

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH



February 26, 2023

1st SUNDAY OF LENT

Then the devil took Jesus up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me." - Mt 4:8-9

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

OI P

Location 720 East Beach Boulevard

Long Beach, MS

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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

MONDAY-THURSDAY 8:30 am & 12:00pm

Rosary 8:00 am FRIDAY

6:30 am & 12:00pm 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 nativitybymcathedral.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



March 5th - Lent Family Night

March 12th - Satisfied - The goal of *Satisfied* is to teach teens about the soul, encourage them to care for it through a deeper prayer life, and convince them that they will only be satisfied if they seek God above all else.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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2023 CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL.

"You are the light of the world...you light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." ~ Matthew 5:14-16

As we enter the Lenten season of alms giving, you will find an envelope in your pew for 2023 Catholic Sharing Appeal. This appeal supports many ministries in our diocese.

Please help our Bishop by giving to this annual campaign. .

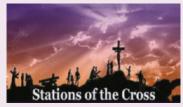


Lay Minister Schedule Mar 4 & 5

	4:00 PM Mass	7:30 AM Mass	9:00 AM Mass	11:30 AM Mass	5:30 PM Mass
L/C	Becky Mullins	Michelle Schuyler	Jerry Levens	Steven Mink	Life Teen
EM1	Priest	Priest	Priest	Priest	Priest
2	Bitsy McDonald	Richard Donald	Jerry West	Sue Hoffman	Cyndi Kouba
3	Linda Carden	Barbara Donald	Paige Stinson	Ann Mink	Traci Hollingsworth
4	Chris Johnson	Jennifer Schmidt	Cindy Levens	Betty O'Brien	Lori Lea Sawyer
AS1 2	Matthew Forehand	Maria Schuyler	Branson Sumrall		Life Teen
GR1	Susan Bush	Frankie Castiglia	Susan Paternostro	Helen Bristol	Life Teen



Daily Masses Monday - Thursday 8:30 am 12:00 pm Friday 6:30 am 12:00 pm



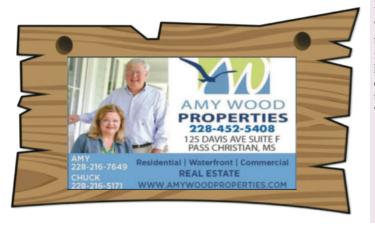
Fridays during Lent 7:00pm

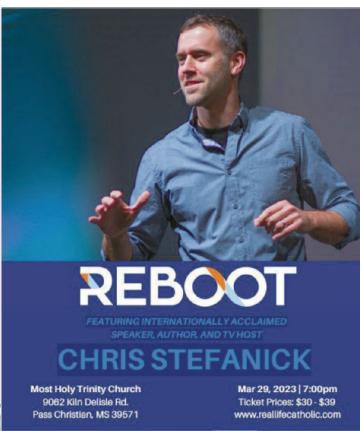


Friday, March 3, 2023 (pending repair progress) 5:00pm 7:00pm \$12:00 a plate



FEATURED ADVERTISER











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 least of these."

Saint Thomas the Apostle, Long Beach, Lenten Mission March 14th, 15th and 16th

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

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life. (Gn 2:7)

Psalm: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. (Ps 51)

Second Reading: For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous. (Rom 5:19)

Gospel: At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights. (Mt 4:1-2)

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. ©LPi

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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/

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/ Monday:

Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/

Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/

Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab,

2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 507a, 7bc-8/ Friday:

Mt 5:20-26

Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48 Saturday: Next Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 (22)/2

Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

First Reading:

Genesis teaches us that humanity's first sin against God was that of disobedience — they listened to the voice of the snake (the devil) rather than God's voice. What are some ways we can avoid the sin of disobedience in this first week of Lent?

Second Reading:

Paul teaches us that through Jesus' obedience to his Father (as opposed to Adam's "transgression"), believers receive the gift of God's grace and "acquittal" from condemnation. How can we all be more mindful of this divine reversal of fortunes during Lent?

Gospel:

Each year the Gospel reading for the season of Lent begins with the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert by the devil. What temptations are you willing to confront during the forty days of Lent? ©LPi

LIVE THE LITURGY

We worship a God who understands human limitation. A God who has felt the pangs of fasting and the enticements of the tempter. Our God, hungry and tired and weakened, has stared into the face of the devil and said: "I am stronger than you."

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Can you believe Lent is here already? It seems like not that long ago I was decorating a Christmas tree! Time waits for no one and that is why it is important to make a mindful commitment now to not let this Lenten season pass you by. It is a great time to focus on growing as an everyday steward. The temptations are always there to procrastinate or to give in to spiritual laziness, but the Church's observation of Lent offers us so many tools to help us get on track. Increased devotions such as Stations of the Cross, various parish missions, or Lenten-focused literature are all gifts that your parish may be offering to assist you in this season. With the Passion being the focus of Lent, it is easy to contemplate the value of true generosity. How could someone give more than Jesus? He gave until his life was spent on a cross. When contemplating how we can increase our generosity in all aspects of our life, we only need to look to the cross. Of course, this also brings home to us that more may be asked of us than we bargained. The temptation is to not give too much, out of fear that we might face persecution or worse.

But we take solace in the fact that we are disciples of One who had the same temptations. He overcame those temptations. He rejected the easy way out. His love and generosity could not be contained. He gave it all so that you and I have the chance to do the same. This Lent, look to the greatest example of stewardship that ever lived.

Jesus will show us the way to observe a Lent that will soon bring forth great Easter fruit.

~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent Monday: St. Gregory of Narek,

Abbot and Doctor of the Church

Tuesday: Wednesday: Thursday:

Friday: St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin

Saturday: St. Casimir 2nd Sunday of Lent Next Sunday:

THE 6 CHARACTERISTICS OF AN EVERYDAY STEW-ARDSHIP FOR LENT – MINDFUL

What is it that tempts you the most? Is it an action, a person, or a place? It is something that seems innocent enough, like a food, a drink, or an event? When you really start reflecting, you find that there are many temptations all around. Even if you are strong and never succumb to a certain temptation, it is still there waiting for a weak moment in your life.

One difficultly in the life of a disciple trying to live a stewardship way of life, lies in the temptations we never actually see. We are too busy thinking about past failures or successes, or we are fixated on what possibilities the future holds that we miss the important things going on in the present. Jesus could be standing directly in front of us, but we miss him because we are looking everywhere except straight ahead.

Being mindful means that we are looking out for how and when God will call us this very day. Our decisions this day will have a huge impact on the future. If we only look to the future, we will miss those important calls to action. We may even find ourselves in a desert of sorts, looking for any way out we can find. However, God may need us to give of ourselves for a reason we cannot yet discern while in that desert. We need to stay awake, be aware, and look for His hand in all things. If we don't, we may even miss the pathway out of that desert when it presents

~ Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

David Anderson Marilvn Beard David Berry Jan Berry Bert Bertucci Carmel Buttam Svlvian Carver Ťamra Casey Cody Crosby Ray Crosby Georgia Dauro Dave Davis Jo Debries Mary Patricia Donald Eunice Egan Elise Fayard D.J. Fillette Dan Fillette Vickie Fleming Steve Floyd John Simon Franceski, II John & Marsha French Cheryl Fulgum Warren Galle, Sr. Ron Gross Leo Hamel Lisa Hamel Blakely Hammons Amos Hawes Joe Helwick John Hertz, Sr. Jimmy Hillman Nancy Howard Pam Howlell Molly Jimenez Marcus Kaszubowski

Andy Kovacs

Lesley Lara David LaRosa Jamie Manning Nobilyn Marat Cheryl McIntyre Nancy & Fred McMartry Kevin Meadows Mary Meighen Matthew Meyer Kenny Necaise Margaret Ann Necaise 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 Josie Sandoz Kevin Schneider Joe Seal Phyllis Seal Elodie Smith Raymond Stanley Courtney Stewart Jean Talbot Fr. Michael Thornton Richard Turpin Fr. Joe Uko Pamela Ulrich Richard Vancourt Susan Walker Wayne Weeks Peggy West

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

THE PRAYER CHAIN

Joe Wilson

Patricia Young

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.



Have you considered giving an hour a week to Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration? It is a great Lenten activity. If you can't give an hour give what you can. Jesus is waiting for you. 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. You are also welcome to drop in anytime on Wednesday to spend whatever time you can in adoration.

Rest in Peace in the Hands of Our Lord



+Johne Hughes +James Short



Mon, Feb. 27	8:30am	
	12:00pm	
Tue, Feb. 28	8:30am	+Dee Dee Ray
	12:00pm	·
Wed, Mar. 1	8:30am	Mike & Darlene Berry
	12:00pm	ř
	7:00pm	
Thu, Mar. 2	8:30am	Jackson Schneblen
	12:00pm	
Fri, Mar. 3	6:30am	+Earl Ober
	12:00pm	+Florence &+Matthew Ajayi
Sat, Mar. 4	4:00 pm	+Steve Bosarge
	•	+Bill Howard
		+Clay Bishop
Sun, Mar. 5	7:30 am	+Bill Seal
	9:00 am	The people of
		St. Thomas Parish
		and Long Beach
	11:30 am	+Alison Poillion
	5:30 pm	



Our Deacons &

redition 20	Our Deacons &
	Deacon Candidates
	& Those Discerning
February 27	Our Seminarians
February 28	Fr. Cuddy O'Connell
	Fr. Vincent O. Ajayi
March 1	Fr. Satish Adhav
March 2	Fr. Vincent O. Ajayi
March 3	Fr. Godfrey Andoh
March 4	Fr. Charles Arthur

LENT

February 26

PRAYER - nurturing your relationship with God



 <u>FASTING</u> - giving something up to be closer to God

to be closer to God

http://leamoutlive.com/signs-of-trouble/no-sign/

 ALMSGIVING - sharing with those in need







Prayer

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to save me from the devil's tricks.

Mission for the Week

One really good way to fight the devil's tricks is to pray often. Pray in the morning, at noon, and at night.

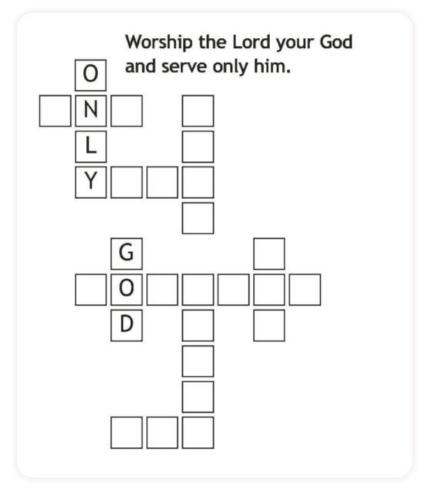
Sharing the Gospel

After Jesus' baptism, Jesus went 40 days without eating. Imagine how weak, hungry, tired and cranky you could be if you went that long without eating. That was the moment the devil chose to try to trick Jesus into using God's power selfishly. But Jesus was still strong. Jesus had been praying those 40 days, getting ready to save you and the whole world from the devil's tricks. Jesus would never give in to his enemy.

Now color the picture!



Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:







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BRING YOUR PASSION.



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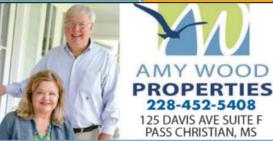
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