

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](http://www.stthomasbythesea.com)





# THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS BY THE SEA

**SATURDAY, December 30**

4:00-4:45 p.m. Confessions  
 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass – Feast of the Holy Family  
*Intention: Bielkiewicz & Dauzat Families*

**SUNDAY, December 31 –  
 FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

8:00 a.m. Holy Mass  
*Intention: Mike and Tom Barnett +*  
 10:00 a.m. Holy Mass  
*Intention: Bill Chambers +*

**MONDAY, January 1 – THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY,  
 THE MOTHER OF GOD (HOLY DAY)**

8:40 a.m. Rosary  
 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass  
*Intention: All STTBTS Parishioners*

**TUESDAY, January 2**

8:40 a.m. Rosary  
 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass  
*Intention: Arthur Trowbridge +*

**WEDNESDAY, January 3**

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

**THURSDAY, January 4**

8:40 a.m. Rosary  
 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass  
*Intention: Kathryn Hire +*  
 5:30 p.m. Mary’s Shelter Bingo

**FRIDAY, January 5**

9:00 a.m. Holy Mass  
*Intention: Mike and Tom Barnett +*  
 9:30 a.m. Holy Hour of Adoration  
 10:30 a.m. Daughters of Mary

**SATURDAY, January 6**

4:00-4:45 p.m. Confessions  
 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass – Epiphany of the Lord  
*Intention: Bill Chambers +*

**Fr. Paul wishes you all a Blessed,  
 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, 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, Maureen Cloran and Frank Raue. *Please notify the Church Office if you need to add a name to this list.*

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

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 this 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”** available for each family to pick up in the Narthex! Best wishes for a blessed Christmas and a prosperous, healthy and Happy New Year!

**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](mailto:bmills48@yahoo.com).



**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** will start on Thursday, January 4, 2024 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](mailto: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.

**LIFE QUOTES:**

“Dearest St. Joseph, help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life, especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things.”  
 – USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities,  
 A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING** is an easy and convenient way to give – *whether at home or away!* Just get the Vanco, Inc. “Give Plus+” Smart Phone app. Vanco provides e-giving capability at St. Thomas by the Sea and at more than 25,000 churches nationally. Once you have the app, just look up the Church by Name, City or Zip Code. You’ll get an immediate email receipt.

**YOUR GIFTS TO GOD  
 on December 17, 2023**

Offertory .....	\$ 4,510.00
<i>Budgeted</i> .....	\$ 9,000.00
Online Giving .....	\$ 1,447.36
Votives .....	\$ 13.00
Building Fund .....	\$ 1,684.00
<i>Budgeted</i> .....	\$ 4,000.00

**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 Friday, January 12, 2024. Plan to join us for delicious fish and sides. More information to follow soon!!!

**ALTAR CARE** for January: June Murray and Luann Yaroch. Thank you , ladies!

**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@aspen group.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.

**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 Melisa 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, 610-202-5997, a\_drouilhet@yahoo.com. No meetings over Christmas season. We will reconvene on the first Friday in January.

**MARY'S SHELTER BE MY VALENTINE IV** – Buy your ticket now for the Drawdown Extravaganza scheduled for Sunday, February 18, 2024, 12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m., at Our Lady of the Gulf Parish Hall in Gulf Shores. The event will also include lunch and a live "Elvis" performance. Tickets are \$100.00, with a chance to win \$10,000.00 or one of the many other prizes. Call Shannon at 251-986-6351.

**MINISTRY NEXT WEEKEND – JANUARY 1, 6-7, 2024**

	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	ALTAR SERVER	USHER	SACRISTAN
<b>Monday, 9:00 a.m.</b>	Jean Marzullo	Melanie Reece Melissa Sibille	Patrick Dalton	John Neese June Murray Rob Shine Sandy Tryles	Rosemary Spaulding
<b>Saturday, 5:00 p.m.</b>	Al Bedel	Nancy Milton Andree Drouilhet Joanne Cranston Bill Cranston	Tim Drouilhet	Joe Fierro, Jim Johnson Jay Powell Van Bielkiewicz J.R. Bedel, Rob Shine	Rosemary Spaulding
<b>Sunday, 8:00 a.m.</b>	Melissa Sibille	Anne Quinn Eva McDuffie Raquel Coll Marian Smith	Carlos DeSanctis	Ouida Turner Art Yaroch, Luann Yaroch Robert Turner, Paul Brown Lynn Tampary	Aracelly Cain Smith
<b>Sunday, 10:00 a.m.</b>	Francie Towey	Mary Mercer Joanie Pruett Bob Lindley Kathy Lindley	John Scheel	Richard Mercer Mike Pruett, Sandy Tryles June Murray Patty Cummings Dan Cummings	Deacon Steve

**SAINT THOMAS BY THE SEA CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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- Respect Life Committee**  
Suzanne Laurier .....251-981-1918
- CCD**  
Contact Father Paul...251-981-8132
- Choir Director/Organist**  
Paul Anderson .....251-377-7923
- Parish Council**  
Chairperson  
Tina D'Aversa .....678-457-0677
- Finance Council**  
Steve Kerchner .....251-981-8132
- Memorials**  
Parish Office .....251-981-8132
- 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 prior .....251-981-8132
- Sacrament of Marriage**  
Contact Parish Office at least six months prior .....251-981-8132
- Wedding Coordinators**  
Cheryl Robinson .....251-422-1268
- Gift Shop**  
Merrie Henderson .....850-982-5213

**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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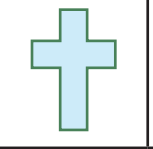
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