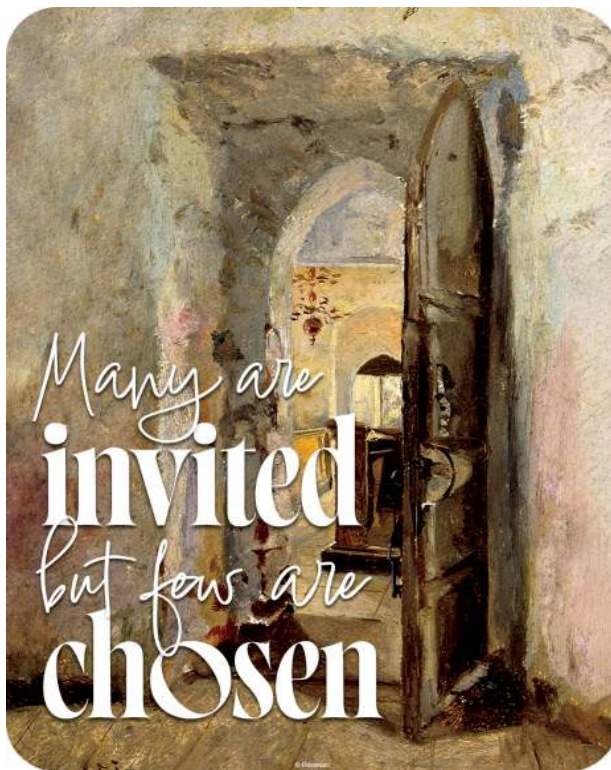


Immediately after criticizing the religious leaders through the parable of the tenants in last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus proceeded to tell another parable, again directed at the religious leaders. We hear this parable in today's Gospel.

In the parable of the wedding feast, Jesus offers an image of the kingdom of heaven using the symbol of a wedding banquet. In today's first reading from the prophet Isaiah and in today's psalm, the Lord's goodness is evident in the symbol of a feast of good food and wine. Jesus' listeners would have been familiar with the image of a wedding feast as a symbol for God's salvation. They would consider themselves to be the invited guests. Keeping this in mind helps us to understand the critique Jesus makes with this parable. The context for this parable is the growing tension between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders in Jerusalem. This has been the case for the past two Sundays and will continue to be true for the next several weeks.

The parable Jesus tells is straightforward. The king dispatches his servants to invite the guests to



the wedding feast that he is planning for his son. The listeners would have been surprised to learn that the first guests refused the invitation. Who would refuse the king's invitation? A second dispatch of servants follows. Again to the listeners' great surprise, some guests ignore the invitation. Some of the invited guests even go so far as to mistreat and kill the servants. The king invokes his retribution against these murderers by destroying them and burning their city.

Why would some guests kill the servants sent to invite them to the king's wedding feast? It might be possible

that the king was a tyrant, evidenced by the destruction of the city of those who refused his invitation. But if we follow this idea, then the allegory seems to be about something other than the kingdom of heaven. It is more likely that the destruction of the city would have been a powerful image corresponding to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70, which would have been an important event for Matthew's audience.

(Continued on Page 3)

Readings for the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 25:6-10a; Psalm 23:1-6; Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20; Matthew 22:1-14.



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 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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2026

12:00 PM: No Mass

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2026 - @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: Communion Service

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026 - @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: Communion Service

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas with Fr. Kurian Joseph

12:00 PM: †Clement Vo by Chi Bowman

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026 - @ St. Thomas

12:00 PM: Communion Service

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

4:00 PM: Holy Mass @ St. Patrick Mission with Fr. John
 †Tip Crutchfield by Deb Bauer
 5:30 PM: Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle with Fr. John
 †JoAnn Dominguez (AOB) by the Robert Dominguez Family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas with Fr. John

8:30 AM: Parishioners
 11:00 AM: Collective Holy Mass
 Sutton Smith (Birthday) by Karen Vaughan
 Leigh-Anne Hewlett (Birthday) by Pat Landreth
 †Rance Vaughan by Karen Vaughan

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 17-18, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Ann Clarke
 Sunday, 8:30 AM: Agnes Flores
 Sunday, 11:00 AM: Paul Pilarczyk



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS FOR OCTOBER 17-19, 2026

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Tony Arredondo, Louis Deases
 Sunday, 8:30 AM: Deacon Bill, Fred Ramos, Matt Kimmel
 Sunday, 11:00 AM: Barbara Rychetsky, Karen Vaughan, Tony Nelson

ALTAR SERVERS FOR OCTOBER 17-18, 2026

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

USHERS FOR OCTOBER 17-18, 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: Columbus Day; **Wednesday:** St. Callistus, Pope and Martyr;

Thursday: St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church;

Friday: St. Hedwig, Religious, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin;

Saturday: St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr.

WORLD MISSIONS

When the first issue of MISSION Magazine was published in early 1951 by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, the then national director of The Pontifical Mission Societies, it offered readers a glimpse into the life of the Church in what were at the time called "mission territories." The numbers were striking: more than 41,000 schools educating 3.2 million students, over 1,100 hospitals caring for tens of thousands of the sick, and 174 leper colonies serving some of the most vulnerable in the world.

Those figures told a story—of a Church present where human need was greatest, sustained by missionaries and by the generosity of Catholics who might never see the places they were helping to build.

Seventy-five years later, the story continues and the Church's mission continues to grow and adapt.

USCCB

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.

continued from page 1

With the invited guests now deemed unworthy to attend the king's wedding feast, the servants are sent to invite whomever they can find. The guests arrive, but it appears that accepting the king's invitation brings certain obligations. The guest who failed to dress in the appropriate wedding attire is cast out of the feast. We are reminded that while many are invited to the kingdom of heaven, not all are able to meet its requirements. God invites us to his feast, giving us his salvation. Yet he asks us to repent for our sins.

Jesus' message in the parable cautions against exclusive beliefs about the kingdom of heaven. The parable also teaches about humility. Those who assume that they are the invited guests may find that they have refused the invitation, and so others are invited in their place. To accept the invitation is also to accept its obligations. God wants our full conversion in complete acceptance of his mercy.

Courtesy of Loyola Press

From the Pastor's Desk

St. Thomas the Apostle PARISH FESTIVAL GIFT CARD RAFFLE

The Gift Card Raffle Drawing with 45 prizes will be held this Sunday, October 11, 2026. You do not need to be present to win these prizes. The parish office will call you to let you know when to come pick up your prize.

There will also be a "loser's pot" drawing with 3 prizes at the festival live Auction between 5-6 p.m.

To Win The Loser's Pot Prizes
YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN
and have not won any other prizes

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

Michele Hoelscher, Coordinator

Parish Website: www.christon624.com

OFFERINGS	ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE	
	10/3-4/2026 Regular Collection:	\$6,726.00
	10/3-4/2026 Online Giving:	\$1,786.00
	TOTAL	\$8,512.00
	10/3-4/2026 Respect Life Collection:	\$363.00
ST. PATRICK MISSION		
10/3/2026 Regular Collection:		\$530.00
Counters: A. Freeman and C. Hoelscher		



Go to church Website
www.christon624.com
click on icon

THE MAN WHO BROUGHT THE MISSIONS TO AMERICAN HOMES

Before Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen became one of the most recognizable Catholic voices in American history, he was a boy from central Illinois who was formed by a devout family, vibrant parish life, and the conviction that his gifts belonged to God.

Born Peter John Sheen on May 8, 1895, in El Paso, Illinois, he was the eldest of four sons of Newton and Delia Fulton Sheen. He came to be known by his mother's maiden name, Fulton. The family prayed the rosary daily, and his mother's Marian devotion left a lasting mark on him.

At age 8, Fulton began serving Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Peoria. His intelligence emerged early, but his later skill as a speaker was the result of discipline. At St. Viator College in Bourbonnais, Illinois, he practiced public speaking until he became an accomplished debater and orator.

In 1917, he entered St. Paul Seminary in Minnesota. There he began the spiritual practice that would sustain him for the rest of his life: a daily Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament.

He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Peoria on September 20, 1919. Father Sheen then pursued advanced studies at the Catholic University of America and the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium, where he earned a doctorate in philosophy and received the Cardinal Mercier Prize for International Philosophy.

After returning to the United States, Father Sheen spent several months at St. Patrick's Parish in Peoria. He visited parishioners, heard confessions, and sought out Catholics who had fallen away from the Church. The assignment was brief, but it revealed something essential about him: intellectual work and pastoral ministry would never be separate. His scholarship was directed toward faith, and his preaching toward conversion.

In 1926, Father Sheen joined the faculty of the Catholic University of America. Over the next 23 years, he taught, wrote and became one of the university's best-known professors.

(to be continued)

Courtesy of Mission Magazine

SPECIAL OFFERING – OCTOBER 17-18, 2026

World Mission Sunday

Diocese of Corpus Christi

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