

# 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

Third SUNDAY of Advent

December 13, 2020

Rejoice always.  
Pray without ceasing.  
In all circumstances  
give thanks,  
for this is the will  
of God for you  
in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

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December 13,2020  
Letter from Fr Kirk

One of the things I've noticed since arriving at St. Thomas Aquinas Church has been the high volume of traffic that we see cutting through our campus...usually entering from the north off of El Roblar Drive and then exiting to the east on to Maricopa Highway. Then, after we moved our celebration of Mass outside in response to the pandemic, we had multiple instances of cars ignoring the safety cones set up and driving right through the middle of the people assembled for Mass in the parking lot.

In response, taking into consideration the associated issues of traffic volume, safety and security, I decided to explore options for installing a gate at the north entrance to our parking lot. In the process Craig Brown stepped forward and volunteered to provide a custom gate for us fabricated by his company Con Sol Enterprises in Santa Paula. Craig and his crew have been here this week installing the new gate. I extend heartfelt thanks to them for their generous gift. The new gate is not intended to seal us off from the neighborhood, but rather to discourage folks from cutting through our campus. It will be open before all or our Masses and other scheduled activities and then closed during the celebration of Mass outdoors. For the time being it will not be locked when it's closed. Our east entrance will remain open at all times.

Blessings,  
Fr. Kirk

13 de diciembre de 2020  
Carta del P. Kirk

Una de las cosas que he notado desde que llegó a la Iglesia de Santo Tomás de Aquino ha sido el alto volumen de tráfico que vemos cortando a través de nuestro campus... por lo general, entrando desde el norte de El Roblar Drive y luego saliendo hacia el este hacia la autopista Maricopa. Luego, después de que trasladamos nuestra celebración de la misa al aire libre en respuesta a la pandemia, tuvimos múltiples casos de automóviles ignorando los conos de seguridad establecidos y conduciendo a través del medio de las personas reunidas para la misa en el estacionamiento. En respuesta, teniendo en cuenta los problemas asociados de volumen de tráfico y seguridad, decidí explorar opciones para instalar una puerta de embarque en la entrada norte de nuestro estacionamiento. En el proceso Craig Brown dio un paso adelante y se ofreció como voluntario para proporcionar una puerta personalizada para nosotros fabricado por su empresa Con Sol Enterprises en Santa Paula. Craig y su equipo han estado aquí esta semana instalando la nueva puerta. Les doy las gracias de corazón por su generoso don. La nueva puerta no está destinada a sellarnos fuera del vecindario, sino más bien para disuadir a la gente de cortar a través de nuestro campus. Estará abierto antes de todas o nuestras Misas y otras actividades programadas y luego cerrado durante la celebración de la Misa al aire libre. Por el momento no se bloqueará cuando esté cerrado. Nuestra entrada este permanecerá abierta en todo momento.

Bendiciones,  
P. Kirk

### Thanksgiving Thank You!

I wish to thank all those that donated to and volunteered for the Thanksgiving Dinner held on Thursday November 26, 2020. Although we could not celebrate all together or have inside dining we prepared and served more parishioners and visitors (over 120) than I have served before in my 20+ years of directing this dinner.

In addition, thanks to the generosity of financial and food donations we raised a net of over \$800 for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. A special thank you to Father Barnaby and all the Villanova students that helped with service and clean up.

It was great to have their participation this year.

God Bless,  
Dan Reid



### ¡Gracias de Acción de Gracias!

Deseo dar las gracias a todos los que donaron y se ofrecieron como voluntarios para la Cena de Acción de Gracias celebrada el jueves 26 de noviembre de 2020. Aunque no podíamos celebrar todos juntos o tener comidas internas, preparamos y servimos a más feligreses y visitantes (más de 120) de lo que he servido antes en mis más de 20 años de dirigir este Cena. Además, gracias a la generosidad de donaciones financieras y de alimentos hemos recaudado una red de más de \$800 para la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paul. Un agradecimiento especial al Padre Barnaby y a todos los estudiantes de Villanova que ayudaron con el servicio y la limpieza. Fue genial tener su participación este año.

Dios bendiga,  
Dan Reid

**Family Sacramental preparation Mass**

Just a reminder for families who are preparing to receive Sacraments,

This, Sunday December 20, 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,

Domingo 20 de Diciembre de 2020  
Llame al Aina Yates 805-646-4338 x111  
con cualquier pregunta

**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.

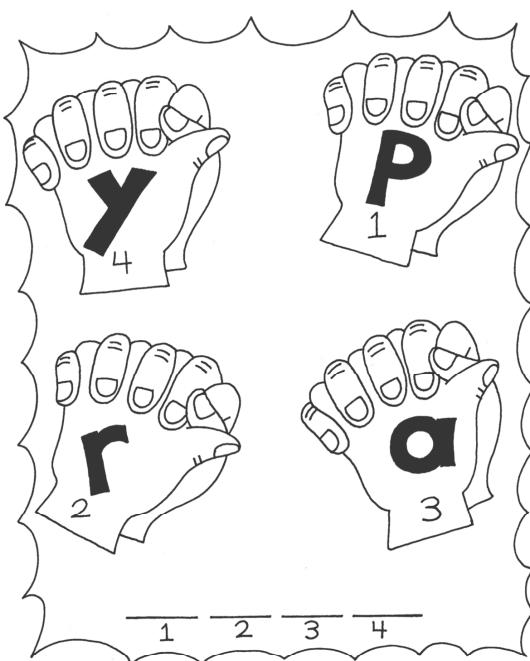
**Su legado a la Parroquia de Santo Tomás**

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 805-646-4338.

**GOD'S WORD FOR CHILDREN**

Write the letters on the folded hands in correct number order.

They will spell what Paul told the Christians in Thessalonica to keep doing.

**Third Sunday of Advent**

God is so wonderful and good!  
We are filled with joy and we rejoice because of God's goodness.  
Finish drawing the bottom sign so it looks like the top one.  
Then color both.



**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will God make justice spring up before all the nations (Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11).

**Psalm** — My soul rejoices in my God (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54).

**Second Reading** — Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24).

**Gospel** — I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord (John 1:6-8, 19-28)

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Monday:</b>	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 7:18b-23
<b>Thursday:</b>	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
<b>Friday:</b>	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
<b>Saturday:</b>	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
<b>Sunday:</b>	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

<b>Sunday:</b>	Third Sunday of Advent
<b>Monday:</b>	St. John of the Cross
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Las Posadas begins

**LECTURAS DE HOY**

**Primera lectura** — Regocijense en el Espíritu del Señor que nos trae buenas noticias (Isaías 61:1-2a, 10-11).

**Salmo** — Mi espíritu se alegra en Dios, mi salvador (Lc 1:46-50, 53-54).

**Segunda lectura** — ¡Alégrese! Conserven su integridad en el Espíritu y guárdense sin mancha hasta la venida del Señor (1 Tesalonicenses 5:16-24).

**Evangelio** — Juan Bautista dice: "Soy la voz que grita en el desierto" (Juan 1:6-8, 19-28)

**LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA**

<b>Lunes:</b>	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Sal 25 (24):4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
<b>Martes:</b>	Sof 3:1-2, 9-13; Sal 34 (33):2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
<b>Miércoles:</b>	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25; Sal 85 (84):9ab, 10-14; Lc 7:18b-23
<b>Jueves:</b>	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Sal 72 (71):1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
<b>Viernes:</b>	Jer 23:5-8; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
<b>Sábado:</b>	Jue 13:2-7, 24-25a; Sal 71 (70):3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lc 1:5-25
<b>Domingo:</b>	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Sal 89 (88):2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lc 1:26-38

**LOS SANTOS Y OTRAS CELEBRACIONES**

<b>Domingo:</b>	Tercer Domingo de Adviento
<b>Lunes:</b>	Juan de la Cruz
<b>Miércoles:</b>	Las Posadas comienzan

**DAILY MASS INTENTIONS**

Monday	Dec 14	9:00 AM	John Nocero † Mercedes Sarmiento †	By: Charles Coscarelli By: Charles Coscarelli
Tuesday	Dec 15	9:00 AM	Fred Harnsberger † Jerry Thompson †	By: Charles Coscarelli By: Charles Coscarelli
Wednesday	Dec 16	9:00 AM	Joseph Nocero † Marie Coscarelli †	By: Charles Coscarelli By: Charles Coscarelli
Saturday	Dec 19	8:00 AM	Josephine Nocero † Gloria Barclay †	By: Charles Coscarelli By: Charles Coscarelli

**PARISH STAFF & PARISH DIRECTORY**

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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	805-645-4338 X 112	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

**December 13, 2020**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

Many years ago, Canadian singer Ann Murray had a hit song that spoke of her frustrations as she listened to the radio and read the headlines. She sang that “we sure could use a little good news today.” It strikes me that this is the message that the readings want us to leave with this week. The Gospel Antiphon proclaims, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because God has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor” (from Isaiah 61:1 and Luke 4: 18). John the Baptist is here to testify to the light, to the Good News.

**WILL THE REAL MESSIAH PLEASE STAND UP?**

The Jewish people were waiting for their messiah, they were waiting for a hero. They prodded John several times trying to figure out what his role actually was, and to see what he knew. It became a guessing game. He tried to say nothing, but finally answered in a humble fashion, “I am not he.” He baptized with water as a means of leading people to the coming Christ and helping them to prepare. He somehow avoided the trappings of success that would turn his light on himself. Today he remains a road sign for us, pointing out Christ our Light.

We all want someone to rescue us, and most likely to fix the mistakes and errors that we continue to make as individuals and as nations. Much of that is human nature. Would there be as much fascination with superheroes if this were not the case? How many times do you as an adult turn to your folks for advice, or wish you could talk to a deceased parent? Some need help emotionally, others spiritually, others financially. The reality is that it is tough to get your “ducks in a row” and always has been. Today’s encouraging message is for us to always look to the Light for our help. May we always be like John the Baptist and testify how Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, has been our Savior.

Today's Readings: Is 61:1-2a, 10-1; 1 Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54;  
1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



**13 de diciembre de 2020**

**Tercer Domingo de Adviento**

Hace muchos años la cantante Ann Murray tuvo una canción exitosa que hablaba de sus frustraciones mientras escuchaba la radio y leía los encabezados de los periódicos. Ella cantaba “seguro que hoy podemos usar un poco de buenas noticias”. Me parece que este es el mensaje que las lecturas quieren que dejemos esta semana. La antífona del Evangelio proclama: “El Espíritu del Señor está sobre mí. Me ha enviado para anunciar la buena nueva a los pobres” (frase en Isaías 61:1 y Lucas 1:18). Juan el Bautista está aquí para dar testimonio de la luz, la Buena Nueva.

**POR FAVOR, ¿SE PUEDE PONER DE PIE  
EL VERDADERO MESÍAS?**

El pueblo judío esperaba a su mesías, esperaba a un héroe. Hicieron varias cosas y varias veces a Juan para tratar de averiguar cuál era su papel en realidad, y ver qué era lo que sabía. Se convirtió en un juego de adivinanzas. Él trató de no decir nada, pero finalmente respondió de manera humilde: “Yo no soy él”. El bautizó con agua como un medio para guiar a las personas hacia el Cristo que vendría y ayudarles a prepararse. De alguna manera evitó las trampas del éxito que encenderían su luz sobre sí mismo. Hoy permanece para nosotros como una señal en el camino, indicando hacia Cristo nuestra Luz.

Todos queremos a alguien que nos rescate, y muy probablemente para corregir los errores y fallos que seguimos cometiendo como personas y como naciones. Mucho de esos es la naturaleza humana. ¿Habrá tanta fascinación por los superhéroes si no fuera así? ¿Cómo adulto, cuántas veces buscaste el consejo de tus padres, o deseaste poder hablar con uno de tus padres fallecidos? Alguien necesita ayuda emocional, otros espiritualmente y aquellos financieramente. La realidad es que es y siempre será difícil poner “las cosas de manera fácil”. El mensaje alentador de hoy es que siempre veamos a la Luz por ayuda. ¡Qué siempre seamos como Juan el Bautista y testifiquemos cómo Jesucristo, la Luz del mundo, ha sido nuestro Salvador!

Lecturas de hoy: Is 61:1-2a, 10-1; 1 Lc 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54;  
1 Tes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**Special Celebrations in December 2020**

Our Lady of Guadalupe  
 Saturday, December 12  
 Mass in Spanish 6:30PM

Extended Reconciliation Hours  
 Saturday, December 12  
 2 - 4:30PM

Christmas Eve  
 Thursday, December 24  
 Family Mass in English 5:00PM  
 6:30PM Bilingual

Christmas Day  
 Friday, December 25  
 Mass in English. 9:30AM  
 Mass in Spanish 11:30AM

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
 Vigil Mass December 31  
 6:30PM - Bilingual  
 Mass in English January 1 - 9:30AM  
 Mass in Spanish January 1 - 11:30AM

**Celebraciones especiales en diciembre de 2020**

Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe  
 Sábado 12 de diciembre  
 Misa en español 6:30PM

Horario de reconciliación ampliado  
 Sábado 12 de diciembre  
 2 - 4:30PM

Nochebuena  
 Jueves 24 de diciembre  
 Familiar en inglés 5:00PM  
 Misa en español 6:30PM

Día de Navidad  
 Viernes 25 de diciembre  
 Misa en inglés. 9:30AM  
 Misa en español 11:30AM

Solemnidad de la Santísima Virgen María  
 Vigil Mass 31 de diciembre  
 6:30PM - Bilingüista  
 Misa en Inglés 1 de enero - 9:30AM  
 Misa en Español 1 de Enero - 11:30AM

**HOMLESS 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 (805) 320-3578

**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 (805) 320-3578

**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.

## WE NEED DONATIONS and VOLUNTEERS

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