



St. Thomas Aquinas Church

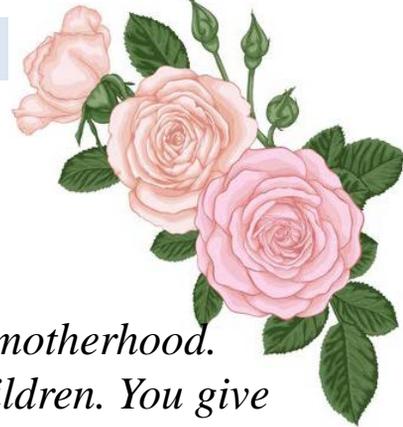
1501 S. Atlantic Blvd., Monterey Park, CA 91754
323-264-4447 • parishoffice@stampk.org



Fourth Sunday of Easter - May 8, 2022

From the Desk of Our Pastor

Mother's Day 2022



Dear Mothers,

This weekend we take time to reflect on the gift of motherhood. You go through a lot of hardships to raise us, your children. You give yourselves totally for the well-being of others. For this and for the many blessings you bring to us, we give tribute and we pray for you. Mothers, we thank you for raising us and giving us a model to follow, a model taken from Mary, the Mother of Jesus who shared her unselfish love with her family. We invoke her protection over you today and always.

This weekend we remember the mothers who are not able to come to Mass due to health issues. We also pray for you whose children are not home with you due to various reasons. Let us also pray for the mothers experiencing loss or disappointment. Through our actions and prayers may we make them aware that St. Thomas Aquinas community is in solidarity with them and they are not alone, or forgotten.

For those mothers whom God has called back to himself, may God grant them peace.

May God bless you and keep you healthy and happy.

I wish all of you a Happy and blessed Mother's day.

Fr. John.



Mother's Day Blessing

May the blessing of the Divine be an especially bright benediction upon mothers everywhere on your blessed day - on Mother's Day!

- Author Unknown



In Memory of Connie Ortega

It is with heavy hearts that we announce that one of our parish's Founding Members, Connie Ortega, joined our Lord in eternal peace on Friday, April 29, 2022. Connie had been dealing with various health issues for many years and died at home with her family surrounding her.

Connie and her husband, Al, joined our parish from the very beginning. They were active parishioners since Fr. Evans held mass at the machine shop prior to our church being built. Connie was very generous in sharing her talents with our parish. She organized the original breakfast club in the sixties, gathering parishioners together to share a meal and fellowship after mass every Sunday. She served in many ministries and organizations, including but not limited to: involved STA school parent, fiesta leadership, church environment and liturgy. Connie served as a lector until her health prevented her from doing so.

Connie and Al were married for 75 years. We will miss Connie and her sense of humor. Thank you Ortega family for sharing this special person with our parish. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Please keep Connie, Al and the entire Ortega family in your prayers.

First Communion @ STA

Students from our school received their First Communion on Saturday, May 7th, students of our Religious Education program will be receiving their First Communion on Saturday, May 14th, and students from our Chinese Religious Education will be receiving their First Communion on Sunday, May 15th. These students are excited to receive the Holy Eucharist for the first of many times. We would like to thank the teachers, staff, volunteers and parents who have guided them on their journey. Please keep the students and their families in your prayers.

Senior Gathering Wednesday, May 11th 10:30 AM – Parish Hall

Our next senior gathering will be Wednesday, May 11th. Join us for our Mother's Day and Father's Day celebration. Delicious Italian food will be served. Great musical entertainment will be provided by Trio Alma.

We took registration at our last gathering, we only need regrets. If you registered and you are unable to attend please contact:

Grace Navarro: 626-641-4554

Francisca (Chica) Salazar:

323-896-3861

Upcoming VIRTUS Training Class

Our Safeguard the Children committee is committed to ensuring that our parish offers everyone the opportunity to participate in the required VIRTUS training. Our goal is to provide this training to all adults who work or volunteer with children so we can work together as a more effective community to prevent child sexual abuse. This program is mandated for all adults who work/volunteer with or around children or youth on a regular basis.

A zoom VIRTUS class will be held on Wednesday, May 18th at 6 PM for those individuals who need to take the initial VIRTUS Protecting God's Children training class. Please contact the parish office to enroll.

We appreciate everyone's continued focus on this very critical program.

Cardinal McIntyre Fund Second Collection This Weekend

This weekend our parish will take up this Annual Collection. Your contribution goes directly toward emergency needs for children, adults and families and provides one-time emergency help for food, utilities, medical, housing or funeral expenses. The goal of the Cardinal McIntyre Fund for Charity is service to the "neediest of the needy," those for whom no other resources exist. *Thank you for your support!*

Catholic Charities Volunteer Recognition Honorees



On Thursday, May 5^h, Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, San Gabriel Region held their 36th Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner. This year there was a special emphasis on Religious Education volunteers as they were honored for their resilience and commitment to educating and training future disciples and leaders for our Church through the many challenges that the pandemic presented.

We are proud to announce the honorees that represented St. Thomas Aquinas. Please join us in congratulating them and acknowledging their dedication to our parish by sharing their time and talent in a loving and inspiring manner.

Francis Chiao

Francis is a phone call away from the needs of the parish. His support of our parish community through his participation in various ministries is of great value. Thank you for using your talents and skills to benefit the community. Francis has taught Religious Education for almost two decades, making a positive impact on numerous children. Francis has been a member of our Chinese ministry leadership team, a member of our choir, RCIA team, Finance Council and our bible study. Francis, your example is a good model for our parish, and we are proud of your service.

Kim Tran

Kim serves as a catechist for the 1st year First Holy communion class. Kim got involved in the Catechist's life a few years ago. Kim dedicates much of her free time as a catechist. Only God knows the impact she's had on so many children and young adults. You could feel the presence of God in her. She has such devotion to her faith and has answered her calling to be a catechist. Kim's faced challenges but they did not stop her to continue teaching and passing on the love of God to the children. Kim is an excellent catechist; she generously volunteers her time to share our Catholic faith, values, and traditions.

Kathy Chu

Kathy has taught Religious Education since 2010 and is currently the vice-president of the Chinese Religious Education program. She was a tutor for our after-school program for many years. She is a role model to not only her students but our entire parish community. Her desire and thirst for *scripture is evident in all she does*. *May you continue to make the word of God relevant and enjoyable for the youth that you teach.*

Jessica Quach

Jessica serves as a catechist for the 1st year Confirmation class. She also directs the Youth Confirmation team. Jessica began as a catechist many years ago and she proved her ability to lead youngsters in faith with a contagious energy and passion for Jesus. Jessica is an excellent Catechist, always available and willing to teach, she generously volunteers her time to share our Catholic faith, values, and traditions with our youngest generation of Christians and walks beside/bear witness with them. She is a positive role model who helps candidates grow in faith, spirituality and their relationship with God. She inspires other catechists to continue in the faith.



Investing in the Faith of Future Generations

A faith truly understood and lived in the world has immense power to transform. The vitality and effectiveness of our ministries of formation and education, therefore, are critical to the future of our faith.

By investing in parish and diocesan schools, parish religious education programs, and our ministries on college campuses throughout the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, we will inspire young people to learn more about their faith and provide them with the foundation to live vibrant lives as faith-filled adults.

Young people grow into societal leaders who propel renewal through our communities and cities. A faith understood and lived becomes a joyful witness — a powerful testimony to our hope in Jesus.

“ As Director of the Office of Religious Education, I am blessed with the chance to hear people talk about their passion for Scripture and to help them understand it, so that they can share that passion with others. This is where we meet Christ. We meet Christ in the Word. It all began with the Apostles telling the story of Jesus. And through that sharing, people came to faith.”

- Father Chris Bazyouros

Our Goal
\$455,000

Amount Raised
\$122,700

Number of Gifts
24

Average Gift
\$5,113

Percent of Goal Raised
27%

Enhance the Catholic Education Endowment

Provide increased access to the high-quality education Catholic schools provide, regardless of a family’s ability to pay, through tuition assistance.

Train and Empower Those Teaching the Faith

Train catechists and invest in technologies to more effectively implement evangelization programs and form disciples through new and modern ways to teach God’s love.

Increase Outreach on College Campuses

Enable college students to deepen their relationship with God by having an increased presence on campuses in Southern California.

If you would like to learn more about the Campaign, please contact the Parish Office.

Thank you!

**Safeguard The Children
DID YOU KNOW?**

Know who to call in California

If you suspect a child is being abused, it is important to know who to call with your information. In California, the agency that handles child abuse tips is the Department of Social Services — Division of Children and Family Services. Anyone who suspects abuse can call this department, local law enforcement agencies, or the California hotline at 916-445-2771. For more information, please visit:

https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/Abuse_Reporting.cfm#CA.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Weekly Expenses: \$7,500.00

4/30 – 5/1 Offertory/Online: \$7,579.00

Over/(Under): \$ 79.00

Thank you for your support!

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, May 7th

5:30 PM All Mother's

Sunday, May 8th

8 AM All Mother's

11:30 AM All Mother's

1:30 PM All Mother's

Monday, May 9th

7 PM All Mother's

Tuesday, May 10th

8 AM All Mother's
Raquel O. Rivera (D)

Wednesday, May 11th

8 AM All Mother's

Thursday, May 12th

8 AM Pearl Cancino (D)
Gary Ybarra (D)
Felicitas Valenzuela (D)
All Mother's

Friday, May 13th

8 AM All Mother's

Saturday, May 14th

8 AM All Mother's

*Please contact Linda Almaguer,
Parish Secretary via phone
(323) 264-4447 ext. 102 or by email:
parishoffice@stampk.org
to schedule Mass intentions.*

Parish Contact Information

Parish Office: (323) 264-4447
 Chinese Ministry Office: (323) 264-4448
 General Email: parishoffice@stampk.org
 Parish Website: STAMPK.ORG
 Fax: (323) 264-2524
 Hall Rental: (323) 264-4447 ext. 102

Parish Staff

Fr. John Kyebasuuta—Pastor
 FrJohn@stampk.org Ext. 108
 Fr. Justin Liu—Associate Pastor
 FrJustin@stampk.org Ext. 106
 Lorraine Melendez—General Manager
 LMelendez@stampk.org Ext. 103
 Linda Almaguer—Parish Secretary
 LAlmaguer@stampk.org Ext. 102
 Sherry Hsu—Chinese Ministry Staff
 stachinese@stampk.org Ext. 104
 Jessie Wang—Chinese Ministry Staff
 JWang@stampk.org Ext. 105
 Bill Zhu—Safeguard The Children
 323-264-4447

School Information

School Office: (323) 261-6583
 Stefanie Lutero - Principal
 Email: SLutero@stampkschool.org
 General Email: info@stampkschool.org
 Website: stampkschool.org

Religious Education Information

Office: (323) 264-1338
 Ana Martinez - Coordinator
 Email: stareligioused@stampk.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil	5:30 PM (English)
Sunday	8:00 AM (English) 9:30 AM (Mandarin) 11:30 AM (English) 1:30 PM (Spanish) 3:00 PM (Cantonese)
Monday	7:00 PM (Chinese)
Tuesday	8:00 AM (English)
Wednesday	8:00 AM (Chinese)
Thursday	8:00 AM (English) 7:00 PM (Spanish)
Friday	8:00 AM (English)
Saturday	8:00 AM (English)

Zoom Links & Passwords:

English Masses:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/311575271>

Meeting ID:311575271 Password: Mass

Spanish Masses:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/912501465>

Meeting ID:912501465 Password: Misa

Chinese Masses:

<https://zoom.us/j/3901142241>

Meeting ID: 3901142241

***THURSDAY 8 AM ENGLISH MASS:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5897232327>

Meeting ID:5897232327 Password: 1501