

The Season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in today's Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John's Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is enough that we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.

We already heard today's Gospel proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter this year (Lectionary Cycle A). That Gospel passage, however, also included the description of Jesus'



**They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.**

Acts 2:4

appearance to Thomas. In that context, we were led to reflect on belief and unbelief.

In the context of the Feast of Pentecost, John 20:19-23 reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Jesus' act of breathing

the Holy Spirit mirrors God's act of breathing life into Adam at the time of Creation. In fact, both the Greek and Hebrew words for "spirit" can also be translated as "breath."

This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. The reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated



## 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

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Website: [www.christon624.com](http://www.christon624.com) • Email: [stthomastheapostle@christon624.com](mailto: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 in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.”

1 Corinthians 12: 12-13

Masses and Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2026

4:00 PM: Holy Mass @ St. Patrick Mission
†Kay Havelka by C.B. & Kathleen Trial
5:30 PM: Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle
Raymond and Melissa Polasek Wedding Anniversary
by the Polasek Family

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle

PENTECOST SUNDAY

8:30 AM: Parishioners
11:00 AM: Collective Holy Mass
Michael Havelka Family by Raymond & Melissa Polasek
†Michael Gallagher by Owen & Kim Gallagher

MONDAY, MAY 25, 2026

12:00 PM: No Mass

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: †Cardoza Wells (AOD) by Gary & Ann Clarke

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: Ross Steffek (Birthday) by Byron & Rachel Unterbrink

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: †Emerick & †Angeline Tajchman by Susie Tajchman

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: †David Nemecek (AOD) by Susie Tajchman

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026

4:00 PM: Holy Mass @ St. Patrick Mission
†Herb Welch by Juliet Welch
5:30 PM: Collective Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle
†Aida Deases by Yolanda Peña
†Ameila DeLeon by Yolanda Peña
†Sylvester Vo by John & Chi Bowman
†Robert Whitley by Raymond & Melissa Polasek

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

8:30 AM: Parishioners
11:00 AM: †Pat Gallagher (AOD) by Owen & Kim Gallagher

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 Nemecek, Harold Prejean, Mary Elva Estrada, Dee Molina, John Bowman, Wallace and Judi Prukop, Jeanette Respondek, Shannon Clubb, Courtney Dodd, Marty Douglas, Simon Bucknall, Brady Scarborough, Charlie & Jean Chapman, Beckie Ranly, Bill Wilson, Tommy Lopez, Richard Osburg, Laura Greenwood, Michael Chapman, Tyler Skidmore, Todd Crawford, Dawn Sherek, Yolanda Peña, Debbie Wood, and A.C. Basaldua.

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

LECTORS for MAY 30-31, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Annette Freeman
Sunday, 8:30 AM: Agnes Flores
Sunday, 11:00 AM: Velma Garcia



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - MAY 30-31, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Tony Arredondo, Louis Deases
Sunday, 8:30 AM: Deacon Bill, Matt Kimmel, Rosa Trevino
Sunday, 11:00 AM: Gianna Flores, Javier Flores, Tony Nelson

ALTAR SERVERS for MAY 30-31, 2026

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

USHERS for MAY 30-31, 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: R. Polasek, D. Dusek, R. Garcia, T. Zurick

Our deepest condolences to the Mayorga Family on the death of



†Mrs. Julia Mayorga



Mother of Arminta Aguilar (Noel) of St. Patrick Mission

Please keep the family in your prayers.
May her soul rest in peace.

Pastor and Parishioners

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

INFORMATION CORNER

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

Altar Flowers: Contact the parish office to schedule flowers "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one or for a special occasion.

Baptism: Contact 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: Religious Education Student will have confessions on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month from 7:30-8:30 PM.

Religious Ed: For registration and questions contact the parish office or the DRE Michele Hoelscher at 361-244-2138.

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.

**LITURGY OF THE DAY**

in the Church’s sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God through the forgiving of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people.

**Reflection on the Gospel Reading (John 20:19-23)**  
*(continued from page 1)*

**FAMILY CONNECTION**

Pentecost is sometimes called the birthday of the Church. The Gospel for Pentecost reminds us that the Church begins with the command to forgive. Within the family, the domestic Church, we learn how to forgive and how to accept forgiveness. The gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to do both. Today is a fitting time to share a family celebration of reconciliation.

As you gather together as a family, sit quietly for a few minutes, inviting everyone to reflect upon their need to forgive and to receive forgiveness. If there is a situation or an issue within the family that needs attention, spend some time reflecting on how your family might address it. Read together today’s Gospel, John 20:19-23. Talk together about how Jesus gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit to help us in the work of forgiveness and to bring us peace. Pray together today’s Psalm or the Prayer to the Holy Spirit, asking that the Holy Spirit help your family. Share with one another a Sign of Peace.

*Courtesy of Loyola Press* *from the Pastor’s desk*

**Parish Website: [www.christon624.com](http://www.christon624.com)**

**OFFERINGS**

<b>ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE</b>	
5/16-17/2026 Regular Collection:	\$5,810.00
5/16-17/2026 Online Giving:	\$2,364.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,174.00</b>
5/16-17/2026 Catholic Communications: \$380.00	
5/17/2026 Confirmation Mass:	\$444.00
<b>ST. PATRICK MISSION</b>	
5/16/2026 Regular Collection:	\$413.00
Counters: C. Pilarczyk and K. Gallagher	



**Holy Mass Readings for the Feast of Pentecost**  
**Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11; Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34;**  
**1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23.**

**SENIOR CLASS OF 2026**

Congratulations to the following graduating seniors from St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Patrick Mission:

- Leanna Aguilar*
- Isabell Cansino*
- Jace Compton*
- Kaylin Drozd*
- Emily Gwynn*
- Kailyn Landreth*
- Ella Martinez*
- Trey Munoz*
- Jan Perez*
- Ford Trevino*
- Jameson Vela*
- Roberto Villarreal, Jr.*

Our prayer for our graduating seniors is that they will hold strong and courageous in their faith. May they always feel the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives to guide them through their journey.

*Pastor*

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

- Monday:** Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church; Memorial Day;
- Tuesday:** St. Philip Neri, Priest;
- Wednesday:** St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop;
- Friday:** St. Paul VI, Pope; **Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary;
- Sunday:** The Most Holy Trinity

**THE BIBLICAL EVIDENCE FOR APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION**

The first Christians had no doubts as to how to determine what was the true Church and which doctrines the true teachings of Christ: simply trace the apostolic succession of the claimants. Apostolic succession is the line of bishops stretching back to the apostles. Catholic bishops worldwide are part of that lineage, something that is impossible in Protestant denominations, most of which do not even claim to have bishops.

To make sure the apostles’ teachings would be passed down after their deaths, Paul told Timothy, “What you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also” (2 Tim 2:2). In this passage he refers to the first three generations of apostolic succession: his own generation, and the generation Timothy will teach. *(to be continued)*

*Courtesy of Tim Staples, Catholic Answers*

*From the Pastor’s desk*

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