

## **Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish and Saint Patrick Mission in San Patricio**

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**DIOCESE OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS**

**Pastor:** Rev. Philip J. Panackal  
**Plant Manager:** Gary Clarke (361-947-3566)  
**Bookkeeper:** Anna Ramos  
**Secretary:** Ann Clarke

**Deacon** Bill Cleavelin (361-208-2146)  
**DRE:** Michele Hoelscher (361-244-2138)  
**EDGE:** Rachel Unterbrink  
**LIFETEEN:** Cristina Robles

**Sacristan:** Jerry Knesek  
**Music:** Vic Benys  
**Custodians:** Andrea Peña  
Yolanda Tobon

**Holy Day Vigil @ St. Thomas:** 6:30 PM

**Saturday Vigil Mass @ St. Thomas:** 5:30 PM

**Weekday Masses @ St. Thomas:** 12:05 PM Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

**Saturday Vigil Mass @ St. Patrick:** 4:00 PM

**Holy Day Mass @ St. Thomas:** 7:00 PM

**Sunday Masses @ St. Thomas:** 8 AM & 11 AM

**Holy Day Mass @ St. Patrick:** 8:00 AM

**First Friday Mass @ St. Patrick:** 8:00 AM

**Confession:** 30 Minutes before Masses or by appointment



“Be Watchful! Be alert!  
You do not know  
when the time will come.”  
- Mark 13:33

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday — Friday 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

**LECTORS for DECEMBER 9-10, 2017**

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Annette Freeman  
Sunday, 8 AM: Linda Avila  
Sunday, 11 AM: David Gonzalez

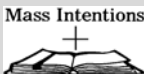


**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS for DECEMBER 9-10, 2017**

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Michael & Malynn Wahlen  
Sunday, 8 AM: Deacon Bill, Iris Rivera, Irma Saenz  
Sunday, 11 AM: Jesse & Velma Garcia, Julie Morris,  
Taryn Palacios, Melissa Pavell

**ALTAR SERVERS for DECEMBER 9-10, 2017**

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Miranda Pilarczyk, Reid & Katelyn Wilson  
Sunday, 8 AM: Lauren & Riley Unterbrink, Jace Compton  
Sunday, 11 AM: Abigail Smith, Andy Vela, Addison Williams



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2017 , 2017**

4:00 PM: **VIGIL MASS @ St. Patrick Mission**  
†Leslie Rychetsky & †Mattie Rychetsky & †Willie Mae Allison  
by Jerry & Carmen Rychetsky  
5:30 PM: **VIGIL MASS @ St. Thomas the Apostle**  
†Geneva Strmiska by Lauri O’Leary

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017 @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

8:00 AM: **Parishioners**  
11:00 AM: **COLLECTIVE MASS**  
†John D. Bowman II by John & Chi Bowman  
†Maria Nguyen by John & Chi Bowman  
†Augi Carpenter by Deane Charba & Shirlene Dillon  
†Horatio Oliveira by Michael Rektorik

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2017 - NO MASS**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017 @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

12:05 PM: †Kara Knesek by Jerry Knesek

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2017 @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

12:05 PM: †Robert Faas by John & Annette Freeman  
7:00 PM: **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2017 @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

12:05 PM: Ava Elizabeth Peña (Birthday) by Yolanda Peña

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2017 - Immaculate Conception**

12:05 PM: @ St. Thomas the Apostle  
†Anna Marie Kocurek by John & Annette Freeman

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2017 , 2017**

4:00 PM: **VIGIL MASS @ St. Patrick Mission**  
†David McCown by McCown Family  
5:30 PM: **VIGIL MASS @ St. Thomas the Apostle**  
**COLLECTIVE MASS**  
†Geneva Strmiska by Helen Heffner  
†Harlew Conally by Betty Conally  
†Boone Hans by Mary Ann Hans  
†Bobbie Hans by Mary Ann Hans  
†David Tajchman, Jr. by David & Susie Tajchman

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017 @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

8:00 AM: **Parishioners**  
11:00 AM: Thalia Martinez (Birthday) by Yolanda Peña

*Please Pray for ...*



- Emil & Mary Jo Prukop, Conrad & Christine Prukop,
- Hattie Kotara, Kenneth Haunschild, Charlie & Jean Chapman,
- John Quinn, Jerry & Margie Vogel, Alex Barrera, Jayla Silva,
- Leonard & Leona Logue, Glenda Tvrdik, Mason Leibham,
- Geneva Lintner, Don Ermis, Aida Deases, Gracie Herrera,
- Stephanie Landreth, Jim Landreth Sr., David Tajchman,
- Marty Douglas, Mary Heany, Patrick Nemecek, Diane Saenz,
- David Rowden, Rene Canales, James Light, Andrew Arevalo,
- Ron Kelley, Brock Pratt, Tommy Morgan, Vicki and Phillip
- Leon-Guerrero, David Cole, Helen Bisaha, Joe Hominick,
- Mr. and Mrs. Nick Linenberger, Juliet Johnson, Nikki Brown,
- Fr. Gabriel Franks, Elizabeth Blaylock, Nina Riebschleager,
- Margarita Marquez, Delma Tamez, Julia Jonse, John Floyd,
- Pablo De Leon, Dalia Gutierrez, Elva Rosas, Joe Puente,
- Jessica De Los Santos, Meliyah Loa, Margaret Shackleton,
- Karen Lee, Pauline Clarke, Rose Gwodsz, Amanda Villarreal,
- Frances Raska, Larry Fuhrken and Taylor Berry.

Please call/email the rectory office to include a person on the 2017 PRAYER LIST

**MEMORY TREE ORNAMENTS**

The Catholic Daughters Court #2290 of St. Thomas the Apostle are now selling ornaments for the memory tree for \$5.00. You can place your loved one’s name (whether living or deceased) on the back of the ornament and hang it on the tree. These special intentions will be remembered at the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Christmas Day. You can then pick up your ornaments. This fundraiser sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of St. Thomas the Apostle is for student scholarships and charitable works. Contact Jean Chapman for more information.

**ARK ANGEL TREE**

The EDGE Youth are sponsoring the ARK Angel Tree. The ARK Emergency Shelter has 34 children currently in their care. The Angels on the ARK Angel Tree have needs of the children from clothing to toys. Please support our worthy cause and offer hope during this Advent Season. Contact Rachel Unterbrink for more information.

St. Thomas the Apostle Website: [www.christon624.com](http://www.christon624.com)

**LITURGY OF THE DAY**

**INTRODUCTION.** Today we begin the season of Advent, preparing for the day when we celebrate God becoming flesh, becoming Incarnate, becoming one of us. In doing so, we are called upon to prepare our hearts for Christ's presence in our lives. Every Christian's goal should be to reveal Christ to those we encounter. As we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent, let us think of how we can make his presence incarnate in what we say and do.

We hear a lot about waiting today. With the Chosen People in exile, Isaiah humbly prays for God's saving presence. Feeling abandoned, the psalmist sings, "Let us see your face and we shall be saved." Saint Paul assures the Christians in Corinth that they have what they need from God as they wait for Christ's coming in glory. Finally, in Mark's Gospel, Jesus advises his disciples to be on the watch, like servants waiting for their master to return.

**REFLECTION.** The Old Testament reading today is a prayer thought to have been written during the time that the Chosen People were exiled in Babylon. The writer—not Isaiah, but writing in the tradition of Isaiah—acknowledges their sinfulness and expresses their repentance. He longs for God to "rend the heavens and come down," to redeem them from their sin. What he cannot know is that God will do exactly that in the person of Jesus. Though he could not imagine God's Son coming into the world, he prophesied that God could do awesome deeds for those who place their trust in the Lord.

The writer of this passage from Isaiah uses this wonderful image of God as the potter. Think of a potter throwing the clay on a wheel and shaping a pot or vase. The potter's hands immediately get messy and the wet clay. We who are the clay have this image of God actively shaping us through a hands-on, messy process. Perhaps this sense of intimacy enables the writer to plead with God the way he does.

The caution in today's Gospel—"You do not know when the time will come" — is reminiscent of a pop quiz in school or a surprise inspection at work (Mark 13:33). The only assurance of being prepared, then, is to be prepared always. But Jesus does not only come at Christmas or at the end of time. Jesus also comes to us every day. Let us prepare our hearts to receive him always.

*From the Desk of Fr. Philip*

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The Catholic Daughter's of St. Thomas the Apostle would like to invite all the ladies of the parish to our Christmas Party on December 4th from 6:00-9:00 p.m. in the I. C. Hall. We ask that you bring a side dish or a dessert. Main dish is provided. We also ask that you bring a new, wrapped gift (\$5-\$10 value) for a fun gift exchange. There will be bingo with prizes. We hope you can join us for the fun and fellowship. Contact Jean Chapman for more information at 361-215-7645.

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK:** *As we begin the season of Advent, how am I preparing a place for Jesus in my life?*

**INFORMATION CORNER**

**Altar Flowers:** Call the parish office to donate flowers for the altar.

**A.P.O.S.T.L.E.:** Meets on CCD Sundays from 9:15-10:30 AM in the K.C. Building.

**Baptism Class:** Call the parish office to register for this class. All paperwork must be completed before attending class or scheduling Baptism. See website for more information.

**Bulletin:** Bulletin announcements due on Tuesday by 10:00 AM.

**Catholic Daughters Court #2290:** Next meeting is the Christmas Party on December 4th at 6:30 PM in the I. C. Hall foyer.

**Knights of Columbus:** Next meeting is on December 4th at 6:30 PM in the K.C. Building.

**R.C.I.A.:** On CCD Sundays at 9:15 AM in the KC Bldg.

**SALT Youth Music Ministry:** Meet on Sunday before Mass. Practice every Tuesday from 7:30-9:00 PM in the Church.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Check the schedule for specific information on classes.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE: SUNDAYS**

CGS (4 yr. olds, K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>) — 9:15-10:30 AM in the RE Building

CCD (4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>) — 9:15-10:30 AM in the RE Building

R.C.I.C. — in the RE Building

EDGE (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>) — 9:15-10:35 AM in the I. C. Hall

CONFIRMATION — 5:30-7:30 PM in the I. C. Hall

LIFETEEN (9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>) — 5:30-7:30 PM in the I. C. Hall

**ST. PATRICK MISSION: WEDNESDAYS**

CCD — 5:15-6:30 PM in the Parish Hall

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MEAL**

The St. Thomas the Apostle annual parish volunteer appreciation meal will be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the I.C. Hall. Please RSVP via email to [tmslawofc@aol.com](mailto:tmslawofc@aol.com) by Friday, December 1, 2017. For more information contact John Harris or Tom Schumacher.

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING**

There will be two CORE classes for Creating and Maintaining a Safe Environment—December 7th and December 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the Religious Education Building. If you work and/or minister to the youth (CCD, CGS, EDGE, LIFETEEN, Youth Choir, etc.) and vulnerable adults (homebound or hospital ministries) of our parish, you need to attend one of these classes. If you are not sure if your certification is still up-to-date, please call Michele Hoelscher at 361-244-2138.

**OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK**

	<b>WEEKEND</b>
St. Thomas the Apostle	<b>\$9,615.23</b>
St. Patrick Mission	<b>\$248.00</b>



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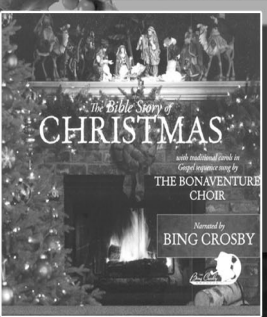
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