



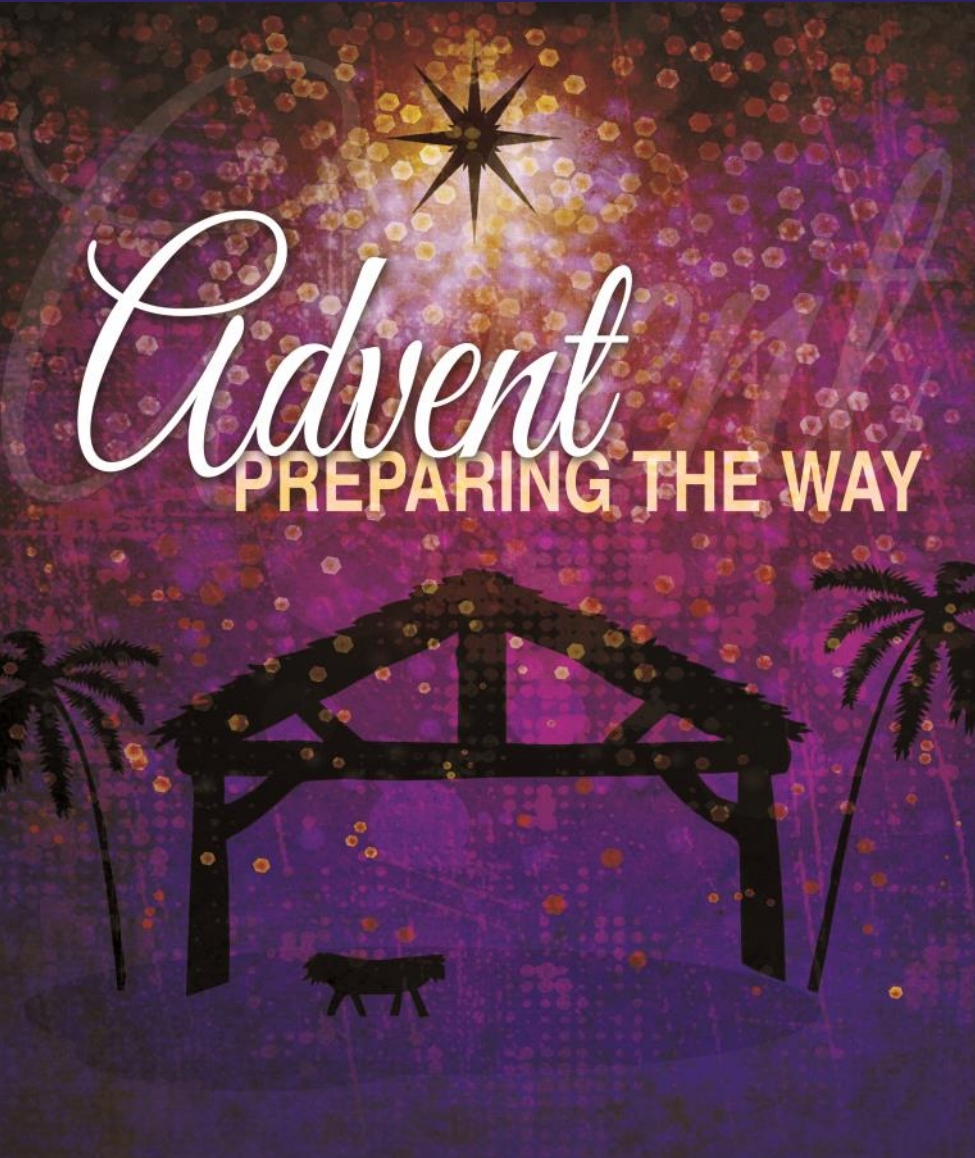
St. Thomas Catholic Church

PARISH & CAMPUS MINISTRY

SERVING CHRIST TOGETHER



• SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2021 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT •



Advent
PREPARING THE WAY

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
Thursday 9:00 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 Nov. 27

5:30 PM Mass Intention of Kristen Ladner

Sunday Nov. 28

8:00 AM Mass for Paul Hester, deceased
 11:00 AM Mass for Ida Ruth Lane, deceased
 12:30 PM Misa para la Gente de la Parroquia

Monday Nov. 29

Tuesday Nov. 30

Wednesday Dec. 1

9:00 AM Mass Intention of Charles Trimberger

Thursday Dec. 2

10:00 PM Mass for Jeanette Richard, deceased

Friday Dec. 3

9:00 AM Mass Intention of JoAnn Simonetti

Saturday Dec. 4

5:30 PM Mass for William Fahner, deceased

Sunday Dec. 5

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

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading— I will raise up for David a just shoot. (Jeremiah 33:14-16)

Psalm— To you, O Lord, I lift my soul. (Psalm 25:4-5,8-9,10,14)

Second Reading— May the Lord strengthen your hearts at the coming of our Lord Jesus. (I Thessalonians 3:12—4:2)

Gospel— Your redemption is at hand. (Luke 21:25-28,34-36)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11

Tuesday: Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22

Wednesday: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21,24-27

Friday: Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday: Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26;
 Matthew 9:35—10:1,5a,6-8

Sunday: Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:4-6,8-11; Luke 3:1-6

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 5am-6am 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. 3rd & Dec. 17th



Monthly Altar Flowers

Nov. 27th & Nov. 28th

In memory/honor of James & Elizabeth Horne

In memory/honor of

Dec. 4th & Dec. 5th

In memory/honor of Tony Mollica

In memory/honor of William Fahner

		EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS	SACRISTAN
Saturday Dec. 4th	5:30 PM	Deacon Brenda Picou		MC- MC-CO- Johnson Family	Walter Lee Bill Burks Paul Lorino	Mary & Jerry Pax
Sunday Dec. 5th	8:00 AM	Deacon Teresa Navarro		Ana Hazel Lilly Mary	Javi Nava Keith Brown Greg Wanat	Kyle Lusk
	11:00 AM	Deacon Sheila Harrington		Byron Nicole Wes Maylin	Casey Fondren Michael Fisher Leland Wallace	Barbara Youngblood
	12:30 PM (Spanish)	Maria Perez Maria Pena	Cristina Angel		Heron Patrick	Rivera/Roan

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

NOV. 28, 2021 TO DEC. 5, 2021

SUNDAY NOV. 28

8:30 AM No Coffee & Donuts
 9:15 AM Rosary in Adult
 Faith Formation Room
 No RCIA

MONDAY NOV. 29

8:30 AM-4:00 PM OFFICE OPEN

TUESDAY NOV. 30

8:30 AM-4:00 PM OFFICE OPEN

WEDNESDAY DEC. 1

8:30 AM-4:00 PM OFFICE OPEN
 5:30PM No Catholic College
 Ministry Mass/team#1

THURSDAY DEC. 2

8:30AM-4:00PM OFFICE OPEN

FRIDAY DEC. 3

8:30am-12:30pm OFFICE OPEN
 Adoration begins at noon

SATURDAY DEC. 4

Adoration ends at noon
 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 11/14/21

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$9,500.00	\$15,906.00	\$6,406.00
Building Fund	\$7,000.00	\$12,892.35	\$5,892.35
Total	\$16,500.00	\$28,798.35	\$12,298.35

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

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$190,000.00	\$190,328.97	\$328.97
Building Fund	\$140,000.00	\$137,831.03	\$2,168.97
Total	\$330,000.00	\$328,160.00	\$1,840.00

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,

There's an old saying that every beginning is an ending, and every ending is a new beginning. This Sunday, we've arrived at the First Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the new liturgical year. In some ways, it's the end of the journey we've been on the last few months, as our focus turns from the day-to-day experience of discipleship to the expectation of Christ's coming.

For me personally, it's been a difficult few weeks, and I am deeply grateful for your prayers for my recently deceased stepfather Robert and my whole family. And yet every ending is a beginning: my experience of living this moment with the St. Thomas parish fills me with a sense of confidence that our journey ahead, to Christmas, Easter, and beyond, will be done not just with fellow parishioners, but with a community that has truly been brothers and sisters for me in a time of need.

So together, let's get ready for a new beginning, as we prepare to celebrate the mysteries of Christ's life, death, and Resurrection. Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the New World, and St. Thomas, our parish patron, I look forward to living this new beginning together with our whole parish family.

God bless,
Fr Jantz

Christmas Parade 12/2

St. Thomas will once again be participating in the Montevallo Christmas Parade on Thursday Dec. 2nd at 6:00pm. Our float will be Mary riding a donkey and Joseph pulling and walking beside them. We will need kids dress as sheep, shepherds, and angels. If you are interested in participating please call the office at 205-663-3936.

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.

Fun with Santa 12/4

We are excited to start having group activities again. "Fun with Santa" will be celebrated Saturday, December 4th from 2pm to 4pm in the Parish Hall. We invite all to come and meet Santa. There will be crafts and prizes too. Come have fun with Santa!

Welcome/Bienvenidos: New Parishioners

St. Thomas welcome, the following new parishioners': Jason, Jowell, Trent, Gisele, Olivia, & Tylor Seaborn;

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.

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 \$198,594.00 for offertory and \$137,858.00 for the building fund.

Wednesday Night Bible Study

The evening Scripture Study sessions will resume on Wednesday, October 6 at 7:00pm in the St. Joseph room. We will be viewing *The Creed*, a new film series blending both documentary footage and dynamic talks by Bishop Robert Barron. Bishop Barron guides viewers through the Nicene Creed, a fourth-century statement of faith that has profoundly influenced both Eastern and Western spirituality, theology, and liturgy. *The Creed* will help you rediscover the great intellectual and spiritual depths of Christian doctrine, and reclaim the unity, clarity, and conviction of the Christian faith. All are welcome. For questions, call Debbie or Bill Drescher at 205-664-2066.

Angel Tree

St. Thomas Angel Tree event began the weekend of Nov. 13/14. Our Social Concern's Ministry has chosen to support several families supported by Shelby Emergency Assistance of Montevallo and a number of Foster Children supported by the Bibb County DHR. We were little late starting but with your help we would need the gifts wrapped and return the weekend of Dec. 4th and 5th. The gifts are due to each location on Dec. 11th.

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

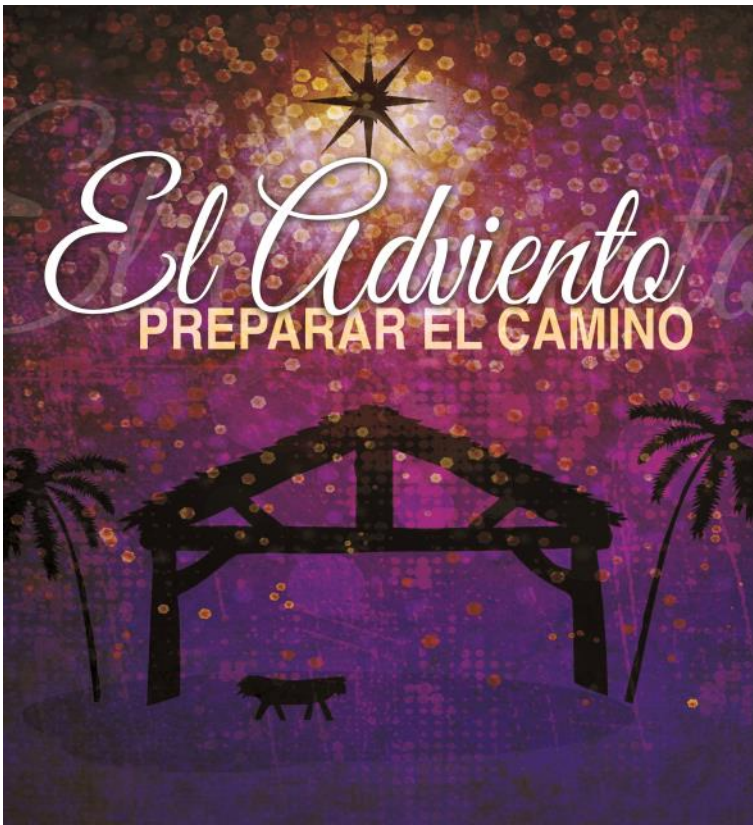
St. Thomas will be celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12th. There will be a midnight Rosary on December 12th in the church with Mariachi Rio Verde after there will be Coffee, hot chocolate and sweet bread in the parish hall. In the afternoon we will have the mass first starting at 12:30pm.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

Sympathy

St. Thomas Parish offers our sympathy to Nita Carr on the death of her husband Robert Carr and step-father to Father Bradley Jantz. May his soul and all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Pastoral Council Minutes

Meeting minutes from the pastoral council monthly meetings are now available for all parishioners to review. A copy is posted on the bulletin board which is located outside the restrooms in the gathering area, and additional copies are available in the gathering area on the credenza.



Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

Hay un viejo proverbio que cada comienzo es un final y cada final es un nuevo comienzo. Este domingo llegamos al primer domingo de Adviento, el comienzo del nuevo año litúrgico. Es el final del viaje en el que hemos caminado en los últimos meses, ya que nuestro enfoque cambia de la experiencia diaria del discipulado a la expectativa de la venida de Cristo.

Para mí, personalmente, he experimentado unas semanas difíciles y estoy profundamente agradecido por sus oraciones por mi padrastró Robert, recientemente fallecido, y por toda mi familia. Y, sin embargo, cada final es un comienzo: mi experiencia de vivir este momento con la parroquia de St. Thomas me da confianza de que nuestro viaje por delante, hacia la Navidad, la Pascua y más allá, se realizará no solo con co-feligreses, sino también con una comunidad que me ha mostrado el significado de ser hermanos y hermanas en un tiempo de necesidad.

Así que, juntos, preparémonos para un nuevo comienzo, mientras nos preparamos para celebrar los misterios de la vida, muerte y resurrección de Cristo. A través de la intercesión de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, patrona de las Américas, y Santo Tomás, nuestro patrón parroquial, espero vivir este nuevo comienzo junto con nuestra familia parroquial.

Dios los bendiga,
P. Jantz

LECTURAS: DEL DOMINGO

Primera lectura. Le plantearé a David un tiro justo. (Jeremías 33 14-16)

Salmo: A ti, oh Señor, levanto mi alma. (Salmo 25 4-5,8-9,10,14)

Segunda lectura— Que el Señor fortalezca sus corazones en la venida de nuestro Señor Jesús. (I Tesalonicenses 3 12—4 2)

Evangelio: tu redención está cerca. (Lucas 21 25-28,34-36)

LECTURAS PARA LA SEMANA

Lunes	Isaías 2 1-5; Mateo 8 5-11
Martes	Romanos 10 9-18; Mateo 4 18-22
Miércoles	Isaías 25 6-10a; Mateo 15 29-37
Jueves	Isaías 26 1-6; Mateo 7 21,24-27
Viernes	Isaías 29 17-24; Mateo 9 27-31
Sábado	Isaías 30 19-21,23-26; Mateo 9 35-10 1,5a, 6-8
Domingo	Baruc 5 1-9; Filipenses 1 4-6,8-11; Lucas 3 1-6

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.

Árbol de los Angeles

El evento de Santo Tomás Arbol de los Angeles ha comenzado el fin de semana del 13/14 de Noviembre. Nuestro Ministerio de Preocupación Social ha optado por apoyar a varias familias apoyadas por Shelby Emergency Assistance de Montevallo y varios niños de crianza que reciben apoyo del DHR del condado de Bibb. Empezamos tarde, pero con su ayuda necesitaríamos envolver los regalos y devolverlos el fin de semana del 4 y 5 de Diciembre. Los obsequios deben entregarse en cada lugar el 11 de Diciembre.

Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe 12/12

Santo Tomás celebrará a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe el 12 de Diciembre. Habrá un Rosario de medianoche el 12 de Diciembre en la iglesia con Mariachi Rio Verde después habrá café, chocolate caliente y pan dulce en el salón parroquial. Por la tarde tendremos la primera misa a las 12:30PM la procesión con el Rosario y los bailarines de danza. Habrá una recepción en el salón parroquial. Todos son bienvenidos.

Clases de Bautismo 12/6

Las clases de bautismo son el 6 de Dec. 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.

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. **Comuníquese 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 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.

