



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

1603 Avenue N

Ph. 936.295.8159

Huntsville, TX 77340

Fax 936.295.3543

www.saintthomashuntsville.org

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2015

STAFF

Rev. Fred Valone Pastor

- Felix RamosPermanent Deacon
- Kathy BoscarinoDRE / Youth Minister
- Maria DelgadoElementary CCE Coordinator
- Dir. of Music Ministry
- Jill Baker Nursery Coordinator
- Dell WellsBookkeeper
- Sylvia Vitela Secretary
- Laura Puente Custodian



**Last Student Mass for the Semester
Sunday, December 6th at 6:00 PM**

STAFF

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Weekend Mass Schedule

- Saturday 5:30 p.m. (English)
- Sunday 7:45 a.m. (English)
- 10:45 a.m. (English)
- 12:30 p.m. (Spanish)
- 6:00 p.m. (English)

Week Day Mass Schedule

- Tuesday 7:00 a.m.
- Wednesday 7:15 a.m.
- Thursday 7:15 a.m.
- Friday 7:15 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation Sacramento de Reconciliación

- Tuesday / Martes 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
- Saturday / Sabado 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Parish Office Hours Horario de la Oficina Parroquial

Monday/Lunes	11:00 am - 4:30 pm
Tuesday - Friday Martes - Viernes	9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Sacrament of Baptism Sacramento de Bautismo

Baptisms are held on the second Saturday of the month. Parents and Godparents are required to attend preparation sessions. Please call the parish office for more information.

Bautismos se llevan acabo el segundo Sabado de cada mes. Los padres y padrinos deben participar en las sesiones de preparación. Para mayor información, favor de llamar a la oficina.

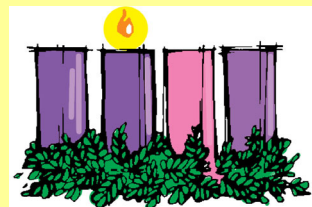
Sacrament of Marriage Sacramento de Matrimonio

Contact office at least six months prior to wedding. Favor de llamar a la oficina seis meses antes de la boda.

Special Blessings Bendiciones Especiales

All blessings are done on the third Sunday of the month. Call the office to make arrangements.

Todas las bendiciones especiales se haran el tercer domingo del mes. Hable a la oficine para hacer arreglos.



PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Mon	11/30	4:00 PM	Christmas Project Mtg	Hall
Tues	12/1	8:00 AM - 5:30 PM	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
		6:00 PM	Fr. Fred's Scripture Cl	Hall
		7:00 PM	Prayer Group	CCE
		7:15 PM	Legion of Mary	LWH
Wed	12/2	9:00 AM	Iconography Guild	Hall
		7:15 PM	Altaration Class I	Hall
Thurs	12/3	9:00 AM	Prayer Group	CCE
		2:00 PM	St. Vincent de Paul	Hall
		6:00 PM	St. Thomas Ladies	Hall
Fri	12/4	5:00 PM	KCs Fish Fry	Hall
		7:00 PM	Prayer Group	CCE

Weekly Readings



Mon	11/30	Rom.10:9-18;Mt.4:18-22
Tues	12/1	Is.11:1-10;Lk.10:21-24
Wed	12/2	Is.25:6-10;Mt.15:29-37
Thurs	12/3	Is.26:1-6;Mt.7:21,24-27
Fri	12/4	Is.29:17-24Mt.9:27-31
Sat	12/5	Is.30:19-21,23-26Mt.9:35—10:1,5-8
Sun	12/6	Bar.5:1-9;Phil.1:4-6,8-11,Lk.3:1-6

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS / RECUERDEN EN SUS ORACIONES... Judy Adib, Veronica Antwi, Alma Williams, James Aubey, Irma Avalos, Gene Barrett, Jordan Bergeron, Kathy Boscarino, Fidelis Burton, Phillip Caito, Dick Colgrove, Sunni Cook, Sabrina Coronado, Terry Corral, Melanie Davis, Margie Eglsaer, Colin Defour, Jose Luis Ecamilla, Paul Fivel, Diane Fuller, Diana Garcia, Rita Ghirardi, Winifred Grivich, Mary Gutermuth, Dorothy Laskoskie, Wilson and Naomi Lede, Andrew Leal, Sam and Marie Martinez, Becky McGaughey, Cheri McGee, Coby Meinzer, Carol Mendel, Bill Middleton, Donna Moore, Floyd and Maryann Moore, Tom Morales, Lourdes Mosqueda, Paula Phillips, Brenda Piñeda, Odell Rachal, John Raia, Samuel Ramos, Lillian Rodriguez, Lydia Rodriguez, Maria Ines Rodriguez, Jack Rumfield, Ana Marie Santos, John Sarley, Jerry Seaton, Cindy Schwanke, Marilyn Shepherd, Kayden Bryn Shipley, Wanda H. Smith, Elizabeth Speck, Tim Speck, Alfredo Torres, Emily Torres, David and Dorothy Townsend, Margie Turner, Matthew Varnum, Leo Vasquez, Lupe Vasquez, Joe Vitela, Dell Wells, Rose Youngblood.

MASS INTENTIONS of the WEEK

Sat	11/28	5:30 pm	Kathy Miller	†
Sun	11/29	7:45 am	Edward and Doris Pasket (62nd wedding anniversary)	
		10:45 am	Al and Pat Sailer thanksgiving for many happy years)	
		12:30 pm	Parishioners	
		6:00 pm	NO Student Mass	
Mon	11/30	No Mass		
Tues	12/1	7:15 am	Deceased members of the Ponzi and Fellers families	†
Wed	12/2	7:15 am	Chad Wagamon	†
Thur	12/3	7:15 am	Sandra Kaye Allen	†
Fri	12/4	7:15 am	Kenneth Larson	†
Sat	12/5	5:30 pm	Veronica Antwi and Family (their intentions)	
Sun	12/6	7:45 am	Christopher Everett	†
		10:45 am	Dan Shelton	†
		12:30 pm	Parishioners	
		6:00 pm	CSC Intentions	

Stewardship for November 15th: \$ 8,225.13

Thank you for your parish support!

Part-time Music Coordinator Needed

St. Thomas is currently looking for a part-time Music Coordinator. The position will be open January 1, 2016. The successful applicant will be proficient in both piano (read and play piano music as written) and vocals. This person should have 2-3 years of experience in leading music, cantoring and accompanying in a Mass setting. This may become a fulltime position in May. Please contact the church office at **936-295-8159** if interested.

Adult Confirmation class forming

We are currently forming the Adult Confirmation Class. Those eligible must be baptized and receive first Eucharist; 18 years of age and have graduated High School; if married, they are married in the Catholic faith or have an irregular marriage corrected before Confirmation. Please contact **Kathy Boscarino** or the church office at **936-295-8159**.

Father Fred writes... Happy New Year!

We begin our new liturgical year on this first Sunday of Advent. With Christmas displays in the stores beginning earlier and earlier each year and with the after-Thanksgiving Christmas shopping in full swing, the season of Advent seems to be the forgotten season during the church year. It is a season of repentance but a different type of repentance than the season of Lent. The church calendar year always ends with readings speaking about the end times and Jesus' second coming. This Sunday's gospel from Luke presents some of the same apocalyptic images that we heard earlier in November. At that time I mentioned that Pope Benedict stated that this type of scripture passage reminds us to build our lives on the Rock, who is Christ. Then when the storms of life come into our individual lives, we remain steadfast with Christ at our side. During the season of Advent we might think of how we can build our WORLD on the Rock, who is Christ. Why have we not done more to make it happen? What more can we do? Dream for a moment what a world created with God at the center of everyone's lives would look like. A world where people serve one another? We do much of that during the month of December through various charitable opportunities. Dream of the reign of God as a world more focused on the needs of the poorest among us? Our December Christmas project helps us to do just that. Dream of a world more focused on peace? In our greeting cards we wish one another Peace on earth and good will to men and women. The desire to attend reconciliation services and other worship services in December helps us to grow closer to the Prince of Peace so we can promote peace in our daily relations. During December spend some time dreaming what the reign of God looks like if the child born in Bethlehem becomes the Lord of everyone's lives. The December challenge is what part I can play in making that dream happen today and always.

Merry Advent.

LENTEN FAITH-SHARING SMALL GROUPS...

If you think Christmas is right around the corner, Lent follows close behind! Lent begins on February 10, 2016, and St. Thomas will provide several opportunities to participate in a Lenten faith-sharing small group. A good way to meet Christ is to share faith through Disciples on the Journey. Small groups provide opportunities to:

- * deepen one's personal relationship with God
- * enliven one's faith by personal reflection on scripture
- * provide new insights into the Sunday readings

Sign-ups will begin in a few weeks. Watch the bulletin for more details.

For those interested in leading a small group, please contact **Kathy Boscarino** at (936) 295-8159.

GREATNESS... The measure of greatness is not the number of servants you have, but the number of people you serve. —Anonymous

ANNUAL COOKIE EXCHANGE... The Annual Christmas Cookie Exchange hosted by the St. Thomas Ladies will be on Thursday, December 3rd, in the Parish Hall. Pot luck snacks will be at 6:00pm and cookie exchange and social will follow. Please bring your favorite snack dish and 5 dozen delicious cookies to share. Don't forget to bring an extra container for the cookies you take home. This is a wonderful time for the ladies of the parish to come together during this beautiful Christmas season. For more information call **Bobbi Stefaniak** at **936-291-9428**.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS CHRISTMAS GOODIE BASKET FUNDRAISER SALE... will be held after all Masses on December 12th and 13th. We will have many types of gifts, large and small, and home made goodies, in all price ranges. Proceeds are used to help support parish events and other CDA designated charities. We are also selling delicious Pawnee pecans, 16 oz. bags for \$12 each and "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets for \$5 each. Contact **Sable Losack** at **936-295-8003** or a CDA member.

KC FISH FRY... in hall from 5-7 pm on Dec. 4th.

Christmas Flowers

Christmas flowers are being purchased to decorate our church for Christmas. The flowers may be donated in memory or in honor of a loved family member or friend or for some other special occasion. Please fill in the information requested below and return to the parish office.

The deadline is Friday, December 18th.

Offering is \$20.

_____ in honor of _____ in memory of

Donated by: _____

_____ in honor of _____ in memory of

Donated by: _____

 <p>St. Thomas the Apostle Youth</p>	<p>Contact Information Kathy Boscarino, DRE/YM kathybosc@sbcglobal.net (936) 520-6524 http://www.saintthomashuntsville.org</p>	<p><i>Weekly Events</i></p> <p>Sundays CCE 9:15 a.m.—10:30 a.m. Edge (7th –8th grade) Parish Hall Lifeteen (9th– 11th) Youth Center</p> <p>Wednesdays <i>STAY</i> Youth Night 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Yourh Center</p>
---	--	---

But God proved His love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

News and Events

- Sunday, November 29, 2015 No Lifeteen and Edge 9:15-10:30.
- Tuesday, December 02, 2015 Happy Thanksgiving **NO** STAY 1st Reconciliation Class
- Wednesday , December 03, 2015 **NO STAY** Youth Night
- Sunday, December 06, 2015 Lifeteen and Edge 9:15-10:30. Come *Glorify* the Lord!

“The Lord is my strength and my shield, in whom my heart trusts. I am helped, so my hear rejoices: with my song I praise him.” Psalm 28:7

What’s Up at the Catholic Student Center

Joseph Magee, Ph.D., Director – 291-2620 – DSF Supported – <http://www.shsu-catholic.org>
 Week of November 29, 2015

- Sunday** No Student Mass — Happy Thanksgiving
 No Free Dinner Social — CSC Closed
- Monday** 4 pm – Rosary in the CSC
 8:30 pm – Men’s Small Group
 – Women’s Small Group
- Tuesday** 7 pm – Catholic Bible Study
- Wednesday** 4 pm – Rosary in the CSC
 8 pm – Alive! Praise and Worship Music
- Thursday** 6:15 pm – Mass in CSC Chapel
 7 pm – Café Catholica:
- Friday** 4 pm – Rosary in the CSC

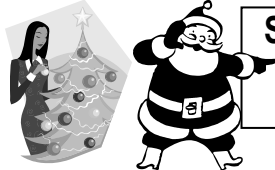


Reflections on God’s word from the Catholic perspective.

A faith-filled evening of Scripture, prayer, sharing, and great music!



Dinner and discussion of all things Catholic.



Sunday, December 6 @ 7 pm – CSC Christmas Dinner Party
 Join us for fun, food, music, games and holiday cheer! There will be an optional gift exchange (\$5 or less), and Christmas carols.



GRANDEZA... La medida de la verdadera grandeza no yace en la cantidad de sirvientes que tienes, sino en el número de personas a las que sirves. —Anónimo

LAS TRES VENIDAS DEL ADVIENTO... Sabemos de una triple venida del Señor: su venida a la humanidad, su venida en la humanidad y su venida contra la humanidad. —San Bernardo: Tercer Sermón para Adviento

Palabras del Padre Fred... ¡Feliz Año Nuevo! Comenzamos nuestro nuevo año litúrgico en este primer domingo de Adviento. Con pantallas de Navidad en las tiendas a partir más temprano cada año y con las compras después de Acción de Gracias Navidad en pleno apogeo, el tiempo de Adviento parece ser la temporada olvidado durante el año eclesiástico. Es un tiempo de arrepentimiento, pero otro tipo de arrepentimiento que el tiempo de Cuaresma. El año calendario de la iglesia siempre termina con lecturas de hablar de los últimos tiempos y la segunda venida de Jesús. El Evangelio de este domingo de Lucas presenta algunas de las mismas imágenes apocalípticas que hemos escuchado antes en noviembre. En ese momento he mencionado que el Papa Benedicto afirmó que este tipo de pasaje de la Escritura nos recuerda que debemos construir nuestras vidas sobre la Roca, que es Cristo. Luego, cuando las tormentas de la vida llegan a nuestras vidas individuales, nos mantenemos firmes con Cristo a nuestro lado. Durante el tiempo de Adviento que podríamos pensar en cómo podemos construir nuestro MUNDO en la Roca, que es Cristo. ¿Por qué no hemos hecho más para hacer que esto suceda? ¿Qué más podemos hacer? Suena por un momento como fuera un mundo creado con Dios en el centro de la vida de todo el mundo. Un mundo donde la gente se sirven unos a otros? Hacemos mucho de esto durante el mes de diciembre a través de varias oportunidades de caridad. Sueño del reinado de Dios como un mundo más centrado en las necesidades de los más pobres? Nuestro proyecto de Navidad nos ayuda a hacer precisamente eso. Sueño de un mundo más centrado en la paz? En nuestras tarjetas de felicitación nos deseamos unos a otros la paz en la tierra y buena voluntad a los hombres y mujeres. El deseo de asistir a los servicios de reconciliación y otros servicios de adoración en diciembre nos ayuda a crecer más cerca al Príncipe de la Paz para que podamos promover la paz en nuestras relaciones cotidianas. Durante diciembre pasa algún tiempo de soñando lo que fuera el reino de Dios si el niño nacido en Belén se convierte en el Señor de las vidas de todos. El reto de diciembre es qué parte puedo jugar para hacer que ese sueño suceda hoy y siempre. Feliz Adviento.

THANK YOU... to everyone who helped with the parish Thanksgiving project. Again, we far exceeded our goal. Whether you helped locate needy families, packaged food, made a monetary donation, or helped deliver food to our families, the response has been overwhelming and our community is blessed by your generosity. Now it's time to "Light up someone's Christmas"! Look for "paper Christmas lights" hanging around church. Each light has a Christmas gift request on it. Take a light (or two!), purchase the item and return it (and the light) to church or parish hall in the designated box by Sunday, December 13. We'll package the gifts for each family and deliver them on Saturday, December 19 in time for Christmas. Packaging work schedule will be coming soon if you want to help with that phase of the project. Contact **Mary** at gedelian@sbcglobal.net or **936-295-6935**.

REFLECTION... That we strengthen our relationship with Jesus through the sacrament of Reconciliation.
"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." (Luke 21:28)
We celebrate Advent each year in preparation of the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await his second coming. In this Advent season, use the sacrament of Reconciliation to strengthen your relationship with Jesus. It's never too late.

THE PRESENCE OF GOD.... In all our thoughts and actions we ought to remember the presence of God, and account all lost in which we think not of God.
—St. Bernard of Clairvaux

GRACIAS... a todos los que ayudaron con el proyecto del Día de Gracias de la parroquia. Una vez más, hemos superado nuestro objetivo. Si usted ayudó a localizar a las familias necesitadas, embolsar alimentos, hizo una donación monetaria o ayudado a entregar alimentos a nuestras familias, la respuesta ha sido abrumadora y nuestra comunidad ha sido bendecida gracias a su generosidad. Ahora es el momento de "Iluminar la Navidad de alguien". Busce "luces de Navidad del papel" colgadas alrededor de la Iglesia. Sobre cada luz tiene un encargo de Navidad. Lleve una luz (¡ o dos!), compre el artículo y devuelva con la luz afija a la Iglesia o parroquia en la caja designada antes de Domingo, 13 de Diciembre. Nosotros alistamos los regalos para cada familia y los entregaremos el Sábado 19 de Diciembre antes de la Navidad. Horario de trabajo de empaque miento viene pronto si usted quiere ayudar en esta fase del proyecto. **Contacte a Mary a gedelian@sbcglobal.net o al 936-295-6935.**

REFLEXION... Para que reforcemos nuestra relación con Jesús por medio del sacramento de la Reconciliación.
"Cuando comiencen a suceder estas cosas, cobren ánimo y levanten la cabeza, porque se acerca su redención." (Lucas 21:28)
Celebramos el Adviento cada año en preparación para el nacimiento de Jesús, Su primera llegada, mientras esperamos por su segunda llegada. En este tiempo de Adviento, use el sacramento de la Reconciliación para fortalecer su relación con Jesús. Nunca es tarde.

LA MEDIDA DE DIOS... Debemos amar a Dios porque él es Dios, y la medida de nuestro amor debe ser amarlo sin medida. —San Bernardo de Claraval