

Today's Gospel is the conclusion of the instructions and consolations that we have heard Jesus offering to his disciples during the past few weeks. In this passage, Jesus summarizes both the costs of discipleship and its rewards. Once again our understanding of the Gospel is strengthened by considering the context in which it was written and the perspective of Matthew's audience.

The conditions of discipleship outlined in Matthew's Gospel may appear harsh. Yet they underline for us a truth—choosing anything with one's whole heart has consequences. Choosing life with Christ means that every relationship we have must be understood from a new perspective. For many in



Matthew's community, this choice brought division to their family.

Matthew also outlines the reward of hospitality offered to Jesus' followers. In today's Gospel, Jesus explains the difficulties of discipleship, yet reveals that those who welcome the disciples have also welcomed him.

Today's Gospel also highlights for us the importance of hospitality in the Christian life. To welcome another in Jesus' name is to extend hospitality to Jesus himself. We have many opportunities in our daily life to reach out to others, to be a welcoming presence and a sign of God's love.

Readings for the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a; Psalm 89:2-3, 16-19; Romans 6:3-4, 8-11; Matthew 10:37-42.



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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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 Tobon

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

*"You are a chosen race,
a royal priesthood, a holy nation;
Announce the praises of Him who
called you out of darkness into
His wonderful light."*

1 Peter 2:9

Masses and Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2026

4:00 PM: Holy Mass @ St. Patrick Mission
Father's Day Novena

5:30 PM: Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle
Father's Day Novena

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle

8:30 AM: Father's Day Novena

11:00 AM: Father's Day Novena

MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2026

12:00 PM: No Mass

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: †David Tajchman, Sr. by Paul & Connie Pilarczyk

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: †Aida Deases by John & Chi Bowman

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: †Felipe Martinez, Jr. (AOB) by Yolanda Peña

FIRST FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: †All Souls in Purgatory by Jerry Knesek

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2026

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

†Diana Flores by Javier & Gianna Flores

5:30 PM: Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle

†Monica Marie Villarreal by Tony & Yolanda Villarreal

SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle

8:30 AM: Parishioners

11:00 AM: Collective Holy Mass

†Allen Migura (AOB) by Owen & Kim Gallagher

†Patrick Knesek by Owen & Kim Gallagher

†JoAnn Miller by Yolanda Peña

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

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

LECTORS for JULY 4-5, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Les Hoelscher

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Michele Hoelscher

Sunday, 11:00 AM: Frank Wilson



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - JULY 4-5, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Tony Arredondo

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Deacon Bill, Aaron Hoelscher, Fred Ramos

Sunday, 11:00 AM: Heather Sanchez, J.R. Sanchez, Kera Steward

ALTAR SERVERS for JULY 4-5, 2026

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

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

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

USHERS for JULY 4-5, 2026

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: S. Woolf, B. Boatright, R. Garcia, T. Zurick

Our deepest condolences to the Hench/
Rakowitz Family on the death of

†Mrs. Janet Hench

Mother of Tammy Rakowitz (Bryan) of St. Thomas

Please keep the family in your prayers.

May her soul rest in peace.

Pastor and Parishioners

Our deepest condolences to the Martini Family
on the death of

†Mrs. Evelyn Martini

Aunt of Aaron and Les Hoelscher of St. Thomas

Please keep the family in your prayers.

May her soul rest in peace.

Pastor and Parishioners

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

Reflection on the Gospel Reading (Matthew 10:37-42)
(continued from page 1)

FAMILY CONNECTION

One can tell a lot about a family by the way they welcome others into their home. Despite parental efforts to elicit the best behavior from their children, family efforts to entertain guests are sometimes difficult. Practicing a spirit of Christian hospitality within the family can be an occasion to reflect upon the importance of this virtue. A family spirit of hospitality is a sign of faith.

When your family gathers, ask each person to consider the following questions about manners: What does it mean to be a good host? What does it mean to be a good guest? Invite each person to share their thoughts and experiences about being a guest or a host. When they have finished, read aloud today's Gospel from Matthew.

Ask family members to describe what Jesus says about hospitality extended to his disciples. (Those who receive Jesus' disciples also receive Jesus himself; hospitality to Jesus' disciples will be rewarded.) Then encourage family members to talk about what it means to be a good guest or a good host. You might also talk about ways in which your family's hospitality might be improved upon. Conclude in prayer together that your family grows to be one in which Christian hospitality is experienced by all. Pray together the Lord's Prayer or today's Psalm.

Courtesy of Loyola Press

from the Pastor's desk

CZECHFEST/PARISH FESTIVAL

All parishioners are invited to the planning of our parish festival CZECHFEST on Tuesday, **June 30, 2026** at 6:00 p.m. in the I.C. Hall. We need your ideas and help to make our festival successful.

Tom Schumacher, Chairman
tmslawofc@aol.com

Tony Arredondo, Co-Chairman
tonyent62@gmail.com

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THE BIBLICAL EVIDENCE FOR APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION

(continued from last week)

Sent in the Name of Jesus

To understand apostolic succession, we must understand the biblical concept of being sent. The *Catechism* uses John 20:21 as an example of this: "As the Father has sent me, even so I send you" (CCC 858). The Greek word here for send is a form of *apostello*, a familiar-sounding term. *Apostolos* is the noun form of the same word. Its connotation is not sending in the sense of sending a letter. It has a specific meaning of "one sent with the authority of the one who sent him." Thus, according to Jesus, his New Covenant ministers were not just "sent" in a generic sense; rather, they were "sent" by and with the authority of Christ.

Understanding this idea has ramifications regarding the infallibility of the Church, its juridical authority, and more. Think about it: if Christ's ministers are "sent" with the authority of Christ, infallibility necessarily follows. Jesus did not teach mere opinions of what he thought Scripture might mean. He spoke the infallible word of God, and so must his ministers!

Jesus limited this infallible authority he gave to the apostles in both Matthew 16:18-19, when he communicated it to St. Peter and his successors and in Matthew 18:15-18, when he communicated a similar authority to all the apostles and their successors. He limited it to "whatever you bind" or "loose" (singular) when speaking to Peter and his successors. And he limited it to "whatever you bind" or "loose" (plural) when speaking to all the apostles.

An in-depth discussion of these limiting detail is beyond the scope of this article. Unfortunately, this basic concept of the communication of an infallible, ongoing apostolic authority has been so muddled with the advent of Protestantism that there are thousands of sects all claiming to be "sent" by God while teaching contradictory doctrines concerning even "foundational" teachings the inspired author of Hebrews recounted as "elementary." (to be continued)

Courtesy of Tim Staples, Catholic Answers

From the Pastor's desk

Parish Website: www.christon624.com

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