

Our readings today reveal beautiful truths about our God, and they challenge us to look at the truth about ourselves as well.

The second reading from Paul’s letter to the Romans describes the attributes of God in powerful, eloquent terms. “Oh, the depths of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How inscrutable are his judgments and how unsearchable his ways!” It makes you want to stand up and cheer. Paul ends the passage with this with final shout of praise, “For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.” We can and should join in this chorus of praise.

But mere words are not enough — sentiment alone will not do for this perfect, all-loving and all-powerful God of ours. We must love Him with our whole being. We must make our very lives a grateful gift of love to Him. This is how we can truly give Him “glory forever.”

Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, leads us to take a serious look at whether our lives give God the glory He deserves. It comes in the form of a question that Jesus poses to the disciples. He leads up to it gently enough: “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they offer varying responses. Then, Jesus gets personal with them. “But who do you say that I am?” Peter gets the answer right: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

Jesus is getting personal with us today. He poses the same question to each one of us who call ourselves His stewards and modern-day disciples. Surely, we would not hesitate to answer just as Peter did, that Jesus is the Christ, Son of the living God.

But do our lives truly reflect this answer? If we really believe that Christ is the Son of God, sent to save us from our sins and lead us to heaven, then we must say so — not just with words, but with our actions. Do my ambitions and priorities in life say that Christ is my Savior and I am His disciple? Does my budget, my family life, my entertainment say so?

The gifts and blessings that God has given us — our time, our talents, our material possessions — are meant to be used in a manner that says "Christ is my Savior and I am His disciple." The most eloquent praise we can offer Him is a life lived in grateful response to His unfathomable love. This is the beauty and power of a stewardship way of life.

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

August 16, 2020

Sunday Collection	\$ 3,785.74
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 31.50
OnLine Giving	\$ 260.00
Facilities Improvement	\$ 100.00
Assumption Seminary	\$ 128.00

**Second Collection - August 29 - 30:
No 2nd Collection Next Week**



***** WE NOW HAVE ONLINE GIVING! *****

Go to our website - www.ThomasMoreSATx.org

Click on the **"DONATE"** option and select:

Online Giving - to make a donation...

or

Prayer Request - submit a prayer request.



You may also go directly to the websites by entering:

<https://www.GiveCentral.org/location/885>

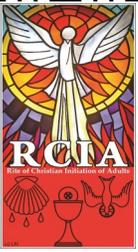
for online giving

or

<https://www.GiveCentral.org/Short-Form/885>

to submit a prayer request.

Questions? Contact the parish office at (210) 655-5070



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults - RCIA -

If you, or someone you know, are a non-Catholic and would like to learn more about the Catholic faith or possibly *become* a Catholic?...
(no pressure)... or -

If you are a Baptized Catholic adult...
but have not made your First Holy Communion
or been Confirmed... or -

Maybe you are you a practicing Catholic...
and just want to learn more about our faith?

— *Or maybe you know someone like this* —

If so... I would like to invite you / them to our RCIA sessions.

They begin on Thurs, Sept 10th.

**We meet in the Rectory Meeting Room...
from 7 - 8:30 pm.**

*(Depending on the number of attendees...
We may have to change location)*

Masks will be required and Social Distancing will be observed.

Sessions are very informal...

We learn about Church, it's teachings, sacraments, and so much more!... and answer any questions you have.

For more information - call the parish office or talk to Den Tim... or simply come to our first meeting.

Hope to see you there.



The Choice of Stewardship

What does it mean to be a good steward?
Does it mean to be an active parishioner, or something more? Are we better stewards because we give more in terms of our money and time to our parish, or are we called to do even more than that?

The truth is that stewardship is a way of life.

We are not simply called to be active parishioners,
but instead be active disciples all the time.

In fact, what we learn to do in our parish should serve as preparation for the mission field of the world.

What have we really done if we only act like disciples of Jesus Christ while we are assembled with others who claim to be the same?

The choice before us is to give of ourselves in all aspects of our day and life. The call of Jesus will come in our everyday lives with our co-workers, family, and friends more often than it will within our parish community.

First, if we can't become good stewards when we are among those who proclaim Jesus as Lord, how will we be able to do so when we are with those who are non-believers?

Second, when our muscles of gratitude, generosity, and graciousness are strengthened within our parish community, we are more able to meet the challenges of this world.

However, we do not become good stewards by accident.

We must always choose to live this way.

What will you choose?

Question: *Why are only men allowed to be priests or deacons in the Church?*

Answer: One of the most debated and — in some circles — contentious teachings of the Church is that only men can be ordained as priests and deacons. Critics see it as a way of strengthening a patriarchal system in which women have little or no voice. Those who support this teaching look to New Testament teaching (where we read of Jesus choosing only men to be apostles) and the long-standing practice of the Church. This was certainly the perspective of St. John Paul II who, in his 1994 apostolic letter, *Ordinatio Sacerdotalis*, closed the discussion on the possibility of ordaining women as priests.

In the letter, he reflected on the dignity of women and their call to share in the life and mission of the Church, but he concluded by solemnly declaring that “the Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgement is to be definitely held by all the Church’s faithful” (no. 4).

This position has been upheld by Pope Francis in interviews, most notably as he returned from his 2016 visit to Sweden.

The ordination of women to the diaconate is another question and one which is being studied. In 2016, Pope Francis created a 12-member commission to study the question from several perspectives (theological, liturgical, historical, etc.). The commission issued an initial report for Pope Francis who later said that the commission had not yet produced a “definite response” to the question because of a lack of agreement on the role of female deacons in the Early Church.

For now, however, regardless of what changes might come from ongoing study and debate, the Church continues to reserve ordination to the diaconate to men only, recognizing a vital link between the diaconate and the priesthood and the lack of certainty about the presence and function of female deacons throughout history.

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



School News

(A Message from the Principal - Mrs. "G")

We are enrolling for the 2020-2021 school Year!
(Ages 18 Months through 8th Grade)

we encourage you to email us with any questions regarding our school.

Leticia Brown, our Admissions/Office Manager can be reached at lbrown@stmcs62.org or myself, at kgutierrez@stmcs62.org



Visit us on our web site: st-thomas-more-school.org

Hope for the Future Tuition Assistance applications are also still available through the following link:

www.archsa.org/hope/

Blessings,

Mrs. Kimberly A. Gutierrez,
 Principal

Faith Formation News
Faith Formation Registration

Registration has begun! You may register your child / children for next school year (2020-2021) at the church office Monday - Friday between 9 am and 3 pm. The last day to register is Aug 31st.

When you register there will be an explanation of the new procedure(s).

Starting Dates / Times: Sept 6, 2020; Confirmation 1 & 2: Nov 8, 2020 / Sunday: 9:00 - 11:30 am

Note: Please make sure you have a zero balance before registering for the new cycle.

Noticias de Formación de Fe
Inscripciones de Catecismo

¡Las inscripciones han comenzado! Pueden inscribir a sus hijos para el siguiente ciclo (2020-2021), los lunes a viernes de 9 a.m. a 3 p.m. en la oficina parroquial. El ultimo día para registrar es el 31 de agosto. Cuando usted inscriba a su hijo/a les vamos a explicar el procedimiento cuando empiezan las clases.

Fechas de las Clases / Horario: 03 de oct del 2020 / sabado: 9:00 am - 11:30 am

Nota: Favor de asegurarse que no tenga ningún balance antes de registrar a su hijo/hija.

Office Hours / Horas de la Oficina: 8:30 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm



St. Thomas More English Prayer Group



The English Prayer Group is not meeting every week.. The next meeting will be announced.

In the mean time... continue praying for the end of the Corona Virus, for our church and our country

Contacts: Olga Guerrero: (210) 657-1610 or Stella Lopez: (210) 618-6977



Grupo de Oración
Familias compartiendo la palabra



El grupo de oración se reúne los viernes a las 7 pm. Para mas informacion contacte Maria Isabel Hernandez.

This Week at our Parish

Sunday, August 23, 2020
Monday, August 24, 2020
Tuesday, August 25, 2020
Wednesday, August 26, 2020
Thursday, August 27, 2020
Friday, August 28, 2020
Saturday, August 29, 2020
 4:00 pm Reconciliation - Rectory Court Yard
Sunday, August 30, 2020



MAY SHE REST IN PEACE:
 May God comfort the family and friends of
Patricia Burris
(Mother of Parishioner Bill Burris)
 who died recently

Our sincere sympathy and assurances of prayers are extended to Bill and the Burris family.

Lecturas de la Semana del Agosto 24 - 30
Lunes: Ap 21:9-14; Sal 145:10-13,17-18; Jn 1:45-51
Martes: 2Tes 2:1-3,14-17; Sal 96:10-13; Mt 23:23-26
Miércoles: 2Tes 3:6-10,16-18; Sal 128:1-2,4-5; Mt 23:27-32
Jueves: 1Cor 1:1-9; Sal 145:2-7; Mt 24:42-51
Viernes: 1Cor 1:17-25; Sal 33:1-2,4-5,10-11; Mt 25:1-13
Sábado: 1Cor 1:26-31; Sal 71:1-6,15,17; Mc 6:17-29
Domingo: Jr 20:7-9; Sal 63:2-6,8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27



Sanctuary Light Intention:
†John (TV) Duong

Liturgical Roles

Saturday, August 29, 2020
 5 pm **Altar Servers - (None)**
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim
Lector - M.Fisher

Sunday, August 30, 2020
 8 am **Altar Servers - (None)**
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim
Lector - S.McCarthy

10 am **Altar Servers - (None)**
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando
Lector - M.Briseno

12 pm **Altar Servers - (None)**
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando
Lector - H.Ruiz / C.Torres

5 pm **Altar Servers - (None)**
Eucharistic Ministers -
Lector - Volunteer

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 22, 2020
 8:00 am **STM Parishioners**
 5:00 pm †Luis Miguel Perez by Family

Sunday, August 23, 2020
 8:00 am **STM Parishioners**
 10:00 am †Betty Jane LaCombe by Hirchak Family
 †Leo Blea by Juanita Blea
 †Max Pena by Joe & Annabelle Garza
 †Mardonio M. Serratos by Family
 †Patricia Burris by Pastoral Council
 12:00 pm †Luis Miguel Perez by Family
 †Ercilia Mompaz by Joe & Annabelle Garza
 †Jose Luna & Daniel Antuna by Deacon Rolando, Martha & Marisol
 †Maria Dulce by Irene & Pablo Negrete

5:00 pm **STM Parishioners**

Monday, August 24, 2020
 8:00 am †John TV Duong by Irene
 †Vicente & Teresa Hoi by Kim Nguyen

Tuesday, August 25, 2020
 8:00 am †For All Who Have Died by Family
 †Mary Nguyen

Wednesday, August 26, 2020
 8:00 am †Rosie Reyes & Suzell Waller by Eddie Reyes
 †John TV Duong by Wife
 †Max Pena by Maryann Garcia & Amelia Pena Silvas

Thursday, August 27, 2020
 8:00 am †Ed & Ann McCarthy by Kim Nguyen
In Thanksgiving

Friday, August 28, 2020
 8:00 am †Vincente Hyiep by Kim Nguyen

Saturday, August 29, 2020
 8:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Friend
 5:00 pm †Edgar Richardson by Family

Sunday, August 30, 2020
 8:00 am †For All Who Have Died
 10:00 am †Charles & †Genevieve Oswald by Oswald Family
 †Betty Jane LaCombe by Hirchak Family
 12:00 pm †Vinicio Vera Silva by Family
 †Lourdes Olmedo by Family
 †Jose Luna & Daniel Antuna by Deacon Rolando, Martha & Marisol
 †Maria Dulce by Irene & Pablo Negrete

5:00 pm †**STM Parishioners**



Readings for the week of Aug 24 - 30

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13,17-18; Jn 1:45-51
Tuesday: 2Thes 2:1-3a,14-17; Ps 96:10-13; Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 2Thes 3:6-10,16-18; Ps 128:1-2,4-5; Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-7; Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2,4-5,10-11; Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1Cor 1:26-31; Ps 71:1-6,15,17; Mk 6:17-29
Sunday: Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2-6,8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27