

Christmas 2023

Glory

to God in
the highest
and on earth
peace to those
on whom his
favor rests.

Luke 2:14



ST. THOMAS BY THE SEA CATHOLIC CHURCH

P. O. Box 1190
26547 Perdido Beach Boulevard
Orange Beach, AL 36561
251-981-8132
www.stthomasbythesea.com



THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS BY THE SEA

SATURDAY, January 6

4:00-4:45 p.m. Confessions
 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass –
Intention: Bill Chambers

SUNDAY, January 7 – EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:00 a.m. Holy Mass
Intention: Frank Raue+
 10:00 a.m. Holy Mass
Intention: Parishioners

MONDAY, January 8

8:40 a.m. Rosary
 9:00 a.m. Communion Service

TUESDAY, January 9

8:40 a.m. Rosary
 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass
*Intention: Living and Deceased
 Members of the Altar Rosary
 Society*

WEDNESDAY, January 10

7:00 a.m. Men of St. Joseph
 8:40 a.m. Rosary
 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass
Intention: Mary Newsome+
 6:30 p.m. Walking With Purpose

THURSDAY, January 11

8:40 a.m. Rosary
 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass
Intention: Dot Barnes+
 5:30 p.m. Mary's Shelter Bingo

FRIDAY, January 12

9:00 a.m. Holy Mass
Intention: David Whitten+
 9:30 a.m. Daughters of Mary

SATURDAY, January 13

4:00-4:45 p.m. Confessions
 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass
Intention: June Pumford+

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Milton & Rita Essig, Dominique DeSanctis, Patrick Rogers, Bill & Mary Brabston, Lori Brabston, Elliott Trahan, Phyllis Peralta, Pam Rohan, Babe Rohan, Bob Osterholt, Brenda Lomax, Becky Cate, Mark Cate, Dina Bazor, Thomas Potts, Michael Fleshman, Michael Dalton, Brian Coco, Lorrie Larew, Rebecca London, Jordan Dupre', Joe Mullen, Pat Hutton, Patty Tucker, Jerry Tucker, Eddie Werneth, Larry Cloran, and Maureen Cloran. *Please notify the church Office if you need to add a name to this list.*

WE ALL NEED PRAYER: Our priest needs prayer too! **We are starting a group to offer prayers for Fr. Paul.** It is a simple structure designed by Seven Sisters Apostolate; all we need are seven women who commit to praying a Holy Hour one day a week to get this started. For more information, contact Beverly Mills at 231-590-7115 or bmills48@yahoo.com.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION... All are welcome!

- **Small Christian Communities:** Please join in our next series, beginning the week of January 14. As the church continues to focus on the National Eucharistic Revival Mission in 2024, over seven weeks we will be reading together and discussing our Christmas gift book, *Beautiful Eucharist*. "Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist should be like touching Heaven, and that should change the way we live here on earth!" (Matthew Kelly). To join a group, complete the registration card (on back table in Narthex) or contact Melissa Sibille at 850-566-1016. Existing group members will be contacted by their group facilitator. Groups meet once a week on different days and times – winter visitors are welcome.
- **Men of St. Joseph:** Men, join in reading and discussing readings for the following Sunday Masses, along with the Wednesday reflections from *Magnificat*. Contact Bob Barnett at 251-979-1573 or rbbtrb@gmail.com.
- **Walking With Purpose:** This Bible Study group for women meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Contact Diana d'Angelo at 440-487-4373 or ddangelo17@icloud.com.
- **Daughters of Mary:** These women meet on Friday mornings after Mass to read and reflect on the upcoming Sunday readings, growing in faith and community with one another. Contact Andree Drouilhet at 610-202-5997, a_drouilhet@yahoo.com. No meetings over Christmas season. We will reconvene on the first Friday in January.

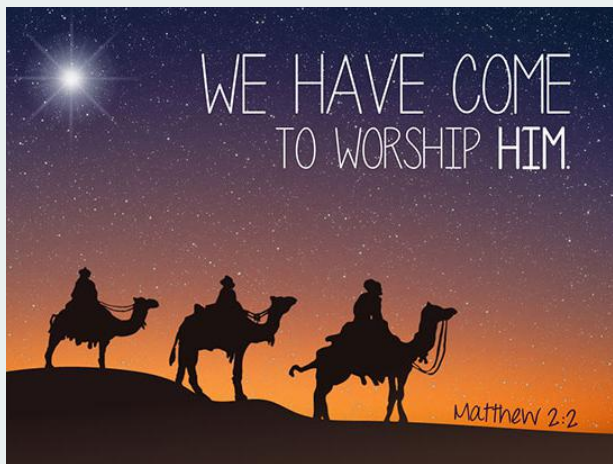
**YOUR GIFTS TO GOD
 on December 24-25, 2023**

Offertory December 24	\$ 28,234.00
Offertory December 25	\$ 6,618.00
<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>\$ 9,000.00</i>
Memorials	\$ 528.09
Online giving	\$ 1,836.80
Votives	\$ 28.50
Building Fund	\$ 5,121.00
<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>\$ 4,000.00</i>

**THE SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND IS FOR
 THE ST. THOMAS BY THE SEA BUILDING FUND.
 Thank you for your generosity.**

FATHER PAUL THANKS YOU for your very generous financial support of the Parish during the Christmas season, and also thanks to all those who volunteered to clean and decorate the church, to sing, who brought gifts and treats, and helped in so many other ways to provide a wonderful Christmas celebration for our parish community.

BLESS YOUR HOME FOR EPIPHANY – This tradition is a way of blessing all who enter, exit and dwell in your home throughout the new year. Pick up your blessed chalk and blessing prayer in the Narthex.



LAST CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PARISH COUNCIL! Submit your name, or nominate someone else (with their permission) by email to Tina D'Aversa at tdaversa@bellsouth.net. Briefly describe why you feel nominee (or you) should serve on the Parish Council. Meetings are monthly at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Library.

FR. PAUL AND OUR PARISH HAVE A CHRISTMAS GIFT, Matthew Kelly's book, "BEAUTIFUL EUCHARIST" available for each family to pick up in the Narthex!.

WELCOME HOME to our Winter visitors. We sure have missed you!

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY will begin next Friday, January 12, 2024. Plan to join us for delicious fish and sides. More information to follow soon!!!

The **ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY** will meet on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 in the Parish Library following morning Mass. All ladies (including winter visitors) are invited to join this loving, caring group of ladies who support many activities and charitable works at St. Thomas by the Sea. For more information, please text or email Anne Quinn at 303-324-3526, anne@aspengroup.org. The **ACCW quarterly luncheon** will be on Thursday, January 11 at St. Margaret of Scotland in Foley. Call Anne Quinn to reserve by January 4.



CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES – January is St. Thomas by the Sea's month to help stock the food pantry. There is an urgent need for: cereal, canned chili, diced tomatoes, tuna and Tuna Helper, Hamburger Helper, paper towels, laundry soap, dish soap. Remember – we cannot give expired or opened food items. Leave your bags in the enclosure in the Narthex. God Bless you for your generosity!

MARY'S SHELTER BINGO is on Thursdays, starting with Early Bird games at 5:30 p.m. Please join us for a fun evening! Food available for purchase. Call Suzanne at 251-213-3035 (stthomasvolunteers@gmail.com) to volunteer or for more information. We have an urgent need for volunteers to provide homemade desserts – call June Murray at 205-799-4096.

MARY'S SHELTER BE MY VALENTINE IV — Tickets are on sale for the 2024 **Be My Valentine IV \$10,000.00 Drawdown Extravaganza** event which is scheduled for February 18, 2024 from 12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Gulf Parish Hall, 308 East 22nd Avenue, Gulf Shores. In addition to the drawdown, the event will include lunch and a live "Elvis" performance. Tickets are \$100.00 each and go fast, so purchase yours by calling Shannon at 251-986-6351. Mary's Shelter is our local home for pregnant, homeless women; this is its major fundraising event every year.

LIFE QUOTES:

Through the incarnation and birth of Christ, God reveals to us the dignity of all human life. Human life, as a gift of God, is sacred and inviolable. The son of God has united himself with every human being and desires for us to share eternal life with him... each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, and we reflect his glory in the world.

– From USCCB, *The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary*

MINISTRY NEXT WEEKEND – JANUARY 13-14, 2024

	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	ALTAR SERVER	USHER	SACRISTAN
Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Jean Marzullo	Tina D'Aversa Jay Powell J.R. Bedel Nancy Milton	Patrick Dalton	Joe Fierro, Jim Johnson Jay Powell Van Bielkiewicz Tim Drouilhet Andree Drouilhet	Rosemary Spaulding
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.	Eva McDuffie	Anne Quinn Sharon Mahne Vicki Brown Beverly Mills	Carlos DeSanctis	Ouida Turner, Art Yaroch Luann Yaroch Robert Turner Paul Brown, John Neese	Mike Shell
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.	Merrie Henderson	Alice Madere Sandy Tryles Cheryl Robinson Darlene Kerchner	John Scheel	Steve Kerchner June Murray, Lee Barnes Patty Cumming Dan Cummings Richard Mercer	Deacon Steve

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Parish Office 251-981-8132
FAX 251-981-1981
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Marge Keller251-981-8132
- Church Secretary (Interim)**
Vicki Gordziel.....251-981-8132
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Contact St. Margaret of Scotland251-981-8132
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Daniel Sadlis251-597-5094
- Knights of Columbus**
Bob Lindley251-978-8147
- Ministry of Care to Sick & Bereaved**
Parish Office251-981-8132
- Respect Life Committee**
Suzanne Laurier251-981-1918
- CCD**
Contact Father Paul...251-981-8132
- Choir Director/Organist**
Paul Anderson251-377-7923
- Parish Council**
Chairperson
Tina D'Aversa678-457-0677
- Finance Council**
Steve Kerchner251-981-8132
- Memorials**
Parish Office251-981-8132
- Ministry**
To serve as a Lector or Eucharistic Minister, Contact Father Paul...251-981-8132
- RCIA**
Tuesday at 7:00 p.m., September-Easter
Contact Father Paul...251-981-8132
- St. Benedict School**
Contact Father Paul...251-981-8132
- Winter Visitor Contact**
Ellen Passage.....517-881-6615
- Sacrament of Baptism**
Contact Parish Office at least one month prior251-981-8132
- Sacrament of Marriage**
Contact Parish Office at least six months prior251-981-8132
- Wedding Coordinators**
Cheryl Robinson251-422-1268
- Shop**
Merrie Henderson850-982-5213

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR ALL MASSES – EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS, ALTAR SERVERS, LECTORS AND USHERS. Training is provided. Please call the Church Office at 251-981-8132.



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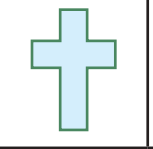
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