

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

720 East Beach Boulevard P. O. Box 1529

Long Beach, MS

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

www.saintthomaslb.org
Email:secretary@saintthomaslb.org

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

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

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

Deacons: Ernest "Buddy" Vancourt & Jerry Dubuisson

Mass Schedule

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am & 12 pm

Rosary 8 am

Friday 6:30 am & 12 pm

Rosary 6 am

Saturday 4 pm (vigil)

Sunday 7:30 am, 9 am, 11:30 am,

5:30 pm

Líve Stream Mass

Nativity Cathedral 8 am Daily and

11am Sun nativitybvmcathedral.org

Confession

Saturday 3:15 pm - 3:45 pm or

by appointment

Stations of the Cross

Friday 7:00 pm during Lent

Our Mission Statement

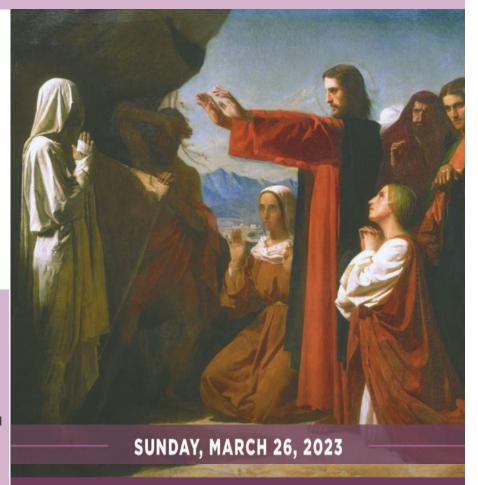
The people of St. Thomas the Apostle
Parish in Long Beach form a community of
faith dedicated to Catholic teaching and
tradition. We welcome God's children of all
ages to worship with us. Through prayer,
education and formation, we are called by
Jesus to bring hope and healing for life eternal
to all 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, go to <u>www.saintthomaslb.org/parish-registration-form</u>

Complete and submit a registration form.

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



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Gio

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live."
- Jn 11:25

Around Our 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.

BAPTISM CLASS - Last Saturday of every month at 9:30 a.m. in the Religious Education Center. 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 or dar.gbarry@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus - Meetings 1st & 3rd Thursday every month, 7pm - 4th Degree follows the 1st Thursday meeting KC BREAKFAST - 3rd Sunday, every month, 8am-11am, no breakfast during lent

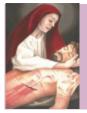
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COLUMBUS - Meetings 3rd Thursday every month, 7pm **LECTIO DIVINA** - Meets every Tuesday after Mass to reflect on the following Sunday's readings.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR - 1st Sunday every month **LUNCHKINS** - 2nd Wednesday, every month, 11:30am **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** - Every Thursday. 6pm, in the library of the Religious Education Center.

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



Mary's Way of the Cross

Fridays, March 31, 7:00 pm Presented by the St. Thomas Music Ministry and RCIA.

Collection March 18 & 19

COULOUIU	5.1001 OIU 10 CC.	-
Envelopes	\$7,238.00	
Loose	\$1,331.00	
Catholic Relief	\$ 929.00	
Catholic Education	on \$1.370.00	
Mission Collection	ons \$1,974.00	
Electronic givin	\$4,825.00	
eCatholic giving	\$ 770.00	



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secretary@saintthomaslb.org

Youth Ministry: Kaitlynn Claret (228) 236-4899

youthministry@saintthomaslb.org

2023 Catholic Sharing Appeal

In today's Gospel, Jesus glorifies His heavenly Father through His good work of bringing Lazarus back from death into life. We too can glorify the Father through our good work and good deeds. Giving a gift to the Catholic Sharing Appeal is one way to expand the good work of the Church. Please consider making a gift of any amount to this year's appeal.

Lay Minister Schedule April 1 & 2

	Becky Mullins D. Jerry/Beverly	David Gauthier Jason/Frankie	Gina Hicks Rodney/Jerry Levens	Alice Lawson Jennifer/Steven	Life Teen D. Jerry/Life Teen
EM1 2 3 4	Priest Deacon Jerry Linda Carden Chris Johnson	Priest Alice Necaise Jason Green Mary Levens	Priest Mena Sandoz Sandra Ladner Cindy Levens	Priest Ann Mink Betty O'Brien Sue Hoffman	Priest Deacon Jerry Candy Dubuisson Jennifer Thomas
AS1 2	Matthew Forehand Blake Johnson	Ada Shirk Jenna Shirk	Connor Holliday Liam Holliday		Life Teen
GR1	Jim/Joyce Delinski	Frankie Castiglia	Susan Paternostro	Gale Sheridan	Life Teen



FRIDAY NIGHTS 5 PM - 7 PM

Drive thru, eat in and take out will be available for \$12



Holy Week Schedule

April 2, Palm Sunday - WEAR RED

April 5, Wednesday -No 8:30 am Mass

11 am Anointing Mass

7 pm Parish Penance Service

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

April 6, Holy Thursday - No 8:30 Mass

7 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

April 7, Good Friday -No 6:30 am Mass

3 pm Stations of the Cross

7 pm The Lord's Passion

April 8, Holy Saturday -No 4:00 Mass

7 pm Easter Vigil Mass

Masses 7:30 am, 9 am, 11:30 am April 9, Easter Sunday -

No 5:30 Mass



ove Your non-perishable

We will collect groceries for the Long Beach Food Pantry to be distributed to our neighbors in need.

"For when I was hungry you gave me to eat, when I was thirsty, you gave me to drink," – Matthew 25:35



Lunchkins Please bring your favorite dish

Wednesday, April 5 at 12 pm, after 11 am Anointing Mass



THE 10TH ANNUAL

APRIL 29, 2023 8:00 AM THE BRIDGES GOLF CLUB . BAY ST LOUIS



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Parish Mission; March, 2023 You don't know what you missed!

Our Lenten Mission, led by Charles and Linda Walden, focused on "the Least of These", from chapter 25 of Matthew's gospel. This three-night event took us from our own local neighborhoods in the Diocese of Biloxi to storm-ravaged Haiti and back. Charles and Linda wove a story of the joys, sorrows, challenges, and rewards that they've experienced in their various ministries

within the Church. Highlighting Rachael's Vineyard, Hospice Care, Kairos Prison Ministry, and Walking With Moms In Need, the Waldens helped us understand the need to recognize and to serve "our neighbors" in these, and so many other groups.

From fervent prayer to peanut butter sandwiches, and everything in between, we were reminded that we are the hands of Christ. here to serve "the least of these".

Charles and Linda also reflected on the real presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist, and its importance in our lives as Catholics. They left us with some challenging questions;

Are we where Christ wants us to be?

Where can we use our talents to serve?

What is holding us back from commitment to service to the "least of these"?

A light Lenten meal was provided and served each night by parish volunteers, and inspiring music was provided by Lauren Hymel and the music ministry.

Deacon Jerry challenged us to be the parish that people look to as "a good neighbor."

Father Vincent closed the mission with a stirring challenge; to take the message of this mission to heart, and to be more than Sunday Catholics, reminding us that we must not just live our Catholic faith through attending Mass, receiving sacraments, and praying rosaries and novenas. We are each called to do more! Yes, all the things that we do inside the parish walls are good, but we are called to move outside of "the parish walls" and to go into the community through service to "the least among us." Thank you to our generous mission goers who donated over two thousand dollars to three ministries: Walking With Moms in Need, Rachael's Vineyard, and Kairos Prison Ministries.

TODAY'S READING

First Reading: I will put my spirit in you that you may live, and I will settle you upon your land; thus you shall know that I am the LORD. (Ez 37:14)

Psalm: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption. (Ps 130)

Second Reading: If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit dwelling in you. (Rom 8:11)

Gospel: "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." (Jn 11:25-26)

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

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/ Sunday:

Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27,

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/

Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11

Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30 Tuesday:

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/ Wednesday:

Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59

Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/ Friday:

Jn 10:31-42

Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/ Saturday:

Jn 11:45-56

Questions of the Week

First Reading: God revealed to the prophet Ezekiel his divine plan for the resurrection of the dead: "I (will) open your graves and make you come up out of them, my people!" As a person of faith, how does this promise give you hope? Second Reading: Paul insists that for believers, the Spirit dwelling within us gives life to our mortal bodies, raising us from the dead as Christ was raised from the dead. How does this impact your thoughts about death itself?

Gospel: In her grief and sadness at the death of her brother Lazarus, Martha professes her belief in Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God. As the season of Lent draws to a close, in what ways have the last 40 days strengthened your faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior? ©LPi

Question: Who invented the Stations of the Cross?

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Answer: The first Stations of the Cross were walked by Jesus himself on the way to Calvary. Known as the "Via Dolorosa" ("The Way of Suffering") or the "Via Crucis" ("The Way of the Cross"), it was marked out from the earliest times and was a traditional walk for pilgrims who came to Jerusalem. The early Christians in Jerusalem would walk the same pathway that Jesus walked, pausing for reflection and prayer. Later, when Christians could not travel to the Holy Land, artistic depictions of "The Way of the Cross" were set up in churches, or outside and Christians would walk from station to station, reading the Gospel account of the Passion, or simply praying and reflecting on each event. While the content or place of each station had changed, the intention was to make a mini-pilgrimage and follow--literally--in the footsteps of Jesus. This devotion became better known in the Middle Ages, and the Franciscans are credited with its spread. Lent is a time when many people make the Stations and some churches present Passion plays or Living Stations. But anyone can pray the Stations at any time. It is a simple and personal reflection on the passion of Jesus and what it means to us. ©LPi

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Offerings

Offer it up. My grandmother used this phrase with her children, and my mother, in turn, used it with me. It's a kind of verbal heirloom, a gift of wisdom from a generation that knew suffering all too well.

We know it to be true that God will work through our suffering if we invite him to. We know it and we have seen it — we have only to look at Lazarus and his sisters Martha and Mary. But, often, I invite God into my suffering only to tell Him where

I want Him to stand. I make an offering of suffering but expect God to do something very specific with it. Teach me this, please. Give me this specific grace. Show me this specific answer.

The happy ending in today's Gospel is not the alleviation of the sorrow Martha and Mary feel because it isn't alleviated, Lazarus is still human, and death still awaits him. Someday, his sisters will have to mourn at his tomb. That loss and pain will not be avoided.

The happy ending is that he is resurrected *now*, and in doing so, brings so many to belief. The happy ending is that Martha and Mary do not abandon discipleship because things didn't work out exactly the way that they wanted. They run out to meet Christ, eyes dim with tears. They fling themselves into his company and onto his providence.

They made an offering of their suffering, and their happy ending is that their offering was accepted.

"You are not in the flesh, on the contrary, you are in the spirit." — Romans 8:9

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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Of all Jesus' miracles, the most unsettling might be when he made a dead person alive. We know of three times when he did so: a girl, a young man, and Lazarus. The miracle teaches us he has the power of life and death. He

anticipates his resurrection. Sin hurts us. Some sin kills us, spiritually. The three miracles reveal to us that no matter our circumstances, Jesus can give life to us.

The three miracles are instructive of the three ways we feel dead. The little dead girl symbolizes sin before it has time to mature. She's in bed and, once alive, gets right back to her life. The young man is lying in his casket in a funeral procession. This is sin allowed to fester, to grow and

become somewhat normalized. Once raised, he has a short walk back home. Lazarus, a full-grown dead man, lies wrapped in burial bands in the tomb. Once he is raised, much needs to be done. He'll need to remove those bands, find new clothes, and travel all the way back home. That is sin allowed to go all the way, unchecked for months or years. It's the most spectacular of the three and reveals

Jesus' glory more than the others.

What hope that should give us, for us and those whom we love! Jesus knows our sin hurts us and can even kill us spiritually. No matter the extent of the damage, he is

always ready for the miracle of making the dead fully alive.

~Father John Muir

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Live the Liturgy

Though weighed down by grief, Martha rushes out to meet Jesus. She may not understand why he was absent upon the death of her brother, but her faithfulness is undeterred. In the hour of her heartbreak, she knows her only solace is in the embrace of the Lord. ©LPi



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

David Anderson Freddie Ladner Alan Barcelona Bubba Lang Lois Barcelona Doris Langton Lesley Lara Marilyn Beard David LaRosa Sandra Beaugez Jim Beck Mary Jane Lizana Jan Berry Jamie Manning David Bishop Nobilyn Marat Nancy Bosarge Matthew Mayer Gary Carver Kevin Meadows Maxine Carver Margaret Ann Necaise Sylvian Carver Lucy Eryn Nguyen Judith Cole Fr. Pat O'Shaughnessy Catherine Cooper Henry & Gae Odenwald Cody Crosby Mary Page Ray Crosby Eugene Papania Brayden Davis Carmel Patton Dave Davis Camille Patricia Pruitt Donna & Eddie Reid Jo Debries Lydia DeMoss Wayne Revis Barry Dreyfus Raylin Riley Rachel Rogers Eunice Egan Mike & Susan Evans John Rose Vickie Fleming Josie Sandoz John & Marsha French Mary Ann Scarborough Warren Galle, Sr. Kevin Schneider Ron Gross Joe Seal Leo& Lisa Hamel Phyllis Seal Blakely Hammons Elodie Smith Tracie Sowell Amos Hawes Clara Hansen Richard Turpin Jimmy Hillman Fr. Joe Uko Richard Vancourt Pam Howell Molly Jimenez Susan Walker Bette Johnson Donna Whaley Marcus Kaszubowski Patricia Young Andy Kovacs

Rest in Peace in the Hands of Our Lord

+Fay Browne +Nicole Deas +Kirk Fayard, Sr. +Julio Miranda +Donald Whaley



, i_,	Mass
	Intentions
- /	0am +Margie Taylor
Tue, Mar 28 8:30	00pm 0am 00pm
Wed, Mar. 29 8:30	Oam OOpm
Thu, Mar. 30 8:30	00pm 0am 00pm
111,1111111	0am 00pm
	0 pm +Harold & Carol Barnes
	+Inez Carver +Keokuk Landry +Clay Bishop +Florence & +Matthew Ajayi +Dina Trisotto Forbes
	0 am + 0 am The people of
7.00	St. Thomas Parish and Long Beach
	30 am 0 pm + Vaughn Potere, Jr



Pray for Our Clergy

Please Pray For An Increase In Vocations

Priests & Brothers at St. Augustine Seminar
St. Stanislaus High School
Retired, Extern & Deceased Priests,
Brothers, & Deacons
Our Biloxi Bishop, Priests & Deacons
Our Seminarians
Our Deacons & Diaconate Candidates &
Those Discerning

Fr. Cuddy O'Connell

Fr. Vincent O. Ajayi

Prayer Chain

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

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.

Adoration

March 31

April 1



The importance of Eucharistic Adoration is shown in the fact that the Church has a ritual that regulates it: the Rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction. This is an extension of the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which occurs in every Mass: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb." Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament flows from the sacrifice of the Mass and serves to deepen our hunger for Communion with Christ and the rest of the Church. The Rite concludes with the ordained minister blessing the faithful with the Blessed Sacrament. ~ www.usccb.org

Please join us in letting Jesus know we love Him and are anxious to spend time with Him. Please call Sue Hoffman at 228-313-0157 to let her know what hour you wish. Reminders will be sent every Tuesday afternoon. You are also welcome to drop in anytime on Wednesday to spend whatever time you can in adoration.

Prayer

Thank you for showing me that you are my Savior, Jesus.

Mission for the Week

Write the words, "God can do anything" on a piece of paper. Read it every morning.

Sharing the Gospel

Instead of telling people he was the Savior,
Jesus showed them. By raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus sent a message loud and clear. Jesus was the Savior they had all been waiting for. He was filled with God's love and power, and many people believed in him.

Now color the picture!



Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

GOD'S SON SICKNESS RISE				LAZARUS MARY MARTHA			BELIEVES WEEPING WRAPPED			
S	Α	0	Ε	Т	R	Н	I	Ε	Т	Υ
Т	W	R	Α	Р	Р	Ε	D	Н	0	Ν
0	Ε	K	R	W	Υ	Α	0	Υ	U	Т
В	Ε	L	I	Ε	٧	Ε	S	Т	S	Н
Н	Р	Т	S	Α	0	M	Υ	Ν	1	Ε
Т	1	Н	Ε	U	Ν	Α	J	Н	C	S
U	Ν	S	٧	M	Α	R	Υ	L	K	0
0	G	K	Н	Ε	1	Т	D	W	Ν	U
Т	Р	Α	Υ	Ν	0	Н	S	Υ	Ε	Α
1	S	D	L	Α	Z	Α	R	U	S	Н
G	0	D	S	S	0	N	F	Ε	S	R





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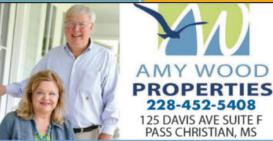
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