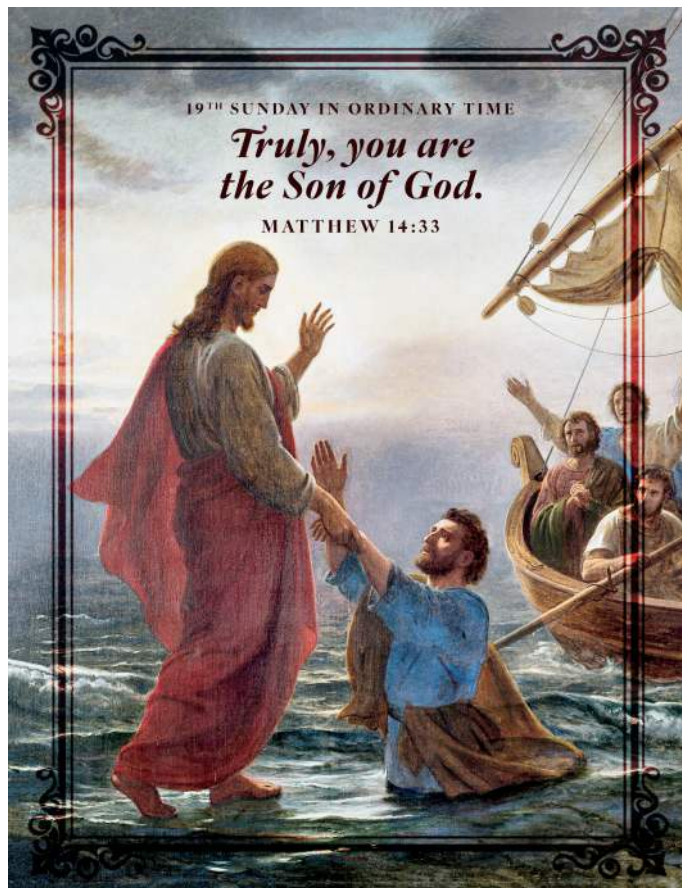


Today's Gospel directly follows last week's account of Jesus feeding a crowd of more than 5,000 people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. For the sake of the crowds, Jesus had postponed his time of solitude. Now, at last, Jesus finds some time for quiet and prayer. He sends his disciples ahead of him by boat, dismisses the crowds, and then withdraws to the mountain to pray.

The disciples do not fare well. They struggle to weather the wind and waves, making little progress in their journey. We are reminded of a previous story in Chapter 8 of Matthew's Gospel, when Jesus calms the seas. This time, however, Jesus does not calm the seas, and the disciples do not express fear until they see Jesus walking toward them on the water. In this story it is not the storm that is feared but the sight of Jesus before them, whom



they mistake for a ghost.

Clues like these suggest that this story is about the disciples' growing understanding of the identity of Jesus. In continuity with last week's Gospel about the feeding of the multitude, today's Gospel is also about what the disciples' faith in Jesus will enable them to do. In last week's Gospel, when the disciples see the crowds, they ask Jesus to send the crowds away. Jesus turns the situation around, telling the disciples to feed the crowd with the provisions that they have. Both of these Gospels tell us much about ministry.

Jesus calls to the disciples and calms their fears. He is not a ghost. The impulsive Peter seeks proof that the person is indeed Jesus. He asks Jesus to call him out onto the water, and Jesus

(continued on page 3)

Readings for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a; Psalm 85:9-14; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:22-33.



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 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

*"I will hear what God proclaims:
the LORD — for he proclaims peace.
Near indeed is his salvation to those who
fear him, glory dwelling in our land."*

Psalm 85:9

Masses and Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026

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

†Michael Rathke by Kathy Rathke

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

†Kristi Stark (AOD) by Danny & Roberta Kurtz

†James Kurtz by Danny & Roberta Kurtz

†Herb Welch by Juliet Welch

†Frank Nemec and Henry Strmiska by Susie Tajchman

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle

8:30 AM: Parishioners

11:00 AM: †Adelfa Tamez by Cruz & Diane Hernandez

MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2026

12:00 PM: No Mass

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: †John Bowman II by John & Chi Bowman

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: †David Tajchman, Sr. by Betty Conally

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: Peña Family Birthdays by Yolanda Peña

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026

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

†Antonio B. Valdez by Rosario Gonzalez

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

†Aida Deases (AOD) by John & Chi Bowman

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

8:30 AM: Parishioners

11:00 AM: Breanne Vaughan Smith (Birthday) by Karen Vaughan

Parish Website: www.christon624.com

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, and Chad Morton.

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



LECTORS for AUGUST 15-16, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Annette Freeman

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Agnes Flores

Sunday, 11:00 AM: Paul Pilarczyk



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - AUGUST 15-16, 2026

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

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Deacon Bill, Rosa Trevino, Matt Kimmel

Sunday, 11:00 AM: Karen Vaughan, Barbara Rychetsky, Tony Nelson

ALTAR SERVERS for AUGUST 15-16, 2026

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

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Gabriel Kimmel, Cyprian Kimmel, Casey Gwynn

Sunday, 11:00 AM: Carlos Camacho, Charleigh Nelson, Sarita Nelson

USHERS for AUGUST 15-16, 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, D. Bluntzer, J.R. Sanchez

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: St. Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr; Tuesday: St. Clare, Virgin;

Wednesday: St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious;

Thursday: Sts. Pontian, Pope and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs;

Friday: St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr;

Saturday: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

St. Patrick Mission

NEW AIR CONDITIONER UNIT

St. Patrick Mission is in need of a new air conditioner unit for the church. The estimate for a new A/C unit installation is \$9,453.15. Donations are highly appreciated to meet the expense of this project. Kindly mark in the memo - A/C Unit.

Pastor

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

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

grants this request. Peter's fear and doubt overtake him, however, once he is walking on the water. Jesus reaches out to Peter and saves him. When Jesus and Peter enter the boat, Matthew reports that the wind ceases, and the disciples confess that Jesus is the Son of God.

Faith in Jesus will enable the disciples to do the work that Jesus has done. Peter walks on water. The five loaves and two fish feed a multitude of people. The disciples can and will participate in the work of the kingdom of heaven. When Peter fears and doubts the person of Jesus, however, he falters. Peter's example teaches us that true Christian ministry emerges from the faith that Jesus is the Messiah, God's only Son.

Reflection on the Gospel Reading (Matthew 14:22-33)
(continued from page 1)

FAMILY CONNECTION

The mission of the Church is to continue the work of Jesus. The family, the domestic church, participates in this mission too.

Talk about how your family participates in the mission of the Church. Discuss ways in which you seek to reach out to your neighbors and people in need through acts of kindness, mercy, and justice. Then read together today's Gospel, Matthew 14:22-33. Talk about how Peter wanted to be like Jesus, to walk on water like Jesus did. Note that Peter was successful for a time, but then he doubted Jesus, and he began to sink into the water. Talk about how your family's acts of mercy and justice are rooted in your faith in Jesus. Pray together that Jesus will continue to work through your family to prepare the kingdom of heaven. Pray together the Morning Offering or the Lord's Prayer.

Courtesy of Loyola Press

from the Pastor's desk

SPECIAL OFFERING — AUGUST 9, 2026

Diocesan Catholic Schools Development

Diocese of Corpus Christi

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

8/1-2/2026 Regular Collection: \$4,923.00
8/1-2/2026 Online Giving: \$1,278.00
TOTAL \$6,201.00

ST. PATRICK MISSION

8/1/2026 Regular Collection: \$370.00

Counters: C. Pilarczyk and K Gallagher



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

RELIGIOUS ED / EDGE / LIFE TEEN REGISTRATION

Religious Ed / EDGE / LIFE TEEN registration is now open: We look forward to a fabulous 2026-27 school year with your kiddos!!!

If you have returning students in our program, please e-mail me with their names and grade level. If your contact information has changed, please also provide that information in the e-mail.

If you are new to the parish, please make sure you have submitted a church registration form to the parish office. If you have not done so, you can find the registration form on our website (www.christon624.com) under *Newcomers* and then go to tab "Register - St. Thomas". Once form is completed, please submit original to parish office or put it in the collection basket at Sunday Mass. You can also find our Religious Ed Registration form on our website (*only new members need to complete this form*) under *Parish Life*, then go to *Religious Ed* tab. You will see "CCD Registration Form". Please complete this form for each student you want to register for Religious Ed. Once completed, you can e-mail that form to me. **The St. Thomas the Apostle Registration Form must be submitted to Parish Office before we can register students for our Religious Ed programs.**

More information coming soon on dates for "Welcome Back and Orientation" and dates that Religious Ed, Edge, and Life Teen will resume.

If you have any other questions about registration or students that may need to get on track with their sacraments, please feel free to contact me.

Michele Hoelscher, DRE

E-Mail: mhoelscher@christon624.com; Cell: 361-244-2138.

**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.

Pastor

PARISH FESTIVAL "CZECHFEST"

**SAVE THE DATE:
Sunday, October 11, 2026**

Mark your calendars now for our Parish Festival.



Diocesan is proud to be printing
St. Thomas the Apostle's
Sunday Bulletin

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