

Saint Monica-Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish

www.smstaparishsf.org

The Ascension of the Lord ~ May 17, 2026

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

Deacon

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



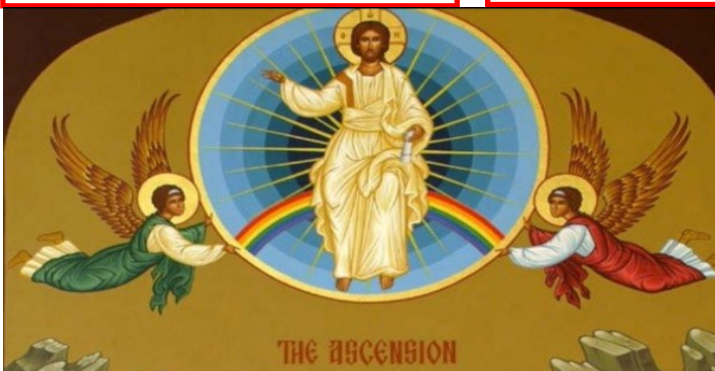
St. Thomas the Apostle Church MASS SCHEDULE

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



Go therefore and make
disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name
of the Father and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19



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Dear brothers and sisters,

Here, towards the end of the Easter Season, we are to prepare our hearts and minds for the Gift of the Holy Spirit. We will celebrate his coming to us in one week on Pentecost Sunday. The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Trinity, and it is proper that we have a strong devotion to him. As we say at every Mass during our Profession of Faith, "With the Father and the Son, He is adored and glorified." We must choose to adore, love, and give him the glory that is due to him.

For the next several weeks, I would like us to reflect on who the Holy Spirit is to us. There has been much spoken about him in the Scriptures, especially by Jesus himself. The Spirit has several titles that can help us better understand our relationship with him. In these weeks, we will consider three of those titles. He is known as the Advocate, the Counselor, and the Spirit of God.

Besides next week at Pentecost, our Parish will be blessed with several events in the month of June, where we will have the opportunity to call upon and encounter the Holy Spirit. Save the dates for the First Friday Charismatic Mass on June 7th, our Second Friday Healing Service on June 14th, and a special all day Life in the Spirit Seminar on Saturday, June 20th. More details will soon come to you! I hope to see you at some or all of these special events.

Fr. Ben

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Almighty Father,
You have created for us some definite purpose.

Grant us the grace to know the path
You have planned for us in this life
and to respond with a generous "Yes."

Make our archdiocese, parishes, homes and hearts
fruitful ground for Your gift of vocations.

May our young people respond
to Your call with courage and zeal.

Stir among our men a desire and
the strength to be good and holy priests.

Bless us with consecrated religious and
those called to a chaste single life,
permanent deacons,
and faithful husbands and wives,
who are a sign of Christ's love for His Church.

We commend our prayer for vocations to You, Father,
through the intercession of Mary our Mother,
in the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***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/smsparishsf/directory/register>



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GOSPEL REFLECTION

Today we celebrate the great feast of the Ascension of our Lord — that moment when Jesus, 40 days after His Resurrection, was lifted up into heaven as the apostles looked on.

It must have been an extraordinary sight. But the first reading tells us they were not meant to stand there for long. “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?”

In other words — don’t just stand there. Do something.

This is a message for us as Christian stewards. We have been given every grace and blessing — through the Mass and the sacraments, through the Word of God, and through the gifts of our time, talent, and treasure.

We are not meant to simply receive these gifts. We are meant to use them — in gratitude to the One who gave them.

Like the apostles, we are called “to be [His] witnesses... to the ends of the earth.” And we do this not by our own strength, but through the power of the Holy Spirit at work within us.

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HONORING THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AND MOMS IN MAY



May is traditionally dedicated in a special way to honoring and seeking the intercession of Mary as the Mother of God and Mother of the Church. Prayers and devotions to Mary can be found by visiting: <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/mary>.

“She is that woman who rejoiced in the presence of God, who treasured everything in her heart, and who let herself be pierced by the sword. Mary is the saint among the saints, blessed above all others. She teaches us the way of holiness, and she walks ever at our side. She does not let us remain fallen, and at times she takes us into her arms without judging us.”

- Pope Francis, *Gaudete et Exsultate*, no. 176

“Love our Lady. And she will obtain abundant grace to help you conquer in your daily struggle.” ~ Saint Josemaría Escrivá



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!





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CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN



Today, our second collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign represents a mission of love to share the gospel message of hope with people in the United States using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money we collect remains here in the Archdiocese of San Francisco to fund local communications efforts. The other half supports the communication activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and other projects across the United States. Your help spreads the gospel message! Learn more at www.usccb.org/cc.

 * We pray for the repose of the soul of *
 * Joe Miller *
 * and offer our sympathy to his family, friends, *
 * and staff at St. Monica School. *
 *
 * Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let *
 * perpetual light shine upon him. May his souls *
 * and the souls of all the faithful departed, *
 * through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *
 * Amen. *

We congratulate and pray for all our students who received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 16th at St. Monica Church.

Gavin Garing
 Noah Maurovich
 Lily Smith
 Zander Springston

ROSARY

All are welcome to join in praying the Rosary every Monday through Saturday at 8:00 AM at St. Monica Church.

&

ADORATION

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

WE INVITE ALL OUR PARISHIONERS TO SPEND TIME IN FELLOWSHIP

ST. MONICA CHURCH - FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY Friendship Sunday will be held on the first Sunday of each month following the 11 a.m. Mass. To volunteer, please e-mail Fr. Ben.

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 a.m. Mass. To volunteer please e-mail Fr. Ben.

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



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Mass Intentions

St. Monica			
Mon.	05/18	8:30 AM	Teresita Ruiz †
Tue.	05/19	8:30 AM	Vincent Tran, Healing
Wed.	05/20	8:30 AM	Deceased Members of the Sotelo Family +
Thu.	05/21	8:30 AM	Raymond Ramos, Healing
Fri.	05/22	8:30 AM	Vien Minh Nguyen †
Sat.	05/23	8:30 AM	James J. Yates †
		5:00 PM	Vien Minh Nguyen †
Sun.	05/24	11:00 AM	Jessica Ho †

St. Thomas the Apostle			
Mon.	05/18	8:30 AM	Sandra Kuplinski, Birthday
Tue.	05/19		No Mass
Wed.	05/20	8:30 AM	Parishioners
Thu.	05/21		No Mass
Fri.	05/22	8:30 AM	David Touye †
Sat.	05/23	8:30 AM	No Mass
Sun.	05/24	9:00 AM	Parishioners

THANK YOU	ST. MONICA	ST. THOMAS	
May 10, 2026	ENGLISH	VIETNAMESE	THE APOSTLE
IST COLLECTION	\$1,350.00	\$517.00	\$1,934.00
CATHOLIC CHARITIES CYO APPEAL	\$865.00	\$260.00	\$455.00

JOIN THE SUCCESS!

Those who hope
in the Lord
will renew
their strength.

ISAIAH 40:31

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.

♦ Your generosity supports Archdiocesan **Communications**, particularly enabling us to communicate in the digital realm. Digital communications have become increasingly important; they were imperative during the pandemic and continue to be. Livestreamed Masses, mass communications via text, and our social media channels have been important connections to the faith, and they've also proven to be a

very successful way to reach the unchurched.

Our 2026 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Goal is \$57,058.00.

We have reached 33% 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!

