SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

MATTHEW 5:9

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 29, 2023

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Welcome to St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

Located at 720 East Beach Boulevard, Long Beach, MS

Address all mail to:
P. O. Box 1529
Long Beach, MS 39560

Please visit our website:
www.saintthomaslb.org

Pastor:
Fr. Cuthbert "Cuddy" O'Connell
228-493-9303

Parochial Vicar:
Fr. Vincent Ajayi
508-369-6732
FrVincent@saintthomaslb.org

In Residence:
Fr. Pat O'Shaughnessy

Deacons:
Ernest "Buddy" Vancourt
Jerry Dubuisson

Youth Ministry:
Kaitlynn Snow Claret
228-863-1610
youthministry@saintthomaslb.org

SRE Coordinator:
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RCIA Director:
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Pastoral Council:
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228-348-1997
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Community Center Rental:
Becky Mullins
228-863-1610
secretary@saintthomaslb.org

Prayer Intentions:
Martha Johnson
prayer@saintthomaslb.org

Please join us
before Mass
Tuesday - Thursday
8am
Friday
6am
to pray the
Holy Rosary!

MASS SCHEDULE

DAILY

TUES-THURS
8:30 AM
FRI
6:30 AM

CONFESSION
SAT
3:15 PM-3:45P M
or by appointment

SATURDAY VIGIL
4PM

SUNDAY
7:30AM, 9AM,
11:30AM & 5:30PM

VIRTUAL MASS
NATIVITY BVM
MON-FRI 8AM
SUNDAY 11AM

nativitybvmcathedral.org

JOIN OUR PARISH
To join the St. Thomas family,
follow this link:
SIGN ME UP!
Complete and submit
a registration form.

Paper forms can be found
in the office
or in the back of the church!

OFFICE HOURS:
Mon-Fri
9:00am-4:30pm
Phone: 228-863-1610
Fax: 228-868-6068

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Charles Fallo
webmaster@saintthomaslb.org

AROUND THE PARISH…

Adoration - Wednesdays, 9 am - 5 pm in CC
Baptism Class - 9:30am, Last Sat of every month, in the SRE bldg. Contact Sue Hoffman at 228-864-5868 to reserve your spot.
Choir - Small Group Practices. As per Choir Dir.
Good Shepherd Showcase - Open by appointment, call Bitsy (228-669-3750) or Darlene (404-630-6624).
Knights of Columbus - Meetings 1st & 3rd Thurs every month, 7pm (4th Degree follows after the 1st Thurs meeting)
KC Breakfast - 3rd Sunday, every month, 8am-11am, CC
Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus Meetings 3rd Thursday every month, 7pm
Lectio Divina - Meets every Tuesday after Mass to reflect on the following Sunday's readings.
Love Your Neighbor - 1st Sunday every month
Lunchkins - 2nd Wed, every month, 11:30am, CC
Mass & Confession - See the "Welcome" page.
Men's Bible Study - Every Thurs. 6pm, SRE Bldg. in the library.
Quilters - Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Tues of the month, 9:30am, Rm 222
SVdP Society - The office is open to help. Mon 9:30am-12:30pm, & Thurs 9:30am-12:30pm
Youth Gift Cards (SCRIP) - During office hours, Mon-Fri, 9am-4:30pm

Letters from Heaven

Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Jesus said,
"Blessed are they who mourn, for they ...

	W	I	L
O	C	L	B
M	O	E	E
F	R	T	D

W_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _."

Answer: *will be comforted*

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Team Levens Mardi Gras Drawdown

Long Beach Senior Center
20257 Daugherty Road Long Beach, MS
February 4, 2023 • Doors open at 6PM
Auction-Food-Drinks
Live music by The 3C Band
Contact Ashleigh @ 228-697-0387 to purchase a ticket.
$50 per ticket for a chance to win $5K!
One ticket admits 2 adults.
Ask about $10 insurance!

All Masses and Adoration will be held in the community center until further notice.

Adoration

Please help!! We are in need of adorers on each Wednesday. Due to illness some of our adorers have had to quit. Others are often out due to doctor appointments, etc. I would like to have at least five adorers for each hour. Please make an appointment to spend an hour with Jesus each Wednesday. These are the times where we are short:

10 am - 11am, 12 pm - 1pm,
1 pm - 2 pm, 3 pm - 4 pm,
4 pm - 5 pm

Please call or text Sue Hoffman at (228)313-0157 to set up your appointment

Thank You To Our St Thomas Parish Family

We deeply appreciate the love, prayers and support of our St Thomas Parish Family that you have shown us during this difficult time. It will always be remembered - we are humbled and grateful for everything.
The Frankie Castiglia Family

LIFE TEEN Leading Teens Closer to Christ
EDGE Catholic Middle School Ministry

LIFETEEN NEEDS YOUR HELP!

There are dates available for you and your group to sign up to provide meals for the month of April!
Feeding our teens is such an essential part of the community each night and it is also a great opportunity for YOU to have community! Grab some friends and come give back to the teens of our parish by signing up for food one week! https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BABA928A1FEC43-lifeteen
February 5th - Fortified - The goal of *Fortified* is to empower teens to care for their bodies with temperance and gratitude.
February 12th- NO LIFETEEN OR EDGE - Super Bowl
February 19th - NO LIFETEEN or EDGE - Mardi Gras
February 26th - Edified- The goal of *Edified* is to encourage teens to build up their minds in order to better know themselves and God.

MEN'S CURSILLO WEEKEND

There will be a Men's Cursillo retreat weekend on February 9-12th at the Sacred Heart Retreat Center in Dedeaux. It starts on Thursday evening and closes Sunday evening. It offers all who attend a personal encounter with Christ and provides a method to grow spiritually. There are still openings for this weekend. Applications are available online at biloxicursillo.org and the church office. For additional information, contact Glenn Waguespack 601-580-7638.

Have you seen this Cross?

The wearers are going through a period of intense instruction and formation to prepare to enter the Catholic Church at Easter. Please greet them with a few words of encouragement and offer up a couple of prayers to help them through this hectic time.

Presentation of the Lord

This Thursday, Feb 2nd, is the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. On this day, we celebrate the role of godparents in our lives and the lives of our children.

The godparent ministry is one of presence, witness , and support. Here are some ideas for godparents to build faith-filled relationships with their godchildren:

- First and foremost, pray for your godchild throughout his or her life that they may grow in faith!
- Sit with your godchild at Mass.
- Read Bible stories to your godchild.
- Teach them their prayers.
- Remember their birthdays and the anniversary of their baptism with encouraging letters.
- Be there each time a sacramental threshold is reached, like First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation
- Create your own special traditions around liturgical holidays.
- Tell your godchildren God loves them, every chance you get.

Develop a relationship where you naturally discuss God from the earliest days, so that when the child grows and has questions about the faith, you are a resource they know and trust.

And, at all times, remember what Pope Francis said, "A Christian is never bored or sad. Rather, the one who loves Christ is full of joy and radiates joy."

A GODPARENT'S PRAYER

God of light and love,
thank you for the joy of being godparents,
and the opportunities it gives us to journey with our godchildren as they grow in faith.
Keep us faithful to the promises we have made for them, that we may ever encourage them to deepen their relationship with you.
Help us to be prayerful, supportive, and loving, presence in the lives of our godchildren,
and to model to them a life rooted in you.
Amen

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Love Your Neighbor

February 4&5, 2023

"Amen, I say to you, Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." ~Matthew 25:40

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Bert Bertucci
Robert Bourdin
Betty Buckley
Carmel Buttam
Tamra Casey
Georgia Dauro
Dave Davis
Victor Davis
Harry Dawson Sr.
Mary Patricia Donald
Elise Fayard
D.J. Fillette
Dan Fillette
Steve Floyd
Tal & Betty Flurry
John Simon Franceski, II
John French
Gayle Frings
Cheryl Fulgum
Warren Galle
Mack Giuffria
Danny Goad
Bruce Gremillion
Ron & Nita Gross
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Lisa Hamel
John Hammons
Clara Hansen
Amos Hawes
Joe Helwick
John Hertz, Sr.
Jimmy Hillman
Pat Holliday
Nancy Howard
Johne Hughes
Molly Jimenez
Conrad Johnson
Marcus Kaszubowski
Donna Kostelnik
Bridgett Ladner
Lesley Lara
David LaRosa
Vance & Theresa Lipe
Jamie Manning
Cheryl McIntyre
Nancy & Fred McMartry
Mary Meighen
Mike Murray
Baby Anthony Nagle
Margaret Ann Necaise
Trudy Newland
Lucy Eryn Nguyen
Alan Noonan, Sr
Fr. Pat O'Shaughnessy
Henry & Gae Odenwald
Jean Ouellette
Sue Papania
Keith Pierce
Leah Robertson Price
Clayton &Lawanda Ramage
Robyn Richman
William Riggs, Jr.
Lauren Rivenbark
Josie Sandoz
Henry Schepens, Sr.
Deborah Schmitt
Kevin Schneider
Debra Seal
Raymond Stanley
Courtney Stewart
Jean Talbot
Fr. Michael Thornton
Richard Turpin
Pamela Ulrich
Gracie Weatherly
Adam & Elizabeth Weaver
Wayne Weeks
Peggy West
Joe Wilson
Frank Wittman, III

… and all others in our parish and community in need of healing, physical or spiritual.

PRAYER IS POWERFUL. PLEASE PRAY WITH US

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

THE PRAYER CHAIN

St Thomas has a very active Prayer Chain coordinated by Martha Johnson. Everyone on the email prayer chain will receive your request and join you in prayer for your intention. If you have a prayer intention, or if you would like to become part of the prayer chain, you may send an email to prayer@saintthomaslb.org or you may call the office.

We congratulate and rejoice with the newlyweds of our parish community who were recently united in marriage.

Charles Stradley and Maria Signorile

Rest in Peace in the Hands of Our Lord

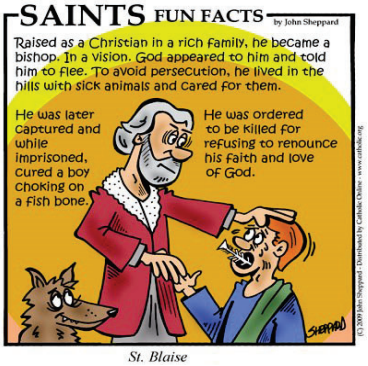
+Carolyn Ann Ladner Adam
+James Stabiler
+Carolyn Fayard

Mass Intentions

Tue,	**Jan. 31**	**8:30 am**	
Wed,	**Feb. 1**	**8:30 am**	*Mike & Darlene Barry*
Thu,	**Feb. 2**	**8:30 am**	*+Catherine Koch*
Fri,	**Feb. 3**	**6:30 am**	
	Feb. 3	**12:00 pm**	
Sat,	**Feb. 4**	**4:00 pm**	*+Gary Goulet*
Sun,	**Feb. 5**	**7:30 am**	
		9:00 am	*The people of St. Thomas Parish and Long Beach*
		11:30 am	
		5:30 pm	*+Laura Creel*

Pray for Our Clergy

January 29	*For Our Seminarians*
January 30	*For Our Deacons & Deacon Candidates & Those Discerning*
January 31	*Fr. Cuddy O'Connell & Fr. Vincent O. Ajayi*
February 1	*Fr. Everardo Mora- Tores*
February 2	*Fr. Braxton Necaise*
February 3	*Bishop Louis F. Kihneman III*
February 4	*For An Increase In Vocations*



St. Blaise

In honor of St. Blaise we will have BLESSING OF THE THROAT on Friday, February 3 at 6:30am and 12:00 pm

THE PEOPLE OF GOD'S KINGDOM

In our Gospel reading from Matthew, we hear the Beatitudes, the stirring opening to the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus is proclaiming the coming of the kingdom of God, and begins by considering what kind of people will enter and participate in this kingdom. They are the poor in spirit, the meek, the clean of heart, the peacemakers. We hear both Zephaniah and Paul echo this, as God specifically chooses the weak and the lowly to be God's agents in ushering in the reign of God. By living with humility and integrity, their hearts are open to being transformed by the grace of God. We too are called to live in this way. Jesus invites us to be people with open hearts, to receive God's blessing. And working through us, God may bless all of creation.

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OUR FASCINATING FAITH
Candlemas (February 2)

Thanks to Pope Sergius I (687–701), on February 2 we celebrate the Presentation of the Lord. On this day we also commemorate the Purification of Mary, who complied with the Jewish law (Leviticus 12:1). The law indicated that a mother should be purified forty days after giving birth to a boy child. Since the eleventh century the Purification of Mary and the Presentation of the Lord have been celebrated with the blessing of all the candles and candlesticks that are going to be used during the year. This is done with the hope that there will never be a lack of light, either material or spiritual, in the houses of the faithful. The root of the word candlemas is the Latin verb *candere* ("to shine") and from which also come the words candelabra and candlestick. This feast of candles recalls that Christians can, like Simon and the prophetess Anna in the temple, say that they also have seen salvation: Jesus the true Light who shines in the arms of Mary (Luke 2:25–38).

—Friar Gilberto Cavazos-González, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

CONSTANT FAITH

If you remain constant in faith in the face of trial, the Lord will give you peace and rest for a time in this world, and forever in the next.

—St. Jerome Emiliani

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — You humble of the land, seek justice and humility, and the Lord will be your protection (Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13).
Psalm — The Lord blesses the humble and gives them the heavenly kingdom (Psalm 146).
Second Reading — God chose the weak of the world, those who count for nothing, so that whoever boasts should boast in the Lord (1 Corinthians 1:26-31).
Gospel — Jesus taught from the mountain: Blessed are the poor in spirit (Matthew 5:1-12a).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday:	Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22:26b-28, 30-32; Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday:	Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a; Mk 6:1-6
Thursday:	Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]
Friday:	Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9; Mk 6:14-29
Saturday:	Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6; Mk 6:30-34
Sunday:	Is 58:7-10; Ps 112:4-9; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catholic Schools Week
Tuesday:	St. John Bosco
Thursday:	The Presentation of the Lord; World Day for Consecrated Life; Groundhog Day
Friday:	St. Blaise; St. Ansgar; First Friday; Blessing of throats
Saturday:	Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday

COLLECTION Jan. 14 & Jan. 15

Envelopes	$7,044.00
Loose	$1,596.00
Electronic giving	$4,855.00
eCatholic giving	$ 830.00

Lay Minister Schedule Feb. 4 & 5

	4:00 PM Mass	7:30 AM Mass	9:00 AM Mass	11:30 AM Mass	5:30 PM Mass
L/C	Patti Salvador	Jason Green	Brenda Allen	Jennifer Mink	Life Teen
EM1	**Priest**	**Priest**	**Priest**	**Priest**	**Priest**
2	Linda Carden	Phyllis Seal	Jerry West	Sue Hoffman	Deacon Jerry
3	Deacon Jerry	Mary Levens	Mike Barry	Ann Mink	Candy Dubuisson
4	Lisa Starita	Alice Necaise	Darlene Barry	Betty O'Brien	Jennifer Thomas
AS1	Sophia Starita	Ada Shirk	Connor Holliday		Life Teen
2	Ava Eleuterius	Jenna Shirk	Liam Holliday		
GR1	Jim/Joyce Delinski	Maureen Sheets	Rita Sadler	Sue Hoffman	Life Teen

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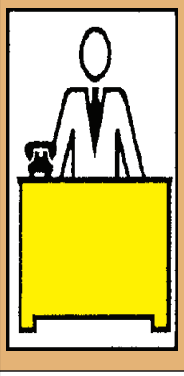

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