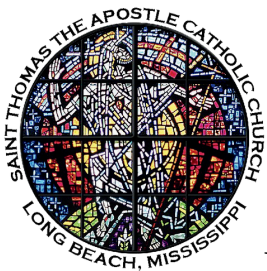


JUNE 28, 2026

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

720 East Beach Boulevard, P. O. Box 1529, Long Beach, MS 39560

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

Deacons: Ernest "Buddy" Vancourt and Jerry Dubuisson

ADORATION:

Wednesday:

9:00am to 5:00pm

in the Chapel

5:00pm to 6:00pm

in the Church

Friday:

7:00am - 5:00pm

in the Chapel

ROSARY AND DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Monday - Friday

Recited 35 Minutes

Before Daily Masses

RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday:

5:00pm

Saturday:

3:00pm - 3:45pm

or by appointment

MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday-Thursday:

Mass: 8:30am

Wednesday:

6:00pm

Charismatic Mass

Friday:

Mass: 6:30am

Saturday:

4:00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday:

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

Holy Days:

(Watch the Bulletin
for Mass Times)

MATTHEW 10:37-42

**Whoever loves
father or mother
more than me
is not worthy of me.**

Whoever does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

Whoever receives you receives me.

Whoever receives me receives the one who sent me.

Whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple—amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.

*Take up your cross.
Follow Jesus.*

LOVE HIM. FOLLOW HIM. SERVE OTHERS. ✝ THAT IS DISCIPLESHIP.

JOIN OUR PARISH!

To join our 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.

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.

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

religioeducation@saintthomaslb.org

saintthomaslb.org

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Kaitlynn Claret 228-236-4899

youthministry@saintthomaslb.org

saintthomaslb.org

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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

Darlene Barry 404-630-6624

svdp.president@saintthomaslb.org

saintthomaslb.org

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Lori Lea Sawyer 228-863-1610

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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, JUNE 28

8:00am – 9:00am

10:00am – 10:30am

10:15am – 11:30am

4:15pm – 5:15pm

6:40pm – 8:00pm

MONDAY, JUNE 29

ALL DAY

9:30am – 12:30pm

7:30pm – 8:30pm

TUESDAY, JUNE 30

9:00am – 12:00pm

9:30am – 12:30pm

2:00pm – 4:00pm

5:00pm – 8:00pm

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

9:00am – 5:00pm

9:15am – 11:15am

9:30am – 12:00pm

6:00pm – 8:00pm

5:00pm – 6:00pm

6:00pm – 7:00pm

THURSDAY, JULY 2

9:30am – 12:30pm

2:00pm – 4:00pm

5:45pm – 7:00pm

6:00pm – 7:00pm

6:00pm – 7:00pm

6:00pm – 8:00pm

7:00pm – 8:00pm

FRIDAY, JULY 3

ALL DAY

ALL DAY

7:00am – 5:00pm

6:00pm – 8:00pm

SATURDAY, JULY 4

ALL DAY

9:00am – 10:00am

2:30pm – 3:30pm

3:00pm – 3:45pm

3:30pm – 5:30pm

SUNDAY, JULY 5

ALL DAY

8:00am – 9:00am

10:30am – 11:30am

4:15pm – 5:15pm

6:40pm – 8:00pm

Music Ministry Rehearsal in the Choir Rehearsal Room

Baptisms in the Church

Music Ministry Rehearsal in the Church

Life Teen Music Practice in the Church

NO Life Teen or Edge Meeting (Summer Break)

The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul

Society of SVdP Offering Help in the REC SVdP Offices

Youth Band Practice in the Church

Quilters Meeting in the REC Multi-Function Room

Society of SVdP Offering Help in the REC SVdP Offices

NO Homeschool Band practice (Summer Break)

NO Cub Scouts (Summer Break)

Adoration in the Chapel

Lectio Divina in the REC Library

Society of SVdP Monthly Meeting in the REC Multi-Purpose Room

NO Cub Scout Meeting (Summer Break)

Reconciliation/Adoration/Praise/Worship in the Church

Charismatic Mass in the Church

Society of SVdP Offering Help in the REC SVdP Offices

NO Homeschool Band practice (Summer Break)

Music Ministry Practice in the Choir Rehearsal Room

Women's Bible Study in the REC Classroom

Men's Bible Study in the REC Library

NO New Wine Meeting (Summer Break)

Knights of Columbus Meeting in the KC Room

Parish Office Closed

Feast Day of St. Thomas the Apostle

NO Adoration in the Chapel

Catholics in Recovery Meeting in the REC Multi-Function Room

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Holy Mass in the Church

Music Ministry Rehearsal in the Church

Reconciliation in the Church Confessional

Long Beach Food Pantry Collection in East Foyer before/after Mass

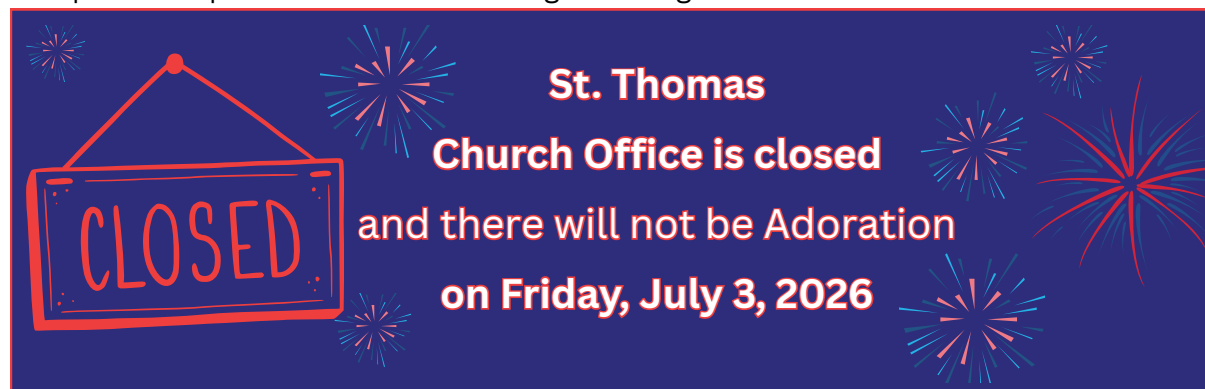
Long Beach Food Pantry Collection/East Foyer before/after Masses

Music Ministry Rehearsal in the Choir Rehearsal Room

Music Ministry Rehearsal in the Church

Life Teen Music Practice in the Church

NO Life Teen or Edge Meeting (Summer Break)



PRAYER IS POWERFUL! PLEASE PRAY WITH US.

Danny Alderman; Cinnamon Barry; Patsy Bishop; Corey Bradley; Fran Bridgett; Susan Bush; David Croenne; David Waye Culley; Ashley Dean; Lori Dunaway; Doug Farwell; Dominick Fimiano; Linda Frost; Nita Gross; Angela Hogue; Nancy Howard; Bettye Johnson; Mary Kirkpatrick; Frances Carrubba LeBlanc; Angela Ladner Lucas; Kenneth Ray McDonald; Claire McMillan; Baby Ruth McMillan; Candi Mauffray; Ron Mauffray; Susie Michael; Diane Moudy; Don Moudy; Danny Ray Necaise; Margaret Necaise; Huguette Necessary; Sr. Cecilia Nguyen; Dayne O'Neal; Sheri Paulson; Peggy Rester; Stephanie Rester; Joe Schepens; Donna Levens Schmidt; Robert Shirley; Jacob Smith; Belinda Tipton; Karen Perronne-Tripp; Jim Westmoreland; and all others in our parish and community in need of healing, physical or spiritual.

If you know of someone homebound, in a hospital or care facility and would like a visit from Father Ward, 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 four weeks unless an extension is requested. Please keep us informed.

PRIEST MASS ASSIGNMENTS AND MASS INTENTIONS

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Sun 06/28	7:30 AM Fr. Ward	🙏 All Fathers Living and Deceased
	9:00 AM Fr. Ward	🙏 St. Thomas Parish and the People of the City of Long Beach
	11:30 AM Fr. Ward	🙏 All Fathers Living and Deceased
	5:30 PM Fr. Ward	🙏 All Fathers Living and Deceased
Mon 06/29	✚ Wesley Ferrell	
	✚ James Raymond O'Neal	
	8:30 AM Fr. Ward	🙏 All Fathers Living and Deceased
		🎂 Melanie Nygaard (50 th Birthday)
Tue 06/30	8:30 AM Fr. Ward	🎂 Charlene Ladner
		💍 Dottie and Danny Goad (52 nd Anniversary)
Wed 07/01	8:30 AM Fr. Ward	🎂 Earl Levens
	6:00 PM Fr. Maxwell	❤️🙏 Charismatic Mass
Thurs 07/02	8:30 AM Fr. Ward	✚ Charles McMahon, Jr.
Fri 07/03	6:30 AM Fr. Ward	🙏 Benefactors of St. Thomas Church
Sat 07/04	9:00 AM Fr. Ward	🙏🎂 Our Nation
	4:00 PM Fr. Ward	✚ David LaRosa, Sr.
Sun 07/05	7:30 AM Fr. Ward	✚ Clay Bishop
		✚ Fay Castiglia
	9:00 AM Fr. Ward	🙏 St. Thomas Parish and the People of the City of Long Beach
	11:30 AM Fr. Ward	💍 David and Marie Taylor
		✚ Marilyn Brandt
	5:30 PM Fr. Ward	🙏❤️ Cancer Ministry Prayer List

💧 Baptism 🎂 Birthday ✚ Deceased ❤️ Healing 💎 School Mass 🙏 Special Intention 💍 Wedding Anniversary

Income for 06/06/26 - 06/07/26

Regular	\$24,783.00
Capital Campaign	\$0.00
Insurance and Utilities	\$0.00
Special Collection	\$100.00
Building Restoration	\$5,125.00
Pickle jar	\$179.00
TOTAL	\$30,187.00

Income for 06/13/26 - 06/14/26

Regular	\$20,494.06
Capital Campaign	\$140.00
Insurance and Utilities	\$2,736.00
Special Collection	\$0.00
Building Restoration	\$730.00
Pickle jar	\$302.00
TOTAL	\$24,402.06

Income for 06/20/26 - 06/21/26

Regular	\$20,995.00
Capital Campaign	\$13,701.00
Insurance and Utilities	\$175.00
Special Collection	\$2,538.00
Building Restoration	\$710.00
Pickle jar	\$215.00
TOTAL	\$38,334.00

THANK YOU
for your generosity!

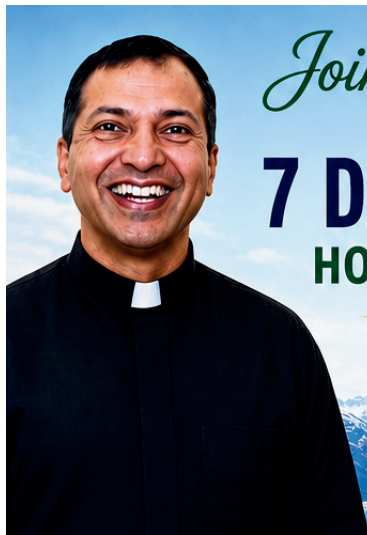
Pray For Our Clergy

Sun 06/28	For † Deceased Popes, † Bishop Joseph Howze and † Bishop Roger Morin
Mon 06/29	For Priest and Brothers at St. Augustine Seminary and St. Stanislaus High School
Tue 06/30	For Retired Priests, Extern and † Deceased Priests, Brothers, and Deacons
Wed 07/01	Father Satish Adhav
Thu 07/02	Father Godswill Agbagwa
Fri 07/03	Bishop Louis F. Kihneman, III
Sat 07/04	For An Increase In Vocations
Sun 07/05	Pope Leo XIV

PRAYERS
FOR OUR
MIDDLE SCHOOL
STUDENTS



Please keep our middle school students in your prayers as they head to Camp Hidden Lake this week. May the Holy Spirit move powerfully in their hearts, deepen their faith, and draw them closer to Christ through this time of spiritual growth, friendship, and community. May God bless them with safe travels and an unforgettable encounter with His love.



Join Father Satish

on a

7 DAY ALASKAN CRUISE

HOLLAND AMERICA EURODAM

June 19-26, 2027



 Ocean view (window) cabin \$2035 per person	 Balcony rear of the ship \$2685 pp	Cabin assignments will be made after the deposit is received. Prices do not include pre hotel night, air, trip insurance or crew gratuities (usually about \$17 per person per day). Deposit due at booking \$350 per person Final due March 10, 2027 To avoid any air delay situations, travel and overnight stay will be necessary in Seattle the day before embarkation. Flights can be arranged through Holland America when air schedules are published in September. Trip insurance is strongly suggested. Upon booking, quotes for insurance from Holland America Insurance or Travel Guard will be provided. <i>To reserve a cabin or if you have any questions, please contact Susi Wilson.</i>
 Balcony mid ship \$2825 pp	 Signature suite balcony \$3625 pp (twice the size of a balcony)	
 Neptune Suite \$3955 concierge service – other amenities – private lounge – larger room		



Holland America Line
SAVOR THE JOURNEY

Susi Wilson
228 327-6245
SUSICZMLHR@BELLSOUTH.NET



PORTS OF CALL & CRUISING

- Seattle, Washington
- Scenic cruising Puget Sound
- Scenic cruising Stephens Passage
- Juneau, Alaska
- Viewing at Glacier Bay
- Viewing at Icy Strait Point, Alaska
- Sitka, Alaska
- Ketchikan, Alaska
- Victoria, British Columbia, Canada



Catholic Kids Camp
July 14th, 15th and 16th
Back to School
With Jesus



Work or Play. Indoors or Out.
Know that He is Always With You!

CAMP is for
1st through 6th Graders
and will be daily from
9:00am to 2:00pm.

The three days will include
games, songs, stories, crafts,
puppet skits and,
of course, lunch!

SIGN UP NOW!

↓↓↓



SECOND COLLECTION

For the Vincentians

JULY 11TH and 12TH

The second collection on the weekend of July 11 and 12 will benefit the African missions in Kenya of the Vincentian Fathers and Brothers. The Vincentians founded St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and staffed the parish for 90 years, that is, until 1993. Father Ward was the last Vincentian priest to serve as pastor. We are grateful to the Daughters of Charity (the Sister Community of the Vincentians) and to the Priests and Brothers of St. Vincent de Paul (official name: Congregation of the Mission) who served the Gulf Coast for so many years. The charism of the sons of St. Vincent is a dedication to the evangelization and service of those in need and to educate candidates for the priesthood. Please prayerfully consider supporting this special collection as a way of expressing our gratitude to the Vincentians, especially Father Ward.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
AND FOR KEEPING THE VINCENTIANS IN YOUR PRAYERS.



CONGREGATION
of the **MISSION**

THE VINCENTIANS
WESTERN PROVINCE

Love Thy Neighbor

PLEASE BRING
NONPERISHABLE GROCERY ITEMS
TO RESTOCK THE
LONG BEACH FOOD PANTRY
WHEN YOU COME TO MASS
ON JULY 4TH AND 5TH
AND LEAVE THEM
IN THE EAST FOYER
THANK YOU!

FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY



SCAM ALERT



Please be cautious of emails or text messages that appear to come from Fr. Satish asking for your help, especially if you are asked to act discreetly, purchase gift cards, send money, or are instructed not to call him.

Always check the sender's email address carefully, and do not respond to text messages requesting assistance while directing you not to contact him by phone.

If you are ever in doubt, please call the church office or speak with Fr. Satish in person to verify the request. These messages are fraudulent attempts to steal your personal information or create financial harm.

PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the blessings of life, liberty, and faith. Through the Holy Spirit, help us to live the Gospel with courage and to defend the gift of religious freedom for all.

Unite us as Your people and guide our nation in truth, justice, and peace, so that this great land will always remain one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



Catholic
in Recovery

Healing for those
seeking recovery
from addiction
and a deeper
relationship with
Jesus Christ

and the

Catholic Church

Every Friday at 6:00PM

St. Thomas

the Apostle Catholic Church

in the

Religious Education Center



POPE LEO XIV's

Intention for the

**Month of
JUNE 2026**

For the Value of Sports.

Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values of respect, solidarity and personal growth.

SPEND TIME WITH JESUS IN THE ADORATION CHAPEL

"Could you not keep watch with me for one hour?" – Matthew 26:40

Jesus is waiting for you in our Adoration Chapel. In the quiet of Eucharistic Adoration, we have the opportunity to sit in His presence, offer our prayers, give thanks, seek guidance, and simply rest in His love. We invite you to make time for our Lord by signing up for an hour of Adoration or stopping by whenever you can. Even a few moments spent before the Blessed Sacrament can bring peace, comfort, and countless graces to your heart and family.

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS:
Wednesdays: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Fridays: 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Please prayerfully consider becoming a regular adorer and spending time with Jesus, truly present in the Holy Eucharist. He is waiting for you.



The Church and the world have a great need of eucharistic worship. Jesus waits for us in this Sacrament of love. Let us be generous with our time in going to meet Him in adoration and in contemplation that is full of faith and ready to make reparation for the great faults and crimes of the world.

– St. Pope John Paul II

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

ABIDE

A WOMEN'S RETREAT INSPIRED BY
SAINT THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX

AUGUST 21-23

SACRED HEART
DEDEAUX

21 & UP

SCAN TO SIGN UP



REGISTRATION FORMS ARE ALSO
AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

CELEBRATING AMERICA
250
USA
1776 2026

MAHJONGG Night

JULY 7, 2026

ST. THOMAS LIFE CENTER
720 East Beach Blvd.
Long Beach, MS 39560

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM
PLAY 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
HOSTED BY
Knights of Columbus
LADIES' AUXILIARY

\$25.00 A PERSON
BRING YOUR OWN TILES,
MAT, AND CARD

SIGNATURE DRINK:
Bird Bam!
A PATRIOTIC
BURST OF
FREEDOM!

REGISTER TODAY! GATHER TO PLAY

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS DOOR PRIZES

SIGNATURE DRINK @FAIREEDESIGNS

REGISTER THROUGH VENMO



Please Register through **Venmo**
FairEE Designs @faireedesigns
Make sure you put players
FIRST & LAST NAME
in the What's this for? Box

BACK TO SCHOOL CLOTHING DRIVE

Helping local children start the
school year strong!

WE ARE COLLECTING:

- Clothing
- Shoes
- Backpacks
- School supplies & other essentials

Your donations make a difference for children in our community.

DROP OFF DONATIONS:
St. Vincent de Paul Society - Office
712 E Beach Blvd
Long Beach, MS 39560

DROP-OFF HOURS:
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Monday • Tuesday • Thursday

KNOW SOMEONE WHO COULD BENEFIT?
We're here to help!

CONTACT US TODAY TO
SIGN UP FOR
FREE SUPPLIES!

(228) 822-0609

PLEASE JOIN US
EVERY
Wednesday
FOR A
CHARISMATIC
MASS
OF
Healing

AND
PERPETUAL NOVENA
TO
Mary, Undoer of Knots

BEGINNING WITH
ADORATION
INTERCESSORY PRAYER
RECONCILIATION
PRAISE AND WORSHIP

AT
5:00 PM

AND A
CHARISMATIC MASS
BEGINNING AT **6:00 PM**

CELEBRATED BY
Father Maxwell

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
720 E. BEACH BOULEVARD
LONG BEACH, MISSISSIPPI



Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

The OCIA is the normal path for someone to connect with Christ and His Church through full Sacramental Initiation. Mark these dates:

**Friday, July 10th
at 6:00pm**

**Cookout and
Reunion in the
Parish Pavilion.**

**For all present and
past candidates,
companions, and
team members.**

**Saturday, July 18th
at 9:00am**

**Come and See
Informal Coffee and
Donut gathering to
answer your
questions about
the OCIA.**

**Monday, August 10th
at 6:30pm**

**Evening Sessions
Begin. Sign up at**



For More Information Contact Dave Gauthier
at 228-596-8835 or rcia@saintthomaslb.org



DIOCESE OF BILOXI
1977-2027



Save the Date

**Golden Jubilee
Catholic Diocese of Biloxi
Saturday, April 3, 2027**



9:00 Eucharistic Adoration & 10:30 Mass



Mississippi Gulf Coast
Convention Center

*Celebrating 50 Years of
Faith, Hope, and Service*

FEATURED ADVERTISER!



ROCK, PAPER, SHRED!

www.AceDataStorage.com



228-864-6223

THANK YOU!

HURRICANE PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, Who once walked on the waters, Who uttered a word of command to the raging tempest of wind and sea and there came a great calm; please let Your glance fall upon us, Your servants. Please grant that by the power of Your blessing poured out on our Gulf waters, all wicked spirits may be repelled, the danger of the tempestuous winds may subside, and we may be protected from the ravages of storms and hurricanes. We ask this of You, Who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.



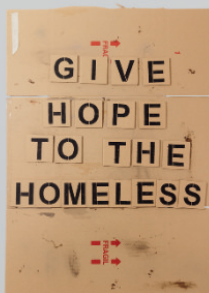
Mercy Meals Ministry *Marks One Year of Service*

In June, 2025, Mercy Meals Ministry was formed and committed to providing 50 meal kits each week for distribution by Mercy Cross Center to their homeless guests. Over the past year, that commitment has meant 2,500 kits, or 5,000 small meals.

Three kitting teams rotate to create the kits from items donated to the ministry or purchased with funds donated. Each weekend meal kit contains two protein items, two fiber items, two servings of fruits or vegetables, and two chips or snack items -- enough for two small meals.

The meal kits fill a critical need, helping the homeless guests of Mercy Cross Center stay safe through the weekend. One woman came up to Anne Hale, a Catholic Charities employee working at Mercy Cross, to say thank you so much. She said the meal kit truly saved her over the weekend, and she was able to make it until the Center opened back up on Monday. She said it was enough for her to eat two times over the weekend. Anne let her know that it was thanks to St. Thomas Church in Long Beach.

You can help Mercy Meals Ministry continue in its second year by getting together with family members or with others in your organization to put together a kitting team to work in rotation with the three existing teams. You can also help with donations through the parish office, or through any of the team members, or through any member of the St Thomas Knights of Columbus, or online donations through the St Thomas Parish website GIVING page, noting Mercy Meals in the text box.



DAILY READINGS

June 28, Sunday

First Reading: Second Kings 4: 8-11, 14-16a
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 89: 2-3, 16-17, 18-19
Second Reading: Romans 6: 3-4, 8-11
Alleluia: First Peter 2: 9
Gospel: Matthew 10: 37-42

June 29, Monday

The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul

First Reading: Acts 12: 1-11
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 34: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
Second Reading: Second Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18
Alleluia: Matthew 16: 18
Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-19

June 30, Tuesday

First Reading: Amos 3: 1-8; 4: 11-12
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 5: 4b-6, 7, 8
Alleluia: Psalms 130: 5
Gospel: Matthew 8: 23-27

July 1, Wednesday

First Reading: Amos 5: 14-15, 21-24
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 50: 7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16bc-17
Alleluia: James 1: 18
Gospel: Matthew 8: 28-34

July 2, Thursday

First Reading: Amos 7: 10-17
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 19: 8, 9, 10, 11
Alleluia: Second Corinthians 5: 19
Gospel: Matthew 9: 1-8

July 3, Friday

Feast Day of St. Thomas the Apostle

First Reading: Ephesians 2: 19-22
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 117: 1bc, 2
Alleluia: John 20: 29
Gospel: John 20: 24-29

July 4, Saturday

First Reading: Amos 9: 11-15
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 85: 9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14
Alleluia: John 10: 27
Gospel: Matthew 9: 14-17

July 5, Sunday

First Reading: Second Kings 4: 8-11, 14-16a
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 89: 2-3, 16-17, 18-19
Second Reading: Romans 6: 3-4, 8-11
Alleluia: First Peter 2: 9
Gospel: Matthew 10: 37-42

<https://www.catholicgallery.org/mass-reading/daily-mass-readings-2026>



OUR PARISH
HAS A
FORMED
SUBSCRIPTION!

Visit
signup.formed.org
and Select our Parish
by Zip Code
(39560)



BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Today's Gospel is the conclusion of the instructions and consolations that we have heard Jesus offering to his disciples during the past few weeks. In this passage, Jesus summarizes both the costs of discipleship and its rewards. Once again our understanding of the Gospel is strengthened by considering the context in which it was written and the perspective of Matthew's audience.

The conditions of discipleship outlined in Matthew's Gospel may appear harsh. Yet they underline for us a truth—choosing anything with one's whole heart has consequences. Choosing life with Christ means that every relationship we have must be understood from a new perspective. For many in Matthew's community, this choice brought division to their family.

Matthew also outlines the reward of hospitality offered to Jesus' followers. In today's Gospel, Jesus explains the difficulties of discipleship, yet reveals that those who welcome the disciples have also welcomed him. Today's Gospel also highlights for us the importance of hospitality in the Christian life. To welcome another in Jesus' name is to extend hospitality to Jesus himself. We have many opportunities in our daily life to reach out to others, to be a welcoming presence and a sign of God's love.

FAMILY CONNECTION

One can tell a lot about a family by the way they welcome others into their home. Despite parental efforts to elicit the best behavior from their children, family efforts to entertain guests are sometimes difficult. Practicing a spirit of Christian hospitality within the family can be an occasion to reflect upon the importance of this virtue. A family spirit of hospitality is a sign of faith.

When your family gathers, ask each person to consider the following questions about manners: What does it mean to be a good host? What does it mean to be a good guest? Invite each person to share their thoughts and experiences about being a guest or a host. When they have finished, read aloud today's Gospel, Matthew 10:37-42.

Ask family members to describe what Jesus says about hospitality extended to his disciples. (Those who receive Jesus' disciples also receive Jesus himself; hospitality to Jesus' disciples will be rewarded.) Then encourage family members to talk about what it means to be a good guest or a good host. You might also talk about ways in which your family's hospitality might be improved upon. Conclude in prayer together that your family grows to be one in which Christian hospitality is experienced by all. Pray together the Lord's Prayer or today's Psalm.

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

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