



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Office: 1603 Avenue N * Huntsville, TX 77340
 Church: 1323 16th St. * Huntsville, TX 77340
 Ph. 936.295.8159 * Fax 936.295.3543
 www.saintthomashuntsville.org

"...there is no inequality of significance amongst us except holiness..."
 "No hay desigualdad de importancia entre nosotros excepto la santidad..."

Holy Family of Jesus , Mary and Joseph

December 30, 2018

STAFF

Rev. Fred Valone.....Pastor
Felix Ramos.....Permanent Deacon
Kathy Boscarino.....DRE / Y M
Maria Delgado..... Elem. CCE
Marisol Urbina.....Administrative Asst.
Rick Reed.....Music Coordinator
Jill Baker.....Nursery Coordinator
Pat Norfleet.....Bookkeeper
Sylvia Vitela.....Secretary
Laura Puente.....Custodian

Mass Schedules

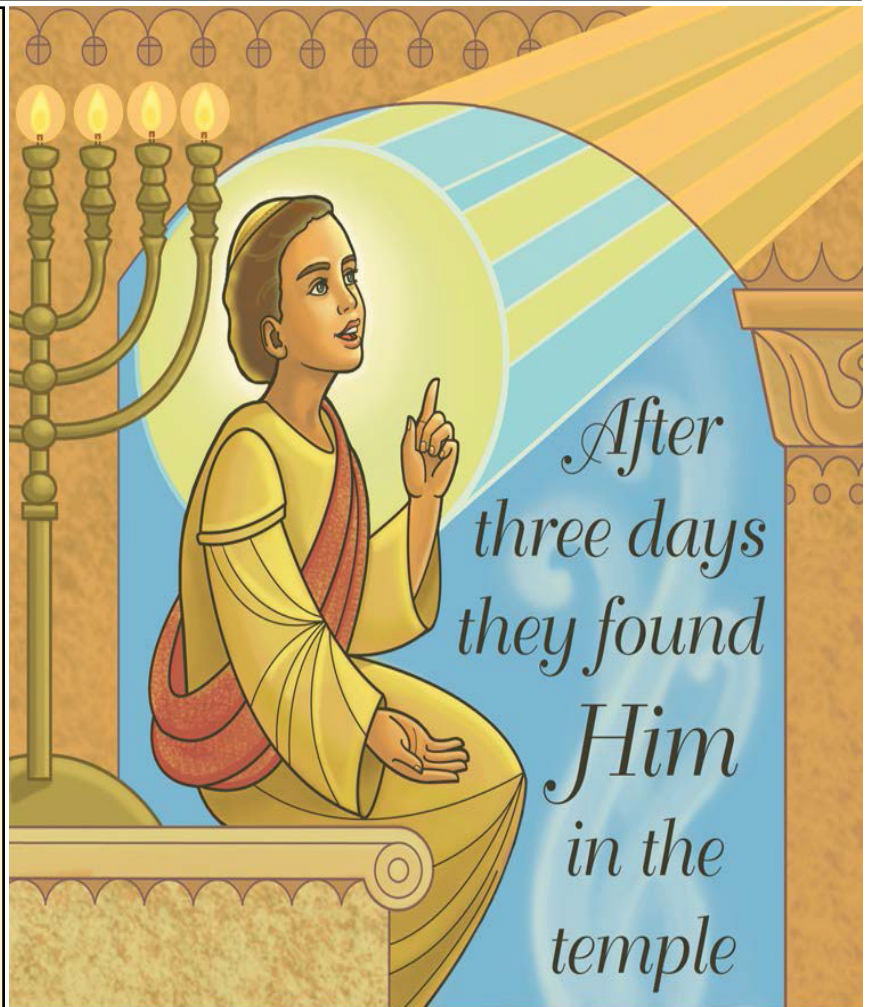
Saturday/ Sabado	5:30 pm English
Sunday/ Domingo	7:45 am English 10:45 am English 12:30 pm Spanish
Monday/ Lunes	No Mass
Tuesday-Friday / Martes-Viernes	7:15 am

Reconciliation / Reconciliación

Tues/Martes	4:30-5:30 pm
Sat/Sabado	4:00-5:00 pm

Adoration/Adoración

Tuesday / Martes	After 7:15 am Mass until 5:30pm
-----------------------------	--



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Solemnity of Mary
Holy Day of Obligation
Tuesday, January 1, 2019
Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Vigil Mass . . . Monday, Dec. 31st
5:00 p.m. Bilingual

Mass Intentions Of The Week

Sat.	12/29	5:30 pm	Bill & Karen McPike (58th Anniversary)
Sun.	12/30	7:45 am	Parishioners
		10:45 am	David Stoltz 
		12:30 pm	Jesus & Carmen Valdez (20th Anniversary)
Mon.	12/31	5:00 pm	Kerri Strubing (Her birthday)
Tues.	01/01	10:00 am	
Wed	01/02	7:15 am	Matthew Strubing (Birthday)
Thurs.	01/03	7:15 am	Fr. Anthony Vu Hung Ton 
Fri.	01/04	7:15 am	Fr. Anthony Stredny 
Sat.	01/05	5:30 pm	Parishioners
Sun.	01/06	7:45 am	
		10:45 am	
		12:30 pm	

Our gratefulness to God weekly offering

December 15 & 16
Regular Sunday Donations: 6,379.51

*Thank you for your
continued support!*

*Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.*
— 1 John 3:2a

Instruments of God's Mercy 2018 Diocesan Services Fund

Parish Goal	\$37,000.00
Total Amount Paid	\$46,962.50
Total Amount Pledged	\$51,595.00
Number of Participants	133
Over Goal	\$9,962.50

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7;
Lk 2:16-21

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6;
Jn 1:29-34

Friday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Saturday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



Judy Adib, Veronica Antwi, James Aubey, Irma Avalos, Gwynetta Baker, Gene Barrett, Jordan Bergeron, Chelsea Brown, Jerri Butler, Linda Buckley, Phillip Caito, Gary Coker, Wren Colligan, Sunni Cook, Terry Corral, Melanie Davis, Colin Dufour, Ray DuPree, Alicia Gasca, Mary Gedelian, Ingrid Gonzalez, Tino Gonzalez, Floyd Grupa, Sylvia Hogenmiller, Billie Jenkins, Sandra Kilgore, Isabel Kirwin, Edwin Laake, Al Losack, Katy Losack, Geno Mancuso, Don Marcotte, Lisa Miller, Mable Milliet, Donna Moore, MaryAnn Moore, Susan Montoya, Lourdes Mosqueda, Brenda Piñeda, Marty Reeder, Bob Riley, Nina Rozell, Andrea Scheel, Ana Marie Santos, John Sarlay, Kayden Bryn Shipley, Nathan Shroyer, Cheryl Smith, John Paul Sorrell, Kathy Stoltz, Jean Stow, Ray Townley, Dorothy Townsend, Matthew Varnum, Maria Elena Valencia, Kristina Villarreal, Shirley Villarreal, Rusty Wallace, Bill Walton, Alma Williams, Nancy Winkler

*Hermanos míos, ahora somos hijos de Dios, pero aún
no se ha manifestado cómo seremos al fin.*
— 1 Juan 3:2a

From Fr. Fred's Desk

Time to start the annual ritual of making some new year's resolutions. Eat too much during the holidays and need to lose a few pounds? Yes! So I will eat more moderately. Too many parties and not enough exercise this month? Yes! So I will exercise every day. Resolutions are great but as the Nike ads say, *Just do it*. Don't just make resolutions; do something to make the desires a reality. The same thing might be said about our spiritual life. We all want to be holy but wishing to be holy won't make it happen. Sometimes someone will say to me that they want to be more patient. When I ask them what are they going to do to make that happen, they have no plan. Grace. God's grace is essential to any spiritual plan that will be successful. Grace, the invisible but real reality of God's life inside of us. Saint John Paul once wrote, *There is a temptation which perennially besets every spiritual journey ... that of thinking that the results depend on our ability to act and to plan. God of course asks us really to cooperate with his grace...It is prayer which roots us in this truth. It constantly reminds us of the primacy of Christ and, in union with him, the primacy of the interior life and of holiness. When this principle is not respected, is it any wonder that [our] plans come to nothing and leave us with a disheartening sense of frustration? We then share the experience of the disciples in the Gospel story of the miraculous catch of fish: We have toiled all night and caught nothing.* This is the moment of faith, of prayer, of conversation with God, in order to open our hearts to the tide of grace and allow the word of Christ to pass through us in all its power. Hmmm. Grace and success in the spiritual journey. Following Saint John Paul's advice, if our resolution is to grow in holiness, what plans do we have to cooperate with God's grace? Maybe try to come to Mass once during the week? People seem to be able to do this during lent. Why not make this a permanent addition to our lives? During lent, people seem to make the time to pray more. Why not make the sacrifice of some of the lesser things in our lives a permanent sacrifice so quality daily prayer is the norm. We have been more generous during December as we have responded to the needs of the poor. How could we make this generosity a permanent part of our lives? Resolutions are important. But without some plan of action, resolutions won't provide the desired results. Happy New Year as we make our resolutions and PLANS for 2019.

Del Escritorio de Padre Fred

Es hora de comenzar el ritual anual de hacer algunas resoluciones de año nuevo. ¿Comiste demasiado durante las vacaciones y necesitas perder algunas libras? ¡Sí! Así que comeré más moderadamente. ¿Demasiadas fiestas y no suficiente ejercicio este mes? ¡Sí! Así que haré ejercicio todos los días. Las resoluciones son geniales, pero como dicen los anuncios de Nike, *simplemente hazlo*. No simplemente hagas resoluciones; has algo para hacer realidad los deseos. Lo mismo podría decirse de nuestra vida espiritual. Todos queremos ser santos, pero el deseo de ser santos no lo hará posible. A veces alguien me dice que quiere ser más paciente. Cuando les pregunto qué van a hacer para que eso suceda, no tienen ningún plan. Gracia. La gracia de Dios es esencial para que tengo éxito cualquier plan espiritual. La gracia, la realidad invisible pero real de la vida de Dios dentro de nosotros. San Juan Pablo escribió una vez, *Hay una tentación que insidia siempre todo camino espiritual y la acción pastoral misma: pensar que los resultados dependen de nuestra capacidad de hacer y programar. Ciertamente, Dios nos pide una colaboración real a su gracia...La oración nos hace vivir precisamente en esta verdad. Nos recuerda constantemente la primacía de Cristo y, en relación con él, la primacía de la vida interior y de la santidad. Cuando no se respeta este principio, ¿ha de sorprender que los proyectos pastorales lleven al fracaso y dejen en el alma un humillante sentimiento de frustración? Hagamos, pues, la experiencia de los discípulos en el episodio evangélico de la pesca milagrosa: « Maestro, hemos estado bregando toda la noche y no hemos pescado nada ». Este es el momento de la fe, de la oración, del diálogo con Dios, para abrir el corazón a la acción de la gracia y permitir a la palabra de Cristo que pase por nosotros con toda su fuerza.* Hmmm Gracia y éxito en el camino espiritual. Siguiendo el consejo de San Juan Pablo, si nuestra resolución es crecer en santidad, ¿qué planes tenemos para cooperar con la gracia de Dios? ¿Tal vez tratar de venir a misa una vez durante la semana? La gente parece poder hacer esto durante la Cuaresma. ¿Por qué no hacer de esto una adición permanente a nuestras vidas? Durante la Cuaresma, las personas parecen hacer tiempo para orar más. ¿Por qué no hacer que el sacrificio de algunas de las cosas menores de nuestra vida sea un sacrificio permanente, de modo que la oración diaria de calidad sea la norma? Hemos sido más generosos durante diciembre y hemos respondido a las necesidades de los pobres. ¿Cómo podríamos hacer de esta generosidad una parte permanente de nuestras vidas? Las resoluciones son importantes. Pero sin un plan de acción, las resoluciones no proporcionarán los resultados deseados. Feliz año nuevo mientras hacemos nuestras resoluciones y PLANES para 2019.

Upcoming Events 2019

STAY Life Teen Events

Confirmation Prep: 1/06/2019

Sacramental Prep: 1/08/2019

Lifeteen Returns 1/09/2019

Homeschool: 1/13/2019



EDGE Events

Edge Returns 1/06/2019

STAY Edge Youth Night 1/10/2019

*Junior High Youth Rally
February 23, 2019
Sign-up Now!*



STAY Youth Ministry

7th -12th grades

Kathy Boscarino, Director

kboscarino@sainthomashuntsville.org

(936) 295-8159 (936) 520-6524

www.sainthomashuntsville.org



Office Memo . . .

**The parish office will be closed
Tuesday, New Year's Day,
in observance of the holiday.**

Catholic Daughters will meet on January 14, 2019 in the parish hall at 6:00 p.m. Thank you to all who purchased our baked goods and beautiful baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We truly appreciate your support of our organization.

Texas Rally for Life The Office of Pro-Life Activities will offer transportation to Austin, Texas for the Texas Rally for Life march on January 26, 2019. January 2019 marks 46 years since Roe v. Wade. Join thousands of Texans to march in support for each human life. For information call the Office of Pro-Life activities at 713-741-8728 or 713-440-3443 for Spanish .

Attention Young Adults: Café Catholica-North 2019 . . . Café Catholica is expanding with a new series hosted in four parishes on the North side of Houston. Café Catholica-North, "Be Bold, Be Authentic, Belong" is a dinner-lecture series open to young adults (ages 18-39) featuring dynamic speakers, prayer, dinner, and socializing. Confession at 5:15 p.m., Mass at 6:00 p.m., Dinner at 6:45 p.m., and Talk at 7:30 p.m. Come for all or part of the evening! For more information contact the Office of Young Adult and Campus Ministry at 713-741-8778, yacm@archgh.org, or visit us on the web at www.archgh.org/cafecatholica

January 7: "Be a Missionary in the Modern World" at Sacred Heart, 109 N. Frazier St., Conroe

January 21: "Be Present to Those in the Shadows" at Sts. Simon and Jude, 26777 Glen Loch Dr., Woodlands

February 4: "Be Loved" at St. Ignatius, 7810 Cypresswood Dr., Spring

February 18: "Beyond My Personal Faith" at Christ the Redeemer, 11507 Huffmeister Rd., Houston



Rachel's Vineyard Retreat . . . The Office of Pro-Life Activities will offer the next Rachel's Vineyard retreat of post-abortion healing on the weekend of January 4-6, 2019. This retreat is part of Project Rachel's ministry. All inquiries and registrations are strictly confidential. To register or for more information, please contact the Office of Pro-Life Activities at 713-741-8728 or 713-440-3443 or email at jkfritsch@archgh.org.

**World Youth Day Houston
and Eucharistic Vigil**

Come and be a pilgrim, joining in spirituality of communion with millions of young people from across the world. We invite you to join us in our local World Youth Day celebration concurrent with the gathering in Panama on January 26-27. We are one of five cities in USA that will be hosting a regional celebration. We appreciate if you help us spread the word in your social media, meetings and gatherings. You may register by January 16 online or in paper at www.archgh.org/yacm \$20 per person and includes dinner.

**Jornada Mundial de la Juventud en Houston
y Vigilia Pastoral**

Ven y se un peregrino, únete en espiritualidad de comunión con millones de jóvenes alrededor del mundo. Te invitamos a que nos acompañes en nuestra celebración local de la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud al mismo tiempo que la JMJ en Panamá el 26-27 de enero. Somos una de cinco ciudades en USA que tendrán la jornada a nivel regional. Favor de pasar la voz en sus reuniones y redes sociales. No te esperes, inscríbete hoy en línea antes del 16 de enero en www.archgh.org/yacm \$20 por persona e incluye cena.



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



**FELIZ
AÑO NUEVO**



The Fire of Your Love: The Holy Family

By Will Oliver

Today, we venerate the Holy Family—Joseph, Mary, and Jesus. The Holy Family reminds us of what is meant by both marriage and family within The Catholic Church.

Early in his ministry, Jesus told the apostles, “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them” (Mat. 5:17). Jesus was telling them that the old ways still applied, and that the people still needed to keep the Ten Commandments

When it comes to marriage and family, the commandment in question is the fourth: “Honor your father and your mother” (Ex 20:12). Note that this commandment is directed toward the children, but of course even those who are married are children of a father and a mother whom they too should honor. The commandment also presupposes the duties of those parents to whom the commandment is directed, so while the children are to honor their father and their mother, the mother and father also have certain duties toward the children.

In the Catholic faith, the covenant of matrimony comes first. As the Catechism explains, “The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring” (CCC 1601). Having received the sacrament of matrimony, the married couple then can begin their family, which The Church defines as, “A man and a woman united in marriage, together with their children, form a family” (CCC 2202)

Marriage is between a man and a woman and along with their children, they form a family. This traces back to the beginning of creation when God create man and woman. As Genesis tells us, “Male and female he created them, and he blessed them” (Gen. 5:2), and God instructed the couple to, “Be fruitful and multiply” (Gen. 1:28).

Despite the sentiments of our secular society, popular culture, and recent laws, marriage between a man and a woman is immutable; this is our faith.

So, how should we look at recent laws? By focusing on what our faith instructs us. As our first pope and the apostles said, “We must obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29). Even Jesus taught this when He said, “Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s” (Mark 12: 17). The Catechism teaches us that when faced with a conflict, “The citizen is obliged in conscience not to follow the directives of civil authorities when they are contrary to the demands of the moral order, to the fundamental rights of persons or the teachings of the Gospel” (CCC 2242).

Marriage is between a man and a woman, and along with their children they form a family. The most important duty for the married couple is to get each other to heaven, and, as parents, it is to get their children to heaven; all the rest is window dressing. To achieve these ends, we have the perfect role model to follow: The Holy Family.

Feast of the Holy Family . . . That as grateful children of God, we remember to tell family and friends that we love them every day. “See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” (1 John 3:1) During this season of giving, let us remember the most important gift we have received – being children of God. As God’s children, it’s important that we express our love for others as well. Tell your spouse, children and other family members and friends that you love them, frequently.

Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia . . . Que como niños agradecidos de Dios, recordemos decirle a los familiares y amigos que los amamos todos los días. "Mira qué amor nos ha dado el Padre, que seamos llamados hijos de Dios; y así lo somos" (1 Juan 3:1) Durante esta temporada de dar, recordemos el regalo más importante que hemos recibido: ser hijos de Dios. Como hijos de Dios, es importante que expresemos nuestro amor por los demás también. Dile con frecuencia a tu cónyuge, hijos y otros familiares y amigos, que los amas.

My Own Church Parish

To Register yourself or update your family information go to <https://galveston.parishsoftfamilysuite.com>
If you have any questions please contact Kathy Boscarino by email at kboscarino@saintthomashuntsville.org

Mi Propia Iglesia

Para registrarse o actualizar su información familiar vaya a: [https/galveston.parishsoftfamilysuite.com](https://galveston.parishsoftfamilysuite.com)
Si tiene alguna pregunta, contáctese con Kathy Boscarino por correo electrónico kboscarino@saintthomashuntsville.org

CHURCH SECURITY INFORMATION

Following the church shootings last year near San Antonio the parish's Security Committee has taken steps ensure the safety of all St. Thomas the Apostle parishioners. The first step restricts access to the church during liturgical services. Once Mass has begun **all doors into the church will be locked** from the inside with the exception of the double doors facing 16th Street. **Anyone arriving late for Mass will only be able to enter the church through the 16th Street doors. Parishioners will be able to exit the church through any of the locked doors as well as the doors facing 16th Street. Signs will be posted around the church building to remind parishioners of the locked doors.** The staff at St. Thomas the Apostle Church takes the safety and security of all the parishioners very seriously. We are confident that the steps taken at this time will minimize any problematic incidents.

INFORMACION DE SEGURIDAD DE LA IGLESIA

Después de los tiroteos de la iglesia el año pasado cerca de San Antonio, el Comité de Seguridad de la parroquia tomo medidas para garantizar la seguridad de los feligreses de Santo Tomás. El primer paso fue de restringir el acceso a la Iglesia durante los servicios litúrgicos. Cuando haya comenzado la misa, **todas las puertas de la iglesia estarán cerradas** de adentro con la excepción de las puertas dobles que dan a la calle 16. **Personas que lleguen tarde a misa solo podrá entrar a través de las puertas de la calle 16. Los feligreses podrán salir a través de cualquiera de las puertas cerradas. Se colocarán letreros alrededor del edificio de la iglesia para recordar a los feligreses de las puertas cerradas.** El personal de la Iglesia Santo Tomás toma muy en serio la seguridad de todos los feligreses. Estamos seguros de que los pasos tomados minimizarán incidentes problemáticos.