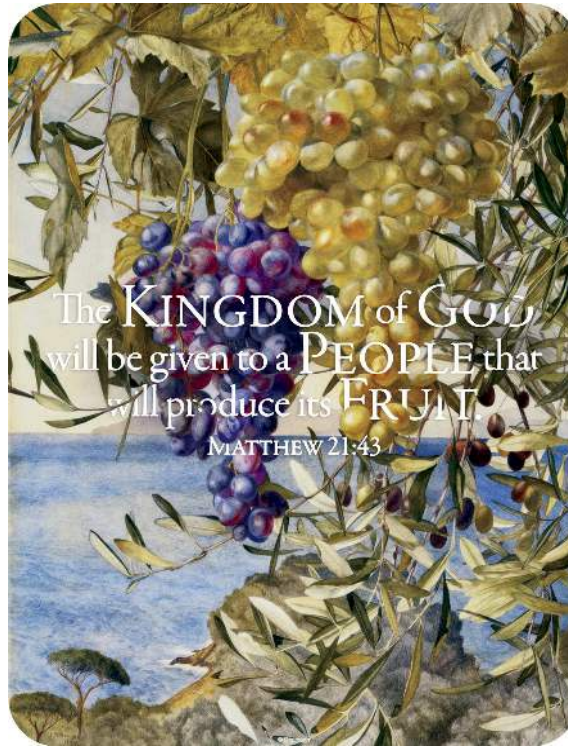


Today's Gospel follows directly after last Sunday's Gospel in which Jesus was questioned by Jewish religious leaders about the source of his teaching authority. After refusing to answer their questions, Jesus tells the parable of the two sons and then criticizes the priests and elders for their lack of belief in John the Baptist.

In today's Gospel, Jesus once again speaks to the priests and elders with a parable. In this parable, the landowner leases his vineyard to tenants and sends his servants to collect the portion of the harvest that the tenants owe to him. Several times the servants are sent to collect payment, and each time they are beaten and killed by the tenants. Finally, the landowner sends his son to collect his rent. The tenants, believing that they will inherit the vineyard if the landowner dies without an heir, plot together and kill the landowner's son.

After telling the parable, Jesus questions the chief priests and elders about what the landowner will do to the wicked tenants. They all agree that the landowner will kill the wicked



tenants and give the land to new tenants who will pay the rent.

In telling the parable, Jesus is clearly drawing upon Isaiah 5:1-7, which is today's first reading and one that the priests and elders would have known well. Jesus doesn't, therefore, have to explain the symbolism of the parable; the Pharisees would have understood that the vineyard represented Israel, the landowner represented God, the servants represented the prophets, and the bad tenants represented the religious leaders. Yet Jesus nonetheless explains the meaning of the parable for

his audience: the Kingdom of God will be taken from the unbelieving and given to the faithful. The chief priests and elders have condemned themselves with their answer to Jesus' question.

Today's Gospel has a parallel in Mark 12:1-12. There are some notable differences, however. In Matthew's version, the religious leaders condemn themselves; in Mark's Gospel, Jesus answers his own question. Matthew names the religious leaders as Pharisees and chief priests.

Readings for the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isalah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:9, 12-16, 19-20; Phillippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43.



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

Masses and Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026

4:00 PM: Holy Mass @ St. Patrick Mission
†JoAnn Miller by Yolanda Peña
5:30 PM: Collective Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle
†Steve Kurtz (AOB) by Danny & Roberta Kurtz
†David Tajchman, Sr. (AOD) by Susie Tajchman
†Maria Nguyen by Chi Bowman
†Aida Deases by the Bowman Family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

8:30 AM: Parishioners
11:00 AM: †Herb Welch by Owen & Kim Gallagher

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2026

12:00 PM: No Mass

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: Communion Service

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: Communion Service

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas with Fr. Kurian Joseph

12:00 PM: †Ricky Prejean (AOD) by Susie Tajchman

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas with Fr. Kurian Joseph

12:00 PM: †Richard Chavarry by Terri Chavarry

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026

4:00 PM: Holy Mass @ St. Patrick Mission with Fr. Matthew
†JoAnn Dominguez by John & Annette Freeman
5:30 PM: Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle with Fr. Matthew
†Lillie Kurtz (AOD) by Danny & Roberta Kurtz

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas with Fr. Matthew

8:30 AM: Parishioners
11:00 AM: Collective Holy Mass
†Margaret Young (AOB) by Owen & Kim Gallagher
†Marcos Ybarra (AOB) by Owen & Kim Gallagher
†Monica Marie Villarreal by Tony & Yolanda Villarreal

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, Fred Nemec, Frances Hicks, Eileen Champine, Dalia Gutierrez, Jeanette Respondek, Wallace and Judi Prukop, Dee Molina, Harold Prejean, Mary Elva Estrada, Shannon Clubb, Courtney Dodd, Charlie & Jean Chapman, Bill Wilson, Marty Douglas, Simon Bucknall, Brady Scarborough, Laura Greenwood, Yolanda Peña, Valerie Rich, M. P. Wright, Beckie Ranly, Michael Chapman, Tommy Lopez, Tyler Skidmore, Debbie Wood, A.C. Basaldua, Fred Guerra, Elva Rosas, Chad Morton, Tony Ochoa, Mary Helpert, Ryan Harlan, Todd Crawford, Viridiana Castillo, Virginia Atkinson, Robert and Geraldine Cortino, Stan Soultair, and Richard Osburg.

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



LECTORS for OCTOBER 10-11, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Annette Freeman
Sunday, 8:30 AM: Terri Kimmel
Sunday, 11:00 AM: Velma Garcia



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - OCTOBER 10-11, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Tony Arredondo
Sunday, 8:30 AM: Deacon Bill, Matt Kimmel, Richard Gonzalez
Sunday, 11:00 AM: Bill Kelly, Jesse Garcia

ALTAR SERVERS for OCTOBER 10-11, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Grace Landry, Matthew Cortino, Michael Cortino
Sunday, 8:30 AM: Gabriel & Cyprian Kimmel, Miles & Jacob Shimek
Sunday, 11:00 AM: Morgan Boatright, Liam Sanchez, Eliana Garza

USHERS for OCTOBER 10-11, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: D. Kurtz, W. Riebschleager, E. Flurry, J. Freeman
Sunday, 8:30 AM: B. Gwynn, M. Reitorik, M. Reilly, T. Schumacher
Sunday, 11:00 AM: R. Polasek, D. Dusek, T. Brown, D. Brown

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: St. Faustina Kowalska, Virgin, Blessed Frances Xavier Seelos, Priest; Tuesday: St. Bruno, Priest, Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin; Wednesday: Our Lady of the Rosary; Friday: St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs, St. John Leonardi, Priest; Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary.

"MARY, MOTHER OF LIFE"

Respect Life Reflection

In becoming the mother of Jesus, Mary becomes the *mother of life*. Mary's acceptance in this unforeseen moment demonstrates how each of us must welcome the gift of new human life, even when that gift is unexpected or calls us to make sacrifices. The life of the Blessed Mother teaches us to respect each human life in every stage and circumstance. Mary is our model for upholding the sanctity of all human life.

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 Joyce Compton, Regent.

Knights of Columbus Council #9318: Contact Tony Arredondo, Grand Knight at Tonyent62@gmail.com or 361-947-8036.

LITURGY OF THE DAY

Clearly this Gospel shows the tension that was mounting between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders who thought that his message was dangerous. Matthew's Gospel was written about 70 years after Jesus' death and reflects the conflicts and tensions found in the Christian community for whom Matthew was writing. Many biblical scholars believe that the tension between Matthew's community and their Jewish neighbors can also be heard in today's reading.

This Gospel reminds us of the importance of listening to God's word. God speaks to us in many ways—through Scripture, through our Church tradition, in our Church's teaching, and through modern-day prophets. Are we attentive and receptive to God's word to us through these messengers?

Reflection on the Gospel Reading (Matthew 21:33-43)
(continued from page 1)

FAMILY CONNECTION

In an ideal household, family members know the rules and follow them consistently. Even the most conscientious among us, however, sometimes needs to be reminded of the rules and their importance. How we respond to such correction reveals our true character. In today's Gospel Jesus exposes the religious leaders for their failure to heed God's messengers. It is an opportunity for us to consider how we respond to those who are God's messengers today, calling us to correct our ways and return to the way of the Lord.

As you gather as a family, talk about some of the most important rules of your household. Consider how consistently family members follow these rules. How are family members reminded when rules are not being followed? In today's Gospel Jesus corrects the religious leaders through a parable telling them that they have not heeded God's messengers. How do we respond to God's messengers today? Pray together as a family that you will heed God's messengers and follow God's ways. Pray together the Act of Contrition for the times when your family has not heeded God's word.

Courtesy of Loyola Press

from the Pastor's desk

SPECIAL OFFERING – OCTOBER 3-4, 2026

Respect Life Collection

Diocese of Corpus Christi

ADULT CONFIRMATION

The Fall Adult Confirmation Mass will be celebrated on **Saturday, November 7, 2026** at 11:00 a.m. at Corpus Christi Cathedral.

This Adult Confirmation celebration is intended only for catechized adult Catholics who have received Baptism and First Holy Communion but have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Registration deadline is Friday, October 30, 2026.
For more information, please contact the parish office at 361-387-1312.

Parish Office

PARISH FESTIVAL "CZECHFEST"

SAVE THE DATE:
Sunday, October 11, 2026

The Auction Committee will now be accepting items for the live and silent auction. Recommended value of new items for the live auction can be \$35-\$45. The Country Store Committee is also accepting new items or handmade items for the Country Store. Items can be brought to the parish office.

Tom Schumacher, Chairman
tmslawofc@aol.com

Tony Arredondo, Co-Chairman
tonyent62@gmail.com

St. Thomas the Apostle
PARISH FESTIVAL GIFT CARD RAFFLE



Our parish is having a Fall fundraiser with a Gift Card Raffle. The drawing will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2026 with prizes ranging from \$100 to \$1,000. The tickets sell for \$5 each and there are 10 tickets in a book. Raffle books to purchase and/or sell may be picked up after each Mass, or in the parish office.

There will also be a "loser's pot" drawing at the festival live auction between 5-6 p.m. – MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN and have not won any other prizes. (Raffle donations received after the tickets were printed.)

If you have any questions, please call Michele at 361-244-2138 or call the parish office at 361-387-1312.

Michele Hoelscher, Coordinator

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

9/26-27/2026 Regular Collection: \$6,058.61
9/26-27/2026 Online Giving: \$1,048.00
TOTAL \$7,106.61

9/26-27/2026 Parish Festival: \$15.00

ST. PATRICK MISSION

9/26/2026 Regular Collection: \$603.76

Counters: C. Hoelscher and A. Freeman

OFFERING



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