

Christmas 2023

Glory

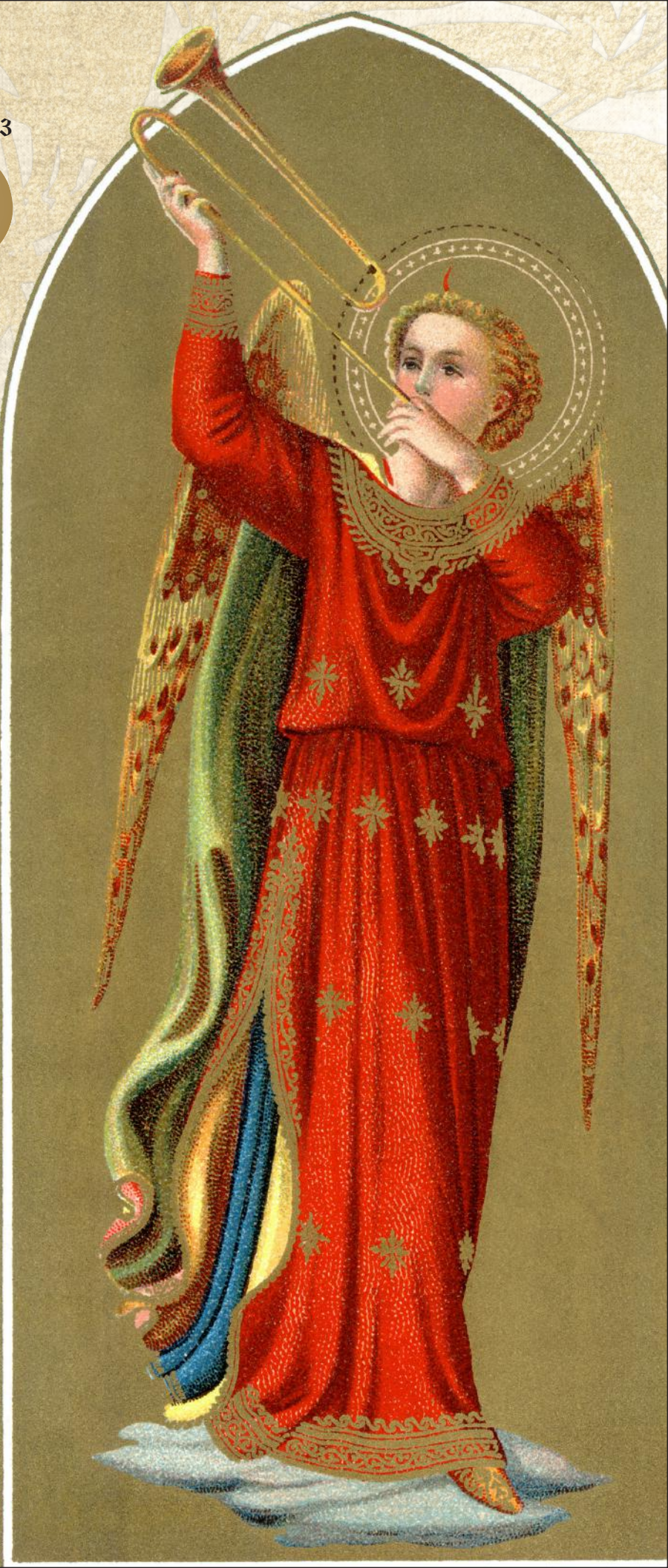
to God in
the highest
and on earth
peace to those
on whom his
favor rests.

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, December 23

4:00-4:45 p.m. Confessions
5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass
Intention: Bielkiewicz & Dauzat Families

SUNDAY, December 24

8:00 a.m. Holy Mass
Intention: Mike and Tom Barnett +
10:00 a.m. Holy Mass
Intention: Nita Mickwee +

SUNDAY, December 24 – NATIVITY OF THE LORD

4:30 p.m. Carols
5:00 p.m. Holy Mass
Intention: Mary Newsome +

MONDAY, December 25 – NATIVITY OF THE LORD

8:40 a.m. Rosary
9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass
Intention: All STTBTS Parishioners

TUESDAY, December 26

8:40 a.m. Rosary
9:00 a.m. Holy Mass
Intention: David Cranston +

WEDNESDAY, December 27

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

THURSDAY, December 28

8:40 a.m. Rosary
9:00 a.m. Holy Mass
Intention: Dolores Fearn +

FRIDAY, December 29

9:00 a.m. Holy Mass
Intention: Mary Dupre`+`

SATURDAY, December 30 – FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

4:00-4:45 p.m. Confessions
5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass
Intention: Bielkiewicz & Dauzat Families

**Fr. Paul wishes you all a Blessed Christmas
and a Prosperous New Year!**

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, Tony Cate, 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 and Jerry Tucker.
Some names have been removed. Please notify the church Office if they need to be reinstated, or if you need to add a name to this list.

Sadly, our **Music Director, Paul Anderson**, will be retiring and leaving us soon. There will be a reception to **THANK HIM** for sharing his great talent with us on Sunday, December 31, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Please plan on joining us!

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

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS - If you would like to donate towards our Christmas Flower offering, there are donation boxes at the back of the church and the side doors.

PARISHIONERS ARE OBLIGATED to participate in one Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent and in a second Mass for Christmas. It is not possible to fulfill both obligations by attending a single celebration of the Eucharist, no matter its day or time. During Christmas Masses, all genuflect during the words, "and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man." The Christmas season concludes on Monday, January 8, 2024, with the Feast of the Baptism.

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD

December 17, 2023

Will be reported next week.

THE SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND IS FOR
THE ST. THOMAS BY THE SEA BUILDING FUND.

Thank you for your generosity.

The **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY** will begin on January 12, 2024. Plan to join us for delicious fish and sides. More information to follow shortly!!!

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.

LIFE QUOTES:

"O Blessed Mother, at the angel's word, you went in haste to the aid of your cousin Elizabeth. Although pregnant yourself, you placed her needs before your own. By your example of radical solidarity, teach us to reverence and protect those in need, without conditions or expectations...Obtain for us the grace to bring Christ to any expectant mother who is alone and afraid."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
Prayer for Radical Solidarity (www.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity)



ADULT FAITH FORMATION... All are welcome!

- **Small Christian Communities:** Please join in our next SCC series beginning the week of January 14. As the church continues to focus on the National Eucharistic Revival Mission in 2024, in this seven-week series, we will be reading together and discussing "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 SCC group, complete registration card (on back table in Narthex) or contact Melisa Sibille at 850-566-1016. Existing attendees will be contacted by your group facilitator prior to start of series. We welcome our winter visitors to join us.
- **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 the Christmas season. We will reconvene on the first Friday in January.

MARY'S SHELTER BINGO will start on Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. This year will be our 20th, and we hope to be back to full capacity! But WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to be callers, floor attendants, kitchen helpers and cooks to provide soups and sweets. Please consider giving us a hand – you can work anywhere from once a month to every Thursday. Call Suzanne at 251-213-3035 (stthomasvolunteers@gmail.com) to volunteer or for more information.

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 12:00-4:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Gulf Parish Hall, 308 East 22 Avenue, Gulf Shores. In addition to the drawdown, it 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.

MINISTRY NEXT WEEKEND – DECEMBER 30-31

	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	ALTAR SERVER	USHER	SACRISTAN
Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Al Bedel	Nancy Milton Tina D'Aversa Jay Powell Sharon Mahne	Tim Drouilhet	Joe Fierro, Jim Johnson Jay Powell Van Bielkiewicz Andree Drouilhet Denise Jackson	J.R. Bedel
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.	Bob Barnett	Anne Quinn Marian Smith Betty McDuffie Eva McDuffie	Carlos DeSanctis	Ouida Turner, Art Yaroch Luann Yaroch Robert Turner, Paul Brown Lynn Tampary	Mike Shell
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.	Annette Michell	Bob Lindley Kathy Lindley Joanie Pruett Cheryl Robinson	John Scheel	Mike Pruett, Lee Barnes Dan Cummings Patty Cummings Steve Kerchner Darlene Kerchner	Merrie Henderson

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.

SAINT THOMAS BY THE SEA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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- 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
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