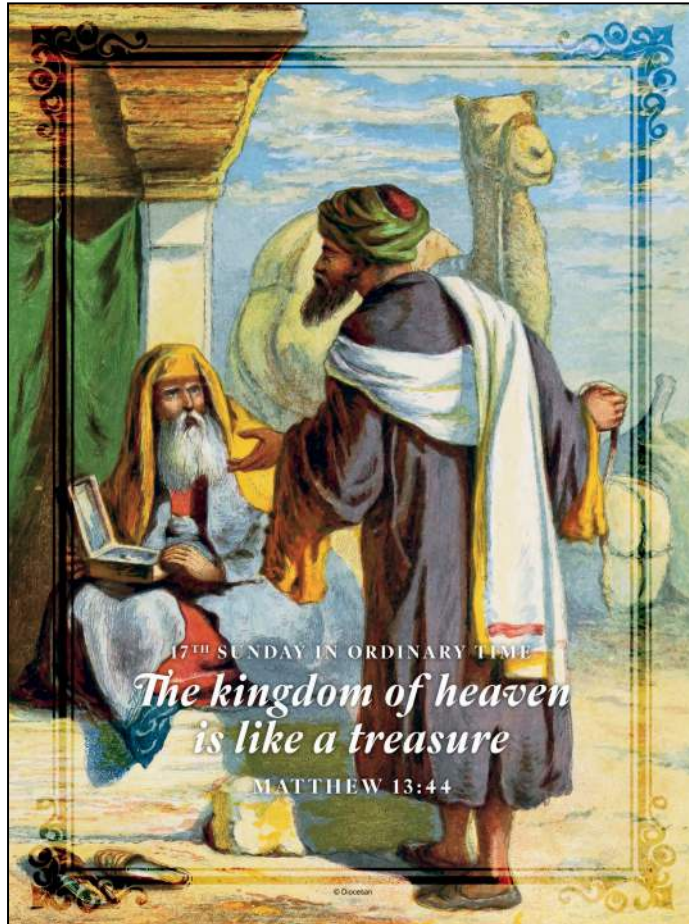


Today's Gospel concludes three weeks of readings from the 13th Chapter of Matthew's Gospel. Throughout these three weeks we have heard Jesus teaching crowds about the kingdom of heaven, and we have heard Jesus interpret some of his teachings for the disciples. In this week's Gospel, Jesus offers three more short parables.

The first two parables describe the great value of the kingdom of heaven. In the first parable, Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like a buried treasure that is worth possessing even if it means giving up everything else. In the second parable, Jesus proposes that the kingdom of heaven is like a pearl of great worth for which one will sell everything else to possess. These parables teach us that we are to place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God.



The third parable that Jesus proposes in today's Gospel is different from the first two, but it is reminiscent of the parable of the sower heard in last week's Gospel. The kingdom of heaven is compared to fishing with a wide net. After the fish have been collected, the good fish are kept and the bad fish are thrown away; so too, in the final judgment, will the wicked and the righteous be separated.

Today's Gospel concludes with a curious statement about the scribe who understands the kingdom of heaven. Here a metaphor is offered: this scribe is like the head of a

household who "brings from his storeroom both the new and the old." The scribes referred to here are experts of Mosaic law. It is possible that Jesus is here instructing the early Christian

(continued on page 3)

Readings for the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12; Psalm 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:44-52.



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

*"Let your kindness comfort me
according to your promise. Let your
compassion come to me that I may live,
for your law is my delight."*

Psalm 119:76-77

Masses and Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2026

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

†Dawn Schreck by Yolanda Peña

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

Susie Tajchman (Birthday) by the Tajchman Family

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle

8:30 AM: *Parishioners*

11:00 AM: *†Roxy Ybarra (AOB)* by Owen & Kim Gallagher

MONDAY, JULY 27, 2026

12:00 PM: No Mass

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: *†David Tajchman, Jr. (AOD)* by Susie Tajchman

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: *†JoAnn Dominguez* by John & Annette Freeman

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: *†Maria Nguyen* by John and Chi Bowman

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: *†Monica Marie Villarreal* by Tony & Yolanda Villarreal

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2026

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

†JoAnn Dominguez by Karen Vaughan

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

†John Bowman II by John and Chi Bowman

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle

8:30 AM: *Parishioners*

11:00 AM: **Collective Mass**

†Alicia Rodriguez by Yolanda Peña

†Matt McNeill by Yolanda Peña

Haley Landreth (Birthday) by Pat Landreth

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,
Charlie & Jean Chapman, Dee Molina, Marty Douglas,
Simon Bucknall, Brady Scarborough, Beckie Ranly,
Laura Greenwood, Michael Chapman, Yolanda Peña,
Valerie Rich, Tommy Lopez, Debbie Wood, Bill Wilson,
M. P. Wright, A.C. Basaldua, Richard Osburg, Tyler
Skidmore, Todd Crawford, Stan Soultair, Fred Guerra,
the Di Liddo Family, and the Bowman Family.*

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

LECTORS for AUGUST 1-2, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Steven Gonzalez

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Frances Nelson

Sunday, 11:00 AM: David Gonzalez



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - AUGUST 1-2, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Tony Arredondo, Louis Deases

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Deacon Bill, Tony Nelson, Aaron Hoelscher

Sunday, 11:00 AM: Javier Flores, Gianna Flores, Kera Steward

ALTAR SERVERS for AUGUST 1-2, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Able Flurry, Abraum Flurry

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Sarita Nelson, Charleigh Nelson, Casey Gwynn

Sunday, 11:00 AM: Carlos Camacho, Liam Sanchez, Eliana Garza

USHERS for AUGUST 1-2, 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. Bluntzer, D. Dusek, P. Pilarczyk, J.R. Sanchez

*Our deepest condolences to the Bockholt
Family on the death of*

†Mrs. Nicolyn Di Liddo

Mother of Renna Bockholt (Clay) of St. Thomas Parish

Please keep the family in your prayers.

May her soul rest in peace.

Pastor and Parishioners

*Our deepest condolences to the Bowman Family
on the death of*

†Mr. John Bowman

Husband of Chi Bowman of St. Thomas Parish

Please keep the family in your prayers.

May his 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

community on how to proceed in the interpretation of Jewish law with respect to Jesus' "new" teaching. Jesus' teaching about the kingdom of heaven does not replace the Jewish tradition; it interprets it in a different light.

Reflection on the Gospel Reading (Matthew 13:44-52)
(continued from page 1)

FAMILY CONNECTION

Like the person who found the buried treasure and the merchant who acquired the pearl of great price, we seek to find the signs of the kingdom of heaven in our lives. In fact, we even work to bring about God's kingdom in our actions and in our words. We pray that our family values reflect our pursuit of the kingdom of heaven. As Jesus' disciples, we place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God.

As you gather as a family, talk about what your family values. Make a list together of those things that your family considers most important, such as family, friends, faith, trust, and love. Place this list before you as you read today's Gospel in its shorter form, Matthew 13:44-46. In these parables, Jesus teaches us that it is worth giving up even valuable things in order to possess the kingdom of heaven. Look at the list your family made and talk about how these things are important to the kingdom of heaven. What has your family given up to make these values important in your life? As Jesus' disciples, we place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God. Pray together for God's kingdom by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Courtesy of Loyola Press

from the Pastor's desk

Parish Website: www.christon624.com

2026 PARISH FESTIVAL/CZECHFEST

SAVE THE DATE:
Sunday, October 11, 2026

Mark your calendars now for our Parish Festival. "CzechFest" has been very successful in the past thanks to all the volunteers and 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

THE BIBLICAL EVIDENCE FOR APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION

The message seems clear. The true Church speaks with the authority of Christ. If you reject the Church, you reject Jesus. This is true whether you are a layman or a clergyman—and whether you lived in the first century or live in the twenty-first century. That is at the core of the truth of apostolic succession.

Courtesy of Tim Staples, Catholic Answers

From the Pastor's desk

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Wednesday: Sts. Martha, Mary, and Lazarus;

Thursday: St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church;

Friday: St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest;

Saturday: St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church.

St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Patrick Mission
PARISH FACILITIES
and Responsibilities

Reminders:

1. Loss of Keys to Parish Buildings: report to the parish office if you have lost your keys.
2. Thermostat Settings: after use of buildings, please reset thermostat to 78-80 degrees.
3. Secure the Parish Buildings: Make sure the parish buildings are locked and lights are off.
4. Secure the Storage Closets: Keep storage closets locked.

Thank You from your Pastor

SPECIAL OFFERING — AUGUST 9, 2026

Diocesan Catholic Schools Development

Diocese of Corpus Christi

OFFERINGS

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

7/18-19/2026 Regular Collection:	\$9,230.00
7/18-19/2026 Online Giving:	\$2,001.00
TOTAL	\$11,231.00

ST. PATRICK MISSION

7/18/2026 Regular Collection:	\$702.00
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Counters: C. Hoelscher and R. Unterbrink



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

CZECHFEST/PARISH FESTIVAL

All parishioners are invited to the planning of our parish festival CZECHFEST on Tuesday, **July 28, 2026** at 6:00 p.m. in the I.C. Hall. We need your help to make our festival successful.

Tom Schumacher, Chairman
 tmslawofc@aol.com

Tony Arredondo, Co-Chairman
 tonyent62@gmail.com



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