

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4100 South Coulter Street

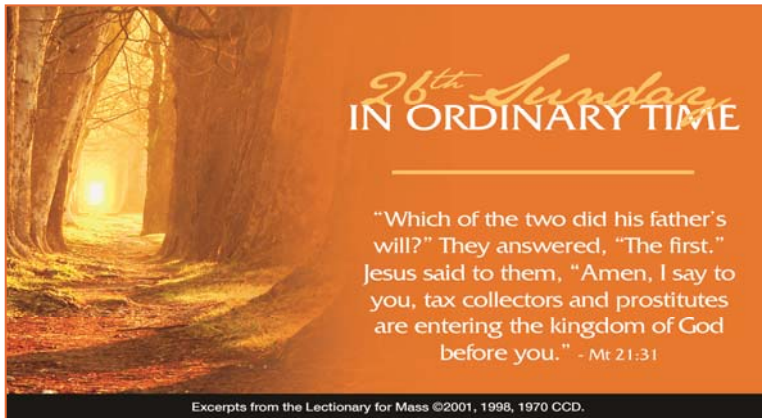


Amarillo, TX 79109

Church Phone: (806) 358-2461
Rectory Phone: (806) 353-1016
Fax: (806) 358-2529
Website: www.stthomasamarillo.org
Office Hours: (M-F) 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM



Diocese of Amarillo



REFLECTION

"Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you." Ouch. This had to sting. Jesus spoke these shocking words not just to anybody. He spoke them to "the chief priests and elders of the people." The ones who were professional law-keepers. The ones who were religious leaders and teachers. The ones who were, in truth, self-righteous, pompous, and presumptuous. Jesus must have known how offensive it would be to his audience to share this unpleasant fact. But he said it anyway because he knew they needed to hear it.

But the point wasn't to offend. The point was to amend. Jesus was urging them to change their lives for the better, to come to God with a humble, contrite heart, seeking forgiveness and mercy. These unrepentant upper-crust leaders were plagued by an inability to see their own sins. They were far too focused on identifying where others were going wrong. And, as was his style, Jesus' preaching was adapted according to his audience. These guys needed to get knocked out of their complacency. So Jesus did what he had to do.

It's important to realize, by the way, that the reason tax collectors and prostitutes were leading the line to heaven wasn't because of their sins. It was because of their sorrow. The people Jesus had in mind when he mentioned this-like Zacchaeus and Mary Magdalene perhaps--had repented from their sinful behavior and begun anew. This is why he praises them. And this is what the Lord longs to see everyone doing, including us. Either we need to acknowledge and repent of our sins, or we are placing ourselves in the same category as the pharisaical priests and elders. And that's definitely not the place to be.

Mass Times

Saturday: 5:00 PM (Sunday Vigil Mass)
 Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, and 11:15 AM
 Wednesday-Friday: 7:00 AM
 Tuesday: 6:00 PM
 Holy Days: (to be announced)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday: 5:30-6:30 PM
 Saturday: 3:30-4:30 PM
 Other times by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Contact the Parish Office to schedule a date and time. Parents and sponsors must attend a Baptism class. One sponsor must be Catholic and at least 16 years of age.

Sacraments of 1st Reconciliation and 1st Communion

These sacraments combine into one sacramental preparation program which takes two consecutive years of religious education classes to complete. Students must be at least in first grade to begin this preparation.

Sacrament of Confirmation

This sacrament takes two consecutive years of faith formation to complete. Students must be in at least sixth grade before beginning this preparation.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Contact the Pastor at least six months before the date of the wedding.

Sacrament of the Sick

Please notify the parish secretary of any sick or elderly shut-ins and all those in the hospital.

The Rite of Christian Initiation

The program for adults (RCIA) is open to non-Catholics who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith and to Catholics who have not celebrated the Sacraments. This process is offered on an ongoing basis.

Parish News



ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers this week
were donated by
the Albracht Family
in Honor of Alberta Reinbold

ST. THOMAS MEN'S CLUB: The St. Thomas Men's Club will meet **Mon., Oct. 2, at 7:00 p.m., in Msgr. Tash Hall.** All men of the parish are invited. Join us for food, fun, fellowship and service to the parish. All are welcome to pray the rosary with us beforehand at 6:30 in the chapel.

KC COUNCIL #4621 BREAKFAST: Sun., Oct. 8. They will be serving from **8:00 a.m., to 12:30 p.m.,** in the Gym. **Adults \$7, Children 10 and under \$3.** Proceeds benefit seminarians and charities.



ST. THOMAS ALTAR GUILD will have their first meeting of the year, **Mon., Oct. 23, at 7:00 pm. in Msgr. Tash Hall.** Come to hear what is planned for the year and meet other awesome ladies of the parish. Theme for programs this year is "Walk a Mile in My Shoes."

ST. THOMAS PICTURE DIRECTORY: Pictures for the new parish directory will be taken **Oct. 10-14 and again Oct. 24-28,** here at St. Thomas. If you have a computer, you can go to the church website, stthomasamarillo.org and schedule your appointment. All those who have their picture taken for the new directory will have their name entered in a drawing for a new Smart TV. Sign up today.

SAVE THE DATE: The parish's Boy Scout Troop 87 will celebrate their **30th Anniversary at 2:00 p.m., on Nov. 5,** in Msgr. Tash Hall.

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: At this time, an Adorer is needed for **Thurs., 3:00 a.m., & 11:00 a.m./Sat., 8:00 p.m.** If you are interested in being a part of this worthwhile ministry, call **Simon Wright at 806-570-9776.**



GIFT BEARERS are needed at all Masses. If you would like to participate, please sign up in the book in the Bell Tower.

Our Stewardship

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Sept. 24, 2017	\$ 26,831.00	\$ 28,748.00	\$ 1,917.00
Month-to-Date	\$107,324.00	\$102,526.72	\$ 4,797.28

"Do nothing out of selfishness; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves..."

PHILLIPIANS 2:3

Pride and ego are hard things to control. We see how others act or dress and think we are superior to them. We idolize our own self-image. But, if we truly believe everything is a gift from God, we recognize all the people that God has put in our lives as gifts! We are grateful for how they enrich our lives. Pray every day for the people in your life.

~Office of Stewardship & Development & United Catholic Appeal

Prayer Intentions

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS: OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND:

Kate Schmidt, Ben Canales, Marilyn Brzostowski, Clea Bustos, Steve Chontos, Elizabeth Stone, Terry Moenter, Lynn Gerken, Glenda Fassauer, Braxton Sandoval, Cheryl Wayne, Jerry Stone, Jerry Terry, Esther York, Shanna O'Gorman, Mike O'Neill, Angie Van Bakel, Mark Ortega, Jeannette Kaminski, Mary Maalouf, Emile Jones, Nadine Hadley, Brian Dolan, Robert Mitchell, Madeline Arrott, Lupita Randon, Betty Cutting, Judy Allen, Roy Steele, Jordan Barrientez, Gilbert Ybarra, Paul & Catherine Kiefer, Doug Tyler, Nancy Kulman Family, JoAnn Mercer, Valerie Williams, John (Jack) Hoben, LaRuth Haverfield.

OUR SERVICE MEN & WOMEN:

Cruz Rey Esparza, Sheldon Fowler, Shelby Lopez, A. J. Serafin, Lee Wingfield, Sean Callahan, Bryan Revell, John Nussbaum, Rachel Nussbaum, Matt Nussbaum, Christopher Schrock, David Oviedo Cantu, Jacob Bitonel, Jason Freeby, Brandon Owens, Jacob Tumbelson, T. J. Pevehouse, Swasey & Jena Brown, Cody Keese, Justin Spencer

ST. THOMAS PRAYER CHAIN: Do you know someone in need of special prayers? The Prayer Chain is always taking requests. If you would be interested in joining this worthwhile ministry or if you have a prayer chain request, please contact **Debi Banach at 358-2461, Ext. 107.**



More Parish News



BAPTISM CLASS: If you are new parents and/or sponsors, you are required to attend a Baptism class before the reception of the sacrament. **Please call the parish office, 358-2461, to register for the next scheduled class.**

THANK YOU BULLETIN AD SPONSORS! **Help Still Needed!**

Mike Anderson from Liturgical Publications, our bulletin publisher, was with us this past week securing advertisers for our Bulletin. We would like to thank all of the advertisers who have generously committed to the Bulletin for this year! We still have space available and humbly ask that you consider advertising your business or remembering a loved one in our weekly bulletin.

Our parish bulletin is one of our main tools of communication to our parish members. It provides inspirational words from Father, Mass intentions, news, and events for the week ahead. We are thankful that this crucial communication piece is provided to our parish at no cost thanks to the generous advertising support of our parishioners and community-minded businesses. Please let us know if you can help. Sponsors of our bulletin recognize the tremendous value of connecting with our church family, who in turn respond by supporting our sponsors! If you would like to advertise in the weekly bulletin, please contact Mike Anderson at (412) 855-8013 or via e-mail to manderson@4lpi.com. Thank you!

Youth Schedule and Events

We continue to pursue a Youth Director for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. Please watch the bulletin for updates regarding the Youth program.

Holy Cross Corner



SAVE THE DATE!

The annual **Holy Cross Catholic Academy** alumni basketball game and dinner will be held on **Thur., Dec. 21, 2017.**

Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. followed by the basketball games. Alumni vs. current HCCA varsity boys & girls teams

All HCCA, Alamo and Price alumni are invited to participate or attend. Please share this with your alumni friends. We look forward to seeing you there!

Go Mustangs!

More Parish News

ST. THOMAS ROSARY GROUP: If you are interested in praying the rosary with a group once a week, you are welcome to join the **St. Thomas Rosary Group** each **Thurs. morning at 10:00 a.m., in the Chapel.** Afterwards, they meet in the Parlor for some refreshments and fellowship.



BEST OF NORTHERN SPAIN featuring Fatima & Lourdes 11 DAYS: APRIL 16 – 26, 2018

*Visiting Lisbon, Fatima, Salamanca, Avila, Madrid,
Lourdes, Montserrat and Barcelona!*

Hosted by

**FR. SCOTT RAEF
and
FR. JOHN VALDEZ**

\$3379 FROM DALLAS
(Air/land price is \$2979 from Dallas plus \$400 government taxes/
airline surcharges)

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES: Roundtrip Air from Dallas, First Class/
Select Hotels, Most Meals, Comprehensive Sightseeing with a
Professional Tour Director, Entrance Fees,
Porterage and Much More!!

FOR MORE INFORMATION & A BROCHURE, PLEASE CONTACT
FR. JOHN VALDEZ at 806-358-2461 or email:
jvaldez@stthomasamarillo.org

Around the Diocese

WOMEN'S ACTS RETREAT #78: The retreat is scheduled for **Oct. 12-15, 2017. Registration closes Oct. 5.** To register on line or for more information, visit ACTSamarillo.org. You can also sign up on the Hourly Prayer Board.

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL SCHOOL FALL FESTIVAL: SAVE THE DATE - Sat., Oct. 14, 2017, Noon to 7:00 p.m., 1200 S. Washington St. There will be food, games, silent auction, raffle and tons of fun for all. Make plans to attend.

KOLBE PRISON MINISTRY RETREATS: Next Kolbe Prison Ministry has a retreat scheduled for **Oct. 26, 27 and 28 in the Clements unit.** We are asking you to please look within your hearts and help us supply these men with 150 dozen cookies, 2 cases of lettuce, 2 cases of apples, oranges and grapes per retreat. If you can find it in your heart to donate these please contact one of the following and we will get them picked up from you. The men inside appreciate everything you do for them and they want to say thanks to each and every one. For more information, you may contact any of the following: **Deacon Andy Gonzales, 463-0262; Deacon Jessie Guerrero, 364-8432; Deacon Joe Hochstein, 627-7026; Mike Hale, 881-2592; Kent Hoelting, 679-1725 or Robert Isbell, 679-0008.**

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND:

Married Couples, one of the greatest gifts you can give your spouse is your time and desire to make your relationship even better than it is today. Whether you've been married 1 year or 65, plan to join us on **Oct. 27-30.** Weekend to be held at the Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo, to enhance your communication and build a lifetime of love, romance and intimacy. **Contact Tung & Nanette Nguyen at (505) 400-0617, (505) 463-0261 or nguyenswwme@outlook.com** for more information, or apply online at www.meamarillo.org.

VETERANS DAY HONOR MASS will be celebrated on **Sat., Nov. 4, at 10:00 a.m., with Bishop Patrick J. Zurek as celebrant.** This Mass is for all veterans—deceased, living and will take place at **Thomas the Apostle Church.** Families are encouraged to bring photos of active and deceased veterans to St. Thomas the Apostle Church on Fri., Nov. 3, during regular business hours. These photos will be placed on the altar for the Veteran's Day Honor Mass. **For additional information, contact Joe Romo at 676-0660 or Don Allen 670-9680.**

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE: "Walk in the Footsteps of Jesus"—Walk where Jesus walked...Cruise the Sea of Galilee...Visit Nazareth...Climb the Mt. of Olives & view the Old City of Jerusalem...Walk the via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre...visit Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity. This pilgrimage will take place **Jan. 15 through 24, 2018 (10 days)** and is hosted by Msgr. Joe Bixenman. **The cost is \$2999 per person from Dallas** (air/land tour is \$2599 plus \$400 government taxes/airline surcharges.) The tour price includes roundtrip air from Dallas, First Class hotels, Breakfast & Dinner daily, Comprehensive Sightseeing, Porterage, Entrance Fees and much more! For a detailed brochure, please contact Msgr. Bixenman at bixenmanjoe6@gmail.com or **806-681-1717. DON'T MISS THIS TRIP OF A LIFETIME!!**



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH STAFF

PastorRev. John Valdez
 Deacon Blaine Westlake
 DeaconPhillip Whitson
 Retired DeaconJim Brown
 Retired DeaconTerry Pevehouse
 Music Dir./Organist/Choir Master..... Jim Gardner
 Assistant Music Dir.Nicole Koetting
 Religious Ed & Adult Faith Formation Director.....Kerry Acker
 Parish SecretaryRita Walker
 Facility AdministratorBryan Webb
 Parish BookkeeperVirginia Christian
 Religious Ed SecretaryDebi Banach
 Parish Life CoordinatorJulie Jones
 Ministry Assistant Dayamin Winchester
 Music SecretaryJudith Tucker
 Music AssistantStephanie Gallegos
 Facility AssistantGlen Starcher
 Young Adult CoordinatorCaleb Hubbard
 Liturgical Environmentalist.....Julie Pierce

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday, October 1:
 Ez 18:25-28/Phil 2:1-11/Mt 21:28-32
Monday, October 2:
 Zec 8:1-8/Mt 18:1-5, 10
Tuesday, October 3:
 Zec 8:20-23/Lk 9:51-56
Wednesday, October 4:
 Neh 2:1-8/Lk 9:57-62
Thursday, October 5:
 Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Lk 10:1-12
Friday, October 6:
 Bar 1:15-22/Lk 10:13-16
Saturday, October 7:
 Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Lk 10:17-24
Sunday, October 8:
 Is 5:1-7/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43

Liturgy Schedule and Special Mass Intentions:

Monday	10/2		NO MASS
Tuesday	10/3	6:00 PM	+Stan Shipp John & Sue Wise
Wednesday	10/4	7:00 AM	Spec. Int. of Carol Buse Dcn. Blaine & Louise Westlake
Thursday	10/5	7:00 AM	+Theresa Rider STA Prayer Shawl Ministry
Friday	10/6	7:00 AM	+Sammie Scott Tom & Sandy Riney
Saturday	10/7	5:00 PM	Spec. Int. of Mary Lou Venhaus Pat Stich
Sunday	10/8	7:30 AM	+Suzanne McGee Rob & Kris Michelotti
		9:00 AM	MEMBERS OF PARISH FAMILY
		11:15 AM	+Darrell Goodin Janice Goodin

Religious Education News

RE News

* October is Safe Environment month for the Amarillo Diocese. All our kids in the RE programs will be safe trained as the diocese requires on October 15. October 22 will be the make up day for anyone who misses the 15th. Please plan to attend!

*We DO have class on Columbus Day weekend. Please plan accordingly.

*Everyone who plans to volunteer with children MUST be safe environment-trained first. The next class offered will be October 10 in Room B-1 in the RE wing, NOT the Marian Room.

*Contact Kerry, DRE, at kacker@stthomasamarillo.org or at 806.358.2461 ext. 106 for more info.

RCIA News

+Interested in Catholicism and possibly joining the Church next Easter? Contact Kerry for more information!

+Our next combined Rite of Welcome and Acceptance will be November 5 at 11:15.

+Fall inquiry classes will be October 15, October 22, October 29, November 5, November 19, December 3, and December 17 from 10:05-11:05 in the library. Join us!

+Contact Kerry Acker at kacker@stthomasamarillo.org or 806.358.2461 for more info on RCIA!

Adult Faith Formation

ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS

No video, no workbook

WHERE IS THAT IN THE BIBLE?

The Church

Tradition

Scripture

Starting on Sunday, October 1, at 10:05 a.m.

In the Groom's Room

(Groom's room is located in the nursery wing)

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

For more information contact Dayamín Winchester at dwinchester@stthomasamarillo.org or 358-2461, ext. 123

Week at a Glance

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

10:00 a.m. - Catholicism (AFF) -Marian Room
6:30 p.m. - STA Men's Club - Chapel/Msgr. Tash Hall
6:30 p.m. - Cub Scouts Den Meetings - Education Wing

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

10:00 a.m. - The Mass (AFF) - Marian Room
2:00 p.m. - Our Lady's Rosary Makers - Marian Room
6:30 p.m. - Safe Environment Trainers' Meeting - Library
7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts - Gym

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

7:00 a.m. - ACTS Small Group - Library
9:00 a.m. - Community Bible Study - Parlor
10:00 a.m.- Marianist Group - Marian Room
5:30 p.m. - Confessions - Chapel
6:00 p.m. - Prayer Shawl Group - Parlor
6:30 p.m. - Covenant (AFF) -Marian Room
6:30 p.m. - RCIA Class - Msgr. Tash Hall
6:30 p.m. - Adult Handbells - Music Wing
6:30 p.m. - K.I.D.S. Choirs - Music Wing
7:45 p.m. - Adult Choir - Music Wing

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

10:00 a.m. - Rosary Group - Chapel
6:00 p.m. - Light Weigh - Marian Room
7:00 p.m. - Baptism Class - Church

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

NO SCHEDULED EVENTS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

6:00 a.m. - That Man is You - Upper Room
9:30 a.m. - Book Club (AFF) -Library
3:30 p.m. - Confessions - Chapel

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

8:00 a.m. - KC Breakfast - Gym
10:05 a.m. - The Mass (AFF) - Marian Room
10:05 a.m. - The Mystery of God (AFF) - Msgr. Tash Hall
10:05 a.m. - Where Is That in the Bible? - Groom's Room
10:05 a.m. - RE Classes - Education & Pre-K Wing
11:15 a.m. - Breaking Open the Word - Library
4:30 p.m. - Young in Spirit - Msgr. Tash Hall
5:00 p.m. - Youth Orchestra - Music Wing

Employment Opportunity

YOUTH MINISTER: St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Amarillo, Texas is seeking a Youth Minister. The Youth Minister will oversee and facilitate youth ministry to approximately 120 youth between 4th and 12th grades. This full-time, salary compensated position requires night and weekend work. Candidates must be faithful, energetic Catholics in good standing with the Church. **All candidates should submit resumes to the Parish Office at St. Thomas the Apostle Church 4100 S. Coulter, Amarillo, TX 79109.**

