

In Chapter 14 of Luke's Gospel, Jesus is speaking to people gathered at the table about the difficulties of following him. This group of people is suspicious about Jesus, looking to catch him doing something wrong. Jesus speaks to them in parables, emphasizing that although there is a right way to be a disciple and enter into the kingdom of his Father, it is a difficult path to follow. Many, even some of the guests at the table, reject the invitation. So Jesus turns to the crowds and speaks to them of discipleship. Jesus explains that, when it comes to making a choice for the Kingdom of God, nothing can get in the way. When Jesus describes "hating" one's father and mother, he is not talking about feelings. Rather, he is emphasizing very strongly that choosing to be a disciple means that everything else—family, money, your own life—must come second. In Matthew's version of this story (Matthew 10:37), Jesus refers not to "hating" father or mother, but to *loving them more* than Jesus. Jesus makes it very clear that being a disciple is not easy. It means to bear one's own cross. These difficult sayings of Jesus are followed by two brief parables (a person



constructing a tower and a king marching into battle) that make an obvious point—don't start what you cannot finish. Discipleship is difficult and is something we can commit to only if we are prepared to put the Kingdom of God before everything else.

In the family connection provide your children with a list of things that they are responsible for interspersed with things that they like to do—for example, make their beds, take out the garbage, go to the park, do homework, watch television, have a snack, feed the cat. The list

should reflect their responsibilities and favorite recreations. Tell them to pretend that company is coming and ask which of the things listed should be done first. Explain that this is called setting priorities.

Paraphrase the Gospel story for the children. Ask them what Jesus says is the most important thing for them to do. Jesus tells us that the number-one priority is to follow him. But just as it is not always easy to do the things we are supposed to do before doing the fun things, it is not always easy to be a follower of Jesus. Yet when we put Jesus first, we will be truly happy.

Holy Mass Readings for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 9:13-18b; Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17; Philemon 1:9-10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33.



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 • Email: stthomastheapostle@christon624.com

Parish Office Hours: Mon./Wed./Fri. 8:00-11:00 a.m.; Tues./Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Philip J. Panackal
Secretary: Ann Clarke
Housekeeper: Yolanda Tobòn
Catholic Daughters of America Court #2290

Deacon: Bill Cleavelin (361-208-2146)
Bookkeeper/DRE: Michele Hoelscher (361-244-2138)
EDGE: Pauline Pechacek
LIFETEEN: Rachel Unterbrink
Knights of Columbus Council #9318

Sacristan: Jerry Knesek
Music Director: Vic Benys
Plant Manager: Gary Clarke

Saturday Vigil Mass @ St. Patrick: 4:00 PM
Saturday Vigil Mass @ St. Thomas: 5:30 PM
Holy Day Vigil @ St. Thomas: 6:30 PM
Weekday Masses @ St. Thomas: 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday
CONFESSIONS @ St. Thomas: 30 Minutes before Masses or by Appointment

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

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

CONFESSIONS @ St. Patrick Mission: 3:30 PM

Masses and Intentions for the Week**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2025**

4:00 PM: **Mass @ St. Patrick Mission**
†Patrick Nemec by Bob & Joan Black
 5:30 PM: **Collective Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**
†Linda Bodie by Danny & Roberta Kurtz
†Marylyn Webb (AOB) by Hazel Grimes
†Paul O'Brien by Elizabeth O'Brien
†Maria Nguyen by John & Chi Bowman
†Cardoza Wells by David & Susie Tajchman

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 - Masses @ St. Thomas the Apostle

8:30 AM: *Parishioners*
 11:00 AM: *Jim Landreth, Jr. (Special Intention)* by Mary Havelka

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

12:00 PM: *No Mass*

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2025 - Fr. Kurian Joseph**Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

12:00 PM: *†Peggy Knesek (AOB)* by Jerry Knesek

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025 - Fr. Kurian Joseph**Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

12:00 PM: *Ryan Landreth (Birthday)* by Pat Landreth

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025 - @ St. Thomas the Apostle

12:00 PM: *Communion Service*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2025 - @ St. Thomas the Apostle

12:00 PM: *Communion Service*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025 - Fr. Jim Craig

4:00 PM: **Mass @ St. Patrick Mission**
†Kay Havelka by C.B. & Kathleen Trail
 5:30 PM: **Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**
†Harlew Conally by Betty Conally

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 - Fr. Pete Elizardo**Masses @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

8:30 AM: *Parishioners*
 11:00 AM: **Collective Mass**
Trenton Landreth (Birthday) by Pat Landreth
Ella Martinez (Special Intention) by Jazmine Duff
†Cecilia Diegel by Pat Landreth
†Lisa Marie Landreth by Pat Landreth
†Patrick Nemec by Bob & Joan Black

Please Pray for ...

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

Cathy Sikes, Larry Bryant, Mary Elva Estrada, Cambri Calaway, Stephanie Landreth, Josie Blevins, Patrick Landreth, Fred Nemec, Mari Beth, Mable Ginn, Alva Rosas, Blaine Ainsworth, Noe Ramos, Gayla Schaefer, Ruthie Weathersby, Debra Wood, Valerie Rich, Yolanda Peña, Tommy Pritchard, Kathryn White, Wallace Prukop, Juan Rodriguez, Solomon Abdo II, Frank Cain, Estefana Munoz, Charlie & Jean Chapman, Stasha Landreth, Eileen Champine, Todd Crawford, Rose Pfeiler, Tyler Skidmore, Yolanda Galvan, Elaine Cain, Ted & Jeanette Respondek, Rita Conroy, Joe Garza, Simon Bucknall, Arnold Guerra, Joanna Guerra, Ramiro Trevino, Tom Crawford, Ravyn Brown, Frances Hicks, T. J. Williams, Graciela Garza, Evelyn Castillo, Kathy Rathke, Jaime Garza, Susan Chavarry, Fred Guerra, Nicole Ginn, Dalia Gutierrez, Wilma Grupe, Miles Elliott Martinez, Arnold Dill, Amelia Tighe, Pat Landreth, David Tajchman, and Jim Landreth, Jr.

Please call/email the parish office to include a person on the 2025 PRAYER LIST.

"Lord, you have been our refuge through all generations." Psalm 90:1

LECTORS for SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2025

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Ann Clarke
 Sunday, 8:30 AM: Terri Kimmel
 Sunday, 11:00 AM: Velma Garcia

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - SEPTEMBER 13-14,**

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Tony Arredondo
 Sunday, 8:30 AM: Deacon Bill, Matt Kimmel, Fred Ramos
 Sunday, 11:00 AM: Deacon Bill, Bill Kelly, Jesse Garcia

ALTAR SERVERS for SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2025

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Grace Landry, Matthew Cortino, Michael Cortino
 Sunday, 8:30 AM: Miles Shimek, Joseph Hess, Gabriel & Cyprian Kimmel
 Sunday, 11:00 AM: Liam Sanchez, Eliana Garza

USHERS for SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2025

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

2025 PARISH FESTIVAL/CZECHFEST

SAVE THE DATE:
Sunday, October 5, 2025

Our parish festival "CZECHFEST" is six weeks away. To be successful, we need your help and support.

The kolache baking committee will be baking kolaches all day on **Saturday, September 6**. Parishioners are invited. Just bring hat, apron, and food handlers card and join them to help make the delicious kolaches.

The **auktion** and the **country store** committees are now accepting items for the live and silent auction and the country store. New items or hand crafted items are needed. Please put a value on your item(s) along with your name and bring them to the parish office or at Holy Mass on the weekend. Our parish festival "CzechFest" has been very successful in the past thanks to the generous donations of our parishioners, local merchants, and friends. For any questions or to find out where your help is needed email Tom Schumacher or Tony Arredondo or you can call the parish office.

Tom Schumacher, Chairman
 tmslawofc@aol.com

Tony Arredondo, Co-Chairman
 tonyent62@gmail.com

OFFERINGS

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

8/30-31/2025 Regular Collection: \$5,844.00
 8/30-31/2025 Online Giving: \$1,079.00
TOTAL \$6,923.00

ST. PATRICK MISSION

8/30/2025 Regular Collection: \$397.00
 Money Counters: C. Pilarczyk & K. Gallagher



Go to church website
www.christen624.com
 click on icon
 to give online

CONDITIONAL BAPTISM**WHAT IT IS AND WHEN IT IS APPLIED?
A THEOLOGICAL AND PASTORAL GUIDE****2. Theological and Historical Foundations**

Apostolic Tradition. Since the earliest centuries, the Church has been careful about the validity of the sacraments. St. Augustine, in his disputes against the Donatists, argued that **the validity of a sacrament does not depend on the holiness of the minister but on the correct intention and proper form.** The Council of Trent (1545-1563) reaffirmed that Baptism is necessary for salvation and that, in cases of doubt, it must be administered conditionally.

The Code of Canon Law. Canon 869.2 states: "If there is a doubt about whether baptism was received or about its validity, baptism is to be conferred conditionally. This reflects the principle of **spiritual security**: the Church prefers to ensure sacramental grace rather than leave a soul in jeopardy.

3. When Should Conditional Baptism Be Applied?

There are four most common cases in which it is recommended:

- a. Baptisms in other Christian denominations

(To be continued)

From the desk of the Pastor

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary;

Tuesday: St. Peter Claver, Priest; **Friday:** The Most Holy Name of Mary;

Saturday: St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church.

**BID SOLICITATION
FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW RECTORY**

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church is seeking bids for the construction of a new rectory on the church premises at 16602 FM 624, Robstown, TX. The plans and specifications are available for inspection and copying by any contractors interested in bidding. Any bidders must meet the diocesan guidelines concerning insurance.

The bids must contain a very thorough breakdown of the proposal with detailed pricing of the roofing, foundation, framing and cabinetry. This is for residential construction and will require certification by a windstorm engineer.

If interested, please email the parish office at stthomastheapostle@christon624.com or call our office at 361-387-1312.

*Thomas Schumacher, Chairperson
Email: tmslawofc@aol.com*

RELIGIOUS ED / EDGE / LIFE TEEN REGISTRATION

Religious Ed / EDGE / LIFE TEEN registration is now open: We look forward to a fabulous 2025-26 school year with your kiddos!!!

If you have returning students in our program, please e-mail me with their names and grade level. If your contact information has changed, please also provide that information in the e-mail.

If you are new to the parish, please make sure you have submitted a parish registration form to the church office. If you have not done so, you can find the registration form on our website (www.christon624.com) under *Newcomers* and then go to tab "Register - St. Thomas". Once form is completed, please submit original to parish office or put it in the collection basket at Sunday Mass. You can also find our religious ed registration form on our website (*only new members need to complete this form*) under *Parish Life*, then go to *Religious Ed* tab. You will see "CCD Registration Form". Please complete this form for each student you want to register for religious ed. Once completed, you can e-mail that form to me. **The Parish Registration Form must be submitted to Parish Office before we can register students for our religious ed programs.**

The registration fee is \$25 for the first kiddo and \$10 for each additional kiddo. You can put your registration fee in an envelope marked "Religious Ed Registration Fee" and put it in the collection basket when you go to Holy Mass. If you write a check, please make it payable to St. Thomas the Apostle. No pressure or rush on the registration fee . . . Just when you can and if you can.

If you have any other questions about registration or students that may need to get on track with their sacraments, please feel free to contact me.

Michele Hoelscher, DRE

E-Mail: mhoelscher@christon624.com; Cell: 361-244-2138.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CGS and EDGE: Sessions begin on Sunday, September 21.

LIFETEEN: Sessions begin on Wednesday, September 24.

Michele Hoelscher, DRE

Parish Website: www.christon624.com

SPECIAL OFFERING – SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

The Catholic University of America

Diocese of C.C.

SPECIAL OFFERING – SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

Parish Festival "CzechFest"

St. Thomas the Apostle



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

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