



# Saint Thomas the Apostle CATHOLIC PARISH

ESTABLISHED 1857 | DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO 1886



Our Parish Family includes Saint Thomas, the Apostle Parish, Saint Thomas, the Apostle School and Saint Anthony of Padua Mission Church.



## First Sunday of Advent

### Parish Mission

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we the church answer the call of Christ to be a visible sign of His presence by participating in: Scripture and Sacraments, Worship and Prayer, Spiritual and Academic Education, Evangelization and Witnessing, Service and Charity, Fellowship and Community. Through our words and actions with our universal community of believers, we strive to share the love of God with the greater Oroville community and throughout the world.

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### Saturday Vigil

5:30 PM  
7:00 PM (Spanish)  
at St. Thomas in Oroville

#### Sunday

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM at  
Saint Thomas in Oroville,  
12:30 PM Saint Anthony's  
in Challenge

#### Daily Mass

Monday: 8:30 AM  
Tuesday: 6:00 PM  
Wednesday-Friday: 8:30  
AM

**Fr. German Ramos**  
Parochial Administrator  
frramosoro@gmail.com

**Thomas O'Connell**  
Deacon

**Shirlee Ohls-Morris**  
Parish Bookkeeper

**Mrs. Kelly Floyd**  
School Principal

**Mrs. Tamara Landers**  
School Bookkeeper

**Mrs. Kattie May**  
School Secretary

**Parish Office**  
1330 Bird Street

Oroville, CA 95965  
Phone: 530-533-0262  
Fax: 530-533-1148

Mon-Thurs | 9:00 AM - 12:00  
PM

Fridays | 9:00 AM -12:00 PM,  
1:00-3:00 PM

[www.orovillecatholic.org](http://www.orovillecatholic.org)

#### School Office

1380 Bird Street  
Oroville, CA 95965  
Phone: 530-534-6969  
Fax: 530-534-9374  
[www.stschool.net](http://www.stschool.net)

PARISH INFORMATION / I  
INFORMACIÓN PARROQUIAL

**Baptisms (Bautizos)** Please contact the parish office  
**Sick Calls or Sacrament of Anointing (Unción de los Enfermos)**

Please contact the parish office as soon as possible

**Weddings (Matrimonios)**

Minimum of six (6) months required for preparation. Please contact the parish office.

**Funerals** Please contact the parish office, for assistance in arranging a funeral service. We can also arrange a reception after the funeral if desired.

**Sick Calls**

Father Ramos would like to reach out to those parishioners who are homebound, or otherwise unable to attend Mass. If you, or someone you know, needs to receive a visit, or Sacraments you can find a Sick Call/Home Visit Request form in the Church Vestibule, the Parish Office or an on-line fillable electronic form, in English and Spanish, on the STAP website (<https://orvillecatholic.org>).

**Announcements**

**Mass Intentions:**

If you wish to have your intentions offered up at Mass, you may do so by contacting the Parish Office at 530-533-0262.

**Food Drive**

St Thomas is collecting nonperishable food to donate to the Salvation Army, which will go to support most needy in our community. Please bring what you can, either boxed or canned, and place it in the vestibule.

**Work wanted**

Personal shopping, dog walking, rides to appointments, house sitting, senior companion. Call Irene 530-712-1417

**HVAC Collection**

As many now know, St. Thomas the Apostle Church is without a working heater. In preparation for the winter months we have purchased a new commercial HVAC system. An installation date is TBD but we will be pushing for a quick installation after delivery later this month. After paying for

the unit, it is imperative we raise enough money, quickly, to pay for the installation. The \$72k goal for this campaign will pay for the unit and installation then allow us to address other necessary HVAC needs and maintenance. It is the goal of the Parish Finance Council to raise sufficient funds prior to February 28, 2024.

**Thanks and Congratulations**

The Altar Society and the Catholic Ladies Relief Society are grateful to all who supported our Holiday Boutique and Raffle. Congratulations to Lydia VanderLaan who won the Altar Society's \$500 cash prize and to Zooba Zwicker who won the CLRS basket.

**Holy Day of Obligation**

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated on Friday, December 8. The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated on Friday, December 8.

**Celebrate the Season**

Our Second Annual Christmas Concert is scheduled for Friday, December 15 at 7:00 PM in the church. Following the concert there will be a reception in the Community Center. This event will feature hymns by members of the St. Thomas Music Ministry, and familiar Christmas songs for all to sing.

**Advent Penance Service**

In preparation for Christmas, we will have a Penance Service on Tuesday, December 19 at 6:00 PM. Father Ramos has invited several priests from our deanery to assist in hearing confessions.

**Poinsettias for the Church**

The altar Society will be decorating the church for Christmas after the 10:30 Mass on December 24th. All parishioners are invited to help by donating poinsettia plants. Many parishioners donate a plant in remembrance of a family member or bring a plant as a gift of love. The poinsettias may be brought to the Parish Office on Tuesday December 19 through Friday December 22 between 9:00a.m. and 12:00 noon. Poinsettias may also be brought to the church

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR  
CALENDARIO LITURGICO**

**Sunday, December 3**

8:00AM

10:30 AM

12:30 AM @St. Anthony's in Challenge

**Monday, December 4**

8:30 AM

**Tuesday, December 5**

6:00 PM

**Wednesday, December 6**

8:30 AM

**Thursday, December 7**

8:30 AM

**Friday, December 8**

8:30 AM

12:30 PM @St. Anthony's in Challenge

6:00 PM Bilingual

**Saturday, December 9**

5:30 PM Vigil

7:00 PM Spanish Vigil

**Sunday, December 10**

8:00 AM

10:30 AM

12:30 AM @St. Anthony's in Challenge

**Rosary:** *St. Thomas*: after the 8:30 AM Mass during weekdays, and after the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Sunday Masses

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

4:00 PM Tuesdays

4:00 PM Saturdays

Or by Appointment

**Adoration of the Blessed**

**Sacrament:**

Every Tuesday: 4:00 PM-5:30 PM

Every Friday: 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

3rd Saturday of Every Month, 8:00 PM

on Sunday December 24 after the 10:30 Mass until 1:00 p.m. May our Lord Jesus bless you at Christmas and always. —St. Thomas Altar Society.

## Spend Advent and Christmas with EWTN

During Christmas and Advent, EWTN will be featuring Vatican events, musical concerts, special features and children's programming for the entire season.

## Editor's Note

With holidays coming, the printer needs the bulletin early. Please have all posts emailed to [stthomasbulletin.orovery@gmail.com](mailto:stthomasbulletin.orovery@gmail.com) no later than 8:30 AM on Friday mornings. I will be posting the bulletin Sunday afternoons, rather than Monday afternoons until after the first of the year. Thanks and sorry for any inconvenience.

## Religious Ed

Thank you everyone who helped make our Family Advent Wreath making event, a great success.

## Please Remember in Your Prayers

Frank Clanton	Jose Ignacio
Thomas Edward	Ramirez
Winter	Jose Ignacio
Ann Lewis	Ramirez-
(Loseke)	Gutierrez
Alan Armstrong	Jodi Williams
The Monsen	Mason Ray
Family	Williams
Victor and Joan	John Ritter
Briggs	Margaret
Jimmy Potestio	Carnahan
Patty Webber-	Patricia Laird
Smith	Julie Silveira
Jane Frericks	Conner Briggs
Ray Firpo	Jeffery Spoor

## The Pastors Voice

### What is Advent

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says the goal of Advent is to make present for ourselves and our families the "ancient expectancy of the Messiah...by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming." When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming.

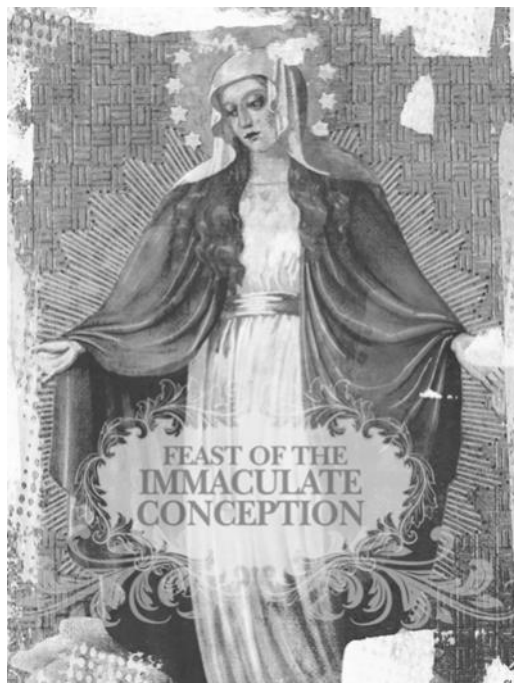
The people of Israel waited for generations for the promised Messiah to arrive. Their poetry, their songs and stories, and their religious worship focused on an awaited savior, whom God had promised, over and over, would come to them to set them free from captivity, and to lead them to the fulfillment of all that God had chosen for them. Advent is a season in the Church's life intended to renew the experience of waiting, and longing, for the Messiah. Though Christ has already come into the world, the Church invites us to renew our desire for the Lord more deeply into our lives, and to renew our ardent desire for Christ's triumphant second coming into the world.

The first week of Advent we remember the gift of hope we have in Christ. The prophets of Israel all spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a savior would be born, a king in the line of David. They spoke of how he would rule the world wisely and bless all nations.

The second week of Advent we remember the gift of Peace we have in Christ. Peace is a gift that we must be prepared for and must work for. God gives us the gift of peace when we turn to him working together in faith.

The third week of Advent we remember the gift of Joy we have in Christ. We remember the joy that Mary felt when the angel Gabriel told her that a special child would be born to her - a child who would save and deliver all people. Joy is the gift we all receive from the unconditional love Christ has for us.

The fourth week of Advent we remember the gift of Love we have in Christ. Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He is God's love in human form. The Bible says that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life."



## Catechist Corner

First Sunday of Advent

12/8 - SOLEMNITY of the Immaculate Conception Wisdom of the Saints; "Since, by the goodness of God, we who are called 'Christians' have been granted the honor of sharing this name - the greatest, the highest, the most sublime of all names - it follows that each of the titles that express its meaning should be clearly reflected in us. If we are not to lie when we call ourselves 'Christians,' we must bear witness to it by our way of living." St. Gregory of Nyssa (4th century - Doctor of the Church)