

Saint Monica-Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish

www.smstaparishsf.org

Palm Sunday ~ April 13, 2025

St. Monica Catholic Church

470 24th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121
Tel: 415-751-5275

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
9:00 AM - 3:30 PM



Administrator

Rev. Ben Rosado
pastor@smstaparishsf.org

In Residence

St. Monica Rectory
Rev. Paulinus Iwuji, SMMM, Ph.D.
Catholic Chaplain VA Hospital

St. Thomas the Apostle Rectory
Rev. Te Van Nguyen
Vietnamese Ministry
Catholic Chaplain for UCSF

Rev. Andrew Spyrow
Vicar for Clergy

Deacons

Rev. Mr. Dana Perrigan
perrigan2000@yahoo.com
Mr. Kristopher Compagno
Permanent Deacon Candidate

Parish Staff

Administrative Assistant
Jessica Montgomery
parishoffice@smstaparishsf.org

Director of Religious Education
Pastoral Associate
Sr. Noreen O'Connor, CSJ
noconnor@csjla.org

Music Ministry
Alix Jerinic
alixjerinic@gmail.com

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

3835 Balboa Street
San Francisco, CA 94121



St. Monica Catholic Church MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil
5:00 PM

Sunday
8:00 AM (Vietnamese)

11:00 AM

Weekdays
8:30 AM (Monday-Saturday)

Rosary
8:00 AM (Monday-Saturday)

Confessions
4:00 PM - 4:40 PM Saturday

St. Thomas the Apostle Church MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday
9:00 AM

Weekdays
8:30 AM
(Monday, Wednesday,
and Friday)

First Saturday
Mass
8:30 AM

First Saturday Adoration
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM





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Dear brothers and sisters,

With this weekend being Palm Sunday, we have now entered into Holy Week, the most sacred time in our Church's liturgical year, the most Sacred time in the Life of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is sacred because he is about to do the holiest of things for us. Jesus is about to give himself completely for us. This will happen in the following ways:

Today he has come to Jerusalem, the holy city, the city of David. It is here that Jesus will enter into his passion. Although he will at first experience welcome at his entrance, this will soon turn to a time of sorrow.

On Holy Thursday, the Lord will offer himself at the Last Supper. He will become the wheat that is crushed, the bread that will give us his life. He will become the Eucharist that gives us eternal life.

On Good Friday, he will enter into the depth of his passion: mockery, torture, and his death upon the cross. He will do this willingly, out of his love for us. His desire to give his life for us will urge him onward for our sake.

And finally, Jesus will enter into the mystery of death itself. He will experience death, and the grave. All of this so that death might be destroyed for us. All of this, that his life might be given for us. Let us then enter into this Holy Week with great awe and thanksgiving. God is about to save us.
Fr. Ben

MAY GOD SHOWER YOU WITH
BLESSINGS AND LOVE ON
Palm Sunday
and always
Have a blessed day!

**Welcome to all who worship with our parish family,
whether long time residents or newly arrived in the parish.**

***If you are not registered, please fill out this form and put it in the collection basket or
mail it to the Rectory.***

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

- New Parishioner New Address New Phone Number Remove from List
- Send Sunday Envelopes
- St. Monica St. Thomas the Apostle

You may register online at: <https://www.osvhub.com/smstaparishsf/directory/register>



Palm Sunday ~ April 13, 2025

GOSPEL REFLECTION

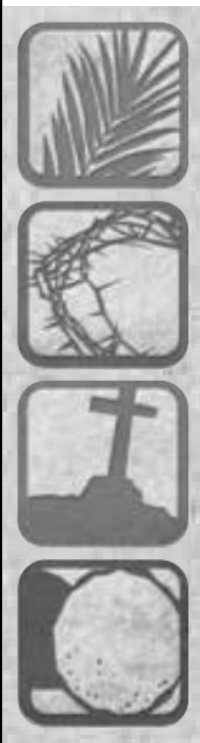
Two very different responses to our Lord's passion are highlighted during the Gospel reading from Luke today: the response of Simon of Cyrene and the response of Jesus' acquaintances. Of Simon we are told, "They took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country; and after laying the cross on him, they made him carry it behind Jesus." Whether Simon entered willingly and compassionately into this service or whether he took up the Cross of Christ with a grudge, we don't know. What we do know is this: Simon did his part faithfully. He stayed near to Christ, carrying the Cross until our Lord reached Golgotha, the site of His crucifixion. We also know that Simon's family was among the first of the early Christians. Staying near to Christ, embracing the Cross (quite literally), transformed his life and the life of his family.

In contrast, near the end of this Gospel account, we are told of another reaction to Jesus' passion and death, namely that "all His acquaintances stood at a distance." They knew Jesus! They had heard him preaching and teaching, witnessed His signs and miracles, maybe even benefitted personally from them. Perhaps they did not participate in mocking Him or calling for His crucifixion. But they chose to stay a safe distance from Him when the going got tough. Unlike Simon, they refused to go too near to Christ.

Where will you place yourself this week? Keeping your distance from all the pain and suffering Christ endured? Or close by, staying near to Him as Simon did? It is when we go near to Christ that we can be transformed by Him. It is by embracing the crosses in our lives, stewarding them well rather than trying to run from them, that we become His true disciples.

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EASTER & HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



St. Monica

Palm Sunday, April 13th
 5:00 PM (Saturday)
 8:00 AM (Vietnamese)
 11:00 AM

Holy Thursday Mass, April 17th
 7:00 PM

Good Friday, April 18th
 1:00 PM - Seven Last Words
 2:00 PM - Good Friday Liturgy
 3:00 PM - Confessions

Holy Saturday Vigil, April 19th
 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday, April 20th
 8:00 AM (Vietnamese)
 11:00 AM

St. Thomas the Apostle

Palm Sunday
 9:00 AM

Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday will be held at St. Monica Church.

Easter Sunday
 9:00 AM

There are no 8:30 AM Masses during the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday)

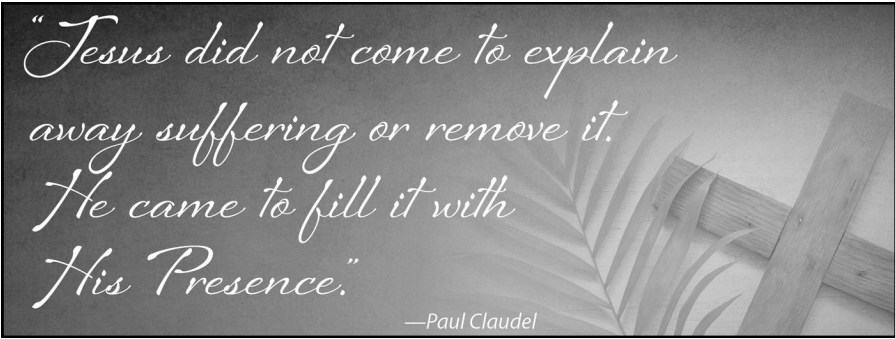


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HELP OUR CHURCHES BLOOM FOR EASTER!



As we approach Easter, we are beginning to accept offerings for the purchase of flowers for Easter for our two churches. Use the Easter Flower envelope in your envelope packet or pickup one on the tables in church. You may make an offering in honor/memory of a loved one, and we will place the envelopes on the altars of our churches during the Easter season. Please drop off the completed envelopes in the regular collection or at the parish office. Thank you for your generosity.



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

For generations, St. Thomas the Apostle Church has stood as a pillar of faith and community in the Outer Richmond. Its craftsman architecture has inspired and offered solace to all who pass through its doors. Time and the elements have taken their toll, and the exterior of the building now needs a professional cleaning to maintain and protect our Church.

We are reaching out to you to help preserve this sacred space. With your support, we can restore the Church's exterior to its former glory, ensuring it continues to be a beacon of hope and beauty for years to come.

No donation is too small - every contribution brings us closer to our goal. Together, we can make a difference. If you prefer to donate online use the QR code and donate to the Maintenance Fund.



ST. MONICA SCHOOL TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

Greetings Saint Monica Community Members,

We are pleased to announce that Saint Monica School is now accepting applications for our Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program for the 2025 - 2026 School Year! Our TK program will be a two-year program for students: attending TK for the first year, and Kindergarten for the second year.

We welcome families to consider Saint Monica School as a choice for your child in TK through 8th grade. Please come and see our school program in action. Contact us for a school day tour: <https://www.stmonicasf.org/admissions/>.

We offer families a quality Catholic Education, a strong academic program, a rich experience for our students, and a safe environment.

Applications are available now for our TK Program! All application info and forms can be found on our school website: <https://www.stmonicasf.org/admissions/apply/> Families may also inquire with our school office to receive an application and information packet.

Sincerely,
Vincent M. Sweeters
Principal
415-751-9564
sweeters@stmonicasf.org



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Mass Intentions

St. Monica				St. Thomas the Apostle			
Mon.	04/14	8:30 AM	Kay Atwood, In Thanksgiving	Mon.	04/14	8:30 AM	Muireann Grooms †
Tue.	04/15	8:30 AM	Maria Gloria Rando †	Tue.	04/15		No Mass
Wed.	04/16	8:30 AM	Christine Raher, Birthday	Wed.	04/16	8:30 AM	Jean & Stanislaw Zaczek †
Thu.	04/17 Holy Thursday	7:00 PM	For the Poor	Thu.	04/17		No Mass
Fri.	04/18 Good Friday	1:00 PM 2:00 PM 3:00 PM	Seven Last Words Good Friday Liturgy Confessions	Fri.	04/18	8:30 AM	No Mass
Sat.	04/19 Holy Saturday	8:00 PM	Parishioners	Sat.	04/19	8:30 AM	No Mass
Sun.	04/20 Easter	11:00 AM	Parishioners	Sun.	04/20 Easter	9:00 AM	Parishioners



THANK YOU	ST. MONICA	ST. THOMAS
April 6, 2024	ENGLISH	VIETNAMESE
IST COLLECTION	\$2,800.00	\$1,685.00

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND

Pope Francis has asked parishes to support the Good Friday collection which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps church ministry, religious education, preservation of sacred shrines, and provides humanitarian aid for refugees in the Holy Land. Become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Thank you for your support.

JOIN THE SUCCESS!

If you have not yet made a gift to the Annual Appeal, we ask you to do so today. We invite everyone to share a portion of God’s blessings with others by supporting the Annual Appeal. Your gift has a great impact. We hope for **100%** participation from our parish family this year. Thank you for supporting our Archdiocesan ministries and the people who need and depend on our programs and services.

- ◆ **Restorative Justice** – hosts an annual Christmas Angels program for children. Every child who attends has at least one parent who is incarcerated, deceased, or there has been domestic violence in the home. For many of those kids, this is their Christmas. The parents/guardians who attend are overcome with appreciation, and one boy, when entering the gathering, stopped in his tracks, his mouth agape, and whispered “It’s Santa Claus.”

Our 2025 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Goal is \$46,186.00.
We have reached 42% of our goal.

Donate online: <https://sfarchdiocese.org/aaa/> or by using the QR Code
Donate by mail: Fill out the form inside the Church and mail the form to the Archdiocese.

Thank you for your generosity!

