



# SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH



**February 19, 2023**  
**7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY**  
**IN ORDINARY TIME**

*"I say to you, love  
your enemies and pray  
for those who  
persecute you."  
- Mt 5:44*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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**Location** 720 East Beach Boulevard  
Long Beach, MS

**Mailing Address** P. O. Box 1529  
Long Beach, MS 39560

**Website** [www.saintthomaslb.org](http://www.saintthomaslb.org)

**Phone** (228) 863-1610  
**Fax** (228) 868-6068

**Office Hours** Monday-Friday  
9:00am-4:30pm

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

**Parochial Vicar:** Fr. Vincent Ajayi  
(508) 369-6732  
[FrVincent@saintthomaslb.org](mailto:FrVincent@saintthomaslb.org)

**Deacons:** Ernest "Buddy" Vancourt  
Jerry Dubuisson

Other staff and ministries are listed on the next page and on the web site

## OUR MISSION

The people of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Long Beach form a community of faith dedicated to Catholic teaching and tradition. We welcome God's children of all ages to worship with us.

Through prayer, education and formation, we are called by Jesus to bring hope and healing for life eternal to all people. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to use our personal and communal gifts to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

## 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!*

## MASS SCHEDULE

### TUESDAY-THURSDAY

8:30 am  
Rosary 8:00 am

### FRIDAY

6:30 am  
Rosary 6:00 am

### SATURDAY

4:00 pm (vigil)

### SUNDAY

7:30 am, 9:00 am  
11:30 am, 5:30 am

## MASS LIVE STREAM

### Nativity Cathedral

8:00 am Daily and  
11:00 am Sun

[nativitybvmcathedral.org](http://nativitybvmcathedral.org)

## CONFESSION

### SATURDAY

3:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.  
or by appointment

## AROUND THE PARISH...

**ADORATION** - Wednesdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Please consider making an appointment with Jesus on Wednesdays if you do not already have one. He would love to visit with you. Please text Sue Hoffman at (228) 313-0157 to have your name added to the schedule and have reminders sent each Tuesday. Community Center until further notice

**BAPTISM CLASS** - Last Saturday of every month at 9:30 a.m. in the SRE bldg. Contact Sue Hoffman (228) 313-0157 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 Thursday every month, 7pm - 4th Degree follows after the 1st Thursday meeting

**KC BREAKFAST** - 3rd Sunday, every month, 8am-11am Canceled until further notice

**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 Wednesday, every month, 11:30am, Canceled until further notice

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** - Every Thursday. 6pm, SRE Bldg. in the library.

**QUILTERS** - Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, 9:30am, Rm 222

**SVDP SOCIETY** - The office is open to help. Monday 9:30am-12:30pm, & Thursday 9:30am-12:30pm

**YOUTH GIFT CARDS (SCRIP)** - During office hours, Monday-Fri, 9am-4:30pm

COLLECTION	Feb 6 & 5	Feb 11 & 12
Envelopes	\$9,050.00	\$6,880.00
Loose	\$ 516.00	1,331.00
Electronic giving	\$7,371.00	\$1,390.00
eCatholic giving	\$ 820.00	\$425.00

## ASH WEDNESDAY COLLECTION

### Church in Eastern Europe & Africa

Support the collection and Build The Future for generations of Catholics to come. Learn more at [www.usscb.org/ccce](http://www.usscb.org/ccce).

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Baptism:** Sue Hoffman (228) 313-0157

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**Youth Ministry:** Kaitlynn Claret 228-863-1610

[youthministry@saintthomaslb.org](mailto:youthministry@saintthomaslb.org)

Let us pray together for the victims and all suffering from the earthquakes that devastated Turkey and Syria.

## SECOND COLLECTION

### The Black and Indian Mission Office

February 25-26, 2023

Learn more at [blackandindianmission.org](http://blackandindianmission.org)

# Lay Minister Schedule Feb. 18 & 19

L/C	4:00 PM Mass	7:30AM Mass	9:00AM Mass	11:30AM Mass	5:30PM Mass
	Donna Brown	David Gauthier	Jerry Levens	Annie Nguyen	Life Teen
EM1	Deacon Jerry	Deacon Jerry	Deacon Jerry	Deacon Jerry	Deacon Jerry
2	Vickie Kuehnlein	Jason Green	Sandra Ladner	Beverly Leslie	Cyndi Kouba
3	Chris Johnson	Alice Necaise	Cindy Levens	Sue Hoffman	Candy Dubuisson
4	Priest	Priest	Priest	Priest	Priest
AS1	Blake Johnson	Ada Shirk	Branson Sumrall		Life Teen
2	Ashlyn Johnson	Jenna Shirk			
GR1	Susan Bush		Susan Paternostro	Helen Bristol	Life Teen





## ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES ARE FORMING NOW.

Contact Dave Gauthier at 228 596 8835, or email [rcia@saintthomaslb.org](mailto:rcia@saintthomaslb.org), for more information.



Monday, February 20, 2023  
&  
Tuesday, February 21, 2023



Wednesday, February 22

Mass times

8:30 am

12:00 pm

7:00 pm



Daily Masses

Monday - Thursday

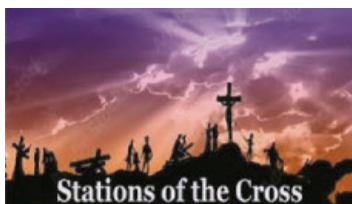
8:30 am

12:00 pm

Friday

6:30 am

12:00 pm



Fridays during Lent 7:00pm



Friday, March 3, 2023

(pending repair  
progress)

5:00pm 7:00pm

\$12:00 a plate



Boys Retreat #49

For all boys 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade

Friday March 3 - Sunday March 5, 2023

Sacred Heart Dedeaux Retreat Center

14594 Vidalia Rd.

Pass Christian, MS 39571

Cost \$60

Contact Desmond Hoda

(228) 493-8817

[DWHDC2@gmail.com](mailto:DWHDC2@gmail.com)

[2023 LIFT #94 Boys Retreat APPLICATION \(PDF\)](#)

I hear there is a Deacon from St. Thomas on the team!

## FEATURED ADVERTISER



American Red Cross

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Long Beach Community **Blood Drive**  
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Monday, February 27, 2023 noon - 5 pm

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Sponsor code "stthomaslb"  
or call 1-800-red-cross



## WHO ARE YOU CALLED TO BE?

A Meditation on service to the "least of these".

Is your heart in your faith? Or sometimes do you feel like you are just going through the motions? Maybe you're attending Mass, putting money in the collection basket, or maybe even volunteering occasionally? Is something missing?

Throughout the Gospels, we are called to follow Christ, but what does that mean in today's world? St. Paul writes in his letter to the Ephesians that: "we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Our speakers, Charles and Linda Walden, have been following Christ, walking in good works. Their answer to Christ's call to care for "the least of these" has taken them from the mountains of Haiti to lonely hospice rooms, from time spent with women in need to time spent with men behind bars. Come listen to their inspirational stories and challenges. Be ready for that final judgment when, called before the throne of God, we will be asked to attest to what we did for "the of these least."

Saint Thomas the Apostle, Long Beach, Lenten Mission  
March 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

6:00pm Lenten Supper Meet and Greet with Charles and  
Linda Walden followed by Mission Talk at 6:30pm.

Community Center

Contact: Dave Gauthier, (228) 596-8835 or  
[religiouseducation@saintthomaslb.org](mailto:religiouseducation@saintthomaslb.org)

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:** "Take no revenge and cherish no grudge against any of your people. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD." (Lv 19:18)

**Psalm:** The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

**Second Reading:** All belong to you, and you to Christ, and Christ to God. (1 Cor 3:22-23)

**Gospel:** "You have heard that it was said, *You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy*. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." (Mt 5:43-44)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 (8a)/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48  
Monday: Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29  
Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mk 9:30-37  
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Lk 9:22-25  
Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15  
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32  
Next Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Monday: Presidents' Day  
Tuesday: St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
Wednesday: Ash Wednesday  
Thursday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr  
Friday:  
Saturday:  
Next Sunday: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

**First Reading:** Leviticus teaches us that one way to be holy is to have an attitude of love and non-retaliation toward your family and neighbors. Can you name some examples when you have acted in this manner?

**Second Reading:** Paul teaches that as believers we are now "the temple of God" with the "Spirit of God" dwelling in us. How might we celebrate this new reality?

**Gospel:** Jesus challenges his disciples to love and to pray for your enemies. Why do you think Jesus encourages us to behave this way?

©LPi

## LIVE THE LITURGY

Want to be a real revolutionary? Defy the fallen impulses of human nature. Love your enemy. Pray for your persecutor. Give to those who would take. We can do hard things, Christians. We aren't perfect, but our God is.

## WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED



### Question:

Why do Catholics eat fish on Friday?

### Answer:

For centuries, meatless Fridays were the norm for Catholics throughout the world. Friday was chosen because that was the day on which Jesus died, and Christians wanted to find a way to honor that day with special prayers and acts of penance and self-denial. The practice of

abstaining from meat on Fridays — under pain of sin — grew out of that desire, and it became an official part of Church teaching until the time of the Second Vatican Council.

In the 1960s, there was a shift in the Church's thinking, in large part because there was a recognition that differences in cultures and economic realities meant that eating or not eating meat had different meanings for different peoples. For example, in cultures that were largely dependent on seafood or a vegetarian diet, abstaining from meat was no sacrifice at all. While in other places, eating fish and other kinds of seafood was actually something rare and special and not a sacrifice. This was all part of a basic reflection on "why we do what we do" among the Church's pastors.

Today, Catholics throughout the world are still instructed to abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent. The bishops of some countries, such as in England and Wales, ask Catholics to abstain from meat every Friday, continuing the older tradition. The Bishops of the United States have taken a slightly different approach, encouraging Catholics to honor Friday as a special day by abstaining from meat every Friday or by taking on some other work of penance or charity for the sake of others.

Regardless of what we choose to do, the real value in all of this is to see a reflection of Good Friday in each Friday, to remember the self-giving love of Jesus, and to honor that love through some sort of sacrifice or act of mercy. ©LPi

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### Going the Extra Mile

So often in life, people are concerned about the minimum requirements. What is the minimum I must do to get a certain grade? What is the minimum I need to do to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? What exactly do I have to do to make my boss happy?

This concern does not stop with everyday life but continues into our relationship with God. What exactly is required of me for salvation? How much time, talent, and treasure are enough? Jesus does not call us to this way of life, but instead to a life of unbounding generosity and surrender.

Jesus said, "If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles." The minimum requirement is one mile; however, we are not to be disciples of minimum requirements and checking off boxes. We are to go the extra mile because that is how we bear witness to the transforming power of Jesus Christ. That is how we change lives and share the grace and love we have received in abundance. Nothing ever changes by doing the minimum. There is no real glory given to God by responding to His call with the minimum.

Imagine a world where all of us good stewards give without ceasing and go far beyond the minimum requirements. Our world would be a very different place. So, what is stopping us? — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



## In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Marilyn Beard  
Betty Bentz  
David Berry  
Bert Bertucci  
Robert Bourdin  
Carmel Buttam  
Sylvian Carver  
Tamra Casey  
Ray Crosby  
Georgia Dauro  
Dave Davis  
Mary Patricia Donald  
Eunice Egan  
Elise Fayard  
D.J. Fillette  
Dan Fillette  
Vickie Fleming  
Steve Floyd  
Tal & Betty Flurry  
John Simon Franceski, II  
John & Marsha French  
Gayle Frings  
Cheryl Fulgum  
Warren Galle, Sr.  
Ron Gross  
Leo Hamel  
Lisa Hamel  
Blakely Hammons  
John Hammons  
Amos Hawes  
Joe Helwick  
John Hertz, Sr.  
Jimmy Hillman  
Nancy Howard  
Pam Howlell  
Johnne Hughes  
Molly Jimenez  
Marcus Kaszubowski

Lesley Lara  
David LaRosa  
Jamie Manning  
Nobilyn Marat  
Cheryl McIntyre  
Nancy & Fred McMartry  
Kevin Meadows  
Mary Meighen  
Kenny Necaize  
Margaret Ann Necaize  
Trudy Newland  
Lucy Eryn Nguyen  
Fr. Pat O'Shaughnessy  
Henry & Gae Odenwald  
Eugene Papania  
Leah Robertson Price  
Camille Patricia Pruitt  
Clayton & Lawanda Ramage  
Wayne Revis  
William Riggs, Jr.  
Raylin Riley  
Lauren Rivenbark  
Josie Sandoz  
Kevin Schneider  
Joe Seal  
Phyllis Seal  
Raymond Stanley  
Courtney Stewart  
Jean Talbot  
Fr. Michael Thornton  
Richard Turpin  
Fr. Joe Uko  
Pamela Ulrich  
Richard Vancourt  
Wayne Weeks  
Peggy West  
Joe Wilson  
Patricia Young

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

### 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](mailto:prayer@saintthomaslb.org) or you may call the office.



**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.



## Rest in Peace in the Hands of Our Lord

+Forest Bourgeois



## Mass Intentions

Tue,	Feb. 21	8:30am	Jasmine Fletcher and Boys
Wed,	Feb. 22	8:30am	
		12:00pm	
		7:00pm	
Thu,	Feb. 23	8:30am	+Catherine Koch
		12:00	
Fri,	Feb. 24	6:30am	
		12:00	
Sat,	Feb. 25	4:00 pm	+Irma Ladner
Sun,	Feb. 26	7:30 am	
		9:00 am	The people of St. Thomas Parish and Long Beach
		11:30 am	
		5:30 pm	



## Pray for Our Clergy

February 19	Fr. Adam Urbaniak Fr. Khoa Phi Vo
February 20	Fr. Peter Varghese, C.M.I.
February 21	Fr. Richard Wagner, S.S.J Fr. Thomas White
February 22	Fr. Marcin Wiktor
February 23	Priests & Brothers at St. Augustine Seminary & St. Stanislaus High School Retired, Extern Deceased Priests, Brothers, & Deacons
February 24	+Bishop Joseph Howze +Bishop Roger Morin
February 25	



## Adoration

Scandal, division, disease, doubt. The Church has withstood each of these throughout our very human history. But today we confront all of them, all at once. Our response at this moment is pivotal.

In the midst of these roaring waves, **Jesus is present**, reminding us that he is more powerful than the storm. He desires to heal, renew, and unify the Church and the world. How will he do it? By uniting us once again around the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. Join in Adoration of the Eucharist and help to usher in a revival of our church. To make an appointment to spend time with Jesus each Wednesday, call or text Sue Hoffman at (228)313-0157.



## Prayer

God, show me ways to help all people who love you.

## Mission for the Week

Together as a family send a care package to a missionary family.

## Sharing the Gospel

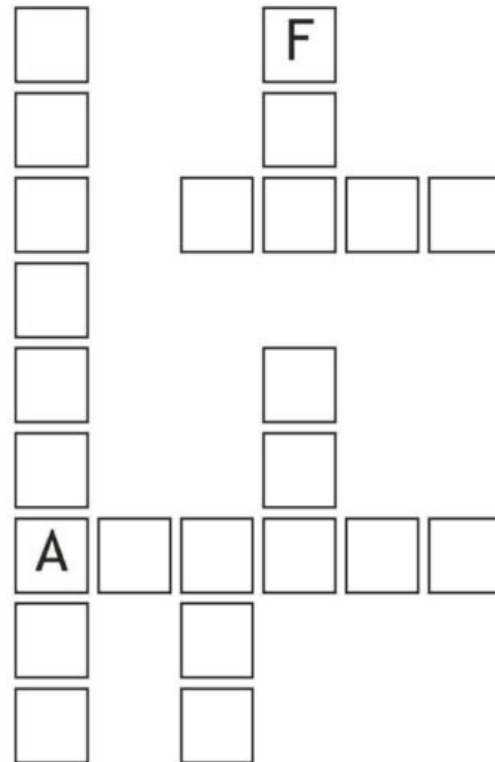
God wants you to love your family and friends. But God wants you to love him even more. Be kind to your mom and listen to her. Help your dad with chores and have fun with him. But also remember to help people who are not in your family. God gets excited when you share his love with others.

**Now color the picture!**



Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

**Pray for anyone who mistreats you.**



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