

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



*“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.”
- Mark 1:3*

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

LECTORS for DECEMBER 16-17, 2017

Saturday, 5:30 PM: David Gonzalez
Sunday, 8 AM: Diana Borse
Sunday, 11 AM: LIFETEEN

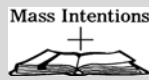


EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS for DECEMBER 16-17, 2017

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Dr. Tony & Yolanda Villarreal
Sunday, 8 AM: Deacon Bill, Kieran & Jenny Tobin
Sunday, 11 AM: LIFETEEN

ALTAR SERVERS for DECEMBER 16-17, 2017

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Madeline & Molly Dunn, Caleb Emory
Sunday, 8 AM: Amanda & Kendall & Taylor Dusek
Sunday, 11 AM: LIFETEEN



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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2017 - NO MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2017 @ St. Thomas the Apostle

12:05 PM: †Deceased Members of Catholic Life Insurance by Robstown Branch of Catholic Life Insurance #83

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2017 @ St. Thomas the Apostle

12:05 PM: †Proxey Prukop by Edwin & Joanne Dziuk
7:00 PM: ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2017 @ St. Thomas the Apostle

12:05 PM: †Ismael Peña, Jr. by Yolanda Peña

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2017 @ St. Thomas the Apostle

12:05 PM: †Monica Marie Villarreal by Tony & Yolanda Villarreal

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2017 , 2017

4:00 PM: VIGIL MASS @ St. Patrick Mission
 †Deceased Members of Catholic Life Insurance by Robstown Branch of Catholic Life Insurance #83

5:30 PM: VIGIL MASS @ St. Thomas the Apostle
Parishioners

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2017 @ St. Thomas the Apostle

8:00 AM: COLLECTIVE MASS
 †Margaret Johnson by Kenny & Kathy Johnson
 Fr. Gabriel Franks by Kenny & Kathy Johnson
 Juliet Johnson by Kenny & Kathy Johnson
 Elizabeth Blaylock by Kenny & Kathy Johnson
 Nina Riebschleager by Kenny & Kathy Johnson
11:00 AM: †Ismael Peña, Sr. (AOB) (AOD) by Yolanda Peña

St. Thomas the Apostle Website: www.christon624.com

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.

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, Karen Lee, Margaret Shackleton, Pauline Clarke, Rose Gwosdz, Larry Fuhrken, Taylor Berry, Amanda Villarreal, Frances Raska, Ernest Soileau, and Ryan Swindler.

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

MEMORY TREE ORNAMENTS

The Catholic Daughters 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 CDA Court #2290, is for student scholarships and charitable works. Contact Jean Chapman (361-215-7645) for more information.

OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| | WEEKEND |
| St. Thomas the Apostle | \$9756.86 |
| St. Patrick Mission | \$440.00 |



LITURGY OF THE DAY

INTRODUCTION. Mark's Gospel begins by introducing us to John the Baptist, who prepared the way to Jesus by calling people to acknowledge their sins and receive a baptism of repentance. Are we prepared to welcome Jesus into the world? To do so properly, we need to acknowledge our sins and receive forgiveness for the wrong we have done. As we celebrate today's liturgy, let us keep in mind our failings and resolve to keep Jesus in our minds and hearts as we interact with others.

Our God is a compassionate God and each Scripture passage we hear today reminds us of this. The people of Isaiah's time are living in exile, but Isaiah assures them that the Lord has not abandoned them. The author of Second Peter assures Christians that God is patient, allowing time for all to come to repentance. In Mark's Gospel, John the Baptist proclaims forgiveness from God through Baptism. As we face difficulties in life, let us remember that we are not alone: our compassionate God is always ready to comfort and forgive.

REFLECTION. It may be difficult to fully appreciate the extent of the suffering that the Jewish people underwent during the years of their exile in Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar's army had defeated Judah, the temple was destroyed, and the people were deported from the Promised Land. It would have been easy to lose hope, not knowing how long they would be without a home. The author of this section of Isaiah wrote during this bleak time. It would have been natural to write a diatribe or a lament. But he wrote a message of hope, a book of consolation as it is often called. One can hope that it consoled the faithful, giving them a vision of redemption. Such a vision can sustain us as we suffer trials in our own time.

In order to prepare people for the coming of Jesus, John the Baptist invited them to repent and be forgiven. The water of the Jordan River symbolized the cleansing of sin that Baptism brought to the believer. It also symbolized the renewal of life after being parched in the desert, as John was, as Isaiah was, as the people in exile were, as we still can be today.

From the Desk of Fr. Philip

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE AND CONFESSION
 @ St. Thomas the Apostle:
 Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 6:30 PM

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THIS WEEKEND
 Retirement Fund for Religious

THANK YOU
 A special thank you goes to the Knights of Columbus of St. Thomas the Apostle for the donation of \$5000 to the parish. Thank you again for your support and your continued service to your parish of St. Thomas the Apostle. Your generosity is most appreciated. - Fr. Philip

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK:

*In what ways do I feel parched, spiritually or emotionally?
 How can Jesus' presence satisfy my thirst?
 How can I prepare myself for Christ's presence?*

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 are due on Monday by 10:00 AM.
- Catholic Daughters Court #2290:** Next meeting is January 22, 2018 at 6:30 PM in the I. C. Hall foyer.
- Finance Council:** Next meeting is Thursday, December 14th at 6:00 PM in the I. C. Hall.
- Knights of Columbus:** Next meeting is in January 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.
- Walking with Purpose:** Meets on Wednesdays from 9:30-11:30 AM in the I. C. Hall.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

(Check the schedule for specific information on classes.)

- CONFIRMATION—FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2018 AT 6:30 PM**
AT CORPUS CHRISTI CATHEDRAL
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION—MAY 13, 2018 AT 8:00 AM**
- ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE: SUNDAYS**
 CGS (4 yr. olds, K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd) — 9:15-10:30 AM in the RE Building
 CCD (4th, 5th) — 9:15-10:30 AM in the RE Building
 R.C.I.C. — in the RE Building
 EDGE (6th, 7th, 8th) — 9:15-10:35 AM in the I. C. Hall
 CONFIRMATION — 5:30-7:30 PM in the I. C. Hall
 LIFETEEN (9th, 10th, 11th, 12th) — 5:30-7:30 PM in the I. C. Hall
- ST. PATRICK MISSION: WEDNESDAYS**
 CCD — 5:15-6:30 PM in the Parish Hall

LIFETEEN MASS
 December 17, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING
 There will be a CORE class for Creating and Maintaining a Safe Environment on 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 S. Thomas the Apostle or St. Patrick Mission, you need to attend this class. If you are not sure if your certification is still up-to-date, please call Michele Hoelscher at 361-244-2138.



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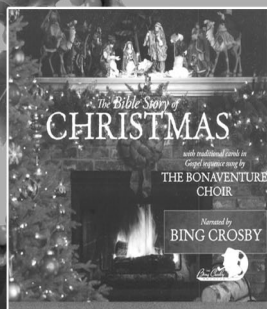
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