

December 10, 2023
2nd Sunday of Advent
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

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

Pastor: Fr. Satish Adhav (228) 863-1610 FrSatish@saintthomaslb.org

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Vincent Ajayi (228) 863-1610 FrVincent@saintthomaslb.org

Deacons: Ernest "Buddy" Vancourt & Jerry Dubuisson

Mass Schedule

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am

Rosary 8 am

Friday 6:30 am

Rosary 6 am

Saturday 4 pm (vigil)

**Sunday 7:30 am, 9 am, 11:30 am,
5:30 pm**

Confession

**Saturday 3:15 pm - 3:45 pm or
by appointment**

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 www.saintthomaslb.org/register-family-at-st-thomas-the-apostle and complete and submit a registration form. Paper forms can be found in the office or in the back of the church!



A VOICE OF ONE CRYING OUT IN THE DESERT:

*"PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD,
MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS.*

EVERY VALLEY SHALL BE FILLED

AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL SHALL BE MADE LOW."

—LUKE 3:4-5



Around Our Parish...

ADORATION - Wed., 9am-5pm

BAPTISM CLASS - Last Sat. of every month at 9:30am in the Religious Education Center. Contact Sue Hoffman (228) 313-0157 or psuehoffman@gmail.com to reserve your spot.

BELL CHOIR - Contact Tyler Brandon 228-424-2970
music2@saintthomaslb.org

CHOIR - Small Group Practices. As per Choir Dir.

GOOD SHEPHERD SHOWCASE - Open every other month before and after all masses. By appointment. Call Bitsy (228) 669-3750 or Darlene (404) 630-6624 or email svdp.member@saintthomaslb.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - Meetings 1st & 3rd Thurs. every month, 7pm - 4th Degree follows the 1st Thurs. meeting

KC BREAKFAST - 3rd Sun., every month, 8am-11am

LADIES AUXILIARY OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - Meetings 3rd Thurs. every month, 7pm

LECTIO DIVINA - Meets every Tues. after Mass to reflect on the following Sunday's readings.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR - 1st Sun. every month

LUNCHKINS - 2nd Wednesday, every month, 11:30am

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Every Thurs. 6pm, in the library of the Religious Education Center

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 - 4pm



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Contact Information

Baptism: Sue Hoffman 228 313-0157

psuehoffman@gmail.com

Maintenance: Ben DiLorenzo 228-596-3379

maintenance@saintthomaslb.org

Bell Choir Director: Tyler Brandon 228-424-2970

music2@saintthomaslb.org

Bulletin Editor: Alice Necaise 228-697-1943

bulletin@saintthomaslb.org

Liturgical Music Director: Lauren Hymel 228-863-1610

music@saintthomaslb.org

Pastoral Council: Deacon Jerry Dubuisson 228-348-1997

dfdchiefjerry@att.net

Prayer Intentions: Martha Johnson

prayer@saintthomaslb.org

RCIA Director: Dave Gauthier 228-596-8835

rcia@saintthomaslb.org

St. Vincent de Paul: Mike Barry 228- 822-0609

svdp.president@saintthomaslb.org

Secretary: Dee McKenna 228 863-1610

secretary@saintthomaslb.org

SRE Coordinator: Dave Gauthier 228-596-8835

religionseducation@saintthomaslb.org

Youth Ministry: Kaitlynn Claret 228 236-4899

youthministry@saintthomaslb.org

Income

Nov 25 & 26

ACH (electronic draft)	\$1,515.00
E-giving	\$1,170.00
E-giving Maintenance & Restoration	\$630.00
E-giving Insurance & Utilities	\$100.00
Regular Collection	\$8,531.00
Maintenance & Restoration	\$1,767.00
Insurance & Utilities	\$20.00
Pickle Jar	\$96.00
St. Vincent de Paul Pharmacy	\$40.00
Total	\$13,869.00

THANK YOU
for your generosity

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK



Christ is making a journey into each of our hearts this Advent. Clear away whatever blocks His way. Make straight the path. Invite Him in.

Eucharistic Adoration: *Spending time with Jesus*

Last Advent we began having Adoration on Wednesdays from 9:00 to 5:00. It has been very successful. The chapel is rearranged and is so conducive to prayer. Now we would like to expand our Adoration to include Fridays. It would be in the chapel from 7:00 to 5:00. We need two people signed up for each hour. Please call or text Sue Hoffman at 228-313-0157 to sign up for the time slot you would like. Adoration is a wonderful way to spend a quiet hour with Jesus. You will reap many blessings.

Prison Ministry Donations



Red bins are out for the prison ministry donations! They will remain out throughout Advent, so three full weeks.

- Plain white socks for men
- Stick deodorant for men
- Hard candy

There are over 400 male inmates so we will be collecting the socks and deodorants for men only. We will make a count for the women in a couple of weeks, usually only 8 – 12, and will buy for them with some of the cash donations at that time.

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Can you imagine reciting the Confiteor or praying the Our Father with 80,000 other Catholics at the Lucas Oil Stadium in July 2024? Talk about whenever two or more are gathered in His name!

Can you imagine five days with our brothers and sisters from across the country...encountering Jesus in the celebrations of the Eucharist, discovering the depth of our faith through powerful preaching, receiving the healing Jesus longs to give us, embarking on a new chapter in our faith journey, gathering with our Catholic family from every corner of the nation, being set on fire with the Holy Spirit like never before and being equipped and empowered to bring Christ's love to the world?

All this and more awaits us at the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, IN, July 17 - 21, 2024. You can learn more and purchase your 5-day pass at www.eucharisticcongress.org. But there are all those other pesky details concerning travel and hotel accommodations to deal with....but have no fear...your Diocese of Biloxi Eucharistic Revival Team has put together a package that includes everything you need...ground or air transportation, airport transfers, a luxury hotel near the stadium and event passes that are just waiting for you!

Take a moment to view this short video from the Eucharistic Congress promotion team regarding the National Eucharistic Congress (you may get an advertisement at first): www.youtube.com/watch?v=w4p1ENUCrRE

Use this link to view the travel packages arranged by Cara Group Travel: caragrouptour.com/nec-2024-tour

This is an amazing opportunity...a once in a lifetime experience...the first National Eucharistic Congress in 83 years!

Leading up to the Eucharistic Congress...there will be a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage consisting of 4 separate Eucharistic Processions starting at 4 corners of our country and ultimately meeting in Indianapolis.

South Mississippi is blessed to be on the Juan Diego route that begins in Brownsville, TX. Jesus and His 12 member Eucharistic Pilgrimage Team will arrive in Mississippi on Monday, June 10, 2024 and head to Mobile on Friday, June 14, 2024.

Your Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Team is planning 5 days of activities to include Masses, community gatherings and Eucharistic Processions across the Mississippi Gulf Coast. St. Thomas the Apostle is one of the stops. This will be an amazing public display of faith to our community.

Stand-by for more information. You may also visit for more national level information: www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org

Prayer is Powerful. Please Pray with Us

Chandler, Jadon Michael, Marie, Nellie Abadie, Adam Amort, Georgia Bailey, Darlene Barry, Nancy Damino, Jennie Grey, Beth and Danny Hansen, Cleve Harrington, Karen Hillman, Brenda Holley, Jerry Kenney, Myrtle Pace, Nancy Kurowski, Joe Bill Moller, Chris Papania

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

Mass Intentions

Mon	Dec 11	8:30 am	✙ Leaticia Ahaotu
Tue	Dec 12	8:30 am	✙ A.D. Taylor
Wed	Dec 13	8:30 am	✙ Edward Hatem ✙ Remiszewski Family
Thu	Dec 14	9:00 am	✙ Lois Garnett
Fri	Dec 15	6:30 am	✙ Marlene Falk ✙ Sir Joachim Kuyoro
Sat	Dec 16	4:00 pm	✙ Fred Drouant
Sun	Dec 17	7:30 am	✙ Dolores Snow
		9:00 am	✙ The people of St. Thomas Parish and Long Beach
		11:30 am	✙ Irma Ladner
		5:30 pm	✙ Sr Mary Ann O'Brien

 -Birthday ✙ -Deceased  -Healing  -Special intentions

 -Wedding Anniversary  -Ordination Anniversary

 **Rest in Peace**

*Harold Cioffi
Elizabeth Mitchell*

Dear Lord,
Open our eyes to the people
You have specifically placed in our path
so that we can speak healing
and comfort to them.
Help us to prepare for the coming
of Your kingdom, together.
Amen.



HEALING MASS

Friday, December 22, 2023 at 5:00 PM.
Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church
216 Saucier Ave.

Pass Christian, MS. 39571


Please bring your friends and those who
need special prayers in this powerful

Healing Mass.

Confirmation and Holy Orders

Pray For Our Clergy

Mon	Dec 11	Father Donbosco Puthiyakunnel
Tue	Dec 12	Father Mark Ropel
Wed	Dec 13	Father Alwin Samy Father Jacob Smith OFM
Thu	Dec 14	Father James Smith Father Mike Snyder
Fri	Dec 15	Father Michael Somers
Sat	Dec 16	Father S. Kennedy Soosa
Sun	Dec 17	Father Emmanuel Subaar

**Pray
for
Vocations** 

Priest Mass Assignments

Sunday	December 10	7:30 am	Fr Vincent
		9:00 am	Fr Vincent
		11:30 am	Fr Satish
		5:30 pm	Fr Satish
Monday	December 11	8:30 am	Fr Vincent
Tuesday	December 12	8:30 am	Fr Satish
Wednesday	December 13	8:30 am	Fr Satish
Thursday	December 14	8:30 am	Fr Satish
Friday	December 15	6:30 am	Fr Vincent
	SVdP School	8:30 am	Fr. Satish
Saturday	December 16	4:00 pm	Fr Vincent
Sunday	December 17	7:30 am	Fr Satish
		9:00 am	Fr Satish
		11:30 am	Fr Vincent
		5:30 pm	Fr Vincent





December 10th – Annual Gingerbread Competition
 December 17th – Christmas Break
 January 7th – Spring Kick off! Bingo Night



Angel
Tree



Thank you so much for your wonderful response to our two Angel trees. Please return gifts unwrapped by Sunday, December 10th. Remember to attach the angel to your gift. You may use a gift bag. We just want to make sure if the children are in the same family they have an equal amount and if not we will fill in. Also we will supply the parents what they need to wrap the gifts themselves since this is important to them. May God bless your family for sharing the true meaning of Christmas.
 The Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary



Make a Gift for the Christ Child

Children are invited to bring gifts to the Christ Child during the 4pm Mass on Christmas Eve. Come early to the community center where children will make and wrap gifts to bring up to the Baby Jesus during the offertory procession. All ages welcome. This is great way for our children to adore Jesus on His birthday. Children will pick up their gift after Mass in the east foyer to place it at they Nativity Scene in they home.

December 24th, 3:00pm (Prior to 4:00pm Mass.)

Parish Community Center

Contact: Dave Gauthier; 228-596-8835,

religiouseducation@saintthomaslb.org

A Journey with the Holy Family

A Special Children's Program

at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Long Beach
 to Celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family



We will start in Nazareth
 with the Annunciation to Mary.

Then accompany
 Mary to greet Elizabeth
 in the Judean hill country.



We will travel with Mary
 and Joseph from Nazareth
 to Bethlehem.

Then with the Holy Family
 to Egypt and return to
 their home in Nazareth.



Open to children ages five through eleven.

Thursday & Friday, Dec 28th & 29th,

8:30 am until 11:30 am

Saturday Dec 30th, 8:30 am until 2pm.

**Pageant recreating the
 Journey of the Holy Family**

Saturday at 1pm

**Register before Dec 18th so we can be
 ready to welcome your child!**

No Registration Fee. Please provide
 pre-wrapped snacks and drinks.

For Further Information contact

religiouseducation@saintthomaslb.org



GOSPEL MEDITATION

December 10, 2023 2nd Sunday of Advent

We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, **"The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God."** It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

— Father John Muir

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Readings for the week of December 10, 2023

Sunday:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
Monday:	Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday:	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Observances for the week of December 10, 2023

Sunday:	2 nd Sunday of Advent
Monday:	St. Damasus I, Pope
Tuesday:	Our Lady of Guadalupe
Wednesday:	St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
Thursday:	St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Friday:	
Saturday:	
Next Sunday:	3 rd Sunday of Advent

Catholic Trivia

Q: Which two sacraments are traditionally administered by bishops instead of priests?

Find the answer somewhere in the bulletin

Last Weeks Catholic Trivia

Q: What is the title for the superior of a women's monastic religious community?

A: Abbess

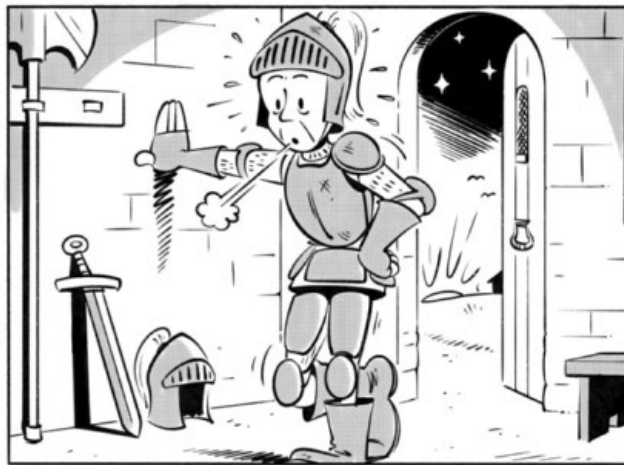
QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading: The prophet Isaiah offers comfort and hope to the Israelites who were captive in Babylon in proclaiming that the glory of the Lord is returning to Israel. Do you have family or friends who could use words of encouragement from you?

Second Reading: Peter speaks of being at peace while we wait for the promise of new heavens and a new earth when Christ returns. What gives you peace of mind these days?

Gospel: Fulfilling the prophecies of Isaiah, John the Baptist proclaimed the arrival of Jesus, "one mightier than I... (who) will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Where do you sense the Holy Spirit present in your life?

"Why was St. George tired?"



"He worked the knight shift."



St. George is the patron saint of England, he was a soldier and officer in the Roman army who was martyred for his faith in Jesus.

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Kid's Corner



SHARING THE GOSPEL

When you play on a baseball team, you learn how to pay attention. Your coach reminds you and your teammates to stay ready. You learn to watch the ball. Those are good lessons to learn, because Jesus wants you to pay attention, too. Keep your eyes and your mind on Jesus, so you're ready when he comes.

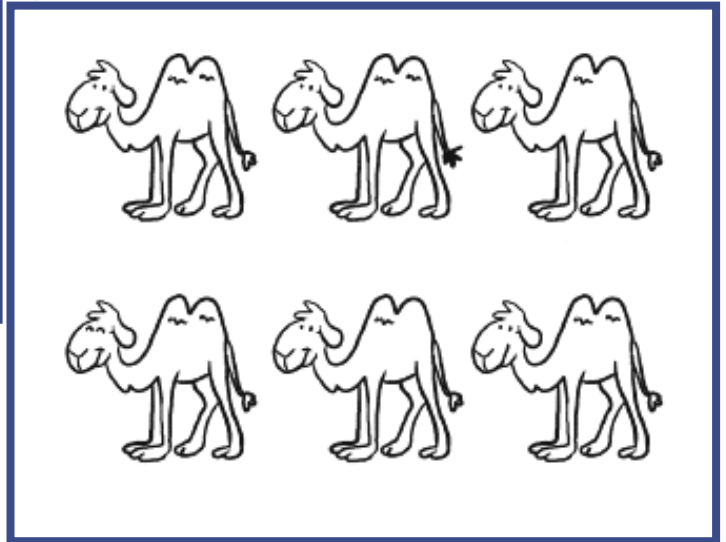
SOMETHING TO DRAW

Draw a picture of yourself being kind to a friend.



PUZZLE

Find the 2 identical camels.



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



2nd Sunday of Advent • Mark 1:1-8

PRAYER

Jesus, help me to learn from my mistakes.
Thank you for forgiving me.

MISSION

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Ask them to forgive you.

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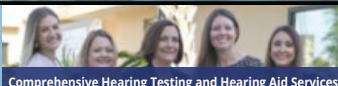
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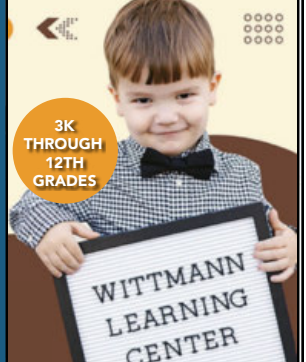
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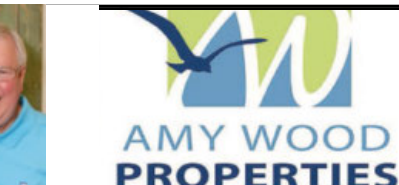
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