

August 24, 2025

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

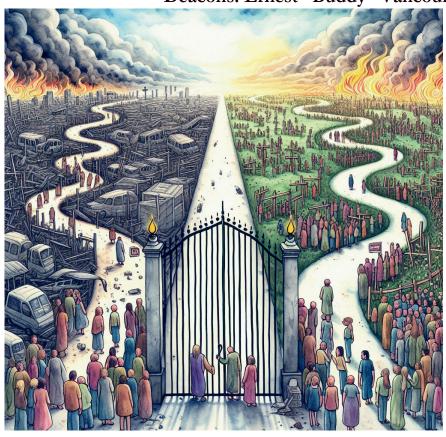
720 East Beach Boulevard, P. O. Box 1529, Long Beach, MS Phone: (228) 863-1610, Fax: (228) 868-6068 www.saintthomaslb.org

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

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

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Braxton Necaise (228) 863-1610 FrBraxton@saintthomaslb.org

Deacons: Ernest "Buddy" Vancourt and Jerry Dubuisson



MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Thursday:

Rosary: 8:00 am Mass: 8:30 am **Wednesday:**

6:00 pm in Chapel

Friday:

Rosary: 6:00 am Mass: 6:30 am

Saturday:

4:00 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday:

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

Holy Days:

Vigil Mass 6:00pm

Holy Days:

(Contact the Parish Office for Mass Times)

JOIN OUR PARISH!

To join the St. Thomas family, please visit our website or scan the QR code:



Complete and submit a registration form.

Paper forms can be found
in the office or in the back of the Church.

RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday:

5:30 pm in Parish Office

Saturday:

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

ADORATION:

Wednesday:

9:00 am -5:00 pm

Friday:

7:00 am - 5:00 pm

SACRAMENTS Baptism

Annie Nguyen 832-794-5309

anniemsu@yahoo.com

Marriage

Contact the office at 228-863-1610 at least six months in advance of the planned wedding date.

FAITH FORMATION OCIA Director

Dave Gauthier 228-596-8835

rcia@saintthomaslb.org

SRE Coordinator

Dave Gauthier 228-596-8835

religiouseducation@saintthomaslb.org

Youth Ministry

Kaitlynn Claret 228-236-4899

youthministry@saintthomaslb.org

MUSIC MINISTRY

Liturgical Music Director

Lauren Hymel 228-863-1610

music@saintthomaslb.org

Bell Choir

Tyler Brandon 228-424-2970

music2@saintthomaslb.org

Lifeteen Music

Timothy Raborn

Tim@raborn.org

CHARITABLE

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Mike Barry 228-822-0609

svdp.president@saintthomaslb.org

OTHER CONTACTS

Altar Server

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altarserver@saintthomaslb.org

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DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES SUBMISSION IS THE TUESDAY BEFORE THE

PUBLICATION DATE.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE BULLETIN EMAILED TO YOU,

PLEASE CONTACT LORI LEA SAWYER

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

4:15pm - 5:15pm Life Teen Music Practice in the Church

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

9:30am - 12:30pm Society of St. Vincent de Paul Offering Help in the REC SVdP Office

6:30pm - 8:00pm OCIA Sessions Begin in the REC Multi-Function Room

7:30pm - 8:30pm Youth Band Practice in the Church

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

2:00pm - 4:00pm Homeschool Band rehearsal in the REC Multi-Function Room

5:00pm - 8:00pm Cub Scouts Den Meeting in the REC SRE Classrooms

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

9:00am - 6:00pm Adoration in the Chapel

9:15am - 11:15am Lectio Divina in the REC Library

5:00pm - 8:00pm Cub Scout Den Meeting in the REC SRE Classrooms

5:30pm - 6:00pm Reconciliation in Parish Office

6:00pm - 7:00pm Mass in Chapel

7:00pm – 8:30pm Rehearsal for Music/Prayer Teams for Charismatic Mass in the Church

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

9:30am - 12:30pm Society of St. Vincent de Paul Offering Help in the REC SVdP Office

2:00pm - 4:00pm Homeschool Band rehearsal in the REC Multi-Function Room

5:00pm - 7:00pm LBHS Reunion Meeting in the Community Center

5:00pm - 6:00pm Mercy Meals Team Peno/Wilkinson Meeting in the Edge Room

5:45pm - 7:45pm Music Ministry Practice in the Choir Rehearsal Room

6:00pm - 7:00pm Men's Bible Study in the REC Library

6:00pm – 7:00pm Ladies' Bible Study in the REC SRE Classrooms 6:00pm – 8:00pm New Wine in the REC Multi-Function Room

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

7:00am - 5:00pm Adoration in the Chapel

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

9:30am - 10:45am Baptism Seminar in the REC Library

3:15pm - 3:45pm Reconciliation in the Church Confessional

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

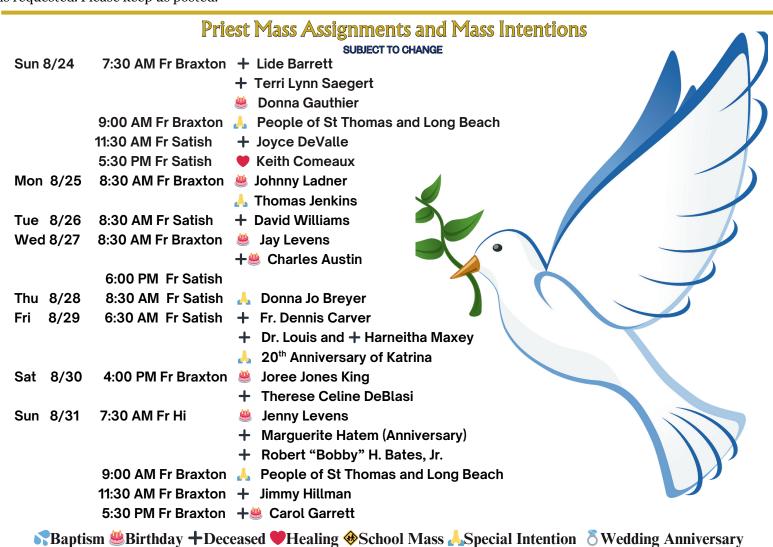
4:15pm - 5:15pm Life Teen Music Practice in the Church

Volunteer Spotlight

This week, we are pleased to highlight the invaluable contributions of Annie Nguyen, a dedicated volunteer in our Church who plays a crucial role in preparing families of our children for the Sacrament of Baptism. As the first sacrament of initiation into our Catholic faith, Baptism is the foundation for the rest of a Christian's life as it lays the groundwork for our Christian spiritual journey. Through the conferral of sanctifying grace-the divine life of God within us-Baptism transforms us into children of God and heirs to Heaven. To facilitate the blessings of this sacrament, Annie conducts a monthly baptism seminar that is mandatory for parents and godparents. If you have any questions regarding the seminar or the baptism process within our Church, please do not hesitate to reach out to Annie at 832-794-5309 or via email at anniemsu@yahoo.com. She is eager to assist parents and godparents in their role of the Sacrament of Baptism for our children. We give thanks for the blessing of Annie and all that she does to help and guide parents and godparents through the baptismal process in our Church. Among her other activities in and for our Church, Annie also volunteers her time to teach fourth graders in the School of Religious Education (SRE), and she has been a Faith Companion for OCIA. Thank you, Annie. Your Church family is truly appreciative of your dedication, leadership, and the countless ways you enrich and bless our community.

Prayer is Powerful! Please Pray with Us.

Shane Anderson, Cinnamon Barry, Ryan Bass, Kate Bohlke, Charles Cospelich, Trace Favre,
Jerry Garrett, Mary Gibson, Bette Johnson, Marcia Kruse, Jarvis Lankford, Frances Carrubba LeBlanc,
Philip LeBlanc, Al Lewando, Kenneth Ray McDonald, Carter Misson, Wayne Papania, Cristal Pierro,
Laurie Rivenbark, Elizabeth Shaw, Robert Shirley, Ann Sizemore, D. Smith, Henry Stiller, Tyler Tillman,
Eddie Valeros, Mark Walker and all others in our parish and community in need of healing, physical or spiritual.
If you know of someone who is homebound, in a hospital or care facility and would like a visit from Father Satish, Father
Braxton, Deacon Buddy or Deacon Jerry, and/or their name on the bulletin prayer request list, please call the Parish Office at
228-863-1610 or email bulletin@saintthomaslb.org or secretary@saintthomaslb.org with the person's name, address, phone
number, name of hospital or care facility and room number. Names will appear in the Bulletin for 4 weeks unless an extension
is requested. Please keep us posted.



Pray For Our Clergy

Sun 8/24 Father Khoa Phi Vo Mon 8/25 Father Marcin Wiktor Tue 8/26 For Our Seminarians Wed 8/27 † For Our Deceased Popes † Bishop Joseph Howze † Bishop Roger Morin Thu 8/28 For Retired Priests, Extern and † Deceased Priests, Brothers, and Deacons Fri 8/29 For Priest and Brothers at St. Augustine Seminary and St. Stanislaus High School Sat 8/30 For Our Deacons and Those Discerning Sun 8/31 Father Satish Adhav

Father Braxton Necaise

Income for 8/16/25-8/17/25

Regular	\$12,445.00
ACH Regular	\$4,990.00
E-giving Regular	\$2,000.00
Insurance and Utilities	\$300.00
Building Restoration	\$270.00
Special Collection	\$1,280.00
Capital Campaign	\$1,261.00
Pickle jar	<u>\$134.31</u>
TOTAL	\$22,680.31
Thank You 722,000.51	

for your generosity!



Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)

OCIA Weekly meetings are on Monday evenings at 6:30pm in the Religious Education Center. For more information contact Dave Gauthier at (228) 596-8835 or rcia@saintthomaslb.org.



Altar Server

ANNOUNCEMENT

Training for new altar servers will take place on Saturday, September 13, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon.

We welcome all who are interested in being a part of this wonderful ministry. Please sign up by email at altarserver@saintthomaslb.org.

As a special treat, all new servers will enjoy fellowship and delicious pizza after the training session!

Please note that this training is exclusively for new altar servers. Our current altar servers will have a refresher training session at a later date.

0173





\$20 Per mother/son \$10 each additional son

GRADES K - 8



Register NOW for Classes
so that your child can be welcomed
by name on the first day!
The Registration Link is on the
parish website SRE/CCD page.
The first day of classes for
Grades Pre-K through 5 is
Sunday, September 7th,
beginning at 10:10am.

SAINT THOMAS

Lifeteen &

2025-2026 Registration

6TH-12TH GRADE EVERY SUNDAY EVENING AFTER 5:30PM MASS UPSTAIRS

MESSY GAMES KICK OFF

September 7th AT THE **PAVILLION!**



to our newest Parishioners: Charles and Elaine Pique ean Michael and Elizabeth Doody Charmaine Sykes Hilton and Family



ATTENTION! The St. Thomas Children's Bell Choir will begin rehearsals soon! All children, ages 7 – 12, are invited to participate! No experience necessary! The bell choir will rehearse on **Mondays from 6:00pm - 6:45pm** in the Church. We will perform at the **Christmas Eve Mass.**

If you are interested, please contact Tyler Brandon by email at music2@saintthomaslb.org.



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Mondays at 6:00pm September 8th-November 3rd St. Thomas Catholic Church Community Center

SCHEDULE:

6:00pm - Fellowship

6:15pm - Video Presentation

6:45pm - Small Group

7:15pm - Dismissal

REGISTRATION:

Scan the QR code to register! For more information, contact: Morgan Bergeron (337) 356-7747

morgancomeaux13@gmail.com

https://programs.paradisusdei.org/join/659BB8



INTERESTED IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH? LOOKING FOR A CHURCH? NEED A SPIRITUAL BOOST?

We Invite You ALL to the next CO-ED ARISE

Saturday-Sunday, September 13th & 14th, 2025 Sacred Heart Retreat Center Dedeaux 14595 Vidalia Road Pass Christian

Sponsored by the Cursillo Movement South Mississippi of the Diocese of Biloxi, ARISE is designed primarily for those who would like to receive additional information about the Catholic faith in one meaningful and information-filled weekend.

It is especially for:

- **✓** Non-Catholic spouses of practicing Catholics
- ✓ Non-Catholic Teachers, parents, grandparents affiliated with a Catholic School who want to know more about the Catholic faith
- ✓ Catholics who have been away from the church for a while or those needing a spiritual boost
- ✓ Those without a current church/religion who are "searching" for a new one or more meaningful faith experience
- ✓ Those taking/have taken instruction (OCIA/RCIA) in the Catholic faith

Applications for the weekend can be found at www.biloxicursillo.org (copy attached at Arise-Application-current as of 02-2025.pdf)

For more information, please contact Dale Dorcik at (228)365-4057 or Jill Olsen at (228)327-5090.





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\$20 per person

Snacks and Drinks \$1 Each

FUN AND FELLOWSHIP AWAITS!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2025 AT 2:00PM
Senior Citizen Center in Long Beach
20257 Daughtery Road
Everyone is welcome to enjoy
a fun-filled afternoon with friends and games!

FEATURED ADVERTISER



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MY AMAZING PRAYER WARRIORS:

THANK YOU so much for all of the prayers, cards, and food during both surgeries, hospital stay, and recovery period! It is with love that I tell you that I appreciate you and attribute my wellbeing, after just 4-5 weeks, to your steadfastness in your prayer life! Now, I can get back to our church garden for the rest of the season, but not before I thank and ask you to thank Lucy Van Dahlem and family for tending to them for at least the last 6 weeks!

Barb Halupka

August 24, Sunday

First Reading: Isaiah 66: 18-21 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 117: 1, 2 Second Reading: Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13 Alleluia: John 14: 6

Gospel: Luke 13: 22-30

August 25, Monday

First Reading: First Thessalonians 1: 1-5, 8b-10 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 149: 1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b Alleluia: John 10: 27

Gospel: Matthew 23: 13-22

August 26, Tuesday

First Reading: First Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 139: 1-3, 4-6 Alleluia: Hebrews 4: 12

Gospel: Matthew 23: 23-26

August 27, Wednesday

First Reading: First Thessalonians 2: 9-13 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 139: 7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab Alleluia: First John 2: 5

Gospel: Matthew 23: 27-32

DAILY READINGS

August 28, Thursday

First Reading: First Thessalonians 3: 7-13 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 90: 3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17 Alleluia: Matthew 24: 42a, 44

Gospel: Matthew 24: 42-51

August 29, Friday

First Reading: First Thessalonians 4: 1-8 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 97: 1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12

> Alleluia: Matthew 5: 10 Gospel: Mark 6: 17-29

August 30, Saturday

First Reading: First Thessalonians 4: 9-11 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 98: 1, 7-8, 9 Alleluia: John 13: 34

Gospel: Matthew 25: 14-30

August 31, Sunday

First Reading: Sirach 3: 17-18, 20, 28-29 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 68: 4-5, 6-7, 10-11 Second Reading: Hebrews 12: 18-19, 22-24 Alleluia: Matthew 11: 29ab

Gospel: Luke 14: 1, 7-14

https://www.catholicgallery.org/mass-reading/daily-mass-readings-2025/

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Today's Gospel reading is the third of three parables in chapter 13 that deal with the theme of the unexpected reversals brought by the Kingdom of God. The other two parables are about the tiny mustard seed that grows into a large tree and the small amount of yeast that makes a large batch of dough rise. All three are about the few and the many and the Kingdom of God.

As this parable opens, Luke reminds us that Jesus is making his way to Jerusalem. This journey, this exodus as Luke refers to it, makes up the entire middle of the Gospel. He is teaching as he goes. A question from the crowd gives Jesus the chance to make a prophetic statement. Luke uses this question device a number of times in his Gospel. A few weeks ago, the question "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" led to the parable of the Good Samaritan. The question about will only a few be saved uses typical Christian language about salvation but also expresses the Jewish concern about whether everyone who calls himself a Jew is actually faithful to the covenant. This was a concern of the Pharisees.

Jesus answers that they must strive in the time remaining to enter through the narrow door because many will be trying to get in but won't be strong enough. He then moves to a parable about another door. (The translation says "gate" then "door," but the same Greek word is used.) Once all those entering the master's house are in and he locks the door, there will be no way for others to get in. Those left outside may knock, but the master will say he doesn't know them. Unlike the Gospel reading from a few weeks ago where Jesus was teaching about prayer, and we were told to knock and the door would be opened, in this parable, the master will not open and say he does not know us. People from the north, south, east, and west will take our place inside. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets will take our place in the Kingdom of God. Those who do not make it through the narrow door will be cast out to where there is wailing and grinding of teeth.

The image of the door is replaced in the final verses of the parable with the image of the heavenly banquet. Two passages from the Book of Isaiah influence the conclusion. Isaiah 43:5-6 speaks of God bringing Israel's descendents back from the east and from the west, the north and the south. And Isaiah 25:6 speaks of the Lord providing a feast of rich foods and choice wines for all peoples on his holy mountain. The answer to the question if only a few will be saved is no. In the end, many will be saved, but many who thought they would be saved will not be saved. The parable is a prophetic warning to repentance in order to enter the kingdom.

FAMILY CONNECTION

Families take advantage of certain days throughout the year to celebrate individuals in the family and to make sure that they know that they are not taken for granted. As a family, recall all of the days that someone in the family was celebrated in the past year—birthdays, Mother's Day, Father's Day, anniversaries, graduations, and so on. Next, challenge each individual to recall what gifts were received on the day(s) on which he or she was celebrated.

Emphasize that these days are intended to express appreciation in a special way but are not meant to replace the appreciation that we should always show. Point out how, at times, families can take one another for granted. Explain that in this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells a story about some people who took something for granted and paid a price. Read aloud Luke 13:22-30. Explain that, in this story, some people took it for granted that they could enter the house whenever they wanted, but the master locked the gate and would not let them in after hours. Point out that Jesus was warning his listeners not to assume that they will have eternal life in heaven and not to take this invitation for granted.

As a family, commit to showing appreciation for one another in the days ahead, striving to not take for granted any of the many things that family members do in their roles as parents and children.

https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection







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