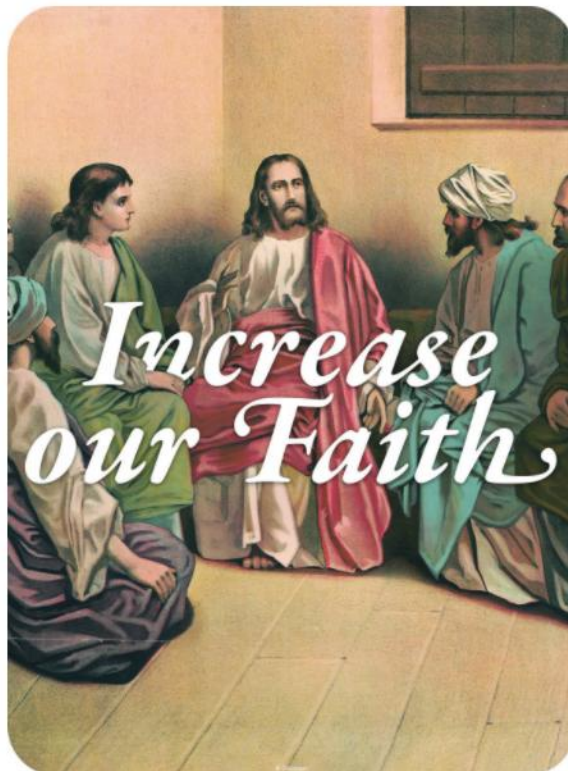


In today's Gospel we hear Jesus teach about faith and service to God. The context is a continuing dialogue between Jesus and his followers about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. Jesus has just finished an instruction on sin and forgiveness. There are two related teachings that Jesus offers to his disciples when they cry out for an increase in faith. The first is the familiar reminder that faith, even just a little, will enable the followers of Jesus to do wondrous things. But this uplifting and inspiring teaching is quickly followed by the second teaching, a caution about knowing one's place in God's plans. The disciples of Jesus are to understand themselves as servants to God and his plans. Even when God works wonders through us, with our mustard seed-sized faith, we must not seek praise. Our participation in God's plans is God's grace to us—nothing more, nothing less. When we are graced enough to cooperate with God, the work we do is nothing more than our obligation to God as faithful stewards. And yet, our faith enables us to believe that what we have offered



in service to God, as his servants, can be made to produce a hundredfold.

Family Connection: There is much in today's Gospel that resonates in family life. In our daily attempts as parents to live up to the confidence and trust that our children place in us, we come to know the wonders that God can do with just a little faith. In family life we also learn about obligations that are their own rewards. The daily tasks that family members do for one another and for the household are simply the manifestations of our responsibilities to one another.

Take a turn with each member of the family and identify

some of the little things that each family member does that make a big difference in your family life. Talk about how each person is called upon by God to believe that God can work miracles in our lives, that God can use us to make a difference in our world. Together as a family, pray that God will work through your family to make a difference in the lives of those around you.

Holy Mass Readings for The Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Habakkuk 1:2-3, 2:2-4; Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14; Luke 17:5-10.



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

"Do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord."

2 Timothy 1:8

Masses and Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025

4:00 PM: **Mass @ St. Patrick Mission**

†William Glasscock by Jerry & Carmen Rychetsky

5:30 PM: **Collective Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

†Steve Kurtz by Danny & Roberta Kurtz

†Harlew Conally by Betty Conally

†Cardoza Wells by Minerva Lopez

†Paul O'Brien by John & Annette Freeman

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2025 - Masses @ St. Thomas the Apostle

PARISH FESTIVAL CZECHFEST

8:30 AM: *Parishioners*

10:00 AM: *James Lozano (Special Intention) by the Lozano Family*

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2025

12:00 PM: *No Mass*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2025 - Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle

12:00 PM: †Patricia Nemec by Fred Nemec

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025 - Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: †Ricky Prejean (AOD) by David & Susie Tajchman

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025 - @ St. Thomas the Apostle

12:00 PM: †Richard Chavarry by Terri Chavarry

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2025 - @ St. Thomas the Apostle

12:00 PM: †Frank and †Kathryn Burgess by David & Susie Tajchman

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025

4:00 PM: **Mass @ St. Patrick Mission**

†Jacqueline Garcia by Sandra Garcia

†Gloria Guerra by Sandra Garcia

5:30 PM: **Collective Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

†Lilli Kurtz by Danny & Roberta Kurtz

†John Bowman II by John & Chi Bowman

†Cardoza Wells by the Burney Family

†Aida Deases by John & Annette Freeman

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2025 - Masses @ St. Thomas the Apostle

8:30 AM: *Parishioners*

11:00 AM: *Margaret Young by Owen & Kim Gallagher*

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, Evelyn Castillo, Frances Hicks, Graciela Garza, T. J. Williams, Kathy Rathke, Dalia Gutierrez, Susan Chavarry, Fred Guerra, Nicole Ginn, Ravyn Brown, Jaime Garza, Arnold Dill, Wilma Grupe, Miles Elliott Martinez, David Tajchman, Pat Landreth, Susie Tajchman, Jim Landreth, Jr., Cindy West, Elmyra Casner, and Harold Prejean.

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



LECTORS for OCTOBER 11-12, 2025

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Ann Clarke

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Terri Kimmel

Sunday, 11:00 AM: Velma Garcia



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - OCTOBER 11-12, 2025

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 OCTOBER 11-12, 2025

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Grace Landry, Matthew Cortino, Michael Cortino

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Joseph Hess, Miles Shimek, Gabriel & Cyprian Kimmel

Sunday, 11:00 AM: Liam Sanchez, Eliana Garza, Morgan Boatright

USHERS for OCTOBER 11-12, 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

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: St. Bruno, Priest, Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin;

Tuesday: Our Lady of the Rosary;

Thursday: St. Denis, Bishop and Companions, Martyrs;

St. John Leonardi, Priest;

Saturday: St. John XXIII, Pope, Blessed Virgin Mary.

St. Thomas the Apostle PARISH FESTIVAL

Sunday, October 5, 2025

**Join us for Sunday Holy Mass
at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.**

INFORMATION CORNER

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

Altar Flowers: Call the parish office to schedule flowers for the altar for a special occasion or "in honor of" or "in memory of" a person.

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.

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.

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

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.

SAINT PAUL'S JOURNEY IN GREECE

Greece was central to Paul's Mission because of the cultural influence, the strategic location, and the philosophical openness. Greece was the heart of Hellenistic culture and philosophy, influencing much of the Roman Empire. Greek cities were trade and cultural hubs, perfect for spreading the Gospel. Cities like Athens encouraged debate and public discourse, offering Paul a platform for sharing his message.

Three key objectives of Paul's ministry in Greece were:

1. To establish Christian communities in major urban centers.
2. To address philosophical and cultural barriers to Christianity.
3. To provide spiritual and moral guidance through letters (e.g., Corinthians, Philippians, Thessalonians).

Paul's Missionary Timeline in Greece

On his Second Missionary Journey (49-52 AD), Paul visited Philippi, Thessalonica, Athens, and Corinth. On his Third Missionary Journey (53-57 AD), Paul revisited Greek cities, strengthening Christian communities and resolving theological disputes.

Greece became a vital ground for Paul's theological teachings, where Greek thought and Christian faith intertwined, creating a foundation for Christian doctrine in Europe.

Key Cities in St. Paul's Journey in Greece

During Paul's second missionary journey (49-50 A.D.), he arrived in the city of Philippi. According to Acts 16, Paul sought out a place of prayer by the river. A woman named Lydia, along with a group of women, gathered by the riverside for prayer and worship. Philippi did not have a synagogue at that time. Paul preached to Lydia and the other women and shared the message of Christianity. Her heart was opened by the Lord, leading to her conversion. After her conversion, Lydia and the members of her household were baptized. Lydia became the first Greek and European woman baptized by Paul and was the first person to convert to Christianity. She was baptized in a river by the Apostle Paul thus marking the foundation of the First Christian Church in Europe. Philippi stands as a symbol of faith, resilience, and God's intervention.

Another key city was Thessalonica. Paul preached in Thessalonica's synagogue, but opposition from local authorities forced him to flee. A large number of Jews were not receptive to Paul's message. They became jealous and accused Paul of defying Caesar by claiming that there is another king named Jesus. The **Epistles to the Thessalonians** continue to guide Christians in faith and perseverance.

After fleeing Thessalonica, Paul arrived in Athens. Paul's spirit, while waiting in Athens for his traveling companions, is stirred when he notices the city has given itself totally to the worship of pagan gods. He begins to preach about Jesus in the synagogues, in the marketplace, and with just about anyone who would listen. He is soon heard by some philosophers known as the Epicureans and the Stoics.

The Epicureans believe the purpose of life is to 'eat, drink and be merry,' meaning to seek and indulge in the pleasures of life whenever possible. The Stoics, on the other hand, believe in depriving themselves and pursuing some sort of harmony with all that exists. After the Epicureans and Stoics in Athens dispute with Paul over his message, they take him to the Areopagus (or Mars Hill as the Romans call it) to further explain what he teaches. Paul uses an altar he sees dedicated to "an unknown god" as a springboard for teaching those in Athens about the real God that can be known (Acts 17).

(to be continued)

From the desk of the Pastor

RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY

Each October the Church in the United States celebrates *Respect Life Month*, and the first Sunday of October is observed as *Respect Life Sunday*. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between.

As we begin Respect Life Month, together we embrace the words of Pope Leo XIV, "How important it is that each and every baptized person feel himself or herself called by God to be a sign of hope in the world today." Each of us is called to be a witness to the Gospel of Life, proclaiming in word and deed the goodness and dignity of every human person.

U.S. Conference of Bishops

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

9/27-28/2025 Regular Collection: \$7,718.50
9/27-28/2025 Online Giving: \$1,494.00
TOTAL \$9,212.50

9/27-28/2025 CzechFest Collection: \$100.00

ST. PATRICK MISSION

9/27/2025 Regular Collection: \$740.00

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SPECIAL OFFERING – OCTOBER 5, 2025***Respect Life Collection***

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