

# ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

185 St. Thomas Drive, Ojai, California 93023 805-646-4338 FAX 805-646-5928

Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00AM-5:00PM

WEBSITE STACOJAI.ORG FACEBOOK.COM/STACOJAI FACEBOOK.COM/STACKIDS



Served by the Augustinians  
Pastor Father Kirk Davis O.S.A.  
Associate Pastor Father Fernando Lopez O.S.A.,  
and Deacon Phil Nelson



## LITURGIES

Sunday Masses

## SATURDAY EVENING VIGILS

English 5:00PM & Spanish 6:30PM

## SUNDAY MORNING

English 7:30AM & 9:30AM

Spanish 11:30AM

## WEEKDAYS

M-F 9:00AM

Saturday 8AM

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:30PM - 4:30PM

## EXPOSITION AND ADORATION

Of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 9:30AM-10:30PM

## PRAYER LINE

Contact Parish Office

## WEDDINGS

Contact Parish Office

## BAPTISMS

English: Dn. Phil Nelson

Spanish: Fr. Fernando Lopez OSA

## FUNERALS

Contact Parish Office

## PRIVATE PRAYER

Church open Mon-Sat  
10AM-4PM

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First SUNDAY of Advent

November 29, 2020

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old.

Isaiah 63:19b; 64:2-3

## November 29, 2020

### First Sunday of Advent

When Jesus does not speak in eloquent sentences, but barks out imperative statements such as in our Gospel reading today, one can understand the urgency. There is no place for flowery language. "Be watchful! Be alert!" One has a sense that these should be written in bold or all caps! He tells the parable of the homeowner leaving his workers at home, with no knowledge of when he would return. Without phones and texts and travel schedules it could have meant the homeowner was returning sometime in the day, or sometime in the coming month or year. So Jesus is not telling us, "You have to behave for a little bit," but rather, "You must live your life and work like the homeowner is always here. You must always be prepared."

### WATCH!

This author was very aware of the language of "master/servant" in the Gospel today and is reading it and praying it in light of discussions on racism in recent months. Perhaps this goes with the last imperative at the end of the parable to "Watch!" This year has taught us to be alert in our actions such as social distancing, masks, and sanitizing, as well as in our language and even our thoughts. Now how do we apply that to our spirituality, to our faith? For many, due to restrictions on numbers in church, singing, and choirs, this has meant learning to pray in a whole different way. The celebration of liturgy is the same as ever, with its focus always on the Word and the Eucharist, but for those in the pew, or still watching on livestream, the sense of active participation has taken on a very different meaning from how most of us have experienced liturgy in our lifetime. It feels like we have become spectators rather than participants. Perhaps this challenge can move us from complacency in our faith, to rediscover and relate to God in new ways, and call us to be even stronger in our personal faith. We must remain diligent. We must "watch." We must hope. We must love. We must pray.

Today's Readings: Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7;  
Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37



## 29 de noviembre de 2020

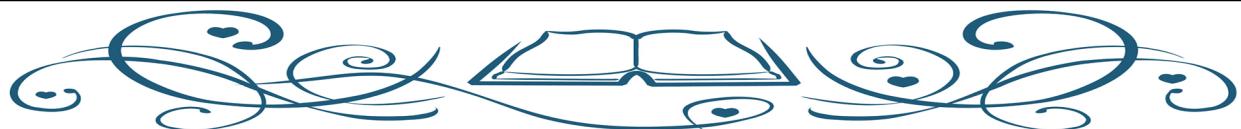
### Primer Domingo de Adviento

Cuando Jesús no habla con frases elocuentes, lo hace con frases en imperativo que raspan, así como las de la lectura del Evangelio de hoy, uno puede entender la urgencia. No hay lugar para el lenguaje florido. "¡Estén atentos! ¡Estén alerta!" Uno tiene la sensación de que deben escribirse en negritas o en mayúsculas! Él cuenta la parábola del dueño de la casa dejando a sus trabajadores en casa, sin decirles cuando va a regresar. Sin teléfonos, textos e itinerario de viaje podría haber significado que el dueño de la casa regresaría en algún momento del día, o en algún momento del próximo mes o año. Así que Jesús no nos dice "tienes que comportarte un poco", sino más bien "debes vivir tu vida y trabajar como si el dueño de la casa estuviera siempre aquí. Debes estar siempre preparado".

### ¡PERMANECE ALERTA!

Este autor era muy consciente del lenguaje de "dueño/esclavo" en el Evangelio de hoy y lo está leyendo y rezando a la luz de los debates del racismo de los últimos meses. Tal vez esto va con la última frase imperativa al final de la parábola "permanezcan alerta". Este año nos ha enseñado a estar alerta en nuestras acciones como el mantener una distancia física, el uso del cubre bocas y el desinfectar superficies, así como en nuestro lenguaje e incluso en nuestros pensamientos. Ahora, ¿cómo empleamos eso a nuestra espiritualidad, a nuestra fe? Para muchas personas, debido a las restricciones al número de personas permitido en la iglesia y en los coros, esto ha significado aprender a rezar de una manera totalmente diferente. La celebración de la liturgia es la misma de siempre, con su enfoque en la Palabra y en la Eucaristía, pero para aquellas personas que están en las bancas o que la ven transmitida en las redes sociales o en la TV, el sentido de la participación activa toma un significado muy diferente de cómo la mayoría de nosotros hemos experimentado la liturgia en nuestra vida. Se siente como si nos hubiéramos convertido en espectadores en lugar de participantes. Tal vez este desafío puede hacernos pasar del exceso de confianza en nuestra fe, a redescubrir y relacionarnos con Dios de nuevas maneras y llamarnos a ser aún más fuertes en nuestra fe personal. Debemos seguir siendo perseverantes. Debemos "permanecer alerta". Debemos tener esperanza. Debemos amar. Debemos rezar.

Lecturas de hoy: Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7;  
Sal 80 (79):2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mc 13:33-37



Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of,

**Robert Aviles**, a long time parishioner

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Amen.

*Please keep Robert and his family in your daily prayers.*

**Family Sacramental preparation Mass**

Just a reminder for families who are preparing to receive Sacraments,  
Next session is this  
Sunday November 22, 2020  
Please call Aina Yates 805-646-4338 x111  
with any questions

**Misa de preparación sacramental familiar**

Sólo un recordatorio para las familias que se están preparando para recibir Sacramentos,  
La próxima sesión está en  
Domingo 22 de noviembre de 2020  
Llame al Aina Yates 805-646-4338 x111  
con cualquier pregunta

**UNWRINKLED**

To keep the heart unwrinkled, to be hopeful, kindly, cheerful, reverent—that is the triumph over old age.  
—Thomas Bailey Aldrich

**SIN ARRUGAS**

No dejar que el corazón se arruge, tener esperanzas, ser amable, alegre, reverente: esa es la manera de vencer la vejez.—Thomas Bailey Aldrich

**LIKE A CHILD**

One who aspires to the grace of God must be pure, with a heart as innocent as a child's.  
—St. Nicholas

**COMO UN NIÑO**

Alguien que aspira a recibir la gracia de Dios tiene que ser puro, con un corazón tan inocente como el de un niño.  
—San Nicolás

**GOD'S WORD FOR CHILDREN**

The prophet Isaiah prays, "We are the clay and you the potter" (Isaiah 64:7). That means God works to make us into the people we were created to be. Match each of the pottery pieces to its outline. Then decorate them with colorful designs!

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**First Sunday of Advent**  
No one knows when Jesus will return. Because we don't know, Jesus urges his disciples to be two things. Use the shape code to find what they are.

○=H	♥=R	▲=C	●=A	△=F
■=L	♦=W	▽=T	□=U	★=E

Stay very [five empty boxes],  
Keep [six empty boxes], and steady...  
So when Jesus returns,  
He'll find you are ready!

TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — We are the clay and you, O Lord, are the potter: we are the work of your hands (Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7).

**Psalm** — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

**Second Reading** — God is faithful; by God you were called to fellowship with the Son (1 Corinthians 1:3-9).

**Gospel** — Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. (Mark 13:33-37).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Monday:</b>	Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
<b>Thursday:</b>	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
<b>Friday:</b>	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
<b>Saturday:</b>	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
<b>Sunday:</b>	Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

<b>Sunday:</b>	First Sunday of Advent
<b>Monday:</b>	St. Andrew, Apostle
<b>Tuesday:</b>	World AIDS Awareness Day
<b>Thursday:</b>	St. Francis Xavier
<b>Friday:</b>	St. John Damascene
<b>Friday:</b>	First Friday
<b>Saturday:</b>	First Saturday

LECTURAS DE HOY

**Primera lectura** — Isaías ruega por el retorno del Señor (Isaías 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7).

**Salmo** — Señor, Dios nuestro, restáuranos que brille tu rostro y nos salve (Salmo 80 [79]).

**Segunda lectura** — Pablo está agradecido por las bendiciones que los corintios han recibido debido a su fe en Jesús (1 Corintios 1:3-9).

**Evangelio** — Jesús dice a los discípulos que estén siempre alerta a la llegada del tiempo designado (Marcos 13:33-37).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

<b>Lunes:</b>	Rom 10:9-18; Sal 19 (18):8-11; Mt 4:18-22
<b>Martes:</b>	Is 11:1-10; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lc 10:21-24
<b>Miércoles:</b>	Is 25:6-10a; Sal 23 (22):1-6; Mt 15:29-37
<b>Jueves:</b>	Is 26:1-6; Sal 118 (117):1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
<b>Viernes:</b>	Is 29:17-24; Sal 27 (26):1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
<b>Sábado:</b>	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Sal 147 (146):1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
<b>Domingo:</b>	Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Sal 85 (84):9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mc 1:1-8

LOS SANTOS Y OTRAS CELEBRACIONES

<b>Domingo:</b>	Primer Domingo de Adviento
<b>Lunes:</b>	San Andrés
<b>Martes:</b>	Día Mundial de la Lucha contra el SIDA
<b>Jueves:</b>	San Francisco Javier
<b>Viernes:</b>	San Juan Damasceno
<b>Viernes:</b>	Primer viernes
<b>Sábado:</b>	Primer sábado



Saturday	Nov 28	5:00 PM	Allan Dobel †	By: Larry & Linda Shields
Sunday	Nov 29	9:30 AM	Grace Toth-Fejel †	By: Russell Family
Monday	Nov 30	9:00 AM	Marie Coscarelli †	By: Charles Coscarelli
			Bro. Hugo Stippler †	By: Charles Coscarelli
Tuesday	Dec 01	9:00 AM	Steve Velasquez ☼	By: Les & Mary Baker
			Vada Ann Feicht ☼	By: Les & Mary Baker
Wednesday	Dec 02	9:00 AM	Theresa Harnsberger †	By: Charles Coscarelli
			Fr Pascall Nocero †	By: Charles Coscarelli
Thursday	Dec 03	9:00 AM	Juan Santoyo †	By: Les & Mary Baker
			Ryan Dinesst †	By: Les & Mary Baker
Friday	Dec 04	9:00 AM	Grace Toth-Fejel †	By: Russell Family
Saturday	Dec 05	8:00 AM	Julia Coscarelli †	By: Charles Coscarelli
			Assunta Nocero †	By: Charles Coscarelli

**PARISH STAFF & PARISH DIRECTORY**

Pastor, Father Kirk Davis, O.S.A.	805-646-4338 X105	frkirk@stacojai.org
Associate Pastor, Fernando Lopez, O.S.A.	805-646-4338 X103	frfernando@stacojai.org
Deacon Phil Nelson	805-276-3799	deaconphil@stacojai.org
Parish Office/Bookkeeper, Kathleen Lansing	805-646-4338 X101	office@stacojai.org
Religious Education, Aina Yates	805-646-4338 X111	aina@stacojai.org
R.C.I.A., Sr. Rachel Yourgules	805-646-4338 X110	rachelheartsup@aol.com
Bulletin Editor, Rubeena Estrada	805-646-4338 X109	bulletin@stacojai.org
Facilities & Grounds, Max Pineda	805-646-4338 X106	office@stacojai.org
Aquinas Center & Facility Rental	805-646-4338 X101	office@stacojai.org
Bereavement, Paula Clarke	805-798-2966	
Communion to the Sick Steve Barrack		stephenpbarrack@gmail.com
Family to Family, Marie Maier	805-646-5980	maminojai@gmail.com
Finance Council, Dan Reid	805-640-0935	ojaireid@gmail.com
Liturgy Committee, Deacon Phil	805-276-3799	deaconphil@stacojai.org
Pastoral Council, Randy Wells	805-901-3623	
Open Pantry, Bonnie Patton	805-649-2729	
Share the Harvest, Tina Ford	618-910-4272	btford80@gmail.com

**BULLETIN DEADLINES**

Please submit your bulletin requests to the office or by email to [bulletin@stacojai.org](mailto:bulletin@stacojai.org) by 3:00PM Friday

**What Is the Mass?**

What is the Mass? There is no simple answer to that question. The Church uses many different images and terms to describe our most important prayer. The Mass is the celebration of the Eucharist, a Greek word that means “thanksgiving.”

It is the Lord’s Supper. It is the Breaking of the Bread. It is the memorial of the Lord’s passion, death, and resurrection. It is the Holy Sacrifice, in which the sacrifice of Christ on the cross is perpetuated. It is the holy and divine liturgy, the sacred mysteries. It is the source and summit of our Christian lives, the new covenant, the work of the Holy Spirit, the paschal mystery. The many different words and images that we use when we speak of the Mass are not signs of confusion, but of wonder at what the Catechism of the Catholic Church (1328) calls the “inexhaustible richness” of the Eucharist. The Mass, our greatest prayer and our deepest mystery, is celebrated every day, many times a day, the world over. The Eucharist is both “bread from heaven” and “daily bread.” The Mass is our everyday miracle.

**Your legacy to St. Thomas Parish**

Your legacy to St. Thomas Parish Did you know that you can make a gift to St. Thomas by naming it as a beneficiary in your will, trust or retirement account? Such a gift is not difficult or costly to arrange. But it would support the parish in its mission to evangelize and bless future generations of parishioners. Questions? Call the rectory at 805-646-4338.

**Iglesia peregrina**

Nuestra participación en la Misa requiere que peregrinemos desde el hogar hasta la iglesia parroquial. Realmente nuestra preparación comienza en casa, desde que nos disponemos a la participación y emprendemos la peregrinación. Esto nos recuerda que la Iglesia, en esencia, es peregrina y que sigue esperando la venida del Emmanuel, no sólo del Dios que nace entre nosotros, sino del Dios que, en la persona de Cristo, vendrá de nuevo, de Jesús, cuyo nombre significa: Dios salva. Aunque caminamos y nos desplazamos a muchos lugares, esta peregrinación es particularmente significativa porque nos reunimos con un mismo fin, celebrar el misterio pascual de Cristo: su pasión, muerte y resurrección. El congregarnos en la casa de la Iglesia, haciendo a un lado nuestras diferencias naturales, para hacernos una voz, un solo pan y un solo cáliz reafirma la posibilidad de caminar juntos hacia Dios, de unir nuestra alabanza, de alimentarnos para el viaje y de celebrar por adelantado el Reino de Dios anunciado por Jesús. Por eso es que caminamos con un fin, un fin que puede ir más allá de nuestra propia visión, si se quiere, pero que en la perspectiva de Dios, es tan concreto y tan veraz, como el pueblo que se reúne y camina con alegría a la casa de la Iglesia.

**Su legado a la Parroquia de Santo Tomás**

Su legado a la Parroquia de Santo Tomás ¿Sabías que puedes hacer un regalo a Santo Tomás nombrándolo como beneficiario en tu cuenta de voluntad, fideicomiso o jubilación? Tal regalo no es difícil o costoso de organizar. Pero apoyaría a la parroquia en su misión de evangelizar y bendecir a las generaciones futuras de feligreses. ¿Preguntas? Llame a la rectoría al 8905-646-4338.

# First SUNDAY of Advent



November 29, 2020

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Isaiah 63:19b; 64:2–3

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## HOMELESS SHELTER- UPDATE

The Ojai Valley Homeless Shelter will be full time at The Grange in Oak View this season. With the Covid restrictions we are trying to keep the clients as well as those who work in the shelter as safe as possible.

As in the past, St. Thomas Aquinas was responsible for providing dinner, lunch, and breakfast for the shelter. We will continue to provide those meals on Tuesdays. They will be made at the church hall and taken to the Grange for the clients to eat. I would like to thank everyone in the past who has helped and volunteered their time to help the homeless in Ojai.

Hopefully, we will get past the Covid Virus and next year provide our services as in the past. We have a core of great cooks that I hope will continue to provide meals. If you would like to assist with the meal preparation, please contact me and I will coordinate the dates and times for the meal preparation.

Rod Smith

## HOGARLESS SHELTER- ACTUALIZAR

El Ojai Valley Homeless Shelter estará a tiempo completo en The Grange en Oak View esta temporada. Con las restricciones de Covid estamos tratando de mantener a los clientes, así como a aquellos que trabajan en el refugio lo más seguro posible. Como en el pasado, Santo Tomás de Aquino era responsable de proporcionar la cena, el almuerzo, y el desayuno para el refugio. Continuaremos proporcionando esas comidas los martes. Se harán en el salón de la iglesia y se llevarán al Grange para que los clientes coman. Me gustaría dar las gracias a todos en el pasado que han ayudado y ofrecido su tiempo para ayudar a los sin techo en Ojai. Con suerte, vamos a superar el virus Covid y el próximo año proporcionar nuestros servicios como en el pasado. Tenemos un núcleo de grandes cocineros que espero que continúen proporcionando comidas. Si desea ayudar con la preparación de la comida, por favor póngase en contacto conmigo y yo coordinaré las fechas y horas para la preparación de la comida.

Rod Smith

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL'S PANTRY**  
**Saturday, November 21, 2020**

We have served 300 families this month and served 2127 individuals just with the pantry on the **3rd Saturday of each month**.

Share the Harvest, we have been serving around 85 families a month and for the Pop Ups.

Food Share we will be going through December 10:00am to 12:30pm every Monday.

We can still use help bagging and handing out packages, please be there by 8:00 am and for bagging 2:30pm on the Friday before.

We are very grateful for all the donations and for any money donated, which can be dropped off at the church office or put through the mail slot by the office door. Thank you to all who have helped and prayed for us in anyway.

You have been a part of helping those in need and I know you will be rewarded in heaven, Bonnie.

**The pantry is in much need of the following Items:**

**Canned foods: veggies, fruit, tuna, spam, chicken, ham...etc.**

**Paper towels, toilet paper, cereal of all kinds, pasta of all kinds, rice, beans, jam, jelly, peanut butter, crackers, soups. Baby products are also in need, Diapers of any size, Canned and non-perishable needed as well.**

We need volunteers to help bag on the Friday at 2:30PM before and help distribute on Saturday 8:00 AM.

**Monies donations:** Please make checks out to: "**ST VINCENT DE PAULS**" and place it in a **CLEARLY MARKED ENVELOPE** and drop off your envelope at the church office.

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