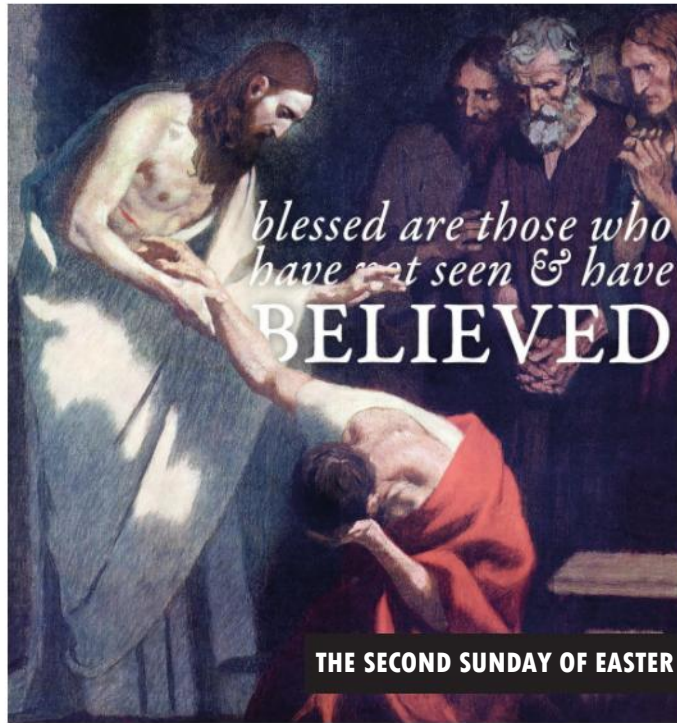


Today's reading from the Gospel of John is proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter in each of the lectionary cycles. This fact alone should alert us to the significance of the encounters with the resurrected Jesus that are described in this reading. This Gospel combines two scenes: Jesus' appearance to his disciples after his Resurrection and Jesus' dialogue with Thomas, the disciple who doubted.

Part of the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection is that he appeared to his disciples not as a spirit, but in bodily form. We do not know, however, exactly what this form looked like. Earlier in John's Gospel, when Mary of Magdala first encountered the risen Jesus, she did not recognize him until he spoke to her. In Luke's Gospel, the disciples walking along the road to Emmaus did not recognize Jesus until he broke bread with them. We know from readings such as today's that in his resurrected form, Jesus was not bound by matter; he appeared to the disciples inside a home even though the door was locked. Yet the disciples could still touch the marks of his Crucifixion.

In today's Gospel, Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples



to continue the work that he has begun; as Jesus was sent by God, so Jesus sends his disciples. He gives his disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit so that they will be able to accomplish this task. Jesus' words to his disciples also highlight the integral connection between the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit. With the grace of the Holy Spirit, we can share forgiveness and reconciliation with others.

Thomas, the doubting disciple in today's reading, represents the reality of

the Church that comes after this first community of witnesses to Jesus. All but the first disciples of Jesus must believe without seeing. Like Thomas, we may doubt the news that Jesus, who was crucified and buried, appeared to his disciples. Our human nature seeks hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared to his disciples after his death is indeed the same Jesus who was crucified. Thomas is given the opportunity to be our representative in obtaining this evidence. He gives witness to us that the Jesus who was raised is the same Jesus who died. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are among those who are blessed, for we have not seen and yet believe.

*(continued on page 3)*



## Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish Robstown, Texas and Saint Patrick Mission, San Patricio, Texas



DIOCESE OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS • 16602 FM 624 • Robstown, Texas 78380  
Phone: 361-387-1312 or 361-387-7842 • Fax: 361-387-9311  
Website: [www.christon624.com](http://www.christon624.com) • Email: [stthomastheapostle@christon624.com](mailto:stthomastheapostle@christon624.com)  
Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Pastor:** Rev. Philip J. Panackal  
**Secretary:** Ann Clarke  
**Bookkeeper:** Anna Ramos  
**Housekeeper:** Yolanda Tobòn  
Knights of Columbus Council #9318

**Deacon:** Bill Cleavelin (361-208-2146)  
DRE: Michele Hoelscher (361-244-2138)  
EDGE: Pauline Pechacek  
LIFETEEN: Rachel Unterbrink  
Catholic Daughters of America Court #2290

**Sacristan:** Jerry Knesek  
Music Director: Vic Benys  
Plant Manager: Gary Clarke  
Custodian: Rosalva Treviño

**Holy Day Vigil @ St. Thomas:** 6:30 PM  
**Saturday Vigil Mass @ St. Thomas:** 5:30 PM  
**Saturday Vigil Mass @ St. Patrick:** 4:00 PM

**Holy Day Mass @ St. Thomas:** 12:00 PM Noon  
**Sunday Masses @ St. Thomas:** 8:30 AM & 11 AM

**Holy Rosary:** Thurs. 11:40 AM  
**Divine Mercy:** Fri. 11:45 AM

**Weekday Masses @ St. Thomas:** 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday  
**CONFESSIONS @ St. Thomas:** 30 Minutes before Masses or by appointment

**CONFESSIONS @ St. Patrick Mission:** 3:30 PM

"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His mercy endures forever."

Psalm 118:1

Masses and Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024

- 4:00 PM: Mass @ St. Patrick Mission
†Elaine McCown by Patricia Kelso
5:30 PM: Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle
†Sylvester Vo and †Maria Nguyen by John & Chi Bowman
6:30 PM: DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

- Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle
8:30 AM: Parishioners
11:00 AM: Collective Mass
†Darrell Hackfeld by Elizabeth Hackfeld
†Patsy Floyd by John Floyd
†Antonio B. Valdez by Rosario Gonzalez
†Richard Chavary by John & Annette Freeman
†Deacon Victor Benys Sr. by John & Annette Freeman



MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024

12:00 PM: NO MASS

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024

12:00 PM: †Kara Knesek (AOD) by Jerry Knesek

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024

12:00 PM: †Damien Cantu (AOD) by Michael Cantu

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024 Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: Dylan Whitley (Birthday) by Pat Landreth

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024 - Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: †Glen and †Mary Dawson by Tom Dawson

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

- 4:00 PM: Mass @ St. Patrick Mission
†Mr. & Mrs. Juan Guerra by Dr. Sandra Garcia
5:30 PM: Collective Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle
Raymond and Melissa Polasek (Birthdays) by Polasek Family
†John Bowman II by John & Chi Bowman
†Patsy Floyd by John Floyd
†Kay Havelka by John & Annette Freeman

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024

- Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle
8:30 AM: Parishioners
11:00 AM: †John Knesek by John & Annette Freeman

Parish Website: www.christon624.com

Please Pray for ...



All the homebound, sick and suffering of our parish, especially all those who have asked us to pray for them:

- David Rowden, Brandon Fernandez, James Nemeck, Emil Prukop, Patricia Nemeck, Fred Nemeck, Mari Beth, Petra Tobon, Larry Bryant, Mary Elva Estrada, Valerie Rich, Frances Sparks, Jason Cavalier, Angie Gomez, Lincoln Polasek, Tyler Skidmore, James O'Brien, Marty Douglas, Cindy Cleavelin, Frank Prukop, Juan Rodriguez, Wallace Prukop, Ashley Jimenez, Charlie & Jean Chapman, Joe Arnold Guerra, Richard Barraza, Charlie Toler, Richy Price, Barry Kimbal, Yolanda Pena, and Liz Yaklin.

Please call/email the parish office to include a person on the 2024 PRAYER LIST.

LECTORS for APRIL 13-14, 2024

- Saturday, 5:30 PM: Patricia Bryant
Sunday, 8:30 AM: Matt Kimmel
Sunday, 11:00 AM: Velma Garcia



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION for APRIL 13-14, 2024

- Saturday, 5:30 PM: Tony Arredondo
Sunday, 8:30 AM: Deacon Bill, Tony & Frances Nelson
Sunday, 11:00 AM: Bill Kelly, Jesse Garcia

ALTAR SERVERS for APRIL 13-14, 2024

- Saturday, 5:30 PM: Matthew Cortino, Michael Cortino
Sunday, 8:30 AM: Charleigh & Sarita Nelson, Gabriel & Cyprian Kimmel
Sunday, 11:00 AM: Wade & Fallon Hedfelt

USHERS for APRIL 13-14, 2024

- Saturday, 5:30 PM: B. Havelka, W. Riebschleager, D. Kurtz, J. Freeman
Sunday, 8:30 AM: M. Rektorik, M. Reilly, B. Gwynn, T. Schumacher
Sunday, 11:00 AM: R. Polasek, D. Dusek, T. Brown, D. Brown

2024 CONFIRMATION

Please keep in your prayers the following candidates who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Michael Mulvey on Friday, April 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle.

- Leanne Rachelle Aguilar
Samuel Alexander Caraccioli
Jace Steven Compton
Colvin James Del Gallo
Kaylin Rae Drozd
Emily Faye Gwynn
Ava Jacelyn Hofstetter
Kailyn Ann Landreth
Ella Marie Martinez
Ian Gilbert Perez
Ford Gavin Treviño
Roberto Villarreal, Jr.

Candidates and Sponsors will meet at 5:00 p.m. in the I.C. Hall.

Michele Hoelscher, DRE

Pastor

INFORMATION CORNER

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Baptism: Call the parish office to register for the Sacrament of Baptism. All paperwork must be completed before attending class or scheduling Baptism. See website for more information.

Bulletin: Bulletin announcements are due on Monday by 1:00 PM.

Scripture Study: Sunday's after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the KC Bldg.

Confession: 30 minutes before Masses or by appointment.

Religious Ed: Schedule for Religious Ed can be found on our website www.christon624.com under the Religious Ed Tab on the Home Page under Parish Statement.

Catholic Daughters of America Court #2290: Contact Cynthia Garcia, Regent at 361-537-4470.

Knights of Columbus Council #9318: Contact Tony Arredondo, Grand Knight at Tonyent62@gmail.com or 361-947-8036.

**LYTURGY OF THE DAY**

Reflection on the Gospel Reading (John 20:1-9).

**FAMILY CONNECTION:** Within normal family life, there are many opportunities for conflict. Jesus did not promise us the absence of conflict in our lives. Instead, he gave us the gifts of peace, forgiveness, and reconciliation so that we could reduce conflict. The measure of Christian family life is not the absence of conflict, but the manner in which conflict is resolved. Filled with the gift of the Holy Spirit, we ask Jesus to help us to bring peace and forgiveness to situations of conflict in our families.

As your family gathers, take this opportunity to examine how your family resolves conflict. Recall a recent argument or disagreement and discuss how the conflict was resolved. Consider whether the conflict was resolved peacefully, in the spirit of Jesus. If not, discuss alternatives that might be tried in the future. Read together today’s Gospel, John 20:19-31. Recall that we have each received Jesus’ gift of the Holy Spirit and that the Holy Spirit helps us to be people who forgive others and seek peace. Pray together the Prayer to the Holy Spirit or the Peace Prayer of Saint Francis.

*(Courtesy to Loyola Press)*

*From the Pastor’s desk*

**Today’s Mass Readings:**

**Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35; Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24;  
1 John 5:1-6; John 20:19-31.**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Knights of Columbus of St. Thomas the Apostle will be awarding post secondary education scholarships in May 2024. Applicants must be a dependent or child of a registered KC Member of Council #9318 in good standing, entering post secondary education for the first time by September of this year or is graduating from High School this May or summer, and has not previously received funds or a scholarship from KC Council #9318. Scholarships will be mailed to your Educational Institution of choice. KCs are accepting completed applications on or before **April 24, 2024**. Go to [www.christon624.com](http://www.christon624.com) under Ministries for an Application.

*Frank Wilson, Chairman*

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

3/30-31/2024 Regular Collection: \$7,208.00  
3/30-31/2024 Online Giving: \$1,121.00  
**TOTAL \$8,329.00**

3/29/2024 Good Friday Collection: \$343.00

**ST. PATRICK MISSION**

3/31/2024 Regular Collection: \$1006.00

Money Counters: Susie Tajchman and Anna Ramos



Go to church website  
[www.christon624.com](http://www.christon624.com)  
click on icon  
to give online

**THE SYNODAL PROCESS**

**How can we know, then,  
when the beliefs of the faithful are infallible?**

The only sure method is to apply the rule of Saint Vincent of Lerins: That which has always been believed everywhere and by all (*quod semper, quod ubique, quod ab omnibus*) is infallible. Such is the traditional doctrine of the Church. “The *sensus fidelium* is not what the laity and priests may think at a given moment, but the consensus among the bishops and the last of the faithful, throughout the world, over the centuries,” explains Fr. Nazir-Ali, a former Anglican bishop and now a Catholic priest.

Hence it is rash to suppose that the faithful’s opinion concerning some novelty is infallible at any given time. And it is even more foolhardy to imagine that one needs to consult virtuous persons of a deep-rooted faith, all the baptized, and even those who practice other religions or are atheists, to know what the Holy Spirit wants to say to the Church today.

**To whom are the Synod promoters listening?**

Synod organizers call for the widest possible listening, including hearkening to atheists:

Together, all the baptized are the subject of the *sensus fidelium*, the living voice of the People of God. At the same time, in order to participate fully in the act of discerning, it is important for the baptized to hear the voices of other people in their local context, including people who have left the practice of the faith, people of other faith traditions, people of no religious belief, etc.

. . . We must personally reach out to the peripheries, to those who have left the Church, those who rarely or never practice their faith, those who experience poverty or marginalization, refugees, the excluded, the voiceless, etc.

**What are the dangers of such extensive listening?**

Fr. Nazir-Ali warns: “Those consulted need to be catechized, perhaps even evangelized. Otherwise, all we will get is a reflection of the culture surrounding people.”

Many of the proposals presented at the Synod reflect modern trends. The International Theological Commission recognizes this when it states that the new ecclesial climate is the fruit of “a more careful discernment of the advanced demands of modern consciousness concerning the participation of every citizen in running society.”

**Can one attribute to the Holy Spirit  
erroneous and scandalous proposals?**

No. It would be a blasphemous manipulation.

*(to be continued)*









*From the Pastor’s desk*

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Diocesan is proud to now be printing  
*St. Thomas the Apostle's*  
*Sunday Bulletin*

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