

St. Margaret of Cortona Parish



<p>St. Thomas Church 110 HWY 67 Rankin, TX 79778</p>	<p>St. Margaret of Cortona Church 107 E 1st St, Big Lake, TX 76932 Ph.: 325-884-3221; Fax: 325-307-0491 Email: biglake@sanangelodiocese.org Facebook: Saint Margaret of Cortona Web site smcbiglake.org/donate</p>	<p>St. Francis of Assisi Church 201 W. 5th Iraan, TX 79744</p>
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PARISH STAFF

Pastor
Fr. Balachandra Nagipogu
432-212-2729

Secretary
Rose Mary Peña

Business Manager
Julie Flores

Adult Ministry
Mari Garces

CRE / Youth Ministry
Sarah Rodriguez

OCIA Coordinator
Julie Flores

CRE for Iraan
Debbie Ramirez

CCD Rankin
Elizabeth Mendez
Paige Skehan

Parish Office Hours
Tuesday thru Thursday
9:00 am. to 12:00 pm.
Office 325-884-3221

St. Margaret, Big Lake
Saturday: Confession 5 p.m.
Vigil Mass 6:00 PM (English)
Sunday: 12:30 PM (Spanish)
Tuesday at 6:00 pm
Wednesday- Friday: 8:30 AM

Community Outreach
Care Center Ministry in Big Lake 3rd Thursday of the month

BIG LAKE

Council Chair
Altar Servers:
Baptismal Prep:
Homebound Communion:
Adult Ministry
Lectors:
CCD Coordinator
Business Office
Ushers:

Thrift Store
Parish Hall
Choir Ministry:
Search:
Iraan
Rankin

St. Thomas Rankin
Sunday
10:30 AM
Confessions before mass

St. Francis Iraan
Sunday
9:00 AM
Confessions Before mass

MINISTRY CONTACTS

Jose Rodriguez 325-213-5165
Noel Quiñones 432-553-6023
Rose Mary Pena: 325-450-3495
Please contact Fr. Bala
Mari Garces 432-301-5982
Brenda Schneeman 325-650-9161
Sarah Rodriguez 325-226-4743
Julie Flores 325-812-6264
Marcos Sosa 915-490-6763
Edgar Sosa 432-661-5076
Sandra Huerta 325-226-4952
Aurelia Hernandez-325-277-4046
Raquel Garcia: 432-301-0435
Cassandra DeLaRosa 325-277-0412
Debbie Ramirez: 432-202-0391
Gloria Sifuentes 432-208-5222

Mission Statement

We, the people of God, are called by the Sacrament of Baptism, to proclaim the Good News, to minister to others and to be united as a family.

We are committed to proclaim the Good news of Jesus Christ to all, that we attain the Kingdom of God.

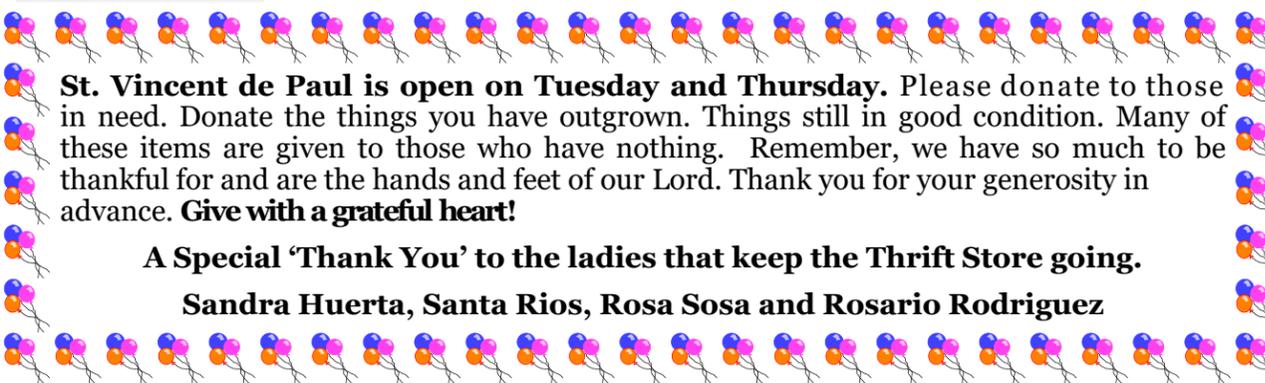
Nosotros, la gente de Dios, somos llamados con el Sacramento del Bautismo, proclamar la Buena Nueva, servir a otros y ser unidos como una familia.

Somos sometidos a proclamar la palabra a todos de Cristo Jesus para que todos podamos obtener el Reino de Dios.



“Christianity is not about ideas, but about deeds inspired by love.”

Blessed Frederic Ozanam (1813–1853) lay founder of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, servant of the poor.



St. Vincent de Paul is open on Tuesday and Thursday. Please donate to those in need. Donate the things you have outgrown. Things still in good condition. Many of these items are given to those who have nothing. Remember, we have so much to be thankful for and are the hands and feet of our Lord. Thank you for your generosity in advance. **Give with a grateful heart!**

A Special ‘Thank You’ to the ladies that keep the Thrift Store going.

Sandra Huerta, Santa Rios, Rosa Sosa and Rosario Rodriguez

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The feast of the Presentation is a day for the blessing of candles. Why does liturgy require candles? In the first years of the church, worship was often at night, and candles and torches were carried from place to place within the worship space as needed. Candles were also a mark of festivity and hospitality when people gathered for prayer in homes, and later on in large buildings with thick walls and dark corners. But even after gaslight and electricity, candles were kept. Part of the reason has to do with the warm, clean light of a candle’s flame. Candles are a good sign of the partnership of God and creation: wax made by bees, gathered and fashioned by human hands into something beautiful and useful. In order for the light to shine, the candle surrenders itself, almost as if it is pouring itself out so that the light can flood into the world. The candle of baptism, placed into our hands, and carried again and again, speaks silently of that same wisdom. If you would save your life, you must lose it. You must pour your life out like Christ so that you may be filled with the light of his love.

— Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

El día 3 de Febrero se celebra entre misas, mariachis, fuegos artificiales y muchas expresiones de religiosidad popular, la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de la Concepción de Suyapa en Honduras. Fue un sábado del mes de febrero, cuando Alejandro Colindres, un joven humilde labrador, y Jorge Martí- nez, un niño de ocho años, la encontraron. Según la tradición estos llegaron cansados a la quebrada del Piligüín. Acostándose sobre el suelo, Alejandro sintió lo que le parecía una piedra en su espalda. Por más que intentaba arrojarla lejos, cuando se acostaba sentía la misma piedra. Por fin en lugar de tirarla, la puso en su mochila y al amanecer descubrió que no era piedra sino una pequeña imagen de María (6.5 cm.) con rostro indígena tallada en madera. En 1780 se le construyó un templo y en 1796 se registró su primer milagro. El Papa Pió XII la proclamó Patrona de la República de Honduras en 1925. En las advocaciones latinoamericanas ella es nombrada como la fortaleza de los humildes.

—Fray Gilberto Cavazos Glz, OFM, Copyright ©J.S.. Paluch Co.

Faith, Hope and Love. And the greatest of these is Love. 1 Corinthians 13:13



Date Night for a movie and a meal will be raffled on Wednesday, February 12th. Tickets will be sold at \$2 by the CCD Students of Elementary and Middle School. Value for Dinner and a movie is \$125.00 Get your tickets.



We will be hosting a Couples Retreat on March 2nd beginning with mass at 12:30 p.m. Please mark your calendars for a special evening of sharing, eating and having fun as couples. Registration information will come later.



Retiro para Parejas (Bilingue)
El dia 2 de Marzo. Guarda el dia. Comenzando con misa.

2024 Tax receipts

If you are in need of a tax receipt, please call or come by the office to get one. If you would just like to know how much you offered for the 2024 year on your donations, we have the answer.

Los Angeles Wildfire Disaster Relief

Wildfires are currently ravaging Los Angeles and other areas of California. Your contributions can help families recover after the fires pass. Make an emergency donation to Catholic Charities USA today to help provide lifesaving resources. 100% of your gift will be sent where it's needed most. You can donate through Catholic Charities USA: <https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/>

**We ask for your intercession O Holy Mother Mary.
Pedimos por tu intercesion Virgen Santa.**

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary Mother of God. Pray for us sinners now and at the hour of death. Amen.

Dios te salve Maria, llena eres de gracia, el Señor es contigo. Bendita tu eres entre todas las mujeres y bendito es el fruto de tu vientre, Jesus. Santa Maria Madre de Dios ruega por nosotros los pecadores ahora y en la ora de nuestra muerte. Amen.

"Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand against deception."

TREASURE STEWARDSHIP

January 26, 2025
St. Margaret

Budget to Actual

Jan. 26, 2025	\$ 1,246.00	Envelope Receipts	\$ 517.00
<u>Weekly goal</u>	<u>\$ 2,187.50</u>	<u>Loose Plate</u>	<u>\$ 94.00</u>
Keep Praying!!!	\$ -941.50	TOTAL	\$ 611.00

Online report \$ 635.00

WEEKLY RECEIPTS TOTAL \$ 1,246.00

Building Fund \$

Thank you for your donation

On line giving may be done by using
smcbiglake.org/donate

May God bless you for you generosity.
Financial reports available in the office.

St. Francis of Assisi

Budget to Actual

Jan. 26, 2025	\$ 331.00	Envelope Receipts	\$ 257.00
<u>Weekly goal</u>	<u>\$ 375.00</u>	<u>Loose Plate</u>	<u>\$ 74.00</u>
Keep Praying!!!	\$ -44.00	TOTAL	\$ 331.00

Children's offering

Building Fund \$2

St. Thomas the Apostle

Budget to Actual

Jan. 26, 2024	\$ 709.00	Envelope Receipts	\$ 615.00
<u>Weekly goal</u>	<u>\$ 323.00</u>	<u>Loose Plate</u>	<u>\$ 94.00</u>
Alleluia!!!	\$ +334.00	Total	\$ 709.00

Building Fund \$



Prayer for the sick and those in need of prayer in our surrounding communities

Danny Samaniego, Sylvia Castillo, Nicole Reyes, Stacy Ann Gonzales, Eloisa y Josafat Ramirez, Brigida Gonzalez Cortez, Jayslyn, Jaydynn, Jason Reyes, Tommie Martinez, Joe Lopez, Blanca Guajardo, Helen Martinez, Jade Faustina Castillo Hernandez, Perla, Jennifer, Esperanza Castillo, Jose J. Castillo Hernandez, Alonzo Armendarez, Manuel Armendarez, Garcia Family, Karla Dominguez, Eleazar Dominguez, Eloisa Ramirez Moreno, Diana Palacio, Melissa Lopez, Jazmin Lopez, Horacio Sebastian E., Emmalyn Grace Guevara, Yvette Gonzales, David Borrego, Benito Magaña, Henry Rodriguez, Frankie Martinez, David Castillo, Robert Galvan, Ernesto "Tito" Rios, Eddie Subia, Adelina Martinez, Hilaria Esquivel, Mito Martinez, Jennifer Molina, Randall Montañez, Domingo Sedeño, Pablo Levario, Lettie Leija, Yolanda B. Ramirez, Basil Ramirez, David Castillo, Reynaldo Mendoza, Mary Zapata, Alivar Sanchez.

Please pray for those in need.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, February 1,
5:00 p.m. Confession
6:00 p.m. Birthday Blessing for Victoria Perez
Sunday, Feb. 2, Presentation of the Lord
9:00 a.m. (Iraan) Parish of St. Francis
10:30 a.m. (Rankin) For Parish of St. Thomas
12:30 p.m. For For the health of Alivar Sanchez
Mon. February 3, Sts. Blaise & Ansgar
No mass
Tues. February 4,
No mass
Wed., February 5, St. Agatha
No mass
Thur., February 6, St. Paul Miki
8:30 a.m. Priest intention
Fri, February 7, First Friday
8:0 a.m. For the health of Alivar Sanchez
Sat., February 8, Sts. Jerome Emiliani & Josephine Bakhita

5:00 p.m. Confessions
6:00 p.m. Birthday Blessing for Natalio Peña, Jr., & Alyvia Diaz
Sunday, February 9, Fifth Sunday
9:00a.m. (Iraan) For St. Francis Parishioners
10:30 a.m. (Rankin) For St. Thomas Parishioners
12:30 p.m. For the health of Alivar Sanchez

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY 2025

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.



Ministries for February 8
Altar servers: Jax, Joseph, Jadian, Alexavier
Greeter: Virginia Martinez
Lector: Brenda Schneeman
Choir: Cassandra DeLaRosa

Ministries for February 9
Altar servers: Jocelyn. Ava, Aubrey
Greeter: Blanca Lopez
Lector: Mari Garces
Choir: Gabriella Torres

If you are not able to serve please ask someone to fill in for you.



Welcome Guests and Visitors

We are so glad that you are here and invite you to join us in thanksgiving for God's action in our lives. Our goal is to provide a spiritual home where all are welcome, where the healing, reconciliation, liberating love of God flows through us to all people. In this way, we believe that the church is the sacrament of God's saving presence in the world.



Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops

THE PUBLIC POLICY VOICE OF THE CHURCH

The Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops has released the following statement to the faithful, in English and Spanish, as well as resources for migrants and our communities. Please click on the link below to access the statement and resources, in both languages.

To the People of God in Texas,

The bishops of Texas will continue to work with government officials and other people of good will to implement policies that recognize the dignity of every person, prioritize family unity, and address the root causes of forced migration, while respecting the right and responsibility of our country to secure its borders, regulate immigration in an orderly process, maintain the rule of law, and keep its communities safe and peaceful.

In exercising the basic human right of religious liberty, all Catholics, regardless of national origin or citizenship status, have a right to gather for the celebration of Mass and to receive the Sacraments without harassment or intimidation. Our priests, deacons, and lay ministers are available to provide pastoral services, to offer the Sacraments, humanitarian support, and to provide spiritual graces that God desires for all his people...

Al Pueblo de Dios en Texas:

Los obispos de Texas seguiremos trabajando con funcionarios gubernamentales y otras personas de buena voluntad para implementar políticas que reconozcan la dignidad de cada persona, prioricen la unidad familiar y aborden las causas fundamentales de la migración forzada, respetando al mismo tiempo el derecho y la responsabilidad de nuestro país de asegurar sus fronteras, regular la migración en un proceso ordenado, salvaguardar el estado de derecho, y mantener a sus comunidades seguras y en paz.

Al ejercer el derecho humano básico de la libertad religiosa, todos los católicos, independientemente de su origen nacional o estatus de ciudadanía, tienen derecho a reunirse para la celebración de la misa y recibir los sacramentos sin acoso ni intimidación. Nuestros sacerdotes, diáconos y ministros laicos están disponibles para brindar servicios pastorales, ofrecer los sacramentos y apoyo humanitario, y brindar las gracias espirituales que Dios desea para todo su pueblo.

You may find more information at txcatholic.org

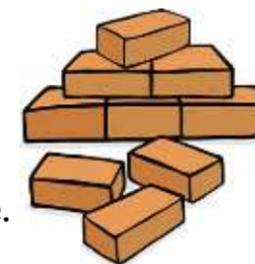
The TCCB is a federation of all Roman Catholic dioceses and ordinariates in Texas.

BRICKSRUS CAN BE ORDERED IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.

AN ORDER OF 15 MUST BE SENT TO BE MADE.

There is interest.

If you are interested in ordering a brick for your family, a loved one or in memory of someone who has passed, please come by the office. **THERE IS STILL PLENTY OF ROOM** by the Grotto of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Bricks are \$50 for a 4" x 8" and 8" X 8" Brick for \$75 can be engraved with up to 21 characters. Call or come by the office.



Saint Blaise Day February 3, 2025

Saint Blaise was originally born in Sebastea. He preached Christianity in his home town and was well-known as a healer. He became famous for performing certain miracles such as helping the sick animals and people around his home town.

What is Saint Blaise the patron saint of?

He is recognized as the saint of throat disease or 'The Blessing of the Throats' in the Roman Catholic Church. Saint Blaise Day is celebrated on the 3rd of February each year by Christians globally.

Did you know?

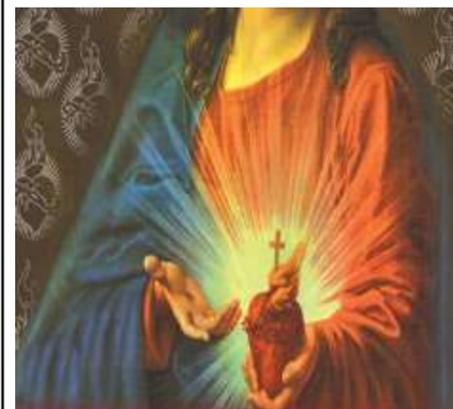
He is also the saint of wool combers and is considered as one of the 'Holy Helpers' of which there are only fourteen. These helpers were called upon to help during the time of plague, in the hope they'd cure those that were ill.

What was Saint Blaise's miracle?

His most famous and memorable act was when he healed a young boy that choked on a fishbone. The boy was placed at the Saints feet by his mother, and he healed straight away! The governor, however, led him to jail due to his faith. The governor was unsuccessful in encouraging Saint Blaise to renounce his faith and therefore he beheaded him in 316 AD.

The Crossed Candles

Crossed candles are an important part of Saint Blaise Day, they commemorate the mother of the boy who choked on the fishbone. She presented Saint Blaise with crossed candles to light his way to jail when the ruler of Sebastea ordered his arrest. The origin of the blessing of throats uses crossed candles as a symbol.



Friday, February 7, 2025

The First Friday Devotion is a Catholic practice that honors the Sacred Heart of Jesus and asks for forgiveness for sins. The USCCB recognizes the universal obligation to repentance and penance. The First Fridays Devotion, also called the Nine First Fridays Devotion or the Communions of Reparation to the Sacred Heart, before the Blessed Sacrament.

Let the peace of Christ control your hearts; Let the Word of Christ Dwell in you richly. Col 3:15

Have you considered belonging to our parish community? Come by the office.