

Saint Monica-Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish

www.smstaparishsf.org

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ August 17, 2025

St. Monica Catholic Church

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

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



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

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

Rev. Mr. Kristopher Compagno
dcnxristopher@gmail.com

Parish Staff

Administrative Assistant
Jessica Montgomery
parishoffice@smstaparishsf.org

Music Ministry
Alix Jerinic
alixjericin@gmail.com

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

3835 Balboa Street
San Francisco, CA 94121



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



*I have come to set the earth on
fire, and how I wish it were
already blazing!*

Luke 12:49-53



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Dear brothers and sisters,

Our final reflection in our series on the forms of prayer is on the prayer of Supplication. This is the prayer of asking God for assistance. We call it supplication because we are requesting that God supply us with the help and resources we need.

This kind of prayer is pleasing to the Lord. On many occasions, Jesus taught his followers to ask God for his help. Much of the Our Father prayer is a prayer of supplication. At other times, Jesus taught that we should persevere in our petitions, not giving up but continuing to ask God to answer our prayers.

When we pray in this way, it can strengthen our relationship with God. The very act of turning to God for help makes us more humble. This is because we realize that we cannot truly live without the Lord, that we need him. Prayers of supplication also allow us to discover the goodness of God, as we experience him answering our prayers. Of course, he does not always answer in the way we might expect, but we will surely see him do great things for us if we ask for his help. As we see the Lord answer prayers, it teaches us to love him who is so good to us.

Let us fulfill Jesus' command to "Ask and you shall receive." If we ask for good things from our Heavenly Father, we will find his wonderful help. He will grant us all that we need to live an upright life on this earth, and he will bestow on us the very grace to live eternally in Heaven.

Fr. Ben

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer." - Romans 12:12

***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>



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GOSPEL REFLECTION

Today's readings set a high bar for us Christian stewards, reminding us that a stewardship way of life is meant to be a challenging way of life.

In the second reading, from the Letter to the Hebrews, we are told to live as Christ lived. And how did Christ live? "For the sake of the joy that lay before Him He endured the cross." If we are tempted to complain about the sufferings we must endure in living as Christ's disciples, we are told, "In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood." In other words, "If you're not bleeding, what are you complaining about?" That is quite a high bar!

The Gospel reading from Luke continues this challenging theme. Our Lord tells His disciples "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing." A couple of verses later Jesus adds, "Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division."

Jesus's life on this earth and the messages He brought were not meant to simply make us feel good. In fact, His words can make us downright uncomfortable at times. That's because His Good News (and it is indeed good news!) is meant to change us, to make saints of us.

The stewardship way of life sets a high bar indeed. But deeply embraced, this way of life, focused on God and others will make us the saints we are called to be.

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2025 - 2026 OCIA (ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS)

Thursdays, beginning September 11, 2025, to April 4, 2026, 7:00 to 8:30 pm, Parish Rectory.

Do you want to be baptized? Are you a baptized Catholic who has never been confirmed? Are you considering becoming a Catholic? If you are already a Baptized, Confirmed Catholic, are you ready to explore your faith anew by sponsoring someone you know who is interested in becoming Catholic? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, or know someone who would, then OCIA (formerly known as RCIA) is for you. For additional information or to register contact Deacon Xristopher at dcnxristopher@gmail.com



PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (CCD) FOR ST. MONICA-ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH

Religion classes for students in grades K-8 in Catholic, private, or public schools begin on **Sunday, September 21, 2025**. This is a blessed opportunity for your child to grow in his/her faith and prepare for the Sacraments. We are grateful that you are considering this class for your child. Classes will be held every Sunday morning at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, beginning with Mass at 9:00 am, followed by class instruction until 11:00 am.

Registration forms are available in both of our Churches and on our website.

Please put the registration form in the Sunday collection or mail it to:

Fr. Ben Rosado at 470 24th Ave, San Francisco, CA 94121

For additional information: email Fr. Ben at pastor@smstaparishsf.org

Religious Education Registration





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ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Thank you to all those who helped with sandwich making on Wednesday, July 16th. A special thank you to those who volunteered to help with shopping for supplies and delivery to the shelter the next day. Future sandwich making will be on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. The next opportunity will be this **Wednesday, August 20th at 7:00 PM**. We meet in the St. Monica Parish Hall.

For questions contact: Maria McDevitt at megmared@comcast.net or 415-515-6945.

**Our next St. Vincent de Paul collection will be on August 30th & 31st.
Thank you for your generosity.**

SVDP online donation QR code:



All are welcome to join us
Monday - Saturday at 8:00 AM
to pray the Rosary
at St. Monica Church.

&

All are welcome to join us
on the First Saturday of every month for
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
from 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM at
St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

"The Rosary is the most beautiful and the most rich in graces of all prayers; it is the prayer that touches most the Heart of the Mother of God...and if you wish peace to reign in your homes, recite the family Rosary."

~ Saint Pope Pius X (Feast Day - August 21st)

LEARN TO SQUARE DANCE with the Caper Cutters Square Dance Club beginning Monday, September 8th from 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM in St. Monica's Parish Hall. Free open house (no experience needed): August 18th & 25th, and September 1st & 8th from 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Pick up a flier in the Church for more details. For additional information: www.CaperCutters.com or capercutters@gmail.com.

ST. MONICA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE MEMORIAL WALLS

St. Monica-St. Thomas the Apostle Parish offers parishioners an opportunity to remember their friends and loved ones in a memorial space in the vestibule of each Church. For a donation of \$250.00, a brass nameplate will be engraved with the name(s) of your choice with a maximum of 50 letters. If you wish to order a name plate, forms are available in each Church or by calling the parish office at 415-751-5275.

WE INVITE ALL OUR PARISHIONERS TO SPEND TIME IN FELLOWSHIP.

ST. MONICA CHURCH - FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY will be held on the 1st Sunday of each month in the Small Hall following the 11:00 AM Mass. To volunteer please email Deacon Dana Perrigan at: perrigan2000@yahoo.com.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH - SOCIAL SUNDAY will be held on the 2nd Sunday of every month in the vestibule of the Church after the 9:00 AM Mass. To volunteer (clean up and refreshment donations) please email Christine Aguerre at: chriscrk6@gmail.com.



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Mass Intentions

St. Monica				St. Thomas the Apostle			
Mon.	08/18	8:30 AM	Peter Ferrarese †	Mon.	08/18	8:30 AM	Parishioners
Tue.	08/19	8:30 AM	Francisca Ramos Loyola †	Tue.	08/19		No Mass
Wed.	08/20	8:30 AM	Richard Atwood †	Wed.	08/20	8:30 AM	Parishioners
Thu.	08/21	8:30 AM	Ryszard Sowa †	Thu.	08/21		No Mass
Fri.	08/22	8:30 AM	Pro Ramos †	Fri.	08/22	8:30 AM	Joseph Mahoney †
Sat.	08/23	8:30 AM	Guadalupe Ramos †	Sat.	08/23	8:30 AM	No Mass
		5:00 PM	Rosalie Rocamora †				
Sun.	08/24	11:00 AM	Mary E. Ring †	Sun.	08/24	9:00 AM	Parishioners

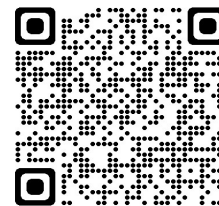
THANK YOU	ST. MONICA	ST. THOMAS	
August 10, 2025	ENGLISH	VIETNAMESE	THE APOSTLE
IST COLLECTION	\$4,438.00	\$362.00	\$1,403.00



Thank you for your continued support to our Parish.

To donate:

Use your personalized parish offertory envelopes
or scan the QR code to donate online!



2025 ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Whatever you do,
do it all for the
glory of God.
1 Corinthians 10:31

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.

- Several products of our **Faith Formation** program are now involved in the Church in a variety of ways, including as youth group leaders, Confirmation catechists, as a Choir conductor, a Deacon, and as Directors of Religious Education. In addition, many others serve in active ministerial roles—e.g., as altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, readers, hospitality ministers, etc. Someone noted that their experience in Faith Formation was what propelled them into later active involvement in the Church.

Our 2025 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Goal is \$46,186.00.

We have reached 70% of our goal. Donations received: \$32,077.00.

Donate online: <https://sfarchdiocese.org/aaa/> or by using the QR Code

Donate by mail: Fill out the form located on the tables in the Church and mail the form with your donation to the Archdiocese.

