St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Office: 1603 Avenue N * Huntsville, TX 77340
Church: 1323 16th St. * Huntsville, TX 77340
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www.saintthomashuntsville.org

"...there is no inequality of significance amongst us except holiness..."
"No hay desigualdad de importancia entre nosotros excepto la santidad…"

Sixth Sunday of Easter — May 6, 2018

STAFF

Rev. Fred Valone…..Pastor
Felix Ramos……..Permanent Deacon
Kathy Boscarino…….DRE / Y M
Maria Delgado…… Elem. CCE
Marisol Urbina…...Administrative Asst.
Rick Reed……...Music Coordinator
Jill Baker……..Nursery Coordinator
Pat Norfleet……..Bookkeeper
Sylvia Vitela……..Secretary
Laura Puente……...Custodian

Mass Schedules

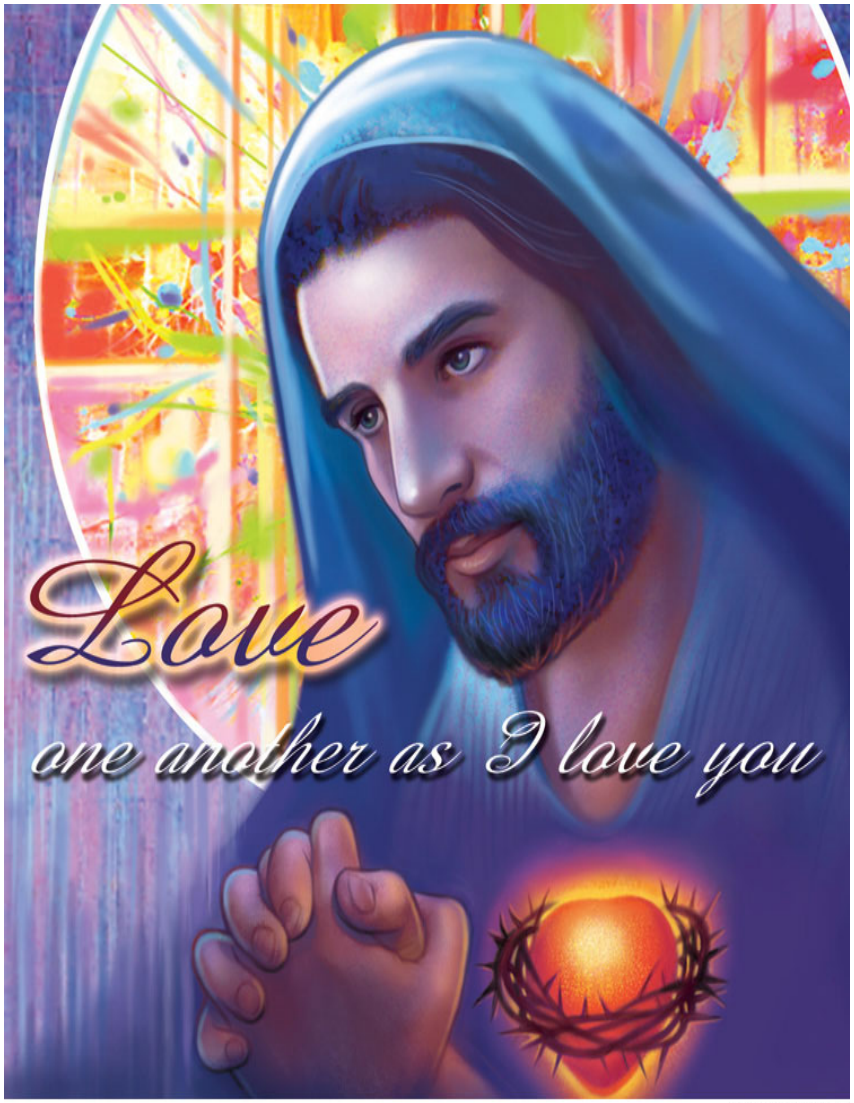
Saturday/ Sabado	5:30 pm English
Sunday/ Domingo	7:45 am English 10:45 am English 12:30 pm Spanish 5:30 pm English
Monday/ Lunes	No Mass
Tuesday-Friday / Martes-Viernes	7:15 am

Reconciliation / Reconciliación

Tues/Martes	4:30-5:30 pm
Sat/Sabado	4:00-5:00 pm

Adoration/Adoración

Tuesday / Martes	After 7:15 am Mass until 5:30pm



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The flowers beside the Blessed Sacrament are in loving memory of Donna Hebert by

Mass Intentions Of The Week

Sat.	05/05	5:30 pm	Marion Wagamon (Birthday)
Sun.	05/06	7:45 am	James McGee
		10:45 am	Parishioners
		12:30 pm	Aurea Rodriguez
		5:30 pm	CSC
Mon.	05/07		NO Mass
Tues.	05/08		NO Mass
Wed.	05/09	7:15 am	Living & Deceased members of Steely & Milam families
Thurs.	05/10	7:15 am	Jose Carmen Delgado (B-day)
Fri.	05/11	7:15 am	Ralph Losack, Sr.
Sat.	05/12	5:30 pm	William & Mary Grupa
Sun	05/13	7:45 am	Donna Hebert
		10:45 am	For all mothers
		12:30 pm	Parishioners
		5:30 pm	CSC

Weekly Readings

Mon	05/07	ACTS 16:11-15 JN 15:26—16:4a
Tues	05/08	ACTS 16:22-34 JN 16:5-11
Wed	05/09	ACTS 17:15, 22—18:1 JN 16:12-15
Thurs	05/10	ACTS 18:1-8; JN 16:16-20
Fri	05/11	ACTS 18:9-18 JN 16:20-23
Sat	05/12	ACTS 18:23-28 JN 16:23b—28
Sun	05/13	ACTS 1:1-11 EPH 1:17-23 MK 16; 15-20

April 28 & 29
Regular Sunday Donations: $7,682.23
Thank you for your continued parish support!

Instruments of God's Mercy
2018 Diocesan Services Fund

Parish Goal	**$37,000.00**
Total Amount Paid	**$33,379.50**
Total Amount Pledged	**$45,847.00**
Number of Participants	**111**
Under Goal	**$3,620.50**

Judy Adib, Veronica Antwi, James Aubey, Irma Avalos, Brad & Carmen Bachman, Gene Barrett, Jordan Bergeron, Chelsea Brown, Fidelis Burton, Phillip Caito, Wren Colligan, Sunni Cook, Sabrina Coronado, Terry Corral, Melanie Davis, Colin Dufour, , Ray DuPree, Mary Gedelian, Ingrid Gonzalez, Mike Hillman, Patrick Hogan, Billie Jenkins, Dorothy Jordan, Sandra Kilgore, Isabel Kirwin, Kevin Kretzschmar, Edwin Laake, Corrina Lawrence, Paul Legler, Al Losack, Katy Losack, Don Marcotte, Sam and Marie Martinez, Mable Milliet, Donna Moore, MaryAnn Moore, Susan Montoya, Lourdes Mosqueda, Amber McGee, Ezra Perrone, Mike Phillips, Brenda Piñeda, Kathy Price, John Raia, Nina Rozell, Andrea Scheel, Ana Marie Santos, John Sarlay, Kayden Bryn Shipley, Nathan Shroyer, Linda Skains, Cheryl Smith,, David Stoltz, Kathy Stoltz, Jean Stow, Ray Townley, Dorothy Townsend, Matthew Varnum, Maria Elena Valencia, Shirley Villareal, Rusty Wallace, Bill Walton, Alma Williams, Bob Williams, Charlotte Rose Winkler, Nancy Winkler

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit.
— John 15:16

Catholic Daughters of the Americas **will meet on May 14, 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall. We invite all Catholic women at least 18 years of age to attend a meeting to "check us out" and consider joining the oldest and largest Catholic women's organization in the world.**

IMPORTANT OFFICE MEMO . . . . Our offering envelopes are in the process of being ordered. If you do not have envelopes but would like to have them please contact Sylvia at the parish office (936) 295-8159 or email svitela@sbcglobal.net.

ADORATION SIGN-UP SUCCESSFUL

APPLAUSE & APPRECIATION ALL AROUND!
First, let's thank our pastor **Fr. Fred** who spoke to the congregation about committing an hour of ourTuesdays to Adoration. Father spearheaded the SIGN-UP with the essential encouragement we needed to come and replenish our depleted ranks of adorers. Thanks, Fr. Fred.

Next, let's thank the volunteers who handled the actual set-up and sign-up in such harsh weather, totally unexpected in April.

And then….
A huge thank-you goes to all of you who pledged an hour to adore the Lord or to be an alternate at Adoration each Tuesday at our church, as well as to those who always drop in for whatever minutes they have between work or class time! You have assured that Adoration will continue at St.Thomas.

A few generous souls waited until last to see which hours needed signers and chose one of those hours, in order to even out the schedule—special thanks to them!

Follow-up....
Each person who signed up for a specific hour is being contacted and given the phone numbers of the others who chose that same hour so that they can inform each other if/when one must be absent on a Tuesday.

TUESDAY IS ADORATION DAY
AT ST.THOMAS 8:00am until 5:30pm

For further information please contact
Marion Wagamon 936-439-4625

Please Note New Date in English Sessions:

English Baptism Sessions **. . . . Tuesday, June 5th, 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Education Bldg. Pre-registration at the parish office prior to attending the session is required. Child's birth certificate should be presented at time of pre-registration.**

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Sesiones de preparación para el Bautismo . . **miercoles y jueves, 23 y 24 de Mayo a las 7:00 p.m. en el edificio de CCE. Se require que se preincríban en la oficina parroquial antes de asistir las sesiones. El certificado de nacimiento debe presentarse al tiempo que se registre en la oficina.**

BAZAAR 2018 - It's time to begin planning for our 2018 parish bazaar annual fundraiser. Volunteers are needed for various positions within the planning committee and it takes many hands and creative minds to prepare and plan for a successful event. AND NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE IS REQUIRED!! If you are just interested in checking things out, have never volunteered in the past, have been an occasional volunteer, or have always volunteered, there is a place for you and there are TWO beginning informational & organizational "start-up" meetings scheduled. Please prayerfully consider offering your talents to help with this year's event and then attend the planned scheduled meetings (one - or both) as follows: May 7 & May 21, 6:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Refreshments will be available.

Scholarships . . . .
Graduating High School Catholic Females

Are you planning to continue your education after high school? The Catholic Daughters of the Americas right here at our parish have two scholarships available that may be used at any institution of higher education beyond high school. 1) Our CDA Scholarship is for $500.00. 2) Our Kathy Miller Memorial Scholarship is contingent upon the amount of funds received for the scholarship and may be different from year-to-year Applications may be picked up beginning March 1st from Kathy Boscarino or in the main entry to our church. Deadline for application submissions will be May 15, 2018. Scholarship awards will be made at the annual High School Senior Breakfast.

EDGE®
Catholic Middle School Ministry

What's Up in **Edge**—May 2018

May 6, 2018 Last day of Edge.

Edge will return September 9th

STAY

Sausage Wrap Fundraiser

A Special ***Thank you*** to all those who supported the youth in the Sausage Wrap Fundraiser. We made over $1,100.

Between the 2 youth fundraisers,

* 16 youth participated.
* 11 raised enough to go to either AYC or The Confirmation Retreat

Your support is Appreciated !

S.T.A.Y. Ministry

Youth 7th -12th Grade

Contact/Contacto:
Kathy Boscarino, DRE/Youth Minister
kboscarino@saintthomashuntsville.org
(936) 295-8159 (936) 520-6524

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works. Psalm 139:14

We are now forming Core Teams for 7th –12th grade Youth Ministry.
If you are interested in working with the youth of our parish, please Contact Kathy Boscarino, DRE/Youth Minister at (936)295-8159 or by email at kboscarino@saintthomashuntsville.org

Thank You

LIFE TEEN
Leading Teens Closer to Christ

What's Up in Life Teen—April 2018

5/1 (Wednesday) Last Day for Spring Semester
5/8 (Wednesday) STAY Youth Night 6:30 –8:30
5/15 (Wednesday) 1st Summer youth night
6:30-8:30 meets in Youth Building
5/22 Wednesday) STAY Youth Night 6:30-8:30
5/29 (Wednesday) STAY Youth Night 6:30-8:30

AYC (Archdiocesan Youth Conference)

July 20-22, 2018
Sign Up Now! Don't Miss It!

Confirmation Retreat -
for both 10th & 11th grade programs
July 13-15, 2018

CHURCH SECURITY INFORMATION

Following the church shootings last year near San Antonio the parish's Security Committee has begun to take steps to ensure the safety of all St. Thomas the Apostle parishioners. The first step will be to restrict access to the church during liturgical services.

Effective the weekend, April 7th and 8th, 2018, (once Mass has begun), **all doors into the church will be locked** from the inside with the exception of the double doors facing 16th Street. **Anyone arriving late for Mass will only be able to enter the church through the 16th Street doors. Parishioners will be able to exit the church through any of the locked doors as well as the doors facing 16th Street.** A panic bar will be installed on the wooden, double doors facing west similar to the panic bar on the glass door by the sacristy. These doors will allow exiting at any time simply by pushing the bar. Regarding the door by the baptismal font in the sanctuary, this door has a door knob lock that, when locked, allows exiting from the inside but does not allow entry from the outside.

Signs will be posted around the church building to remind parishioners of the locked doors.

The staff at St. Thomas the Apostle Church takes the safety and security of all the parishioners very seriously. We are confident that the steps taken at this time will minimize any problematic incidents.

Splash Canyon VBS 2018

VBS Packed with Thrills & Spills
Coming this Summer June 11-15

VBS is a 1 week summer camp to educate and encourage children in the faith and to involve children in serving others through their faith. Activities include supervising kids, preparing the snacks, acting in skits. There is always a need for both adult and high school-aged volunteers.

All Are Welcome!

INFORMACION DE SEGURIDAD DE LA IGLESIA

Después de los tiroteos de la iglesia el año pasado cerca de San Antonio, el Comité de Seguridad de la parroquia ha comenzado a tomar medidas para garantizar la seguridad de todos los feligreses de la Iglesia de Santo Tomás Apóstol. El primer paso será restringir el acceso a la Iglesia durante los servicios litúrgicos. **A partir de el fin de semana 7 y 8 de abril del 2018,** (una vez que haya comenzado la misa), **todas las puertas de la iglesia estarán cerradas** desde adentro con la excepción de las puertas dobles que dan a la calle 16. **Cualquier persona que llegue tarde a misa solo podrá entrar a la iglesia a través de las puertas de la calle 16. Los feligreses podrán salir de la iglesia a través de cualquiera de las puertas cerradas, así como las puertas que dan a la calle 16.** Se instalará una barra antipánico en las puertas dobles de madera orientadas hacia el oeste, similar a la barra antipánico en la puerta de vidrio junto a la sacristía. Estas puertas permitirán salir en cualquier momento simplemente presionando la barra. En cuanto a la puerta por la fuente bautismal en el santuario, esta puerta tiene un bloqueo del botón de la puerta que, cuando está bloqueado, permite salir desde el interior, pero no permite la entrada desde el exterior.

Se colocarán letreros alrededor del edificio de la iglesia para recordar a los feligreses las puertas cerradas.

El personal de la Iglesia Santo Tomás Apóstol toma muy en serio la seguridad de todos los feligreses. Estamos seguros de que los pasos tomados en este momento minimizarán cualquier incidente problemático.

BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG

What can you do in the fight for life?
What can your spare change accomplish?
It doesn't take much to make a difference!

A BIG "Thank You" To Our Parishioners

You were so generous again last year. YOU helped the center support all the functions of their ministry which also includes sharing Bible Studies with their clients which allowed the gospel to be shared and bring over 100 new believers to place faith in Jesus at the Center. YOU are helping to support the SPIRITUAL & Physical needs of their clients! Please pick up a bottle today after Mass. Fill it with change, bills, or checks and bring it back to church on Father's Day, June 17th.

FILL A BABY BOTTLE & SUPPORT LIFE!

The Fire of Your Love: A Sign of Christ's Peace

By Will Oliver

I had not considered taking requests for columns before, but since a parishioner asked me what the Church had to say about the "peace be with you," I thought I would oblige. What I did not realize was how controversial this topic had become within the Church.

The sign of Christ's peace dates back to the very early Church when it was common to give a full lip-on-lip kiss. This soon raised issues regarding intimates versus acquaintances and it was solved early on by separating men and women in the nave. Eventually the "Holy Kiss" fell into disuse in the Middle Ages, but later developed into the double cheek kiss common in many European countries, especially Italy; generally reserved for family members and close acquaintances.

Where things really changed was in the post Vatican II era. Initially it was done away with, but "was restored to all Masses in the 1970 Missal" (USCCB). Throughout the 1970s, it began posing problems in parishes as it was becoming too secular, especially in light of its placement in the mass—after the consecration and before communion, the most solemn moment in the mass. So, in *Ecclesia De Eucharistia* Pope (Saint) John Paul II declared with respect to the Eucharist, "In various parts of the Church abuses have occurred, leading to confusion with regard to sound faith and Catholic doctrine concerning this wonderful sacrament." He tried to rein in the abuses of the sign of Christ's peace.

It did not work as well as expected, so the next Pope, Benedict XVI, requested a study on the topic, emphasizing the placement of the sign of Christ's peace. The Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments worked on this issue, but by the time they released their letter, Francis was Pope. In its "Circular Letter on the Ritual Expression of the Gift of Peace at Mass" (2014), they reiterated the gesture is optional, should be free of abuses, but would remain where it currently is; although if abused it can be omitted.

The Congregation specifically said that the sign of peace must be an "appropriate gesture" and it should avoid any "profane gestures of greeting." Things that are profane, or "not sacred," would be high-fives, fist bumps, and flashing peace signs. Other abuses noted included:

— "The introduction of a 'song for peace,' which is nonexistent in the Roman rite."
— "The movement of the faithful from their places to exchange the sign of peace amongst themselves."
— "The departure of the priest from the altar in order to give the sign of peace to some of the faithful."
— "Using the sign of peace to offer holiday greetings, congratulations or condolences."

So, what should be done? According to the General Instructions of the Roman Missal (GIRM 82), it should be in "accordance with the culture and customs of the peoples" and it must be "appropriate that each person, in a sober manner, offer the sign of peace only to those who are nearest." In America that generally means a handshake while saying, "Peace be with you," and perhaps a simple kiss among intimates (e.g., husband and wife).

LOVE ONE ANOTHER . . .

In the Gospel for the Sixth Sunday of Easter we are met with an extraordinary challenge: Jesus commands us to "love one another as I love you" (John 15:12). The letter from John echoes this command. Of course, we are to love those in our family, those we work with, those we like. But the scriptures make clear that we are also to love those we never notice, those we purposely avoid, and even those we are tempted to despise.

In this Sunday's selection from the Acts of the Apostles Peter shows us how far God's love extends, and how far our love should extend in response. Peter realizes that God no longer "shows partiality" to the Jews, sharing divine love exclusively with them. Christ has revealed that God's love extends to all people, and so should ours.

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ÁMENSE UNOS A OTROS . . .

En el Evangelio para el Sexto Domingo de Pascua nos encontramos con un desafío extraordinario. Jesús nos dice: "ámense unos a otros como yo los he amado" (Juan 15:12). La carta del apóstol san Juan retoma este mandamiento. Por supuesto, debemos amar a nuestros familiares, nuestros colegas, las personas que nos agradan. Pero la Sagrada Escritura aclara que también debemos amar a los que ignoramos, a los que evitamos deliberadamente e incluso a los que nos sentimos tentados de despreciar.

En la selección de los Hechos de los Apóstoles para este domingo, Pedro nos muestra hasta dónde llega el amor de Dios y hasta dónde debe llegar nuestra respuesta de amor. Pedro comprende que Dios ya "no hace distinciones" y no comparte su amor divino exclusivamente con los judíos. Cristo ha revelado que el amor de Dios llega a todas las personas y lo mismo debe hacer el nuestro.

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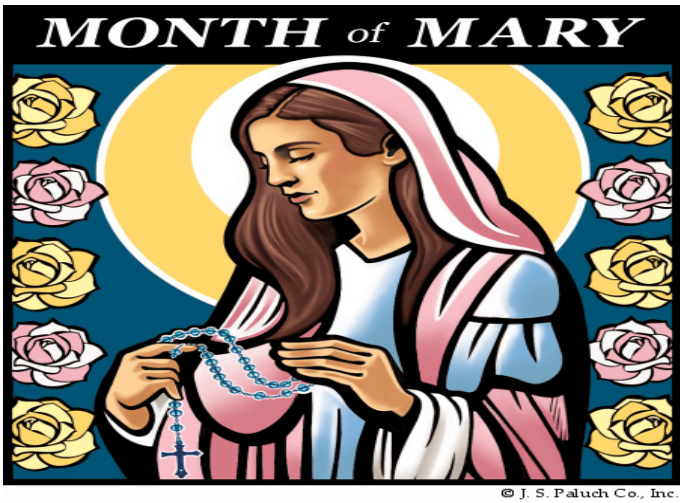
My Own Church Parish . . . .
To Register yourself or update your family information go to https://galveston.parishsoftfamilysuite.com
If you have any questions please contact Kathy Boscarino by email at kboscarino@saintthomashuntsville.org

Mi Propia Iglesia . . . .
Para registrarse o actualizar su información familiar vaya a https://galveston.parishsoftfamilysuite.com
Si tiene alguna pregunta, contáctese con Kathy Boscarino por correo electrónico kboscarino@saintthomashuntsville.org

Women Seeking the Road Less Traveled Thursdays: May 10 from 6:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. A monthly discernment gathering for **single women ages 18 and older** who are discerning a vocation to religious life. Meet in different convents around the Archdiocese. Program includes supper, a brief presentation and time for sharing, followed by prayer. Sisters from several religious orders who live and minister in the Archdiocese will be present. Information on sites, registration and video about program is available at www.houstonvocations.com/women-seeking



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