



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed  
at seeing the star.  
- Mt 2:10

January 5, 2025

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

### *Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church*

Served by the Augustinians since 1926

185 St. Thomas Drive—Ojai, CA, 93023—(805)646-4338

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

[Facebook.com/stacojai](https://www.facebook.com/stacojai)

#### Mass Times/Horarios de la misa

Monday—Friday~ Lunes—Viernes

9:00AM

Saturday—Sábado

8:00AM

Saturday Evening

English 5:00PM

Sábado Por la Noche

Español 6:30PM

Sunday Mass

English 7:30AM & 9:30AM

Misa Del Domingo

Español 11:30AM

#### Pastor:

Father Kirk Davis O.S.A.

Email: [frkirk@stacojai.org](mailto:frkirk@stacojai.org)

#### Associate Pastor:

Father Fernando Lopez O.S.A.

Email: [frfernando@stacojai.org](mailto:frfernando@stacojai.org)

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Office hours ~ Horario de oficina

Email: [office@stacojai.org](mailto:office@stacojai.org)

(805) 646-4338 ext..101

*The office will be closed  
December 23 through January 3*

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION ~  
SACRAMENTO DE LA RECONCILIACIÓN**

Saturdays 3:30PM - 4:30PM

**EXPOSITION AND ADORATION  
EXPOSICIÓN Y ADORACIÓN**

of the Blessed Sacrament ~  
del Santísimo Sacramento



Thursday/Jueves 9:30AM-through  
Saturday/Sabado morning Benediction 7:45AM

**PRAYER LINE ~ LÍNEA DE ORACIÓN**

Contact Parish Office  
Póngase en contacto con la oficina parroquial  
(805) 646-4338

**WEDDINGS ~ BODAS**

Contact Parish Office  
Póngase en contacto con la oficina parroquial  
(805) 646-4338

**BAPTISMS ~ BAUTISMOS**

English: Dn. Phil Nelson  
Spanish: Fr. Fernando Lopez OSA

**FUNERALS ~ FUNERALES**

Contact Parish Office ~ Póngase en contacto con  
la oficina parroquial (805) 646-4338

**PRIVATE PRAYER ~ ORACIÓN PRIVADA**

Chapel open Mon-Sat ~ Capilla abierta  
de lunes a sábado:  
10AM-4PM



**Rosario en Español**

Lunes y Martes  
A las seis de la tarde

**Rosary in English**

To the Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Fridays after the 9am mass

**INTENTIONS/INTENCIONES**

<b>Monday:</b> 1/6/25	<b>9:00AM</b>	<b>Jack Grimm (L)</b> <i>By: The Obagi Family</i>
<b>Tuesday:</b> 1/7/25	<b>9:00AM</b>	<b>Maria Alvarez †</b> <i>By: Martha Carrion</i>
<b>Wednesday:</b> 1/8/25	<b>9:00AM</b>	<b>Patricia Donnelly †</b> <i>By: Linda &amp; Jon Lambert</i>
<b>Thursday:</b> 1/9/25	<b>9:00AM</b>	<b>Louanne Fay †</b> <i>By: The Heller Family</i>
<b>Friday:</b> 1/10/25	<b>9:00AM</b>	<b>Gary Hardman †</b> <i>By: Patti Hardman</i>
<b>Saturday:</b> 1/11/25	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>Louanne Fay †</b> <i>By: John &amp; Joan McNeil</i>
	<b>5:00PM</b>	<b>Louanne Fay †</b> <i>By: Denise Messer</i>
<b>Sunday:</b> 1/12/25	<b>7:30AM</b>	<b>People of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish</b>
	<b>9:30AM</b>	<b>Louanne Fay</b> <i>By: Bereavement</i>

**(L) Designates a special intention for someone living.**



**Jubilee 2025**  
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

**For pilgrims of hope**

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen  
our faith, helping us to recognize the  
Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that  
it may transform us into pilgrims of  
Christian hope. *Pope Francis*

**Por los peregrinos de la esperanza**

Rezamos para que este Año Jubilar fortalezca  
nuestra fe, ayudándonos a reconocer a Cristo  
Resucitado en nuestra vida cotidiana, y nos  
transforme en peregrinos de la esperanza  
cristiana. *Papa Francisco*

## Message from Fr. Kirk

Happy New Year to you all as we continue to joyfully celebrate God breaking into our lives this Christmas season. We encounter the magi journeying to visit the infant Jesus in our Gospel this weekend as we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. The theme of being on a journey in search of our Lord is quite 'front and center' for me in these days as I prepare to set off on a six-months sabbatical. The overall objective of my journey will be walking in the steps of St. Paul, and while I have sketched out some possible routes, I'm leaving ample room for the Holy Spirit to guide my steps and perhaps even lead me in new or unknown directions along the way. My first stop will be the Republic of Georgia where I will visit the capital city of Tbilisi, and then spend a week skiing in the nearby Caucasus Mountains. From there I will cross the border by land into eastern Turkey to encounter Mount Ararat, the sacred spot where legend indicates Noah's Ark came to rest after the Flood. From that point my route has yet to reveal itself to me. I'm excited, nervous, and very grateful to have this opportunity to recharge and renew. I ask for your prayers, and I promise I will be praying for all of you. God's peace,  
Fr. Kirk

## Mensaie del Padre Kirk

Feliz Año Nuevo a todos ustedes mientras continuamos celebrando con alegría la irrupción de Dios en nuestras vidas en esta temporada navideña. Nos encontramos con los magos que viajan para visitar al niño Jesús en nuestro Evangelio este fin de semana mientras celebramos la Epifanía del Señor. El tema de estar en un viaje en busca de nuestro Señor es bastante "protagonista" Para mí en estos días mientras me preparo para emprender un sabático de seis meses. El objetivo general de mi viaje será caminar siguiendo los pasos de San Pablo, y aunque he esbozado algunas rutas posibles, estoy dejando un amplio espacio para que el Espíritu Santo guíe mis pasos y tal vez incluso me lleve en direcciones nuevas o desconocidas a lo largo del camino. Mi primera parada será la República de Georgia, donde visitaré la ciudad capital de Tbilisi, y luego pasaré una semana esquiendo en las cercanas montañas del Cáucaso. Desde allí cruzaré la frontera por tierra hacia el este de Turquía para encontrarme con el Monte Ararat, el lugar sagrado donde la leyenda indica que el Arca de Noé se detuvo después del Diluvio. A partir de ese punto, mi ruta aún no se me ha revelado. Estoy emocionado, nervioso y muy agradecido de tener esta oportunidad de recargar mis energías y renovarme. Les pido sus oraciones y les prometo que estaré orando por todos ustedes. La paz de Dios,  
Padre Kirk

LE HABLÉ DE LAS OBRAS DE LA CRUZ Y LO SENTÍ *enamorarse* c.c.

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TE INVITAMOS!!

El Apostolado de la Cruz te invita a ser parte de esta Obra y conocer sobre la Espiritualidad de la Cruz durante sus reuniones semanales que comienzan el 10 de enero, 2025 a las 7pm, aquí en tu parroquia St. Thomas Aquinas.

PROFESHIP OF THE CROSS

CHRIST THE PRIEST THE VICTIM

Para más información comunícate con:  
María Teresa al (805) 798-3545

## The Works of the Cross

Blessed Concepción Cabrera de Armida was chosen by the Lord as an instrument to communicate the Spirituality of the Cross and to establish the Works of the Cross. She gave a most decisive impulse to each of the Works' branches with her life and her writings. The Works of the Cross were brought to life in the Church to promote the sanctity of God's people in the following of Christ, Priest, and Victim.



## **JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE—2025**

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen. *Pope Francis*

*The ordinary Jubilee, held every 25 years in Rome since the 14th century, is rooted in an ancient Jewish tradition, the pope said, when the sound of the "jobel" (ram's horn in Hebrew) announced every 49 years, "a year of forgiveness and freedom for the entire people." "The blowing of the horn reminded people, rich and poor alike, that no one comes into this world doomed to oppression."*

### **MESSAGE FOR PEACE: THREE ACTIONS REQUESTED BY POPE FRANCIS FOR 2025**

*Excerpt of an Article written by Mikael Corre, December 13, 2024, in LaCroix International*

In his message for the 58th World Day of Peace, which will be commemorated on Jan. 1, 2025, Pope Francis called for everyone to feel "responsible" for geopolitical and climate situations. "Each of us must feel in some way responsible for the devastation to which the earth, our common home, has been subjected, beginning with those actions that, albeit only indirectly, fuel the conflicts that presently plague our human family." The pope, who believes that "sporadic acts of philanthropy are not enough," presented three possible actions to begin "enduring change" in connection with the ordinary Jubilee that will be held in Rome throughout 2025. "I would like to offer three proposals capable of restoring dignity to the lives of entire peoples and enabling them to set them out anew on the journey of hope," wrote Francis.

#### **I. CANCELING THE EXTERNAL DEBT OF VULNERABLE AND POOR COUNTRIES**

Repeating the call made by St. John Paul II during the 2000 Jubilee 25 years ago, Francis called for "reducing substantially, if not canceling outright, the international debt which seriously threatens the future of many nations." ... As in his recent message for COP29 in Baku (Azerbaijan), Francis defended the idea that canceling this debt is not an act of charity but of justice. The wealthy, industrialized Northern countries are also the largest polluters and, therefore, owe "an ecological debt" to the less developed Southern countries, the pope explained. Today, "foreign debt has become a means of control (and to indiscriminately exploit," he said.

#### **II. ABOLISHING THE DEATH PENALTY**

"I also ask for a firm commitment to respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death, so that each person can cherish his or her own life and all may look with hope," is the second concrete Action Francis requested. He called for "a concrete gesture that can help foster the culture of life, namely the elimination of the death penalty in all nations. This penalty not only compromises the inviolability of life but eliminates every human hope of forgiveness and rehabilitation." Francis had already called for its abolition. December 8, at the end of the Sunday Angelus, praying for those on death row in the United States: "Let us pray that their sentence be commuted, changed. Let us think of these brothers and sisters of ours and ask the Lord for the grace to save them from death."

#### **III. REDIRECT MILITARY INDUSTRY FUNDS TO COMBAT WORLD HUNGER**

Citing his predecessor Pope Benedict XVI as well as St. Paul VI, Francis wishes "to make yet another appeal, for the sake of future generations... let us use at least a fixed percentage of the money earmarked for armaments to establish a global fund to eradicate hunger and facilitate in the poorer countries educational activities aimed at promoting sustainable development and combating climate change," the pope urged. In September, and during the inauguration of Nativity scenes at the Vatican December 7, he criticized the fact that the most profitable industries today are those selling arms. In his message for the 58th World Day of Peace, the pope recalled the meaning of the Holy Year that will take place in Rome throughout 2025 under the theme "Pilgrims of Hope."

## Dates to Remember - Fechas para recordar

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus,  
Mary and Joseph  
December 29, 2024



Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia de Jesús,  
María y José  
29 de diciembre de 2024

### Solemnity of the Holy Mother of God

*Holy Day of Obligation*  
January 1, 2025  
Mass in English 9:00 am



### Solemnidad de la Santa Madre de Dios

*Fiesta de precepto*  
1 de enero de 2025  
Mass in Spanish 11:30 am

Epiphany of the Lord  
January 5, 2025



Epifanía del Señor  
5 de enero de 2015

The word Epiphany comes from the Greek word epiphaneia, meaning “appearance” or “manifestation,” and refers to the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the world. It focuses primarily on this revelation to the Three Wise Men who followed the Star took from foreign lands to receive the revelation that the Christ Child is for all people everywhere.

La palabra Epifanía proviene del griego epiphaneia, que significa “aparición” o “manifestación”, y se refiere a la manifestación de Jesucristo al mundo. Se centra principalmente en esta revelación a los Reyes Magos que siguieron la Estrella tomada de tierras extranjeras para recibir la revelación de que el Niño Jesús es para todas las personas en todas partes.

*Sunday, January 12, 2025*

*Second Sunday of the Month*

### Life Choices Bake Sale

*Life choices Pregnancy Center provides Services to women throughout their Pregnancies*

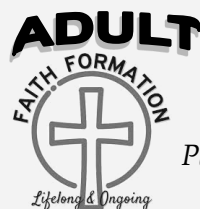
*For more information about the Sale and to help Bake*

*Call Maria Doran—(805) 649-3491*

**For more information about the Pregnancy Center**

**[ojailifechoices.org](http://ojailifechoices.org)**

**(805) 646-6830**



Learn more about the Catholic Church

Aprenda más sobre la Iglesia Católica

*For more information on future presentations and information about childcare.*

*Para más información sobre futuras presentaciones o cuidado de niños si es necesario*

Contact Aina Yates (805) 646-4338 ext. 111

Formación de fe  
+  
Para adultos

**NEXT SUNDAY—January 5, 2025**

*11 AM in English*

**AI and Catholic Morality—A Reprise**

**John Clark Levin**

**EL PRÓXIMO DOMINGO – 5 de enero**

*1 PM en Español*

**La Oracion**

**Mayerling Vilaroel**

**REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE**

**A REFLEXIONAR Y RESPONDER**

**Gospel Question:** The visit of the magi teaches us about God’s desire for the whole world know about his Son, Jesus. When do you first recall hearing about Jesus?

**Pregunta del Evangelio:** La visita de los reyes magos nos enseña sobre el deseo de Dios de que el mundo entero sepa acerca de su Hijo, Jesús. ¿Cuándo recuerdas haber oído hablar de Jesús por primera vez?

**1st Reading Question:** Isaiah foresees a time when the people of Jerusalem will be overwhelmed with happiness and prosperity. What gift could you receive that would bring you great joy?

**Pregunta de la 1ª Lectura:** Isaías prevé un tiempo en el que el pueblo de Jerusalén será abrumado por la felicidad y la prosperidad. ¿Qué regalo podrías recibir que te traería una gran alegría?

**2nd Reading Question:** Paul informs the Ephesians that he received a revelation of God’s plan to save all people through Christ Jesus. What do you think makes your friends or relatives open to this idea?

**Pregunta de la 2ª Lectura:** Pablo informa a los Efesios que recibió una revelación del plan de Dios para salvar a todas las personas por medio de Cristo Jesús. ¿Qué crees que hace que tus amigos o familiares sean abiertos a esta idea?

**Readings for the week of January 5, 2025**

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12  
 Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25  
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44  
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52  
 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a  
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16  
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30  
 Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

**Las lecturas de la semana del 5 de enero de 2025**

Domingo: Is 60, 1-6/Sal 71, 1-2. 7-8. 10-11. 12-13 (ver 11)/Ef 3, 2-3. 5-6/Mt 2, 1-12  
 Lunes: 1 Jn 3, 22—4, 6/Sal 2, 7-8. 10-12/Mt 4, 12-17. 23-25  
 Martes: 1 Jn 4, 7-10/Sal 71, 1-2. 3-4. 7-8/Mc 6, 34-44  
 Miércoles: 1 Jn 4, 11-18/Sal 71, 1-2. 10. 12-13/Mc 6, 45-52  
 Jueves: 1 Jn 4, 19—5, 4/Sal 71, 1-2. 14 y 15. 17/Lc 4, 14-22  
 Viernes: 1 Jn 5, 5-13/Sal 147, 12-13. 14-15. 19-20/Lc 5, 12-16  
 Sábado: 1 Jn 5, 14-21/Sal 149, 1-2. 3-4. 5 y 6 y 9/Jn 3, 22-30  
 Domingo siguiente: Is 40, 1-5. 9-11/Sal 103, 1-2. 3-4. 24-25. 27-28. 29-30 (1)/Tit 2, 11-14; 3, 4-7/Lc 3, 15-16. 21-22

**Observances for the week of January 5, 2025**

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord  
 Monday: St. André Bessette, Religious  
 Tuesday: St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest  
 Next Sunday: **The Baptism of the Lord**

**Las conmemoraciones del 5 de enero de 2025**

Domingo: Día de la Epifanía del Señor  
 Lunes: San Andrés Bessette, religioso  
 Martes: San Raimundo de Peñafort, sacerdote  
 Domingo siguiente: **El Bautismo del Señor**

**"YOU ARE MY BELOVED SON;  
 WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED."**



**"TÚ ERES MI HIJO AMADO;  
 EN TI TENGO COMPLACENCIA."**

MK 1:11

MC 1:1

**INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

The news of the Messiah unsettled Herod. We see his anxiety clearly in today’s Gospel. This is what Christ has come to do, after all. He has come to shake things up. Are we ready to be unsettled?

**INSPIRACIÓN DE LA SEMANA**

Las noticias del Mesías inquietaron a Herodes. Vemos claramente su ansiedad en el Evangelio de hoy. Después de todo, esto es lo que Cristo ha venido a hacer. Ha venido a sacudir las cosas. ¿Estamos preparados para ser inquietados?

## STAFF AND SERVICES

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Communion to the Sick	(805) 646-4338 x101	<i>Leave a message to be returned</i>
St. Vincent de Paul	(805) 646-4338 x104	<i>Leave a message to be returned</i>
Food Pantry	(805) 646-4338 x112	<i>Leave a message to be returned</i>

### Support your Parish!

### ¡Apoya a tu Parroquia!

You can easily give your weekly donation online

[onlinegiving@stacojai.org!](mailto:onlinegiving@stacojai.org)

It's Easy



¡Puedes hacer tu donación semanal fácilmente en línea en

[onlinegiving@stacojai.org!](mailto:onlinegiving@stacojai.org)

¡Es Fácil!



### DID YOU KNOW?

#### Our mission to protect vulnerable adults

Nearly 1 in 4 U.S. adults report living with some kind of disability, ranging from physical limitations to diminished mental capabilities. Misunderstandings and misconceptions about a person's individual disabilities can put that person at risk for abuse. By adopting practices that aim to understand a person's unique circumstances, abilities, and challenges, we can work to protect those who are vulnerable in our communities. Some examples which can help foster safety and community include: asking questions instead of making assumptions, focusing on a person's abilities and using positive language. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Our Mission to Protect Vulnerable Adults" at [lacatholics.org/did-you-know](http://lacatholics.org/did-you-know). Read the VIRTUS® article "Our Mission to Protect Vulnerable Adults" [here](#).

### ¿SABÍAS?

#### Nuestra misión de proteger a los adultos vulnerables

Casi 1 de cada 4 adultos estadounidenses vive con alguna discapacidad – desde las limitaciones físicas hasta la disminución de las capacidades mentales. Los malentendidos e interpretaciones equivocadas sobre las discapacidades de una persona pueden ponerlo en peligro de sufrir abusos. Adoptando prácticas con el propósito de comprender las circunstancias, capacidades y retos únicos de cada persona, podemos trabajar para proteger a las personas vulnerables de nuestras comunidades. Algunos ejemplos de cómo fomentar la seguridad y crear comunidad son hacer preguntas en lugar de hacer suposiciones, centrarse en las capacidades de la persona y utilizar un lenguaje positivo. Para obtener más información, lea el artículo en inglés de VIRTUS® "Our Mission to Protect Vulnerable Adults" (Nuestra misión de proteger a los adultos vulnerables) en [lacatholics.org/did-you-know](http://lacatholics.org/did-you-know). [Lea el artículo en inglés de VIRTUS® "Our Mission to Protect Vulnerable Adults" \(Nuestra misión de proteger a los adultos vulnerables\) aquí.](#)