

Saint Monica-Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish

www.smstaparishsf.org

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ September 7, 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



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
alixjerinic@gmail.com

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

3835 Balboa Street
San Francisco, CA 94121



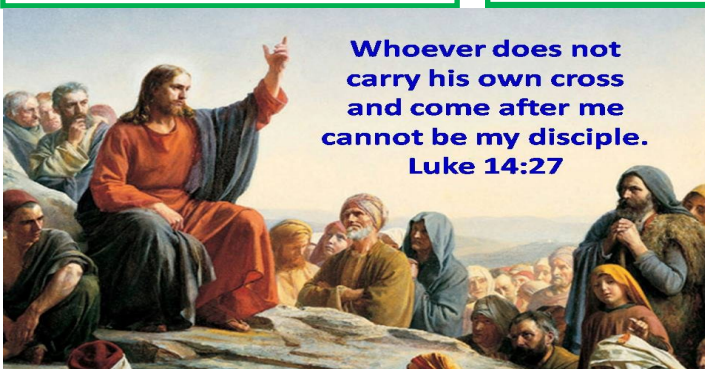
St. Thomas the Apostle Church MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday
9:00 AM

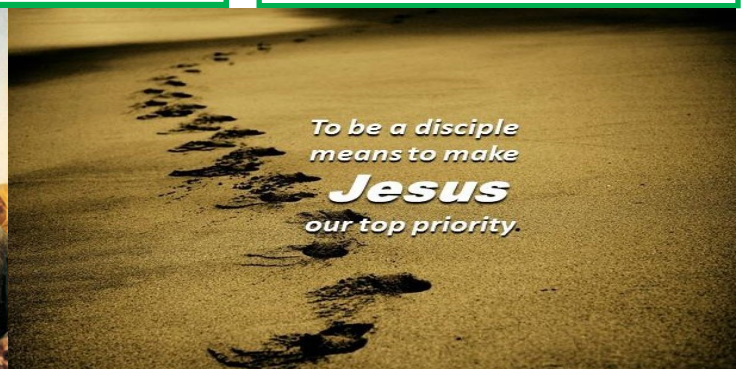
Weekdays
8:30 AM
(Monday, Wednesday,
and Friday)

First Saturday
Mass
8:30 AM

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



Whoever does not
carry his own cross
and come after me
cannot be my disciple.
Luke 14:27





Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ September 7, 2025



Dear brothers and sisters,

Today we will begin a series of messages walking through the Ten Commandments. When asked “what must I do to gain eternal life?” Jesus responded “If you would enter into life, keep the commandments.” This means that God’s Law, his command to us is of vital importance.

It is important that we know the commandments, reflect on them, and apply them to our lives. By obeying the Lord, we find life both now and in the world to come. For now, keeping the commandments puts us in right relationship with God and with one another. To be someone’s friend requires that we do good to them and that we avoid harming them. We can probably recall how some hurtful words in the past contributed to breaking up a relationship of ours. If we act as God’s loved ones, then our obeying him will keep us living in his love. It will also keep our human relationships intact.

And in the world to come, we will enter into a life where all people will walk according to God’s ways. Heaven wouldn’t be Heaven otherwise. We already can see what a world that doesn’t keep God’s law is like, we are living in such a world now. But in the New Life promised us, all will be holy, just, good, clean, and beautiful. Heaven for us starts now with our seeking to obey God, allowing him to change our hearts day by day.

As we begin to consider the Ten Commandments in the weeks ahead, let us make a firm resolution to obey God in all we think, say, and do. We must allow the Lord to be the Lord of our lives, and that means we seek to do his will. As St. John the Baptist said of Jesus “He must increase, and I must decrease.” It isn’t easy but with God’s grace we can truly pray to him “Thy will be done.”

Fr. Ben

***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>



Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ September 7, 2025

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Today's readings make very clear the demands that will be made of those wanting to be called disciples of Christ. We must be prepared to give our all to Him. But in the end, the life of discipleship — the stewardship way of life — is the only life that can truly satisfy.

In the Gospel passage from Luke, Christ says, "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple."

Our Lord is speaking here not of emotions but rather of priorities. He must come first in all aspects of our lives. Period.

He goes on. "Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." In other words, it's all or nothing. Compromise is simply not possible. Christ wants us to give all of ourselves, all aspects of our individual lives, our family life, our parish over to Him and to the pursuit of His kingdom.

And just when we think our Lord might soften His message to make it a little more palatable, He goes further! "Anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple."

Why is our Lord being so demanding? Only because He knows us so well and loves us so much.

He knows that if we do not live by putting Him first before all else, we will easily be swallowed up by the earthly cares that weigh us down — our material things, our status, and our egos. He knows these things cannot satisfy us. He knows this because He is our Maker, and He made us for more.

We are made to be His disciples, to seek after Him and His Kingdom. Embracing stewardship as a way of life allows us to count the cost, and then run after Him with all our might.

©Catholic Stewardship Consultants

We pray for the repose of the soul of

Marie Arrabit

and offer our sympathy to his family and friends.

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

We welcome into our Parish family

Luke Mathew

who was recently baptized in our Parish.



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) on September 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.

BAPTISMAL INQUIRIES

For Baptismal inquiries, please contact the Parish Office:
415-751-5275 or email
parishoffice@smstaparishsf.org

ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES

Today, our parish will take a collection to benefit the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS). The AMS is the Archdiocese for the Military Services, not of the Military Services. This is an important distinction, because the AMS receives no funding from the U.S. Government or U.S. Military and has no parishes from which to receive a weekly assessment. Instead, it must rely on the generosity of those whose values and priorities align with its mission, programs and services, to meet its costs. Please prayerfully consider a contribution to this special collection to support active-duty military men and women, and their families — including those from our own parish. Please give generously.



Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ September 7, 2025



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

Every Thursday from September 11, 2025 to April 4, 2026, OCIA classes will be held from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the 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



ST. MONICA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE MEMORIAL WALLS

St. Monica-St. Thomas the Apostle Parish offers parishioners an opportunity to remember 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 plaque, 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 church's vestibule after the 9:00 AM Mass. To volunteer, please e-mail Christine Aguerre at: chriscrk6@gmail.com



Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ September 7, 2025



Mass Intentions

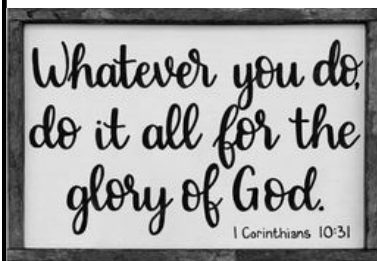
St. Monica			
Mon.	09/08	8:30 AM	Dominic F. Politeo †
Tue.	09/09	8:30 AM	Steven Bodner, Good Health
Wed.	09/10	8:30 AM	Margaret & John Raher †
Thu.	09/11	8:30 AM	Violeta Goebel †
Fri.	09/12	8:30 AM	Cedric Concon, Birthday
Sat.	09/13	8:30 AM	Parishioners
		5:00 PM	Parishioners
Sun.	09/14	11:00 AM	Simon Lee †

St. Thomas the Apostle			
Mon.	09/08	8:30 AM	Linda T. & Kelsey M., Healing
Tue.	09/09		No Mass
Wed.	09/10	8:30 AM	Linda T. & Kelsey M., Healing
Thu.	09/11		No Mass
Fri.	09/12	8:30 AM	Amelia Panes, Birthday
Sat.	09/13	8:30 AM	No Mass
Sun.	09/14	9:00 AM	Raisa Laarni Ramirez LeRoy & Mayari Skye Gutierrez, Good Health

THANK YOU	ST. MONICA	ST. THOMAS	
August 31, 2025	ENGLISH	VIETNAMESE	THE APOSTLE
1ST COLLECTION	\$1,630.00	\$526.00	\$833.00
2ND COLLECTION: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL	\$648.00	\$379.00	\$415.00

2025 ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

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.



- ♦ **Hospital Chaplaincy** - a patient at a hospital in our Archdiocese was suffering from a serious illness that caused depression, anger, and even violence towards hospital staff. He asked to see a Catholic Priest. The caregivers asked the Priest to bless them for their safety and with the virtue of patience. The visit helped heal the patient spiritually and emotionally; it enhanced the relationship with the caregivers and thus the healing process as well.

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

We have reached 71% of our goal. Donations received: \$33,032.00.

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.



ST. MONICA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRAY FOR US