



St. Thomas Catholic Church

PARISH & CAMPUS MINISTRY

SERVING CHRIST TOGETHER



• SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2021 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT •

2nd Sunday OF ADVENT



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

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil..... 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.,
12:30 p.m. (Spanish)

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday.....9:00 a.m.
Main Church
Thursday9:00 a.m.
Main Church
Friday.....9:00 a.m.
Main Church

CATHOLIC COLLEGE MINISTRY MASS

Wednesday..... 5:30 p.m.
Student Center Chapel
(During school session)

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Please consult bulletin or website
<http://stthomascatholic.com/>

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday..... 4:00pm - 5:00 p.m.
& by appointment

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Monday..... 10:00 a.m.

PRAYER & WORSHIP

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Dec. 4

5:30 PM Mass William Fahner, deceased

Sunday Dec. 5

8:00 AM Mass for Nava Family, deceased
 11:00 AM Mass for Tony Champagne, deceased
 12:30 PM Misa para la Gente de la Parroquia

Monday Dec. 6

Tuesday Dec. 7

Wednesday Dec. 8

9:00 AM Mass for Tony P. Mollica Sr., deceased

Thursday Dec. 9

10:00 PM Mass for John Drescher, deceased

Friday Dec. 10

9:00 AM Mass Intention of Wes Evanko

Saturday Dec. 11

5:30 PM Mass for Vinzene Vetrano, deceased

Sunday Dec. 12

8:00 AM Mass for John Drescher, deceased
 11:00 AM Mass Intention of JoAnn Simonetti
 12:30 PM Misa para la Gente de la Parroquia

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading— Jerusalem, God will show your splendor. (Baruch 5:1-9)

Psalms— The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy. (Psalm 126:1-2,2-3,4-5,6)

Second Reading— Show yourselves pure and blameless for the day of Christ. (Philippians 1:4-6,8-11)

Gospel— All flesh shall see the salvation of God. (Luke 3:1-6)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday: Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14

Wednesday: Genesis 3:9-15,20; Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12; Luke 1:26-38

Thursday: Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15

Friday: Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday: Sirach 48:1-4,9-11; Matthew 17: 9a, 10-13

Sunday: Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

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 Paul II*

Eucharistic Adoration



Come spend time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration. 1st & 3rd Friday of each month. Friday adoration begins at noon and ends on Saturday at noon. In need of someone from 2am-3am Saturday mornings. For more information or to sign-up call RoseMarie Vetrano 620-0051 or cell 370-6618. Adoration is held in the Chapel at the Student Center.

Adoration will be on Dec. 17th

Monthly Altar Flowers

Dec. 4th & Dec. 5th

In memory/honor of William Fahner

In memory/honor of Tony Mollica

Dec. 11th & Dec. 12th

In memory/honor of Hugh Taylor

In memory/honor of Becca Parclls

		EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS	SACRISTANS
Saturday Dec. 11th	5:30 PM	Deacon Tena Whitworth	Mary Keiser		Walter Lee Bill Burks Paul Lorino	Mike & Donna
Sunday Dec. 12th	8:00 AM	Deacon Kyle Lusk	Mike Ash	Jackson Holmes Asli Trent GiGi	Javi Nava Keith Brown Greg Wanat	Sarah Burns
	11:00 AM	Deacon Gloria Castelain	Jena Evanko	Brooke Wallace Payton Daniel Atticus Plott Elizabeth Hernandez Salvador Hernandez	Casey Fondren Michael Fisher Leland Wallace	Mary Ann Little
	12:30 PM (Spanish)		Magda		Heron Patrick	Rivera/Roan

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

DEC. 5, 2021 TO DEC. 12, 2021

SUNDAY DEC. 5

8:30 AM K of C Pancake Breakfast
 9:15 AM Rosary in Adult
 Faith Formation Room
 RCIA

MONDAY DEC. 6

8:30 AM-4:00 PM
 OFFICE OPEN

TUESDAY DEC. 7

8:30 AM-4:00 PM OFFICE OPEN

WEDNESDAY DEC. 8

8:30 AM-4:00 PM OFFICE OPEN
 9:00 AM The Immaculate Conception of
 7:00 PM The Blessed Virgin Mary

THURSDAY DEC. 9

8:30AM-4:00PM OFFICE OPEN

FRIDAY DEC. 10

8:30am-12:30pm OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY DEC. 11

4:00PM-5:00PM Reconciliation
 5:30PM Mass

St. Thomas Facebook

St. Thomas is excited to announce that we now have an official Church Facebook group. It can be found by searching, St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church-Montevallo, AL. Our hope is to help our parish community remain connected to the Church throughout the pandemic and beyond. We are currently live streaming our 5:30pm Saturday evening mass. Please share this information with other parishioners you know.

Faith Direct

Electronic Offertory Giving: 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 663-3936 x109. You can also enroll from the St. Thomas website www.stthomascatholic.com. Just click "Online Giving" and follow directions.

Coffee & Donuts 12/12

The coffee & donuts will start up again on Sunday, Dec. 12 during Faith formation in the parish hall. All are welcome.

Pastoral Staff

ADMINISTRATOR
 Rev. Brad JantzExt. 101

RETIRED PRIEST

Rev. Adrian L. Cook
alcook46@outlook.com

DEACONS

Bill Alexiou Ext. 102

David Hicks.....Ext. 105

dhicks@stthomascatholic.com

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Jackie Lampton Ext. 109

HISPANIC COORDINATOR

Marisa Roan Ext. 100

CAMPUS MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Courtney Keller, Matt Rankin,
 Alyssa Williams, & Michael Whitfield
ccm@stthomascatholic.com

<http://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 Ph: 663-3936 | Fax: 663-0657
 Rectory Ph: 665-0968

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Weekly Collection of 11/28/21

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$9,500.00	\$6,199.00	\$3,301.00
Building Fund	\$7,000.00	\$4,702.15	\$2,297.85
Total	\$16,500.00	\$10,901.15	\$5,598.85

Year-to-Date Collection 07/01/21—Present

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$209,000.00	\$209,335.29	\$335.29
Building Fund	\$154,000.00	\$151,144.43	\$2,855.57
Total	\$363,000.00	\$360,479.72	\$2,520.28

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 7/1/21.

Baptisms

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

Marriage

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

Ministry of the Sick

Please contact the office at 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 should 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. Those moving are asked to let us know.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Interested In Becoming Catholic?

You may have been coming to 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. Are you interested in possibly becoming Catholic? Would you consider that possibility now? Would you like to learn more about the Catholic Church to consider your decision? If you would like to know more about the RCIA, please call Father Jantz or Jackie Lampton at 663-3936.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With the arrival of the special season of Advent, we have a number of special events going on over the next few weeks in preparation for Christmas. This week I would like to highlight an important spiritual practice that helps to deck the halls of our hearts as we prepare for Christmas: making a good Confession.

A major part of our Advent observances is focusing our lives in on what's truly important. I often find that an experience of the sacrament of Reconciliation brings both the wisdom and the strength of the Spirit to do exactly that. It's an opportunity to reflect on how God's grace has been at work in our lives, and a moment to be encouraged to cooperate with him more fully.

We have several special opportunities for Reconciliation during this Advent season: December 16 from 6pm to 8pm (bilingual); December 19 from 2pm to 3:30pm (Spanish); and December 21 from 2pm to 3:30pm (bilingual). Our confessional is also open at the normal time, each Saturday from 4pm to 5pm. I invite you to put one of those times on your calendar.

As we wait with joyful hope for the Lord's coming this Advent, let's take St. John the Baptist's advice this week: "prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths!" Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, and our parish patron St. Thomas, let's prepare our hearts to meet Christ with righteous deeds at his coming.

God bless,
Fr Jantz

Candle Lighting for Advent

St. Thomas will light the candles of the Advent Wreath as part of the Entrance Procession each week. We invite families or groups of individuals to sign up in the Gathering Area for this ministry.

Immaculate Conception 12/8

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on December 8. St. Thomas will Solemnly celebrate Masses at 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM. Incense will be used at the 7:00PM Mass. This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Padre Pio Prayer Group 12/18

The Padre Pio Prayer group will meet on Saturday, December 18th, 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. Paul Asih. For more information, contact Angela Kolar at angkolar@att.net or 205-991-9554. "Pray, Hope, and Don't Worry!" Padre Pio... pray for us!

The Gospel of Luke with Father Jantz 12/15

Father Jantz will have a special Adult Study on the Gospel of Luke. It will be on Wednesday, Dec. 15 at 7:00pm. All are welcome.

The Rite of Welcome

St. Thomas Parish extends a warm welcome to all the RCIA Candidates who participated in the Rite of Welcome at the 11:00 AM and 12:30 PM Masses on Dec. 5th. Our prayers are with you as you prepare to receive the Sacraments of Initiation in the upcoming year.

Faith Formation

Adult... Sun. 9:30-10:45 a.m.
1st-10th Grade ... Sun. 9:30 -10:45 a.m.
Catechumenate ... Sun. 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.
Ladies' Bible Study
Wed. 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
(September - May)

K of C Monthly Meeting

The St Thomas Knights of Columbus meet in the modular building behind the church office at 7PM. The 4th degree meets on the 1st Tuesday and the Council meets on the 2nd Tuesday. Masks and social distancing are encouraged.

Altar Flowers 2021

St. Thomas normally 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. The Altar flowers are \$45.

Rosary on Sunday Mornings

The Sunday Morning Rosary will be in the Adult Faith Formation room with Social Distancing.

Parish Office Holiday Closure

The parish office will be closed for the Christmas holiday on Friday, Dec. 12/24, Monday, Dec. 27 and New Years Eve Friday, Dec. 31.

End of the Year Gifts

St. Thomas Parish would welcome end-of-the-year gifts, to the parish in money or stock. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

Christmas Flowers

There are envelopes in the Gathering area for the those people who wish to contribute to the cost of the Christmas flowers in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Please place the envelopes in the collection.

Calendars

The 2022 calendars are in available in the Gathering Area or Parish office.

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

Resumption of Sunday Mass Obligation

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, Bishop Raica had offered a dispensation from the requirement to participate at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation for the people of the Diocese of Birmingham until May 23. On May 3, Bishop Raica promulgated a decree restoring the obligation beginning on May 24.

Every Catholic is required to attend Mass unless they are excused for a serious reason. In relation to COVID-19, serious reasons include:

- Being in a high-risk category
- Being advised by a medical doctor that it is not yet safe for you to attend
- Experiencing a significant amount of mental stress regarding returning.

It is always possible to receive a dispensation from one's Pastor. Father Jantz is happy to talk with anyone who is concerned about returning to public worship.

Parish Stewardship Pledge Thank You

Thank you to all the parishioners who have returned their pledge cards for the coming year. St. Thomas is grateful for your generosity. If you have not yet returned your pledged card, please do so at your earliest convenience. Thus far we have raised \$131,018.00 for offertory and \$87,642.00 for the building fund.

Wednesday Night Bible Study update

The Wednesday Adult Scripture Study will resume on January 12th. Our topic will be "The Prophets: Messengers of God's Mercy". In this study learn how their prophetic words speak to us even today, as they draw us closer to Jesus, and show us how to share Him with others. Includes sessions on Hosea, Jonah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Haggai and Malachi, and New Testament and Modern Prophets. All are welcome! We meet in the St. Joseph room at 7:00 PM. Call Bill or Debbie at 205-664-2066 if questions.

Angel Tree

The St. Thomas Social Concerns Committee will be accepting monetary donations through December 5th, 2021 for continued purchasing of gifts for the Angel Tree. We will use the money collected to purchase items that Shelby Emergency Assistance has an outstanding need for. If you would rather bring an item, please feel free to bring an unwrapped toy of your choice and we will distribute these between Shelby Emergency Assistance and Bibb County DHR when we deliver gifts. Thank you so much to everyone for your continued dedication to helping us serve those in our community!

K of C Pancake Breakfast 12/5

The Knights of Columbus will resume the Pancake Breakfast on the first Sunday of every month beginning December 5th. Breakfast will be served from 8AM to 10AM, and will consist of pancakes, sausage, and scrambled eggs. Juice and coffee are also included with unlimited refills.

Our Lady of Guadalupe 12/12

St. Thomas will be celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12th. There will be a midnight Rosary on December 12th in the church with Mariachi Rio Verde after there will be Coffee, hot chocolate and sweet bread in the parish hall. In the afternoon we will have the mass first at 12:30pm then our procession with the Rosary and danza dancers. There will be a reception in the Parish hall. All are welcome to come.

Ladies Bible Study

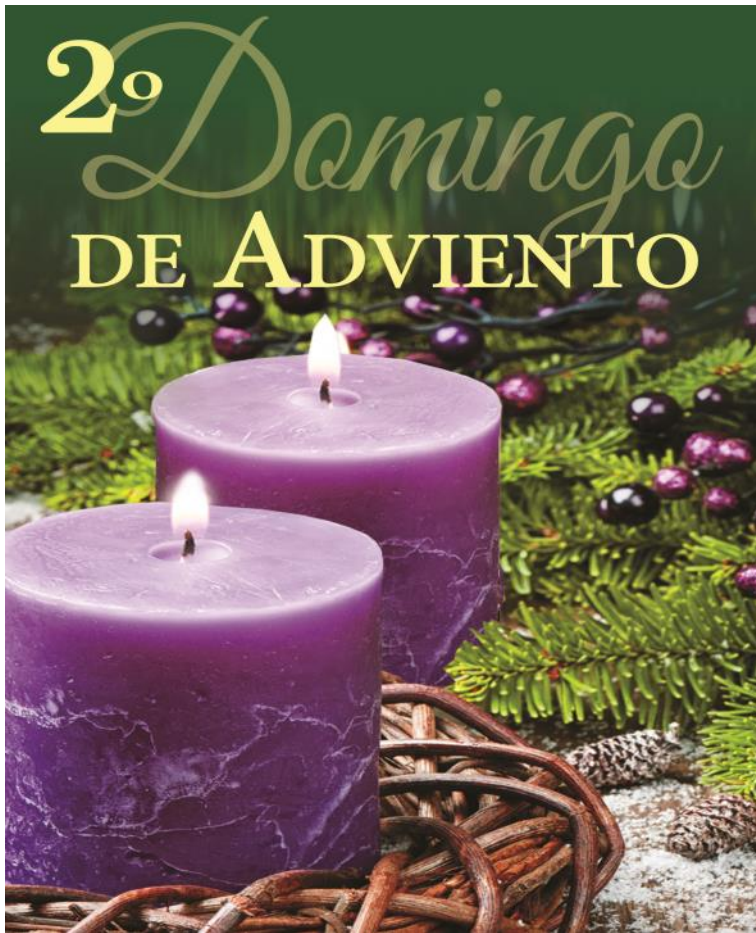
On January 12th, 2022 the Wednesday morning Ladies bible study will begin a new study on Lectio: Mary with Dr. Brant Petri. We will explore the Old Testament and New Testament, the life of Christ, and the early church fathers about the life and identity of Mary. We meet in the St. Joseph's room from 10:00 -11:30 am. If you have any questions please call Debbie Drescher at 205-664-2066

Christmas Eve Children's Mass 12/24

Who: • Kindergarten through 6th grade students to perform "The Story of Christmas" during Christmas Eve Children's Mass at 4:00 p.m. When: • We will have practice in the church sanctuary on the following days: Sunday, December 5th - 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. (during Faith Formation) Sunday, December 12th - 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. (during Faith Formation) Sunday, December 19th - 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. (during Faith Formation) Thursday, December 23rd - 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. (dress rehearsal) • Please plan to attend ALL practices. • Please have children in the Parish Hall to get costumes on by 3:30 p.m. on Friday, December 24th. Contact: • Chalane Tucker at 572-5159 for more information. Thank you so much for being involved in our Christmas celebration

Advent Penance Service 12/16

St. Thomas Parish will celebrate its annual Advent Penance Service on Thursday, December 16 at 6:00 PM-8:00PM. This is a wonderful way to prepare spiritually for Christmas. Additional opportunity will Friday, Dec. 17 at 7:00PM and Tuesday, Dec. 21 from 2:00PM-3:00pm



2º Domingo DE ADVIENTO

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

Durante la temporada especial de Adviento, hay muchos eventos especiales durante las próximas semanas en preparación para la Navidad. Esta semana me gustaría hablar de una práctica espiritual importante que ayuda a preparar el corazón para la Navidad: hacer una buena confesión.

Una parte importante de nuestras celebraciones de Adviento es enfocar nuestras vidas en lo que es verdaderamente importante. A menudo encuentro que una experiencia del sacramento de la Reconciliación aporta la sabiduría y la fuerza del Espíritu para hacer exactamente eso. Es una oportunidad para reflexionar sobre cómo la gracia de Dios ha obrado en tu vida y un momento para animarte a cooperar con él más plenamente.

Tenemos unas oportunidades especiales para la Reconciliación durante Adviento: 16 de diciembre, de 6 pm a 8 pm (bilingüe); 19 de diciembre, de 14h a 15:30h (español); y 21 de diciembre de 14 a 15:30 horas (bilingüe). Nuestro confesionario también está abierto a la hora habitual, todos los sábados de 16:00 a 17:00 horas. Te invito a poner uno de esos tiempos en tu calendario.

Mientras esperamos con gozosa esperanza la venida del Señor, tomemos el consejo de San Juan Bautista esta semana: "preparen el camino del Señor; ¡hagan rectos sus senderos!" A través de la intercesión de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, reina de las Américas, y nuestro patrón parroquial, Santo Tomás, preparemos nuestros corazones para salir al encuentro de Cristo, que viene a nosotros.

Dios los bendiga,
P. Jantz

LECTURAS: DEL DOMINGO

Primera lectura: Jerusalén, Dios mostrará tu esplendor. (Baruc 5 1-9)

Salmo: El Señor ha hecho grandes cosas por nosotros; estamos llenos de alegría. (Salmo 126 1-2,2-3,4-5,6)

Segunda lectura— Muéstrase puros e irreprochables para el día de Cristo. (Filipenses 1 4-6,8-11)

Evangelio— Toda carne verá la salvación de Dios. (Lucas 3 1-6)

LECTURAS PARA LA SEMANA

Lunes	Isaías 35 1-10; Lucas 5 17-26
Martes	Isaías 40 1-11; Mateo 18 12-14
Miércoles	Génesis 3 9-15,20; Efesios 1 3-6,11-12; Lucas 1 26-38
Jueves	Isaías 41 13-20; Mateo 11 11-15
Viernes	Isaías 48 17-19; Mateo 11 16-19
Sábado	Eclesiástico 48 1-4,9-11; Mateo 17 9a, 10-13
Domingo	Sofonías 3 14-18a; Filipenses 4 4-7; Lucas 3 10-18

Compromiso de corresponsabilidad parroquial Gracias

Gracias a todos los feligreses que han devuelto sus tarjetas de compromiso para el próximo año. Santo Tomás está agradecido por su generosidad. Si aún no ha devuelto su tarjeta prometida, hágalo lo antes posible. Hasta ahora hemos recaudado \$ 131,018.00 para el ofertorio y \$ 87,642.00 para el fondo de construcción.

Desayuno del Ministro Hispano 1/16/2022

El Desayuno Hispano comenzará nuevamente el 16 de Enero de 2022. Si desea hacer una donación o ayudar en el Ministerio Hispano, comuníquese con Gricelda al 205-478-5110.

Inmaculada Concepción 12/8

La Fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción se celebrará el 8 de Diciembre. Santo Tomás celebrará misas a las 9:00 AM y 7:00 PM.

Misa infantil de Nochebuena

Los estudiantes de primer a sexto grado presentarán "The Story of Christmas" durante la misa infantil de Nochebuena a las 4:00 p.m. Tendremos práctica en el santuario de la iglesia los días siguientes Domingo, 5 de diciembre 9:30am - 10 45 am (durante la formación de fe) Domingo, 12 de diciembre - 9 30 - 10 45 am (durante la formación de fe) Domingo, 19 de diciembre - 9 30 - 10 45 a.m. (Durante la formación de fe) Jueves, 23 de diciembre - 6 00 - 7:00 p. M. (prueba de vestido . Por favor planea asistir a TODAS las prácticas. • Por favor haga que los niños estén en el Salón Parroquial para que se pongan los disfraces antes de las 3 30 p.m.

el viernes 24 de diciembre. Comuníquese con Chalane Tucker al 572-5159 para obtener más información

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.

Platicas Prebautismales

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

Jantz a (205) 663-3936

Catequesis para niños

Domingos | 9:30 A.M.-10:45 A.M.

Hora Santa

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

Lectio Divina

Los Martes| 6:30pm

Preparaciones para los adultos

Marisol Millan | 205-432-8940

Preparaciones para quinceañeras

Magda Rivera | 643-2659

RosaMaria Angel | 205-901-0470

Preparaciones Matrimoniales

Gabriel y Edith Sanches al 205-299-9826.

Clases de Bautismo 12/6

Las clases de bautismo son el 6 de Diciembre. Las clases de bautismo son para **miembros de Santo Tomás**. Por favor, si asiste a misa en otra Parroquia, reciba sus Clases de Bautismo allí. Si no se registra en el libro del bautismo no puede atender la clase.

Clases de RCIA Para Adultos

La Parroquia de Santo Tomás han comenzado las clases los domingos para aquellos que estén interesados en recibir sacramentos de iniciación. El proceso se llama el rito de la iniciación cristiana. Este proceso de la RCIA es para personas que no han sido bautizadas, personas que han sido bautizadas en otra tradición cristiana que desean convertirse en católicas, y católicos adultos que han sido bautizados, pero que no han sido confirmados. La RCIA ofrecerá sesiones presenciales que comenzarán en Septiembre.

Las sesiones serán los domingos de 9:30 AM a 10:45 AM. Las sesiones en inglés se reunirán en el Salón Parroquial, y las sesiones en español se reunirán en la Sala de San José. Debido a la necesidad de distanciamiento social, las únicas personas que podrán asistir a estas sesiones serán los candidatos, sus cónyuges y sus padrinos.

