

# St. Thomas Newsletter December 1, 2023



### SCRIP CARDS ARE ON SALE IN THE PARISH OFFICE MONDAY—FRIDAY, 9AM—4PM THESE WILL MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Aeropostale, Amazon, American Eagle, Applebee's, Barnes & Nobles, Bath & Body Works, Bed Bath & Beyond, Buffalo Wild Wings, Burger King, Cabelas, Chili's, Chuck E. Cheese's, Coastal Car Wash, Cracker Barrel, Dairy Queen, Dick's, Dillard's, Domino's, Gymboree, Hallmark, Home Depot, iTunes, JC Penney, Landsend, Little Caesars, Lowe's, Nike, O'Charley's, Office Max, Outback, Papa John's, PetSmart, Pier 1 Imports, Pizza Hut, Rite Aid, Sears-Kmart, Shaggy's, Shoe Carnival, Sonic, Taco Bell, Talbot's, T.J. Maxx, Winn Dixie



### ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. **FUNDRAISER MEETING** FOR SPRING FLING **MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 6:30PM COMMUNITY CENTER**







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.



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

#### **ADVENT SCHEDULE**

**Immaculate Conception** 

Thurs, Dec 7: 6:30pm Vigil Mass Fri, Dec 8: 6:30am, 12pm Mass



Healing Mass
Wed, Dec 20: 11am
Lunchkins follow Mass
Penance Service

Wed, Dec 20: 6:30pm

#### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Sun, Dec 24:
NO 11:30 OR 5:30 MASS
4pm Christmas Vigil Mass with
Children's Bell Choir
& Family Choir
7pm Christmas Vigil Mass
11:30pm Christmas Carols



7:30am, 9am Mass





### SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Sun, Dec 31: NO 11:30 OR 5:30 MASS 6:30pm Vigil Mass Mon, Jan 1: 9am Mass

FEAST OF
THE HOLY FAMILY
Sunday, Jan 7, 2024
Masses at normal times



GULF COAST MESSIAH CHORUS
71 ST PERFORMANCE SEASON
2023 FALL PERFORMANCES OF
HANDEL'S ORATORIO

The Messiah

Please join us for a free public performance

Saturday, December 2 @7:00 PM Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church 228 S. Beach Boulevard, Bay St. Louis

Sunday, December 3 @3:00 PM First United Methodist Church, Pascagoula 2710 Pascagoula St., Pascagoula



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 <a href="https://www.eucharisticcongress.org">www.eucharisticcongress.org</a>. 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): <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w4p1ENUCrrE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w4p1ENUCrrE</a>

Use this link to view the travel packages arranged by Cara Group Travel: <a href="https://caragrouptravel.com/nec-2024-tour">https://caragrouptravel.com/nec-2024-tour</a>

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:

https://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.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 Marv.

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





### Week of December 03, 2023



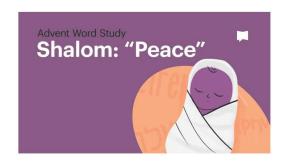
### What Is the Immaculate Conception?

Join Drs Tim Gray and John Sehorn as they examine Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception. This dogma of the Catholic faith, promulgated in 1854 by Pope Pius IX, speaks of Mary's conception and what it means to the Church.



## St. Nicholas Day | Catholic All Year at Home w/ Kendra Tierney

Kendra shares her favorite recipes and traditions for celebrating the feast of St. Nicholas (a.k.a. Santa!). Learn how to make mulled wine and cider, speculaas cookies, and deep-fried Dutch meatballs



## Shalom/Peace | Advent: Word Studies | The Bible Project

"Peace" is a very common word in English, that means different things to different people. It's also a very important word in the Bible that refers not only to the absence of conflict but also to the presence of something else.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.



#### DECEMBER

2nd - Drawing for Saints Getaway
Facebook Live

8th - Jingle Jam Dance St Vincent de Paul School Gym

Date TBD - Holiday Bunco

#### JANUARY

12th - Jeep-a-Greet Coastal Daiquiri, LB

13th - Jeep-a-Gras parade
Downtown LB

27th - Drawdown/Silent Auction LB Activity and Senior Center

### FEBRUARY

2nd-CALB Royal Coronation Ball 3rd - Long Beach Night Parade



