernando Parra
Joan Cervantes	Ernestina Placencia
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 Minoy Lee	Ricardo & Felicidad Villegas
Andrea Leija	Therese Huyen-Duong Thi Vu
Gudalio Lim	W Terry Wilson
David Lindsey	Janny Wong
Anna Lovoy	Jennifer Wong
M Christopher Maimone	Maria Wong Vasquez
Danilo Magsino	Z Christine Zampese

Pray for the Dead

Lynn Sue Chang	Adolphus Iages
Mariano Cimatu Jr.	Stephanie Ocampo
Simon Darensbourg	Mary Rodriguez
Dr. Jason Hwang	Columba Sanchez