



# ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

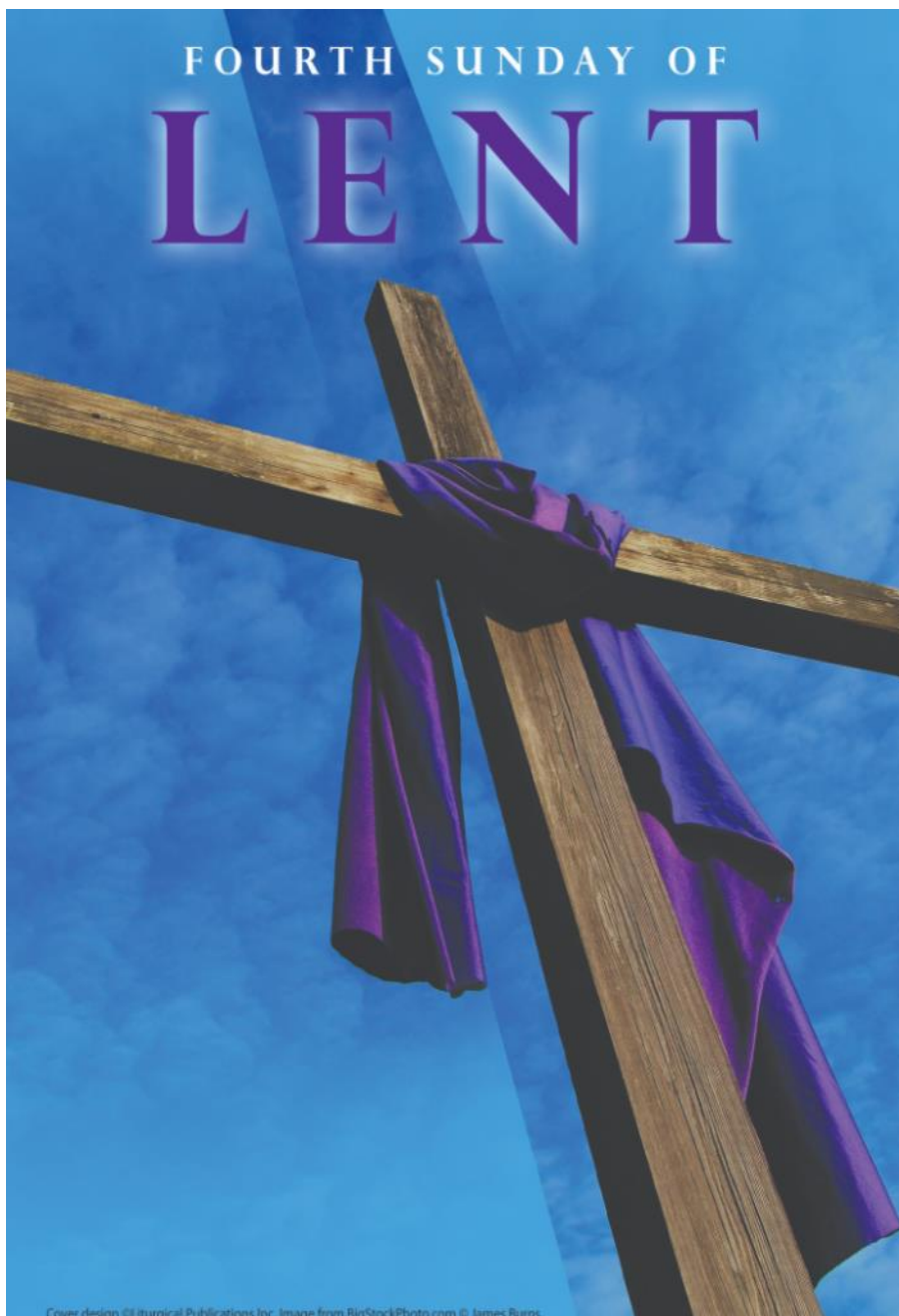
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206.242.5501

[WWW.SAINTTTHOMASTUKWILA.ORG](http://WWW.SAINTTTHOMASTUKWILA.ORG)

*Under St. Thomas' patronage, our parish aspires to evangelize our world through the beauty of our Liturgical worship; the goodness of our lives empowered by the Holy Spirit and ordered towards holiness in community; and conforming our minds to the Truths of Scriptures and Tradition.*

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 27, 2022  
Cuarto Domingo del Cuaresma, 27 de Marzo de 2022



## Liturgy Schedule

### Public Weekend Masses—In Church

Saturday: 5 PM English—Livestreamed

Sunday: 8:30 AM Spanish —Livestreamed

10:30 AM English—Livestreamed

### 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

All weekday Masses are also livestreamed

### 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

All major holidays: Closed



## Mercy And The Prodigal Son

Our parable this weekend is one of my favorite parables in the Bible. The story of the Prodigal Son gives us a keen insight into the heart of our Heavenly Father and His desire to welcome us back when we have strayed from the path of conversion.

The story reminds us that we are all tempted to chase after things that promise great fulfillment but bring only ruin and despair. This is the reality of sin. Before the new translation of the Roman Missal, when we used to renew our Baptismal Promises, there was the line, “Do you reject the glamour of evil and refused to be mastered by sin?” Sin has to be attractive and we must think even though we are disobeying God we will get some kind of benefit or payout from it. The sad reality is that it is a lie and an affront to our dignity. Sin breaks our relationship with God and with one another and leads us down a horrible path of selfishness and isolation.

We see the clear effects of sin when we read about the destitution of the younger son whose life choices have led him to a horrible place. Thinking only of better surroundings and physical comfort (probably never imagining he would never be welcomed back into his family) he sets out to ask if he can return and be a hired worker for his father. Much to his surprise, his father runs out to greet him and lavishes his love and affection upon him. He was probably expecting chastisement and anger for all of his past mistakes. One of my Bible commentaries says it so well:

“When God runs towards us, we cannot keep silent, but with St Paul we exclaim, Abba, Pater: ‘Father, my Father!’ (Rom 8:15), for, though he is the creator of the universe, he doesn’t mind our not using high-sounding titles, nor worry about our not acknowledging his greatness. He wants us to call him Father; he wants us to savour that word, our souls filling with joy [...].

“God is waiting for us, like the father in the parable, with open arms, even though we don’t deserve it. It doesn’t matter how great our debt is. Just like the prodigal son, all we have to do is open our heart, to be homesick for our Father’s house, to wonder at and rejoice in the gift which God makes us of being able to call ourselves his children, of really being his children, even though our response to him has been so poor” (St Josemaría Escrivá, *Christ Is Passing By*, 64).

Saint Luke’s Gospel, *The Navarre Bible* (Dublin; New York: Four Courts Press; Scepter Publishers, 2005), 140.

Lent is a wonderful time for us all to recognize that we are all prodigal children who are invited to experience the joy of returning to the Father’s house.

We as Catholics especially have the opportunity to experience God’s mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If you haven’t been to this Sacrament for awhile, I strongly encourage you to go before we celebrate Easter. Allow the mercy of God to overwhelm you and give you back again the joy of salvation (c.f. Psalm 51:14).

In Christ,  
Fr. Jim Northrop  
Pastor

# Parish Phone Directory

## Parish Staff

**Father Jim Northrop, Pastor**  
PH: 206-242-5501 extension 103  
Email: [fnorthrop@thegraceofpentecost.com](mailto:fnorthrop@thegraceofpentecost.com)  
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**Michelle Miller, Office Manager**  
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**Noemi Torres, Coordinator for Hispanic Ministry (Spanish)**  
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**Mona Fonseca, Coordinator for Faith Formation (English)**  
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**Jadelyn Manuel, Bookkeeper**  
Email: [jadelynm@saintthomastukwila.org](mailto:jadelynm@saintthomastukwila.org)

## Finance Council

Fr. Jim Northrop

Jim Duffy

Oren & Kathy Hadaller

Jadelyn Manuel

Michelle Miller

Arturo Garcia Vazquez

Barbara Wu

## Parish Volunteers

**Oren and Kathy Hadaller, Facilities and Maintenance**  
PH: 206-372-3887  
Email: [seatachadallers@comcast.net](mailto:seatachadallers@comcast.net)

**Paul Hardin, Infant Baptism, Youth and Adult RCIA**  
PH: 206-948-6065  
Email: [hardinp@comcast.net](mailto:hardinp@comcast.net)

**Barb Ridge, Coordinator for Liturgy**  
Email: [ollsttliturgya@aol.com](mailto:ollsttliturgya@aol.com)

**Mike Dix, Knights of Columbus—Grand Knight**  
PH: 206-498-6591

**St. Vincent de Paul Helpline**  
PH: 206-767-6449

## **EMERGENCY HELPLINE NUMBERS**

**Suicide Crisis Hotline:** 206-461-3222

**Mental Health Hotline:** 1-866-789-1511

**Teen Link:** 1-866-833-6546 / 206-461-4922

**Crisis Connection:** 1-866-427-4747

**Child Abuse:** 1-866-363-4276

**Domestic Abuse:** 1-800-562-6025

**National Domestic Violence:** 1-800-799-7233

**WA State Domestic Violence:** 1-844-762-8483

***New to St. Thomas? Welcome! Learn more about our diverse and vibrant community by visiting our website at [www.saintthomastukwila.org](http://www.saintthomastukwila.org). Registration forms are online, in the narthex of the Church, and/or in the parish office. Please place all completed parish registration forms in the collection basket or mail it in.***

***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 parish are welcome, however posting cannot be guaranteed. Email bulletin articles/notices to [mona@saintthomastukwila.org](mailto:mona@saintthomastukwila.org)***