



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.



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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.oroillecatholic.org

School Office

1380 Bird Street
Oroville, CA 95965
Phone: 530-534-6969
Fax: 530-534-9374
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 Thank You

Once again, our St. Thomas the Apostle parish has contributed to the local Salvation Army Food Locker with a super generous outpouring of non-perishable food! After December 31, please take your donations to the Salvation Army on Washington

Eucharistic Camino

Join us during this year of Eucharistic Revival to ask the Lord to awaken in our hearts a renewed love for Him in the great gift of His Presence in the Eucharist. Each month, a parish in our deanery will host Adoration and Hospitality (STAP will host FEB. 5, 2024). The first several events have been well attended, drawing 300 to 600 pilgrims each! Join us each month on our Eucharistic Camino. The next Camino will be

hosted by St. Monica Parish on January 17th, 2024 with Adoration and Hospitality beginning at 6pm.

For more information contact the STAP office (get your passport!). And check out

www.stmparadise.net/eucharist-revival

Crab Feed

The Crab Feed is back, hosted again by the Knights of Columbus. The dinner will be on Saturday January 27th, 2024. Doors open at 5:30pm with dinner being served at 6:30pm. Dinner will include a Crab or Steak option for \$75 or a Crab and Steak option for \$85. Dinner will include Clam Chowder, Bread and Salad with Ice Cream for dessert. Those ordering Steak will have Potatoes and a vegetable included in their meal. Tickets will be available at Marcozzi Jewelers, Briggs Firestone, ST Thomas the Apostle School Office and at Church Masses starting Dec. 7th. The Dinner will be in the Church Hall at 1330 Bird St. Oroville, Ca. For further information you may contact Jim Cupido @ 533-5599.

Mass Times Note

The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God, Monday, January 1 is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year. There will be one mass on Monday morning at 8:30 AM.



**LITURGICAL CALENDAR
CALENDARIO LITURGICO**

Sunday, December 31

8:00AM

10:30 AM

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

5:30 Family Mass

Monday, January 1

8:30 AM

Tuesday, January 2

6:00 PM

Wednesday, January 3

8:30 AM

Thursday, January 4

8:30 AM

Friday, January 5

8:30 AM

Saturday, January 6

5:30 PM Vigil

7:00 PM Spanish Vigil

Sunday, January 7

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

Catechist Corner

Feast of the Holy Family:

Wisdom of the Saints;

“Good example is the most efficacious apostolate. You must be as lighted lanterns and shine like brilliant chandeliers among men. By your good example and your words, animate others to know and love God.” St. Mary Joseph Rossello (19th century)

✓ “If you do this one thing you will become a saint. If you don’t do it, you never will. The one thing is this: Let Jesus interrupt your life.” Father Mike Schmitz

Please Remember in Your Prayers

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

The Pastors Voice

The Incarnation

The basic things that the Church says about the Incarnation: First, that it came about as a response to the bad state that our species was in. Humanity had fallen away from God and original sin separated us from the relationship with the divine that we were created for. That separation damaged human nature itself, with the result that it couldn’t be healed just by human power. In order to repair the damage and bring us back into proper relationship with God — to bring about our salvation — the next move would have to be made by God.

God didn’t owe us the Incarnation — it was a gift.

“... have to be made?” This immediately raises one of the important things the Church says about the Incarnation: that God didn’t *have* to make that next move. Humans are not cosmic creditors, collecting from God some debt owed: we wouldn’t exist in the first place without Him, and the damage to our nature was done by humans. God’s action was one of unbound love, not obligation. What’s possibly even more interesting is that, having decided to save humanity, God did not have to accomplish it via becoming a human. God is all-powerful: He could have brought about our salvation in a number of ways. The Incarnation, though, was judged by God to be the best or most fitting way to save us.

The Incarnation wasn’t technically necessary.

St Thomas Aquinas writes about two different ways that something can be ‘necessary’ in order to achieve some goal or ‘end’: First, when the end cannot be without it; as food is necessary for the preservation of human life. Secondly, when the end is attained better and more conveniently, as a horse is necessary for a journey (Summa III:1:1). The Incarnation was only necessary for our salvation in the second sense — which makes it yet more of a gift. God chose not just to repair the damage of original sin, but to do so through an action that would have been the greatest of honors even had humanity never fallen: becoming one of us, living a human life alongside us. This is why the fathers of the Church speak of Adam and Eve’s fall as a *‘felix culpa’*, a ‘happy fault’: God’s response to it brought about something arguably greater than the situation that preceded it. *The Catholic Encyclopedia* puts it well: “[God] might have [saved man] by pardoning man’s sins without having recourse to the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity. Still, the Incarnation of the Word was the most fitting means for the salvation of man, and was even necessary, in case God claimed full satisfaction for the injury done to him by sin.”

Why was the Incarnation the best way to save us?

So why was the Incarnation judged by God as the best or most fitting way to save us? As Shakespeare says, “aye, there’s the rub”. That question has been the subject of vast amounts of theological speculation, and definitively answering it would require knowing the mind of God. But Jesus, Scripture, and the Church do tell us some of the things that God aimed to accomplish with the Incarnation: thinking through those is the right way to begin plumbing the depths of the mystery. What are those things? In addition to the primary purpose of the Incarnation, saving us “by reconciling us with God”, the Catechism of the Catholic Church lists three further purposes, citing verses from Scripture and writings of the Church fathers which back each one up.

The Word became flesh so that thus we might know God’s love. CCC 456-460

The Word became flesh to be our model of holiness. CCC 291; 2814; 2178

The Word became flesh to make us “partakers of the divine nature”. CCC 460

<https://www.calledtomore.org/articles/the-incarnation>



**Pregnant?
Worried?
Need Help?**

*You are not alone.
We can help.*

The Gabriel Project
Call: 800-910-0191