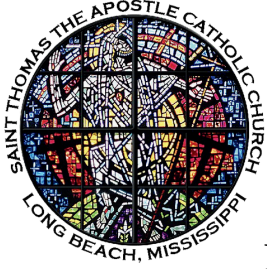


JULY 5, 2026

FOURTEENTH 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

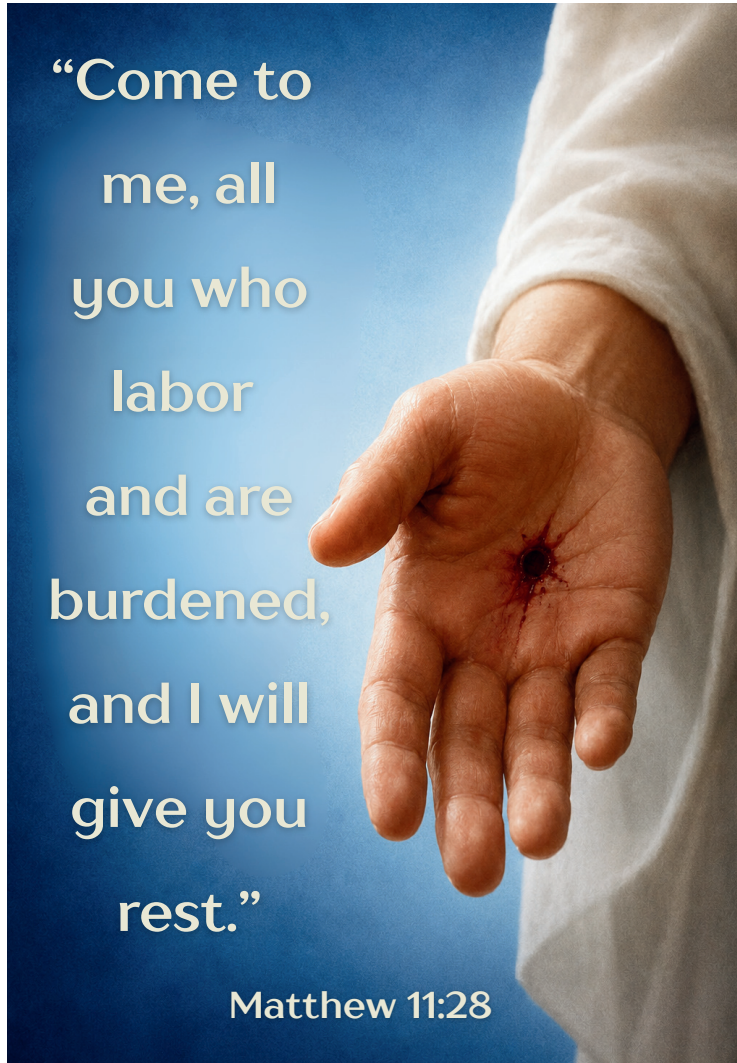
Saturday:

3:00pm - 3:45pm

or by appointment

"Come to
me, all
you who
labor
and are
burdened,
and I will
give you
rest."

Matthew 11:28



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)

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

religiouseducation@saintthomaslb.org

saintthomaslb.org

Youth Ministry

Kaitlynn Claret 228-236-4899

youthministry@saintthomaslb.org

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

Darlene Barry 404-630-6624

svdp.president@saintthomaslb.org

saintthomaslb.org

OTHER CONTACTS

Altar Server

Steve Hymel

altarserver@saintthomaslb.org

Maintenance

228-863-1610

maintenance@saintthomaslb.org

Prayer Chain

Martha Johnson

prayer@saintthomaslb.org

Secretary

Dee McKenna 228-863-1610

secretary@saintthomaslb.org

Bulletin Editor

Lori Lea Sawyer 228-863-1610

bulletin@saintthomaslb.org

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, JULY 5

ALL DAY

8:00am – 9:00am

10:30am – 11:30am

4:15pm – 5:15pm

6:40pm – 8:00pm

MONDAY, JULY 6

9:30am – 12:30pm

7:30pm – 8:30pm

TUESDAY, JULY 7

9:00am – 12:00pm

9:30am – 12:30pm

2:00pm – 4:00pm

5:00pm – 8:00pm

5:00pm – 10:00pm

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

9:00am – 5:00pm

9:15am – 11:15am

9:30am – 12:00pm

11:30am – 1:00pm

6:00pm – 8:00pm

5:00pm – 6:00pm

6:00pm – 7:00pm

THURSDAY, JULY 9

9:30am – 12:30pm

2:00pm – 4:00pm

5:30pm – 6:00pm

5:45pm – 7:00pm

6:00pm – 7:00pm

6:00pm – 7:00pm

6:00pm – 8:00pm

7:00pm – 9:00pm

FRIDAY, JULY 10

7:00am – 5:00pm

10:00am – 5:00pm

6:00pm – 8:00pm

6:00pm – 10:00pm

5:30pm – 10:00pm

SATURDAY, JULY 11

8:00am – 12:00pm

9:30am – 12:00pm

2:30pm – 3:30pm

3:00pm – 3:45pm

SUNDAY, JULY 12

8:00am – 9:00am

10:30am – 11:30am

12:30pm – 1:00pm

4:15pm – 5:15pm

6:40pm – 8:00pm

Long Beach Food Pantry Collections - 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)

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)

Mahjong Hosted by KC Ladies' Auxiliary in the Community Center

Adoration in the Chapel

Lectio Divina in the REC Library

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

NO Lunchkins (Summer Break)

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)

Mercy Meals Team Taylor Packing Night in the KC Room

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)

Cursillo Ultreya in the Chapel

Adoration in the Chapel

CALB Set Up for BUNCO in the Community Center

Catholics in Recovery Meeting in the REC Multi-Function Room

OCIA Cookout at the Pavilion

BUNCO hosted by CALB in the Community Center

Society of SVdP District Meeting in the REC Multi-Function Room

Back to School Waterslide Bash for Kids at the Pavilion

Music Ministry Rehearsal in the Church

Reconciliation in the Church Confessional

Music Ministry Rehearsal in the Choir Rehearsal Room

Music Ministry Rehearsal in the Church

Baptisms in the Church

Life Teen Music Practice in the Church

NO Life Teen or Edge Meeting (Summer Break)



**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

PRAYER IS POWERFUL! PLEASE PRAY WITH US.

Danny Alderman; Cinnamon Barry; Mike Barry; Patsy Bishop; Corey Bradley; Fran Bridgett; Susan Bush;
David Croenne; David Wayne Culley; Ashley Dean; Lori Dunaway; Doug Farwell; Dominick Fimiano;
Linda Frost; Nita Gross; Nancy Howard; Evelyn Hutchins; Bettye Johnson; Mary Kirkpatrick;
Frances Carrubba LeBlanc; Renee Leva; Angela Ladner Lucas; Kenneth Ray McDonald; Ginny Macken;
Claire McMillan; Baby Ruth McMillan; Candi Mauffray; Ron Mauffray; Susie Michael; Randy "Rip" Moran;
Diane Moudy; Don Moudy; Danny Ray Necaise; Huguette Necessary; Sr. Cecilia Nguyen; Dayne O'Neal;
Sheri Paulson; Carolyn Bryan Raborn; 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 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
Mon 07/06	8:30 AM Fr. Ward	✝ David LaRosa, Sr.
		❤ Mike Barry
Tue 07/07	8:30 AM Fr. Ward	✝ Charles McMahon, Jr.
Wed 07/08	8:30 AM Fr. Ward	💍 Mary and Dwight Singleton
	6:00 PM Fr. Maxwell	🙏❤ Charismatic Mass
Thurs 07/09	8:30 AM Fr. Ward	🎂✝ Frieda Chandler
		🎂 Steve Sawyer
Fri 07/10	6:30 AM Fr. Ward	🎂✝ Donnie Levens
Sat 07/11	4:00 PM Fr. Ward	❤ Dominick Fimiano
		❤ Mike Lambert
		❤ June Hoggatt
		❤ Erwin Pingul
Sun 07/12	7:30 AM Fr. Ward	✝ Edward McKenna, Jr.
	9:00 AM Fr. Ward	🙏 St. Thomas Parish and the People of the City of Long Beach
	11:30 AM Fr. Ward	🎂 Sara Peno
	5:30 PM Fr. Ward	🙏❤ Cancer Ministry Prayer List

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

Income for 06/27/26 - 06/28/26

Regular	\$16,367.00
Capital Campaign	\$186.00
Insurance and Utilities	\$106.00
Special Collection	\$101.00
Building Restoration	\$480.00
Pickle jar	\$240.00
TOTAL	\$17,480.00

THANK YOU
for your generosity!

Pray For Our Clergy

Sun 07/05	Pope Leo XIV
Mon 07/06	Father Vincent O. Ajayi
Tue 07/07	Father Godfrey Andoh
Wed 07/08	Father Anthony Arguelles (Retired)
Thu 07/09	Father Charles Arthur
	Father Philip J. Audet
Fri 07/10	Father David Milton Maria Augustin, H.G.N
Sat 07/11	Father Mike Austin
Sun 07/12	Father Sergio Balderas
	Father Greg Barras (Retired)

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

Welcome

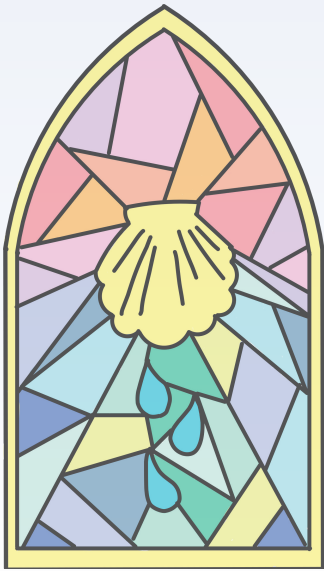
to our newest members,

Sara Elliot Beaugez

Hudson Daniel Holland

born to new life in Christ

through Baptism



St. Vincent de Paul Pharmacy Update

The St. Vincent de Paul Pharmacy
is unable to accept prescription
medication donations until further notice.

Unused medications and pills may be
safely deposited in the designated drop
boxes located at:

- Long Beach Police Station
- Walgreens Pharmacy
- The Corner Drugstore
- CVS Pharmacy

Thank you for your understanding
and for helping ensure
the safe disposal of medications.



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

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

CURSILLO ULTREYAS AT ST. THOMAS!

**Cursillistas from our Parish and Diocese
are invited and encouraged to join us!**

Cursillo "Utreyas"

at St. Thomas are
planned for 7pm on
the 2nd Thursday of
every month.

Meetings will be in
the Chapel.

**UPCOMING ULTREYAS:
THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026
AT 7:00PM**



If you have ever
attended a Cursillo
weekend, please make
plans to attend! Ultreya
fosters living out the
three tenets of Cursillo
Prayer, Study and
Action.

*Rest
in Peace*



Margaret Ann Hatem Necaise

It's a New Year for the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults



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**

ST THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

SPLISH + SPLASH

BACK-TO-SCHOOL WATERSLIDE BASH

SATURDAY

11
JULY

9:30 AM - NOON
CHURCH PAVILION

WATERSLIDE + BOUNCE HOUSE
FREE HOT DOGS, CHIPS & WATER



NEW CURSILLISTAS OF THE WESTERN DEANERY OF BILOXI DIOCESE (LEFT TO RIGHT):

Erika Dronet (St. Thomas the Apostle),
Deborah Vinterella and Bettina Young (Most Holy Trinity),
Michelle Youngblood, Amber Lowe-Orozco, Melissa Wyatt,
Jessica Hight, Leigh Cliburn, Angela Cuevas, Margaret Blackwell,
and Kristy Marie Randall (St. Thomas the Apostle)

ST. THOMAS TEAM MEMBERS (LEFT TO RIGHT):

Marci Wilson; Cindy Drouilhet; Christine McCummins;
Lauren Hymel; and, Vickie Ruiz

Congratulations to these inspiring women! Nine ladies from St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, along with two ladies from Most Holy Trinity, completed Women's Cursillo #303 (Dedeaux) this past Sunday. Also pictured are the dedicated St. Thomas the Apostle Cursillo Team members who helped make the weekend so meaningful. This beautiful photo represents the women of the Western Deanery of the Diocese of Biloxi, united in faith, friendship, and a shared commitment to Christ.

Lord Jesus, continue to guide these women as they live their Fourth Day with joyful hearts. May they grow ever closer to You and be faithful witnesses of Your love. Amen.

TEAM Ferrell-Collins SAVE *the* DATE!

JULY 10 TH	+ BUNCO
JULY 25 TH	+ ROYALTY LUAU
AUGUST (DATE TBD)	+ TALENT SHOW
AUGUST (DATE TBD)	+ STOCK THE BAR
SEPTEMBER 19 TH	+ CAR SHOW
OCTOBER 17 TH	+ POKER RUN
OCTOBER 24 TH	+ GOLF TOURNAMENT
NOVEMBER 14 TH	+ BUNCO DADDY/DAUGHTER DANCE
DECEMBER 6 TH	+ NUTCRACKER TEA
JANUARY 8 TH & 9 TH	+ JEEP-A-GRAS
JANUARY 16 TH	+ DRAWDOWN & SILENT AUCTION
JANUARY 23 RD	+ POKER NIGHT
JANUARY 29 TH	+ ROYAL BALL
JANUARY 30 TH	+ CALB PARADE



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



- Friday July 10, 2026
- Doors Open at 6:30pm
Game starts at 7:00pm
- St. Thomas Community Center
- \$25 per adult
Age 18 and above allowed
- Food and Beverage Provided
Hosted by past Queens and Duchesses
- Cash Prizes for Most BUNCOS, Most Wins, & Most Losses.
Also, Door Prizes.

If you would like to sponsor or donate to the event, please contact:
Jennifer@228-860-4000, Angie@228-297-9298, or Heather@228-343-6533

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 @FAIRREEDESIGNS

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



Mams' Back-to-School Retreat



As mothers, we are the primary instructors of our children in the faith. Regardless of your child's educational setting (private, public, home), this retreat is designed to encourage and equip you for the school year ahead with a full day of prayer, learning, fellowship, and time to journal and/or plan. This retreat is hosted by Stella Maris Explorers and St. Michael Catholic Church.

Guest Speakers



Fr. Clinton Sensat
Diocese of Lafayette



Sr. Lynn McKenzie OSB
Sacred Heart Monastery

Saturday, July 18, 2026 9:00am - 4:30pm

St. Michael Catholic Church
177 E 1st St, Biloxi, MS 39530

Please register via the QR code
\$35 includes coffee, lunch, and afternoon refreshments



CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION OF LONG BEACH
MISSISSIPPI

TEAM
FERRELL-COLLINS

Free Tuition RAFFLE

\$50.00 PER TICKET OR SIX TICKETS FOR \$250.00

FOR THE 2027/2028 SCHOOL YEAR
= Tuition Cost Only!

TUITION IS FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SCHOOL ONLY.

WINNER WILL BE DRAWN
LIVE
ON THURSDAY,
JANUARY 28TH

DRAWN LIVE AT PRAYER AND PLEDGE
AT ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

IF ANYONE HAS QUESTIONS,
PLEASE CONTACT
JENNIFER GLENN
(228) 860-4000
BRAYDEN SEAL
(228) 860-9391

PAY WITH VENMO!
venmo
@CALBTEAM
Please include your name
and phone number
in the payment note.



St Vincent de Paul Society

x Donut Moms



PRESENT

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SHOPPING

A FREE SHOPPING EVENT

♥ for local children & families ♥

Donut Moms and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to host a 2-day Back-to-School Shopping Experience for local families in our community. ♥

Families will be invited to come "shop" for gently used clothing, school supplies, backpacks, and other essentials so their children can start the new school year feeling confident, prepared, and excited.

This cause is especially close to our hearts. Helping children feel comfortable, included, and excited about the school year can make such a difference in their confidence and helps support anti-bullying efforts. ♥



SHOPPING EVENT DATES:

JULY 23 & 24

More details coming soon!

♥ STARTING TO COLLECT DONATIONS ON JUNE 5! ♥

WE ARE COLLECTING:



GENTLY USED CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

Please ensure all clothing donations are freshly washed and in good condition.



BACKPACKS



SCHOOL SUPPLIES



ROOM ITEMS

Lamps, décor, and other age-appropriate bedroom accessories

OUR MISSION

Our goal is to gather enough donations and volunteers to create a shopping experience where each child feels special, valued, and excited to pick out items just for them.



EVERY DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE.



EVERY VOLUNTEER HELPS CREATE A MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE.



EVERY CHILD DESERVES TO START SCHOOL WITH CONFIDENCE.

Thank you for helping us make a difference in the lives of local children and families. Every donation, big or small, will have an impact.



INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

Call the parish office at 228.863.1610



As we serve others, we serve Christ. ★ Matthew 25:40 ♥



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

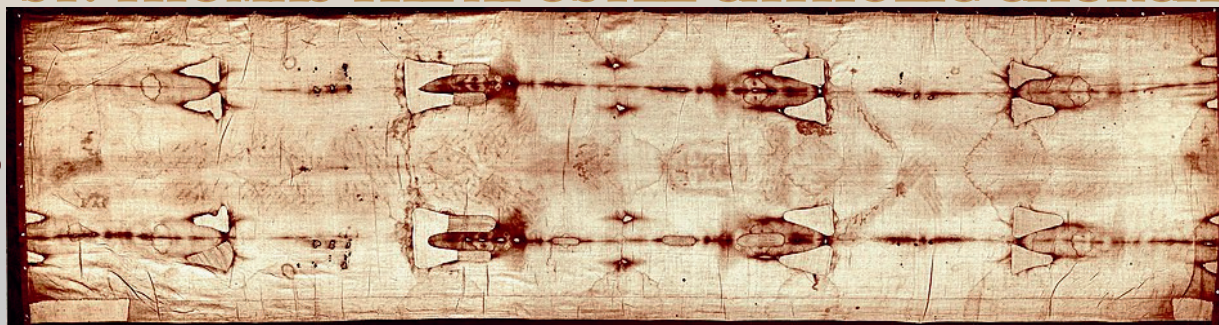
FEATURED ADVERTISER!



Allison P. Wall, MD
Olivia Hightower, M.D.
Stephanie Fussell, MD

Save the Date
AUGUST 15-16, 2026
COMING TO
ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Experience
THE SHROUD
OF TURIN
Exhibit



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



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



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.

*To reserve a cabin or if you have
any questions, please contact
Susi Wilson.*

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



POPE LEO XIV's

Intention for the
Month of
JULY 2026

**FOR RESPECT FOR
HUMAN LIFE**

Let us pray for the
respect and
protection of human
life in all its stages,
recognizing it as a
gift from God.



JULY
THE MONTH OF THE
MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD



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.

DAILY READINGS

July 5, Sunday

First Reading: Zechariah 9: 9-10
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 145: 1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14
Second Reading: Romans 8: 9, 11-13
Alleluia: Matthew 11: 25
Gospel: Matthew 11: 25-30

July 6, Monday

First Reading: Hosea 2: 16, 17c-18, 21-22
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 145: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
Alleluia: Second Timothy 1: 10
Gospel: Matthew 9: 18-26

July 7, Tuesday

First Reading: Hosea 8: 4-7, 11-13
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 115: 3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8, 9-10
Alleluia: John 10: 14
Gospel: Matthew 9: 32-38

July 8, Wednesday

First Reading: Hosea 10: 1-3, 7-8, 12
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 105: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7
Alleluia: Mark 1: 15
Gospel: Matthew 10: 1-7

July 9, Thursday

First Reading: Hosea 11: 1-4, 8c-9
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 80: 2ac and 3b, 15-16
Alleluia: Mark 1: 15
Gospel: Matthew 10: 7-15

July 10, Friday

First Reading: Hosea 14: 2-10
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 51: 3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and 17
Alleluia: John 16: 13a; 14: 26d
Gospel: Matthew 10: 16-23

July 11, Saturday

First Reading: Isaiah 6: 1-8
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 93: 1ab, 1cd-2, 5
Alleluia: First Peter 4: 14
Gospel: Matthew 10: 24-33

July 12, Sunday

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 10-11
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 65: 10, 11, 12-13, 14
Second Reading: Romans 8: 18-23
Gospel: Matthew 13: 1-23

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BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Today's reading from Matthew's Gospel comes after a discourse in which Jesus reproaches people who have witnessed his mighty deeds yet still lack belief. In this context, today's Gospel explains the reason for this unbelief and reveals what is necessary for faith. Today's Gospel also continues to enhance our understanding of discipleship as last week's Gospel did.

Jesus first prays in thanksgiving to God who has made himself known to Jesus' disciples. He praises God who has made himself known to the "little ones" and not to the wise and learned. As in other recent readings from Matthew's Gospel, a contrast is made here between the unbelieving Pharisees, who are wise and learned, and the faithful disciples, tax collectors, and sinners with whom Jesus keeps company.

The second part of this reading calls to our attention the unity between the Father and the Son. God has made himself known through Jesus, and in knowing Jesus, we come to know the Father. In Jesus' life and in his person, God reveals himself to us.

In the concluding sentences of today's Gospel, Jesus' teaching is again contrasted to the teaching of the Pharisees. This common theme of Matthew's Gospel probably reflects tension that existed between Jesus and the Pharisees and between the Pharisees and the community of Christians for whom Matthew wrote. Pharisaic Judaism became the predominant form of Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem about 70 A.D. Here that tension is expressed as alternative paths of holiness. The careful observance of the Mosaic law taught by the Pharisees could be experienced by some as difficult and burdensome. In contrast, Jesus' way of holiness is presented as uncomplicated and even restful.

FAMILY CONNECTION

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches an important lesson for families: from the youngest and simplest among us we can learn the most profound insights about God. Parents who are attentive to this reality can learn much from their children even as their children are learning from them. Families who create time and space for encounters with God will enrich the faith of all who share in family life.

Gather as a family and read together today's Gospel, Matthew 11:25-30. Allow time for each person to reflect on what Jesus reveals to us about God. Invite each person to show these things in a creative way, perhaps through a picture, poem, or some other means. Share these with one another. Conclude in prayer together, thanking Jesus for making God known to us. Pray together the Lord's Prayer or today's Psalm, Psalm 145.

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

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