

**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 30, 2023**  
**Décimo Séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario, 30 de julio de 2023**



**ST. THOMAS  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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**17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." - Mt 13:44

"El Reino de los cielos se parece a un tesoro escondido en un campo. El que lo encuentra lo vuelve a esconder y, lleno de alegría, va y vende cuanto tiene y compra aquel campo". - Mt 13, 44

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
Leccionario II ©1987 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano.

**LITURGY**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup> - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION, THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
**MASS TIMES: 9:00 AM (ENGLISH), 7:00 PM BILINGUAL (SPANISH AND ENGLISH)**

**Public Weekend Masses—In Church**

Saturday: 5 PM English  
Sunday: 8:30 AM Spanish  
10:30 AM English

**Public Weekday Masses—In Church**

Tuesday: 7 PM Spanish  
Wednesday: 9 AM English  
Thursday: 9 AM English  
Friday: 9 AM English  
1st Friday & Adoration: 8 AM-Adoration  
8:30 AM-Rosary  
9 AM-Mass  
Adoration ends at 11 AM

**Adoration**

Tuesday: 5 PM—6:45 PM  
Friday: 9:30 AM—11 AM

**Anointing of the Sick**

First Friday of the month, or by appointment.

**Confessions**

Tuesday: 6 PM—6:45 PM  
Friday: 9:30 AM—10:15 AM  
Saturday: 4 PM—4:50 PM  
Sunday: 7:30 AM—8:20 AM

**Parish Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday: 9 AM - 2 PM  
Friday: 9 AM - Noon  
Saturday & Sunday: Closed

# Liturgical Life

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

### The Falling Action and the Field

In my freshman year of high school, I was fairly miserable at identifying the five essential elements of plot (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution).

To this day, the only reason I remember anything about them at all is because my English teacher used episodes of Scooby Doo to illustrate the different elements. Falling action vs. climax is where I got tripped up, the two are similar, and only discernible if you examine them relative to each other.

Every Scooby Doo episode has a big dramatic sequence (the climax) where the ghost/monster/zombie chases The Gang through the haunted mansion. The falling action is what comes immediately after: searching for her glasses that she lost during the chase, Velma bumps into a pulley wheel disguised behind a tapestry and realizes the ghost/monster/zombie is actually the janitor in a costume, hooked up to an elaborate cable system jerry-rigged throughout the mansion. Meddling kids.

I confused the two because, to me, they are *both* equally dramatic: the chase and the fallout.

It occurs to me that, if you look at the course of salvation history, we are living in the falling action, not the climax. Take the parable of the treasure in the field: we have found the treasure. But we haven't yet bought the field.

I often make the mistake of thinking I am still lost in the climax, searching for the truth. But I know exactly where the truth is.

What I need to be concerned with is this: am I doing what I need to do to buy the field?

*"Wonderful are your decrees; therefore I observe them. The revelation of your words sheds light, giving understanding to the simple." — Psalm 119*

*Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman*

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

Why do priests kiss the altar at the start of Mass?

### Answer:

Our churches and chapels are filled with symbols. We might think of the more common symbols (like the crucifix, statues, stained-glass windows, vestment color and altar cloths) as well as major symbols (such as the paschal candle and the baptismal font). But there are some things that we can take for granted in our sacred spaces, because unfortunately, they seem to just be part of the building, including three of the main symbols of our liturgy: the ambo (lectern), the chair for the priest celebrant, and the altar.

These three objects are placed in a specially designated area called the sanctuary. They are the places where the Word of God is proclaimed, where the priest prays and presides at the celebration, and where the bread and wine are offered by the priest during the Eucharistic Prayer. Although each of these objects is sacred because of the role they play in our worship, the altar holds a special place. In a document containing the rules and instructions for the Mass — the "General Instruction of the Roman Missal" — we read: "The altar on which the Sacrifice of the Cross is made present under sacramental signs is also the table of the Lord to which the People of God is called together to participate in the Mass, as well as the center of the thanksgiving that is accomplished throughout the Eucharist" (no. 296).

One of the ways that we recognize the importance of the altar is when the priest and deacon kiss the altar at the beginning of Mass. Kissing is an ancient act of devotion. Remember, we also kiss the cross on Good Friday, and the deacon or priest kisses the "Book of the Gospels" after the Gospel is proclaimed. This act of devotion reminds us that the altar is a symbol of Jesus, the "living stone" (see 1 Peter 2:4), the foundation stone of our faith. It is a symbol gesture, but it is a powerful reminder of the One on whom our faith is built and in whose name we gather as the "household of faith" (see Galatians 6:10).

To learn more, see the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" (no. 1382-1383).



## WELCOME TO ST. THOMAS PARISH!

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We invite you to come and worship with us again. If you would like to be a member of our faith community, please take a moment to register. We would love to have you as our spiritual companion.

## BIENVENIDOS A LA PARROQUIA DE SANTO TOMÁS!

Gracias por celebrar con nosotros. Les damos una cordial invitación para celebrar la santa misa cada domingo con nosotros. Si usted desea ser un miembro de nuestra comunidad de fe, por favor llene el formulario de registro. Nos encantaría contar con usted como miembro de nuestra familia.

### THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE LA MISA DE ESTA SEMANA

**Sunday, July 30, 10:30 AM**  
Joseph Luat (by Mary Minh & Anna)

**Monday, July 31**  
**No Mass**

**Tuesday, August 1, 7 PM**

**Wednesday, August 2, 9 AM**

**Thursday, August 3, 9 AM**

**Friday, August 4, 9 AM**

**Saturday, August 5, 5 PM**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK, ALL  
THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

**FOR THE SICK:** We remember especially: Tess Kelley, Bang Nguyen, Bill Gorjance, Martha Hickman

**FOR THE DEAD:** Please pray for our beloved deceased Felix Brodigan, Bill Haugen, Joan King, Marie Lohmann, Judy Lund, Gary Northrop. May the Lord receive him unto Himself giving strength, comfort, and peace to their families and our parish community. Amen.

[www.archseattle.org/GiveACA](http://www.archseattle.org/GiveACA)

### OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

#### July 15th and July 16th, 2023

Sunday Offerings...\$4,774.71  
Weekly Online Stewardship...\$819.30  
Maintenance Fund/  
Fono de Mantenimiento...\$5,110.00

**Total Donation/  
Donation Total...\$10,704.01**

**Thank you for your generosity!**

**Bulletin Notices:** *The article deadline is 12 PM (Noon) on the Friday a week before the weekend you wish it to appear (8 days in advance). Notices about parish events or items of interest to the*

## INSCRÍBANSE PARA LA EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

Queridos Parroquianos iniciamos las registraciones, para los sacramentos que necesitan sus hijos, o ustedes: 1a Comunion a partir de los 7 años de edad. Confirmacion a partir de los 13 años de edad. ( el Obispo nos dara la fecha en Mayo, 2024) Creaturas no Bautizados a partir de los 7 años de edad ( reciben todos los sacramentos en la vigilia pascual) Adultos que necesitan algun sacramento. El curso sera de un Año empezamos el Martes 12 de Septiembre 2023 y concluimos en el mes de Mayo 2024.

**\*\*\* Registraciones apartir del Lunes 17 de Julio, por favor tomen el boletin y llamen a la oficina o vengan los lunes y Martes de 9:30 am a 5:30 pm.**



Yo amo,  
Señor, tus  
mandamientos



MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO – ALENTAR UN ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA (Gospel Meditations)

30 de julio de 2023

17º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Ahora, el Señor usa para su enseñanza las palabras tesoro, comerciante y red. Otras tres parábolas hermosas para aprender a trabajar por el Reino de los cielos. El comerciante encuentra el tesoro y compra todo el campo, pero antes, vende todo lo que tiene para obtener lo mejor. ¡El tesoro! Nuestro tesoro, actualmente, podría ser nuestra amistad con Dios, dejar todo por conservarla, sería el reto. El comerciante en perlas finas hace lo mismo. Nuestras perlas pueden ser la bondad y la justicia, el trabajo de servir con amor a los que nos rodean. La red que recoge toda clase de peces, podría ser no tener prejuicios contra nadie, no discriminar a la persona por su raza o apariencia. Ya que todos somos iguales ante Dios.

Veamos ahora que nos dice el papa Francisco en su catequesis: *“El reino de los cielos es lo contrario de las cosas superfluas que ofrece el mundo, es lo contrario de una vida banal: es un tesoro que renueva la vida todos los días y la expande hacia horizontes más amplios. De hecho, quien ha encontrado este tesoro tiene un corazón creativo y buscador, que no repite, sino que inventa, trazando y recorriendo caminos nuevos, que nos llevan a amar a Dios, a amar a los otros, a amarnos verdaderamente a nosotros mismos” (07/26/2020).* Jesús nos advierte que al final de los tiempos seremos separados y habrá un destino eterno diferente. Ahora es el momento del cambio, de la conversión. Pon manos a la obra, no pierdas el tiempo.

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