

# St. Thomas Catholic Church

## Assumption of Our Lady Mission

Father Sampson Abdulai  
Dec 1 & 2, 2018

Phones: Office (504) 682-5607 Fax (504) 682-5617  
Rectory (504) 278-4008  
Website: myparishstthomas.org

### MINISTRIES

#### EUCCHARISTIC

##### St. Thomas

Sat Dec 1 Alice Barthelemy Sun Dec 2 Montika Mims  
Sat Dec 8 Vergie Encalade Sun Dec 9 Rechelle Ragas

##### Assumption

Sun Dec 2 Greg & Gina Meyer  
Sun Dec 9 Christian Beshel & Jena LaFrance

#### LECTORS

##### St. Thomas

Sat Dec 1 Vergie Encalade Sun Dec 2 Chad Encalade  
Sat Dec 8 Garland Tinson Sun Dec 9 Yvette Griffin

##### Assumption

Sun Dec 2 Joni Beshel  
Sun Dec 9 Francis Isidore

#### CLEANERS

##### St. Thomas

Sat Dec 8 Millie Narcisse  
Sat Dec 15 Deborah Bartholomew

##### Assumption

Sat Dec 8 Lucia Sylvester  
Sat Dec 15 Cheryl Lay

#### COUNTERS

Sun Dec 2  
St. Thomas—Group 1  
Assumption—Group 2

### Sacrificial Giving

Nov 24 & 25, 2018

##### St. Thomas—

1st Collection	\$ 1086.00
2nd Collection	\$ 100.00
Special Collection	\$

##### Assumption

1st Collection	\$ 586.00
2nd Collection	\$ 53.25
Special Collection	\$ 15.00

#### READINGS

St. Augustine Hymnal—Please refer to page 1078 for the Mass readings. First Sunday of Lent - Year C

*In your prayers...*

Emelda Bentley, Irna Blazio, Carolyn Espadron Blow, Ann & Ralph Buras, Lucien Cusimano, Augustine Ellis, Dorothy Encalade, Elvis Griffin, Merv Griffin, Beatrice Harvey, Juliette Isidore, Leslie Klemm, Augustine Lumar, Jimmy-Ann Manich, Maryrose and Michael Manichia, Annette Manuel, Tanner and Virginia & Wanda Messina, Lennon Meyers, Danny Miller, Ginori Moliere, Leona Narcisse, Jameson Novotny, Cecilia Piacun, Lola Plaisance, Dominick Rando, Arthur Reddick Sr, Barbara Riley, Jena Serigne, Veronica Simmons, Kyle Stodden, Wayne Sullivan, Andrea Sylve, Dorothy Tinson, Joyce Tinson, John Trumbaturi Jr, Valerie Messina Wood & Leary Young



**Mass Intentions**

#### ST. THOMAS

Sat Dec 1 Parishioners

Sun Dec 2 Parishioners

#### ASSUMPTION

Sun Dec 2 Pat Agnelly By: Emma Cousin & Fly Jules Cousin & Sybil Johnson

By: Don & Joni Beshel

Rene' Thomason Gutierrez

By Richard & Margaret Melerine

Marc LaFrance and Celestino & Rita Molero

By: Lanny & Jean LaFrance

Kenny Miller Jr. By: Joyce Ackermann & Fly

Frankie Wamble & Pam Wegener

By: Brandt & Shanana LaFrance

#### SANCTUARY LIGHT

##### IN MEMORY OF

*Sal Manichia III*

By: MaryRose Manichia

*May the Souls of all the faithfully  
Departed through the Mercy of God  
Rest in Peace. Amen*

## PASTORS CORNER

### ***Jesus is the solution!***

The Church year begins not on January 1, but with Advent, and so we are starting Year C today. The word 'advent' means 'coming to'; so the church year focuses on several aspects of how Jesus Christ comes to us. The world around us is absorbed by the feast of Christmas with gifts, parties, cards, and decorations, but the liturgy asks us to spend some time reflecting on the mystery of Jesus coming to us as a human being which we will celebrate at Christmas itself.

The second theme is how all will come to a final end of this world, with the 'Second Coming' of Jesus. More subtly, there is the coming of Jesus to each individual at the moment of death, but also there for us in every moment of our lives. Jesus 'comes to us' whenever we are aware of his presence. Thus the Advent prayer is one we can repeat at any time: 'Come, Lord Jesus.'

This first Sunday of Advent reminds us that Christmas is just around the corner. We all have our hopes and aspirations for Christmas. These four weeks of Advent are our annual season of waiting in hope for Christ. This season of Advent waiting reminds us that everything is not quite right with our world. Our world is somewhat broken and needs fixing. The world is broken because it does not pay attention to Christ or put Jesus first. The only way to fix our broken world is to mend and repair it with Christ. Christ is the solution to our broken world.

Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man. (Luke 21:36)

Jesus says we are to stay awake and pray, we are to prepare to meet him. So during this Advent we are to prepare not only for Santa Claus coming to town but above all we are to prepare for Jesus coming to town. Jesus says to us, stay awake and pray.

There is really only one gift at Christmas and that gift is Jesus coming to us. We can make a return gift to Jesus, a return gift of our lives pleasing to him. The second reading today encourages us to prepare our hearts for Jesus this Advent.

What better gift can we give to Jesus at Christmas than to have lived Advent in union with him? What better gift can we give to Jesus at Christmas than to have removed from our lives this Advent anything and everything that keeps us apart from Jesus? What better gift can we give Jesus at Christmas than to be able to say to him, "During Advent I reformed my life because I love you as my Lord"? If there is anything therefore in our lives that are not pleasing to Jesus we can use this time of Advent to break with sin and leave sin behind so that we can stay awake and pray waiting for Jesus.

The solution to our broken world now is Jesus. The only way to fix our broken world is to mend and repair it with Christ. Christ is the solution to our broken world. Let us pray that we may repair our broken world with **JESUS**.

***God is good all the time and all the time God is good, and that is His Nature!***

***Rev. Sampson Abdulai***

## Important Dates

***Dec 1-2 First Sunday of Advent. Our Second collection today will be for Christmas Flowers.***

***Dec 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—Holy Day of Obligation.***

***Dec 8-9 Second Sunday of Advent. Our second collection will be for the Retirement fund for Religious Appeal.***

***Dec 11 St. Thomas Pastoral Council Meeting at 6:30 in the Parish hall.***

***Dec 12 Assumption Pastoral Council Meeting at 6:30 in the Parish hall.***

***Dec 15-16 Third Sunday of Advent. Our second collection will be for Parish Shares.***

***Dec 18 St. Thomas Finance Council Meeting at 6:30 in the Parish hall.***

***Dec 18 Assumption Finance Council Meeting at 6:30 in the Parish hall.***

***Dec 22 St. Thomas CCD class will perform their Christmas Pageant.***

***Dec 22-23 Fourth Sunday of Advent. Our second collection is for Parish Shares.***

***Dec 24 Christmas Vigil - Assumption at 4pm, along with the CCD class performing their Christmas play and St. Thomas Christmas Vigil at 12 midnight.***

***Dec 24-25 Our Second collection will be for Christmas Offering.***

***Dec 25 The Nativity of The Lord—Christmas St. Thomas Mass 9am. No Mass will be at Assumption.***

***Dec 29-30 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph—Feast of the Holy Family.***

***Second collection will be for Parish Shares.***

***Dec 31 New Years Vigil - Assumption at 4pm and St. Thomas at 11pm.***

***Jan 1, 2019 New Years Mass at St. Thomas for 10am. No Mass at Assumption.***

## Classes, Retreats & Workshops

***Safe Environment Training***

***Monday, December 10th, 7-8:30pm at Archbishop Shaw***

***What is Spiritual Direction?***

***This Day of Prayer will take place on Wednesday, December 19th from 7-9pm at the Archdiocesan Spirituality Center located at 2501 Maine Ave, Metairie. For more info call 504-861-3254.***

## Announcements

***Our Church Parish is proud to announce our new Website; [myparishstthomas.org](http://myparishstthomas.org). The website address has been added to the bulletin.***

***St. Thomas received \$246.60 from our #iGiveCatholic Tuesday. We will be sending out thank you cards to show our appreciation to our donors.***

***Looking for ambassadors for next year!***

***#iGiveCatholic Tuesday, December 3, 2019***



