



# St. Thomas Catholic Church

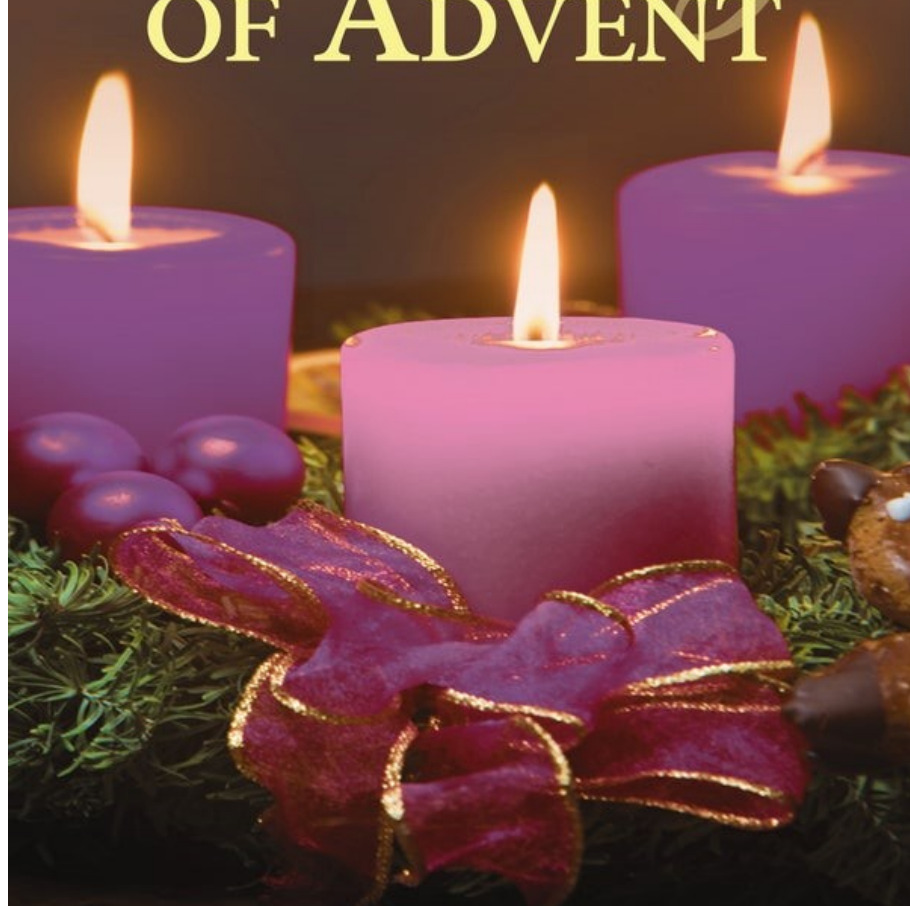
## PARISH & CAMPUS MINISTRY

SERVING CHRIST TOGETHER



•SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT•

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday OF ADVENT



### St. Thomas Advent and Christmas Schedule

**4th Sunday of Advent** 5:30pm Vigil Mass (12/23/23);  
12/24/23 10:00 AM Mass; 12:30 PM Spanish Mass

**Christmas Eve Masses** 4:00 PM Family Christmas  
Mass; 9:00 PM Night Mass

#### Christmas Day (Monday, 12/25)

10:00 AM Christmas Mass (English);  
12:30 PM Christmas Mass (Spanish)

**Feast of the Holy Family** 5:30 PM Vigil Mass (Saturday,  
Dec. 30) Sunday, (Dec. 31) 8:00 AM, 11:00 AM, & 12:30 PM

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Monday,  
1/1/24)** 10:00 AM Mass on Monday, January 1

### COMMUNION SERVICE

Tuesday ..... 9:00am

### CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY MASS

Wednesday ..... 5:30pm  
(Student Center Chapel / During School Session)

### HOLY DAY MASSES

Visit [stthomascatholic.com](http://stthomascatholic.com) or see the  
monthly calendar for Holy Day Mass schedules.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday ..... 4:00pm-5:00pm  
(or by appointment)

80 ST. THOMAS WAY • MONTEVALLO, AL 35115 • 205-663-3936  
PARISH WEBSITE: <http://stthomascatholic.com>

# PRAYER & WORSHIP

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday,</b> 5:30 PM	<b>Dec. 16</b> Mass for Katherine Ferretti, deceased
<b>Sunday,</b> 8:00 AM 11:00 AM 12:30 PM	<b>Dec. 17</b> Mass for Eugenia Tatumay, deceased Mass Intention for Susie Amrine Misa para la Gente de la Parroquia
<b>Tuesday,</b> 9:00 AM	<b>Dec. 19</b> Communion Service
<b>Wednesday,</b> 9:00 AM	<b>Dec. 20</b> Mass for Becca Parcels, deceased
<b>Thursday,</b> 9:00 AM	<b>Dec. 21</b> Mass Intention for Kathy Rivera
<b>Friday,</b> 9:00 AM	<b>Dec. 22</b> Mass for Aurora Alvillar, deceased
<b>Saturday,</b> 5:30 PM	<b>Dec. 23</b> Mass for Charlie Robedeau, deceased
<b>Sunday,</b> 10:00 AM 4:00 PM 9:00 PM	<b>Dec. 24</b> Mass for Mary Ann McMyler, deceased Mass for Robert Carr, deceased Mass Intention for Bob Hotze

## SUNDAY

**FIRST READING**— he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners. (Is 61:1-2A, 10-11)

**PSALM**— My soul rejoices in my God. (Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54)

**Second Reading**— Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thes 5:16-24)

**Gospel**— I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord, as Isaiah the prophet said. (John 1:6-8, 19-28 )

## Readings for the week

<b>Monday:</b>	Jer 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Is 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38
<b>Thursday:</b>	Sg 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45
<b>Friday:</b>	1 Sm 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56
<b>Saturday:</b>	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66
<b>Sunday:</b>	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

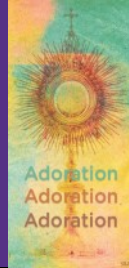
## Everyone Has a Divine Vocation

"Jesus has a specific task in life for each and every one of us. Each one of us is hand-picked, called by name by Jesus! There is no one among us who does not have a divine vocation! Some are called audibly by God, but the usual kind of call is internal, through the inner working of the Spirit." ~ *Homily by Pope Saint John*

## Monthly Altar Flowers

**Dec. 16th & Dec. 17th**  
In memory of Hugh Taylor  
In memory of Becca Parcels  
**Dec. 23rd & Dec. 24th**

Christmas Flowers



## Eucharistic Adoration

Come spend time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration on the 1st & 3rd Friday of each month. Friday adoration begins at noon and ends on Saturday at noon. There is a need for 1st Friday from 1pm-2pm and Saturday 4am-5am. For more information or to sign-up call Rose Marie Vetrano 205-620-0051 or cell 659-901-8823. *Adoration is held in the Chapel at the Student Center. Adoration will take place on Dec. 15th.*

		EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS	SACRISTANS
<b>Saturday</b> Dec. 23rd	5:30PM Mass	(1) Carol Anglini (2) Alan Cannon (3) Winnie Martinez	Susan Phillips Val Croft	Mary Katherine Shirley Angel Salgado	Richard Sisneros Dennis Malcolm Mike Gerrells	Cathy Bailey
<b>Sunday</b> Dec. 24th	10:00 AM Mass 4:00PM Children Mass 9:00PM Christmas Mass	(1) Sheila, (2) Sarah, (3) Mary, (4) Angel (B) Need Sub  (1) Winnie, (2) Susie, (3) Ed, (4) Carol, (B) Alan	Joanne Fondren Mary Baker	Alexandra, Paolo, Mark, Roman, Hallie, Mary, Andrei Byron, Nikki, Angel, Atticus, Margarita, Fernando	Jasper, Lee, Kelly Walter, Norma, Michael Bill, David, Benito	4pm Sarah Burns 9pm Need a Sub
<b>Monday</b> Dec. 25th	10:00 AM Christmas Mass	(1) Gloria Quebodeaux (2) Bruno Navarro (3) Teresa Navarro (4) Debra Levio (B) Jasper Levio	Angel Coyle Susan Lumpkin	James, Anthony, Alex, Asli, Hazel	Ron Hoff Nathan Tucker Mike Greenwood	Bruno Navarro
	12:30 PM (Spanish)	<b>Cuerpo- Caliz-</b>	(1) Xochitl (S) Jorge (2) Guadalupe (P) Patricia Angel	Fernando, Kim, Margarita, Elizabeth, Yareli, Griselda	Heron	Magda Rivera, Lupe y Antonio

# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

**DEC. 10, 2023 TO DEC. 16, 2023**

**SUNDAY, DEC. 10**  
9:30AM-10:30AM

**MONDAY, DEC. 11**

8:30 AM-4:00 PM OFFICE OPEN  
Mañanitas 10:00PM-12:00AM  
Coffee & Hot chocolate & sweet bread  
In the Parish Hall

**TUESDAY, DEC. 12**

8:30 AM-4:00 PM OFFICE OPEN  
6:00PM Procession  
7:00 PM Lady of Guadalupe Mass  
after reception in the Parish Hall

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13**

8:30 AM-4:00 PM OFFICE OPEN

**THURSDAY, DEC. 14**

8:30AM-4:00PM OFFICE OPEN

**FRIDAY, DEC. 15**

8:30AM-12:00PM OFFICE OPEN  
Adoration begins at noon

**SATURDAY, DEC. 16**

Adoration ends at noon  
4:00-5:00PM Reconciliation  
5:30PM Vigil Mass

## St. Thomas Facebook

For any who cannot attend Mass due to health concerns, we stream the 5:30pm Saturday Mass on our Facebook page. The St. Thomas Parish Facebook page can be found by searching "St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, Montevallo, AL." with the picture of Saint Thomas. You can also find the Facebook link at the bottom of the church website.

## Faith Direct

Looking for a convenient way to support our parish offertory and building fund? Faith Direct is the innovative solution that allows you to support our parish using electronic funds transfer from either a bank account or credit/debit card. If you would like an enrollment form, please call the parish Finance Office at 205-663-3936 ex.109. You can also enroll at [www.stthomascatholic.com/online-giving/](http://www.stthomascatholic.com/online-giving/).

## Annulment Advocates

St Thomas parish currently has two diocesan tribunal certified advocates for the marriage annulment process. Deacon David and Ann Hicks are available to serve as advocates for parish members that may have questions about the annulment procedures or may be considering the annulment process. Please contact Deacon David or Ann Hicks if you have questions or need further assistance.

## Pastoral Staff

<http://stthomascatholic.com/pastoral-staff-2/>

**MAIN OFFICE** (205) 663-3936

### PASTOR

Rev. Brad Jantz Ext. 101

### RETIRED PRIEST

Rev. Adrian L. Cook  
[alcook46@outlook.com](mailto:alcook46@outlook.com)

### SISTER

Amanda Magdalena Ext. 104

[SrAmanda@stthomascatholic.com](mailto:SrAmanda@stthomascatholic.com)

### DEACON

David Hicks Ext. 105  
[dhicks@stthomascatholic.com](mailto:dhicks@stthomascatholic.com)

### FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Jackie Lampton Ext. 109

### HISPANIC COORDINATORS

Marisa Roan Ext. 100

Laila Garcia Ext. 113

### CAMPUS MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Anna Clair , Drew Roberts & Michael Whitfield  
[ccm@stthomascatholic.com](mailto:ccm@stthomascatholic.com)

## Mission Statement

We, the parish family of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, proclaim our belief in the message & mission of Jesus Christ. We are committed to sharing our time, talent & treasure through worship, spiritual formation & outreach.

## Parish Office Hours

Mon-Thurs | 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Friday | 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

## Parish Telephones

Parish Phone: 205-663-3936  
Fax: 205-663-0657

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

### Collection for Nov. 2023

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$42,000.00	\$55,518.00	\$13,518.00
Building Fund	\$30,400.00	\$28,161.96	\$2,238.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$72,400.00</b>	<b>\$83,679.96</b>	<b>\$11,279.96</b>

### Year-to-Date Collection 07/01/23—Present

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$233,200.00	\$253,906.73	\$20,706.73
Building Fund	\$167,200.00	\$131,372.25	\$35,827.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$400,400.00</b>	<b>\$388,278.98</b>	<b>\$15,521.02</b>

With the advice of the Parish Finance Council, Saint Thomas Parish does financial planning according to a fiscal year rather than a calendar year. Our current fiscal year began 7/1/23.

## Baptisms

Please contact Fr. Jantz at 205-663-3936 for Baptismal Preparation.

## Marriage

Parish Membership and a six month preparation period are required. For weddings, please contact Father Jantz at 205-663-3936.

## Ministry of the Sick & Homebound

Please contact the office at 205-663-3936 if someone is in need of Holy Communion at home/hospital/nursing home.

## Membership in the Parish

All Catholic adults 18 and older who regularly participate in the Liturgy here are strongly encouraged to register in the parish. Those who enroll in Faith Formation programs or request Baptism or Marriage in our church should already belong to our parish family. To register, please contact the Parish Office. If you are moving from another parish, please let us know.



# PARISH ACTIVITIES

## Interested In Becoming Catholic?

You may have been coming to the Catholic Church for a long time with a family member or with a friend, but you had not thought about the possibility of becoming Catholic. Maybe now is the time to consider that possibility. Would you like to learn more about the Catholic Church to help with your decision? The RCIA Process (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) at St. Thomas are on Tuesday @ 6:30. The classes will be in the St. Joseph's Classroom in the main office building. For more information, please call Fr. Jantz @ 205-663-3936 or Jackie Lampton @ 205-663-3936 or 205-249-1171(cell)

## Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our season of waiting and preparation is almost done! The decorations are almost complete, the great feasts of expectation are behind us, and now there are only 8 more days until Christmas!

As our hearts turn toward the celebration of the Lord's birth, you might have noticed that our calendar for Christmas weekend is a bit complicated this year. Since Christmas falls on a Monday, we're going to have a round of Sunday Masses for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, followed very quickly by our Christmas Masses the same evening. It's going to be busy, and we had to adjust the normal schedule slightly to make it work, but I'm looking forward to these wonderful celebrations.

I encourage everyone to look over the schedule carefully, and I hope to see everyone for both a Sunday Mass and a Christmas Mass. I definitely understand how busy things are around the holidays, but making a point of preparing properly for Christ's presence and also joining the Church community to celebrate his coming is so important. That's the way we keep Christ in Christmas!

Talking about preparing for Christ's presence, I would also encourage each family in our parish to spend some time gathered around a Nativity scene in your home. It might be a simple drawing of the manger, or a fancy carved scene with statues. Whichever it is, I always find it important to spend some time in prayer before the manger, and it's a good custom to have in the family, as well. Here is a prayer I would offer for your consideration: O God, whose Son was born in Bethlehem long ago, lead us in our hearts to the same place where Mary laid her Child. As we look on him with wonder and worship, help us welcome him in our lives, in each other, and in the poor. God of all love, bless us in your great love, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Be assured of my Christmas prayers for you and our whole parish family, through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, and our patron St. Thomas.

God bless,  
Fr Jantz

## St. Thomas Advent and Christmas Schedule

**4th Sunday of Advent** 5:30pm Vigil Mass (12/23/23); 10:00 AM Mass;  
12:30 PM Spanish Mass

**Christmas Eve Masses** 4:00 PM Family Christmas Mass; 9:00 PM Night Mass

**Christmas Day (Monday, 12/25)** 10:00 AM Christmas Mass (English);  
12:30 PM Christmas Mass (Spanish)

**Feast of the Holy Family** 5:30 PM Vigil Mass (Saturday, Dec. 30) Sunday, (Dec. 31) 8:00 AM,  
11:00 AM, & 12:30 PM

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Monday, 1/1/24)** 10:00 AM Mass on Monday,  
January 1

## Confirmation Retreats

St. Thomas Parish has set the dates for the Confirmation Retreats. The Confirmation II retreat will be on Jan. 26th & 27th. The Confirmation C retreat will be on February 16th & 17. The Confirmation I retreat will be on March 8th & 9th. The retreats will be presented by a Retreat Team that will consist of college students and of high School students who are already confirmed. To sign up for the team please contact Sister Amanda Magdalena at sramanda@stthomascatholic.com or (205) 358-1973.

## Faith Formation

Faith Formation

**Grade 1st-10th: Sun. 9:30-10:45a.m**

**RCIA: Tuesday, at 6:30pm.**

## Saturday Morning Mass 1/6/2024

The St. Thomas Parish will have Mass at 10am on the **first Saturday** of every month in honor of Our Lady. The Next Saturday morning Mass will be on Jan. 6, 2024.

## Altar Flowers 2024

St. Thomas has a sign-up sheet for Altar Flowers in honor of a loved one or in memory of a loved one are available in the gathering space. Thank you for your assistance in having flowers for the altar. Altar flowers are \$45.

## Rosary on Sunday Mornings

The Sunday Morning Rosary will be in the Adult Faith Formation room in the back after the 8:00am Mass.

## Youth Group 8th—12th grade

The youth group meets in the St. Anthony classroom each Wednesday at 7:00pm. Please join us. If you have any questions, contact Maria Maldonado at 205-517-0604.

## Young Adult Group

The young adult group from ages 18 years old to 35 years old meet on Thursday's at 7:00PM. All are welcome to attend. For more information contact Bianca at 205-612-3698 or Maria at 205-517-0604.

## K of C Monthly Meeting

The St Thomas Knights of Columbus meet in the modular building behind the church office at 7PM on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The 4th degree meeting is immediately after the Council meeting, at about 8PM. There is usually food available at 6:30 before the meeting.

## Padre Pio Prayer Group 12/16

The Padre Pio Prayer group will meet on Saturday, Dec. 16, at 10am at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Homewood, AL. All are welcome to join us for an hour of prayer/rosary/adoration and Holy Mass led by Fr. Jim Hedderman. For more information, contact Angela Kolar at [angkolar@att.net](mailto:angkolar@att.net) or 205-410-2033.

## Welcome to St. Thomas!

St. Thomas Parish is happy to welcome all people to our faith community. If you live in this area, we invite you to register as a parishioner. Registration forms in both English and Español are available in the Gathering Area of the church.

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

### Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation classes will continue Jan 7<sup>th</sup> with the following topics: Jan 7 – Bible and the Church Fathers part 8, Jan 14 – Reformation/Counter-Reformation, Jan 21<sup>st</sup> – Sacred Art, Jan 28<sup>th</sup> – Sister Wilhelmina, Feb 4<sup>th</sup> – The Two Francis's part 5, Feb 11<sup>th</sup> – Pope Leo XIII, Feb 18<sup>th</sup> – John chapter 6 with Father Cook, and Feb 25<sup>th</sup> – Dorothy Day. All are welcomed to attend our class from 945am to 1045am Sunday morning in the room behind the music room in the church. Please see Deacon David for questions or more information.

### Ladies Wednesday Bible Study

The Ladies Morning Scripture Study are on Wednesday's in the St. Joseph's Room with The Eucharist in Scripture. This study will discover God's plan as it is expressed through the Bible and the Mass. This six-lesson study, presented by Dr. Scott Hahn, will unlock the meaning of covenant, sacrifice, and sacrament as understood in the Bible, from Genesis through Revelation. The Eucharist in Scripture examines the biblical foundations of the Eucharist and explores the Church's liturgy as the original context for the books of the Bible. All ladies are welcome to attend. Call Debbie at 205-616-0920 if you have any questions

### Wednesday Night Scripture Study

We are in our second year of the National Eucharistic Revival. This second phase will foster Eucharistic devotion at the parish level, strengthening our liturgical life through faithful celebration of the Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and movements of the Holy Spirit. With this in mind, the Wednesday Night Scripture Study Group will explore Eucharist: Discovering the Mass in the Bible. Acclaimed author and teacher Dr. Brant Pitre digs down to the biblical roots of the Eucharist, through its foreshadowing in the miraculous events of the Old Testament, the Gospels, and Apostolic teaching. We'll discover firsthand how Christ's Body and Blood are an integral and wondrous part of God's plan for our salvation. Our first session will be Wednesday, September 13 at 7:00 PM in the St. Joseph's room. All are invited to attend. Questions? Call Bill or Deb at 205-515-1927

### Celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe Thank You

St. Thomas celebrated Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to those who attended and many thanks to those who organized this event.

### Posadas 12/16-23

The Hispanic Community would like to invite you to come or be part of the Posadas starting Dec. 16 till the 23rd. We will meet at the Parish Hall at 6:00pm. A different family will lead each night in asking is there room in the Inn and after at the church say the Rosary, they will also be responsible to bring a snack to give to each child. If you would like to sign up, please call the office at 205-663-3936.

### Christmas Children's Choir St Thomas for Girls

A general rehearsal will be Dec 23rd at 11am. Parents please encourage your Daughters to sing in the Christmas choir "No sound in the world is more beautiful than the voices of children singing" For more information contact Janet Hails

### Parish Office Holiday Closure 12/25-1/1

The parish office will be closed for the Christmas holiday on Monday, Dec. 25th and Monday, New Years Day, Jan. 1st.

### Epiphany House Blessing 1/07

There is a beautiful tradition in the Catholic Church of the blessing of chalk and the blessing of homes for the visit of the wise men at Epiphany. There are blessed chalk in the gathering area, and there are sheets with an explanation of a possible blessing of your home. Please use these materials for your home blessings.

### Primetimers - 1/9

We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 11am for Mass and potluck. Primetimers is an organization for church members aged 55 and over to get together and enjoy some fellowship. Please join us -- what a great way to get to know other members of our church! **Our next luncheon is Jan. 9th.**

### Parish Office Closed 1/15

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 15th in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

### Formed

FORMED is a digital platform that offers access to video-based study programs, feature films, audio presentations, and e-Books. There is a wealth of information about the Catholic Faith on this platform. St. Thomas Parish has purchased a subscription to this service for all parishioners. To register: go to Formed.org, enter our parish code, CV4M7B, create a personal account with your user name/email and password. In the future go directly to Formed.org.



### Coro Infantil Para Niñas de Santo Tomas

Una invitación para niñas de 6 a 18 años de St. Thomas. El Coro de Navidad cantará el 24 de diciembre en la misa infantil a las 4:00pm. Las prácticas serán a las 9:10 am el 26 de noviembre, 3 de diciembre, 10 de diciembre y 17 de diciembre. Un ensayo general será el 23 de diciembre a las 11 a.m. Padres, animen a sus hijas a cantar en el coro navideño "Ningún sonido en el mundo es más hermoso que las voces de los niños cantando". Para más información contacte a Janet Hails.

### Horario de Adviento y Navidad de Santo Tomás

**4.º Domingo de Adviento** 5:30 pm Misa de Vigilia (23/12/23);

10:00 a. m. Misa; 12:30 PM Misa en español

**Misa de Noche Buena** 4:00 PM Misa De Niños Navidad;

9:00 PM Misa Nocturna

**Día de Navidad (Lunes) 25/12/23**

10:00 a.m. Misa de Navidad (inglés);

12:30 PM Misa de Navidad (español)

**Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia** 5:30pm Misa de Vigilia (sábado 30 de Diciembre) Domingo (31 de diciembre) 8:00 am 11:00am y 12:30 pm  
**Solemnidad de María, Santa Madre de Dios (1/1/24)** 10:00 am el lunes 1 de enero.

### Posadas 12/16-23

La Comunidad Hispana te invita a venir o ser parte de las Posadas desde el 16 de diciembre hasta el 23. Nos reuniremos en el Salón Parroquial a las 6:00 p.m. Una familia diferente se encargará cada noche de preguntar si hay lugar en la posada y después de rezar el Rosario en la iglesia, también serán responsables de traer un refrigerio para dárselo a cada niño. Entonces, si desea inscribirse, llame a la oficina al 205-663-3936.

### LECTURAS DEL DOMINGO

**Primera Lectura:** me ha enviado para anunciar la buena nueva a los pobres, a curar a los de corazón quebrantado, a proclamar el perdón a los cautivos, la libertad a los prisioneros. (Is 61, 1-2. 10-11)  
**Salmo:** Mi espíritu se alegra en Dios, mi salvador. (Lc 1, 46-48. 49-50. 53-54)

**Segunda lectura:** Vivan siempre alegres, oren sin cesar, den gracias en toda ocasión, pues esto es lo que Dios quiere de ustedes en Cristo Jesús. (1 Ts 5, 16-24)

**Evangelio:** Yo soy la voz que grita en el desierto: 'Enderecen el camino del Señor', como anunció el profeta Isaías. (Jn 1, 6-8. 19-28)

### Lecturas Para La Semana

**Lunes :** Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

**Martes:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

**Miercoles:** Isaías 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

**Jueves:** Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45

**Viernes:** 1Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

**Sabado:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66;

**Domingo:** 2Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

### Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

¡La temporada de espera y preparación casi ha terminado! Las decoraciones están casi terminadas, las grandes fiestas de expectación han quedado atrás, ¡y ahora solo faltan 8 días más para Navidad!

A medida que nuestros corazones se vuelven hacia la celebración del nacimiento del Señor, es posible que hayas notado que nuestro calendario para el fin de semana de Navidad es un poco complicado este año. Dado que la Navidad cae en lunes, tendremos una ronda de Misas dominicales para el cuarto domingo de Adviento, seguidas muy rápidamente por nuestras Misas de Navidad esa misma noche. Va a estar ocupado, pero también será un fin de semana maravilloso.

Animo a todos a que revisen el programa detenidamente y espero verlos a todos tanto para la Misa dominical como para la Misa de Navidad. Yo sé que somos muy ocupados durante esta parte del año, pero es importante prepararnos para la presencia de Cristo y también unirnos a la comunidad de la Iglesia para celebrar su venida. ¡Así es como mantenemos nuestro enfoque en la parte espiritual de esta temporada!

Hablando de prepararse para la presencia de Cristo, también animaría a cada familia de nuestra parroquia a pasar un tiempo reunida alrededor de un pesebre en su hogar. Podría ser un simple dibujo del pesebre o una escena con estatuas. Sea lo que sea, es siempre importante pasar un tiempo en oración ante el pesebre, y es una buena costumbre hacerla en familia. Aquí hay una oración que ofrezco para su consideración:

Oh Dios, cuyo Hijo nació en Belén, llévanos en nuestro corazón a la misma posada donde el Niño Divino nació de la Virgen María. Al mirarlo con asombro y adoración, ayúdanos a recibirlo en nuestras vidas, en los demás y en los pobres. Dios de todo amor, bendícenos con tu gran amor, por Cristo nuestro Señor. Amén.

Yo también ofreceré mis oraciones navideñas para ustedes y toda nuestra familia parroquial, a través de la intercesión de María, la Madre de Dios, y nuestro patrón Santo Tomás.

Dios los bendiga,

P. Jantz

# MINISTERIO HISPANO

## HORARIO: OFICINA DEL MINISTRO HISPANO

**LUNES- JUEVES: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM Y**

**VIERNES: 8:00AM-12:30PM**

Padre Brad Jantz al 205-663-3936

Horario de la Misa Español

los Domingos 12:30 p.m.

**Primer Sábado Misa Mensual 1/6/2024**

Nuestra próxima misa mensual será el 6 de Enero las 10:00 AM.

**Platicas Prebautismales 1/8/2024**

Deben registrarse antes del bautismo en el libro situado en el espacio a la entrada de la Iglesia.

**Lunes Enero 8 a las 6:00pm.** Para las clases con Magda Guerrero al 205-663-3936.

**Catequesis para niños** Domingos | 9:30 A.M.-10:45

**Preparaciones para los adultos**

Marisol Millan | 205-432-8940

**Grupo de Jóvenes**

Los Miercoles a las 7:00pm

**Grupo de los Jóvenes Adultos**

Los Jueves a las 7:00pm

**Preparaciones para quinceañeras**

Magda Rivera | 643-2659

RosaMaria Angel | 205-901-0470

**Estudio Bíblico**

Los Martes| 6:30pm

**Grupo De Oración**

El Viernes a las 6:45pm

**Defensores de Anulación**

Póngase en contacto con el Diácono David o Ann Hicks al 205-663-3936.

**Hora Santa**

Viernes | 6:00pm-7:00pm cada 1er y 3er en la capilla en Montevallo

**Grupo de Alcoholicos Anonimos**

Para mas informacion llamar a:

**Victor** 205-223-3676; **Jose** 205-230-6634;

**Benjamin** 205-586-5812