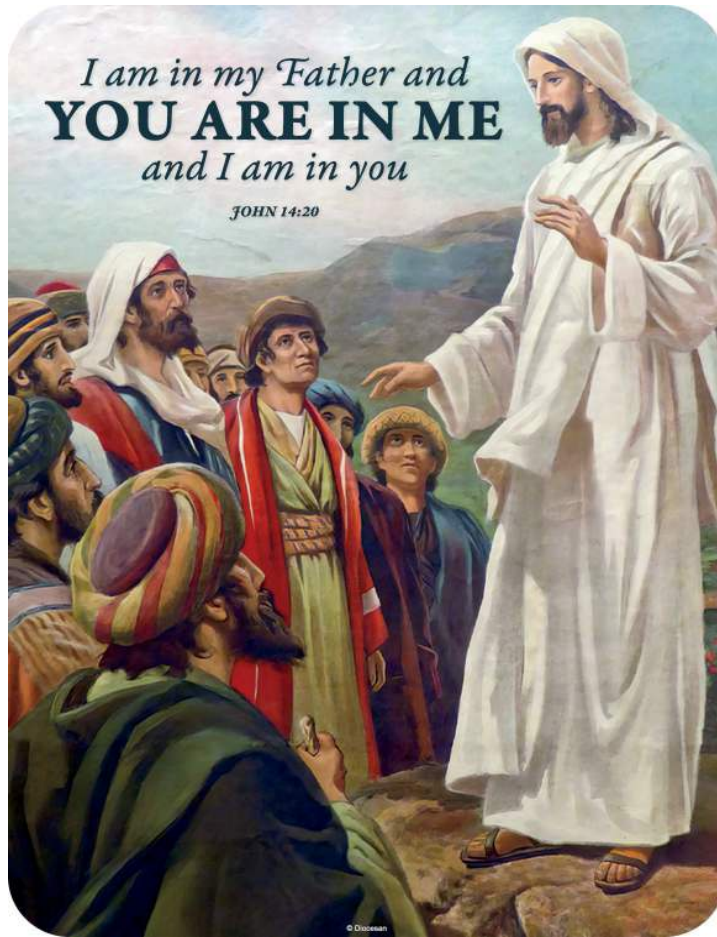


Today's Gospel is a continuation of last week's Gospel: Jesus is speaking to his disciples at the Last Supper. In today's reading Jesus offers encouragement to his disciples, who will soon see him crucified. He reassures them that even though he will leave them, he will not abandon them. Instead he will send them the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, through whom the disciples will continue to live in union with Jesus.

Jesus uses the term Advocate to describe the Holy Spirit, whom the disciples will receive. Another word used to describe the Holy Spirit is *Paraclete*, a legal term meaning "one who offers defense for another." Note that Jesus says that he will send "another Advocate." Jesus himself is the first advocate, interceding for his disciples with the Father.

In today's reading Jesus contrasts his



impending departure with the permanence of the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus will leave to return to the Father, but the Holy Spirit will remain with the disciples.

Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the disciples will come to know and appreciate the unity of the Son and the Father. They will also understand that they too participate in the communion between the Father and the Son: "On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you" (John 14:20).

Today's reading is one example of the contrast that John's Gospel presents between the community of disciples, to whom God will reveal himself, and the unbelieving world, which will remain in darkness. The unbelieving world cannot accept the "Spirit of truth," whom the disciples will receive. Only through the Spirit will God's revelation and love be known.



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.-5:00 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Philip J. Panackal
Secretary: Ann Clarke
Bookkeeper/DRE: Michele Hoelscher
Catholic Daughters of America Court #2290

Deacon: Bill Cleavelin (361-208-2146)
EDGE: Pauline Pechacek
LIFETEEN: Rachel Unterbrink
Knights of Columbus Council #9318

Sacristan: Jerry Knesek
Music Director: Vic Benys
Housekeeper: Yolanda Tobòn

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

"For it is better to suffer for doing good than for doing evil."

1 Peter 3: 17

Masses and Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026

4:00 PM: **Collective Holy Mass @ St. Patrick Mission**
Gabriel Kimmel by Confirmation Prayer Warrior
Brisella Cantu by Confirmation Prayer Warrior
Ayden Saenz by Confirmation Prayer Warrior
Brayden Loa by Confirmation Prayer Warrior

5:30 PM: **Collective Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**
Kaylee Olivarez by Confirmation Prayer Warrior
Olivia Hinojosa by Confirmation Prayer Warrior
**Kristi Stark (AOB)* by Danny & Roberta Kurtz
**James Kurtz* by Danny & Roberta Kurtz

SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle
MOTHER'S DAY

8:30 AM: *Parishioners*
 11:00 AM: **Mother's Day Novena**

MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026

12:00 PM: **No Mass**

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: **Mother's Day Novena**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: **Mother's Day Novena**

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: **Mother's Day Novena**
 6:30 PM: **Confirmation Mass by Bishop Mario Avilés**

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: **Mother's Day Novena**

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026

4:00 PM: **Holy Mass @ St. Patrick Mission**
Mother's Day Novena
 5:30 PM: **Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**
Mother's Day Novena

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

8:30 AM: **Mother's Day Novena**
 11:00 AM: **Mother's Day Novena**

Please Pray for ...



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

Cathy Sikes, T. J. Williams, Larry Bryant, Frances Hicks, Eileen Champine, Dalia Gutierrez, Annette Freeman, Fred Nemece, Harold Prejean, Mary Elva Estrada, Dee Molina, John Bowman, Wallace and Judi Prukop, Jeanette Respondek, Shannon Clubb, Courtney Dodd, Ruthie Weathersby, Marty Douglas, Simon Bucknall, Charlie & Jean Chapman, Beckie Ranly, Yolanda Peña, Cindy Cleavelin, Todd Crawford, Tyler Skidmore, Tommy Lopez, Dawn Sherek, Brady Scarborough, Richard Osburg, Bill Wilson, Gary Hicks, and Michael Chapman.

Please call/email the parish office to include a person on the 2026 PRAYER LIST.

LECTORS for MAY 16-17, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Annette Freeman
 Sunday, 8:30 AM: Andres Trevino
 Sunday, 11:00 AM: Paul Pilarczyk



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - MAY 16-17, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Tony Arredondo, Louis Deases
 Sunday, 8:30 AM: Deacon Bill, Matt Kimmel, Rosa Trevino
 Sunday, 11:00 AM: Karen Vaughan, Barbara Rychetsky, Tony Nelson

ALTAR SERVERS for MAY 16-17, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Able Flurry, Abraum Flurry
 Sunday, 8:30 AM: Casey Gwynn, Gabriel Kimmel, Cyprian Kimmel
 Sunday, 11:00 AM: Carlos Camacho, Sarita Nelson, Charleigh Nelson

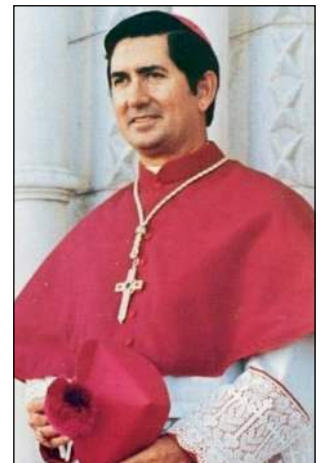
USHERS for MAY 16-17, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: D. Kurtz, W. Riebschleager, E. Flurry, J. Freeman
 Sunday, 8:30 AM: B. Gwynn, M. Rektorik, M. Reilly, R. Mendiola
 Sunday, 11:00 AM: D. Gonzalez, R. Garcia, J.R. Sanchez, D. Bluntzer

In Memoriam

**Bishop Emeritus
 René Henry Gracida**

June 9, 1923-May 1, 2026



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Bishop Emeritus René Henry Gracida. He served as the fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Corpus Christi from 1983 until 1997. We are deeply grateful for his faithful service as our shepherd for 14 years.

Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later time. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

Diocese of Corpus Christi

Parish Website: www.christon624.com

A Mother's Day Blessing

Blessed is the Mother
 Who lets the Lord be her guiding hand,
 Whose faith brings her family courage,
 Whose wisdom comes from God,
 And whose children still stand and honor her.

May our Divine Lord and His Blessed Mother
 Reward you with the love, joy and contentment
 You so richly deserve.

Happy Mother's Day

LITURGY OF THE DAY

Reflection on the Gospel Reading (John 14:15-21)
(continued from page 1)

FAMILY CONNECTION

The mystery of the Trinity can be difficult for us to grasp. Today's Gospel invites us to consider how the three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—work together so that God's salvation is made known to us. Jesus' mission is continued through the activity of the Holy Spirit in the lives of his disciples. We have received this same Spirit through our Baptisms. The Spirit, living and working within us, reveals the mystery of God's love for us. Just as the first disciples were not left orphaned, we are not orphaned; we remain in God's embrace through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Gather your family and invite each family member to say what he or she knows about the Holy Spirit. Read aloud today's Gospel, John 14:15-21. What does Jesus say the Holy Spirit will do for the disciples? Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we come to share in the love of God made known to us in Jesus. Pray together, thanking God for this gift of the Holy Spirit by praying the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Courtesy of Loyola Press from the Pastor's desk

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Tuesday: Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs, St. Pancras, Martyr;
Wednesday: Our Lady of Fatima; **Thursday:** St. Matthias, Apostle;
Friday: St. Isidore; **Sunday:** Ascension of the Lord.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 22-26, 2026.

Join us for a *Wilderness Adventure VBS*. For more information contact Pauline Pechacek at 281-748-7675.

Pauline Pechacek, Coordinator

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

5/2-3/2026 Regular Collection: \$9,294.00
5/2-3/2026 Online Giving: \$1,381.00
TOTAL \$10,675.00

5/2-3/2026 Graduates Collection: \$285.00
5/2-3/2026 Retired/Infirmed Priests: \$439.00

ST. PATRICK MISSION

5/2/2026 Regular Collection: \$545.00

Counters: C. Pilarczyk and K. Gallagher



Go to church website
www.christon624.com
click on icon
to give online

UPCOMING EVENTS

at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

Confirmation

Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 6:30 PM

First Confession

Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 10:00 AM

Graduation Mass

Mass on May 17, 2026 at 8:30 AM
Kindly RSVP as soon as possible to
Michele Hoelscher at 361-244-2138

First Holy Communion

Sunday, May 17, 2026 at 11:00 AM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR SCHOLARSHIP AND DIPLOMAS

There will be a special offering to support the Senior Religious Education Program for Scholarships and Diplomas the weekend of **May 9-10**. Thank you for your support.



Pastor

Holy Mass Readings for the 6th Sunday of Easter

**Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8, 14-17; Psalm 66:1-7, 16, 20;
1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21.**

2026 CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Please pray for the following candidates (with their chosen Saint's name) who will be confirmed on Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.:

- Alinah Arredondo, Joan of Arc
- Brisella Cantu, Francis of Assisi
- Olivia Chapa, Clare of Assisi
- Able Flurry, Paul
- Klara Gallagher, Peter
- Casey Gwynn, Philip Neri
- Olivia Hinojosa, Joan of Arc
- Gage Hirschfield, Sebastian
- Kayla Hoelscher, Anthony the Abbot
- Gabriel Kimmel, Olga of Kiev
- Braydon Loa, Sebastian
- James Lozano, Anthony of Padua
- Ethan Olivarez, Joseph
- Kaylee Olivarez, Mary
- Kolton Pechacek, Francis of Assisi
- Yaraslene Reyes, Cecilia of Rome
- Bethany Riebschleager, Therese of Lisieux
- Ayden Saenz, Francis of Assisi
- Israel Soliz, Sebastian
- Joaquin Ybarra, Michael
- Miguel Zarate, Cecilia

Pastor

SPECIAL OFFERING – MAY 17, 2026

Catholic Communications

Diocese of Corpus Christi

OFFERINGS

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