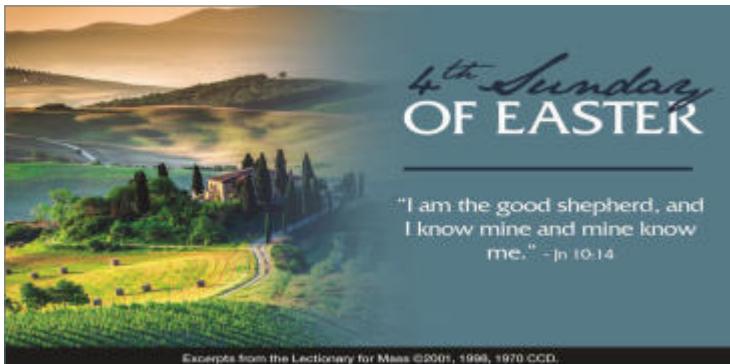


# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4100 South Coulter Street

• Amarillo, TX 79109

**Church Phone:** (806) 358-2461**Rector Phone:** (806) 353-1016**Fax:** (806) 358-2529**Website:** <https://amarillo.church>**Office Hours:** (M-F) 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM**Diocese of Amarillo**

Any builder worth his or her salt knows the value and importance of a cornerstone. Properly laying and securing this primary unit determines how the rest of the project unfolds and its success. Cornerstones are necessary elements not only of buildings but of lives as well. Many human beings conduct the business of their lives paying little attention to a grounding reference or starting point. Hence, what unfolds is a tapestry of relativism, with few anchors or guideposts and many impulsive choices. Some consider love to be their cornerstone. While this may sound attractive and useful, the pursuit of love without a simultaneous pursuit of its source can be shallow and self-focused. Just because a person chooses to do no harm and love others does not mean that they are living in truth and properly anchored to the real cornerstone.

Jesus is the true and authentic cornerstone and shepherd. It is only in following the Risen One as the way, the truth, and the life that we can move from being well grounded ethical people to properly focused moral ones. Proper conduct, a true sense of justice, wisdom, virtue, moral principles, faith, hope, and love will be difficult to find unless we listen to the right Voice. It is when we learn to listen to the voice of God that we begin our journey on the road to salvation. It is only the Good Shepherd, the authentic and solid cornerstone, who can guide us through life's questions and challenges and bring us to the safe and proper pasture.

A person's life only has meaning when the cornerstone is properly selected and set. Understanding themselves only as random acts of creation, existing without intent or purpose, will color their choices and influence their decisions. The foundation of their lives will be simply a matter of preference and choice, leaving benchmarks of growth and higher ideals optional to pursue. Whereas people who believe that they are fashioned and loved into existence by a God who purposely made them, have this incredible unconditional relationship at their source which has tremendous significance. Their allegiance is not to themselves but to their Creator. Life, then, is an adventure in search of this Creator God and a journey of self-discovery that seeks to unite their will to His. There is a cost. We have to give up our life in order to gain our life. As ironic as that sounds, it is true. It is only when we finally figure this out that the true cornerstone of our lives will be properly laid and we can, with God's help, get about the business of properly constructing a temple that endures.

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**Mass Times**

Saturday: 5:00 PM (Sunday Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, and 11:15 AM

Monday thru Friday: 9:00 AM

Holy Days: (to be announced)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday: 3:30-4:30 PM

Other times by appointment

**Sacrament of Baptism**

Contact the Parish Office to schedule a date and time. Parents and sponsors must attend a Baptism class. One sponsor must be Catholic and at least 16 years of age.

**Sacraments of 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation and 1<sup>st</sup> Communion**

These sacraments combine into one sacramental preparation program which takes two consecutive years of religious education classes to complete. Students must be at least in first grade to begin this preparation.

**Sacrament of Confirmation**

This sacrament takes two consecutive years of faith formation to complete. Students must be in at least seventh grade before beginning this preparation.

**Sacrament of Matrimony**

Contact the Pastor at least six months before the date of the wedding.

**Sacrament of the Sick**

Please notify the parish secretary of any sick or elderly shut-ins and all those in the hospital.

**The Rite of Christian Initiation**

The program for adults (RCIA) is open to non-Catholics who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith and to Catholics who have not celebrated the Sacraments. This process is offered on an ongoing basis.

## World Day of Prayer for Vocations

### PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS



O God, Father of all Mercies,  
Provider of a bountiful Harvest,  
send Your Graces upon those  
You have called to gather the fruits of Your labor;  
preserve and strengthen them in their lifelong service of you.

Open the hearts of Your children  
that they may discern Your Holy Will;  
inspire in them a love and desire to surrender themselves  
to serving others in the name of Your son, Jesus Christ.

Teach all Your faithful to follow their respective paths in life  
guided by Your Divine Word and Truth.  
Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary,  
all the Angels, and Saints, humbly hear our prayers  
and grant Your Church's needs, through Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.

[usccb.org/prayers-vocations](http://usccb.org/prayers-vocations)

### 2021/2022 UCA Campaign

SCAN the QR code below to make an online donation  
to the 2021/2022 United Catholic Appeal



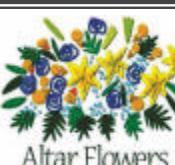
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### Altar Guild Spring Tea

St. Thomas Altar Guild will be hosting their **Spring Evening Tea** on  
**Thurs., May 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**, at the **DeFalco Retreat Center**  
**Patio, 2100 N. Spring St.** All ladies of the parish are invited .  
Hope to see you there!

### A Loving Tribute

If you want a lovely memorial tribute to a lost loved one or loved ones or a way to honor those special individuals in your life, be reminded that you may purchase a beautiful fresh flower arrangement designed by Scott's Flowers for a donation of \$85.00.



If you are interested in purchasing Altar Flowers, please complete an Altar Donation Form which can be found on our website at [www.amarillo.church](http://www.amarillo.church) or call the Parish Office at 358-2461.

## Daily Scripture Readings

**Sunday, April 25:**

Acts 4:8-12/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

**Monday, April 26:**

Acts 11:1-18/Jn 10:1-10

**Tuesday, April 27:**

Acts 11:19-26/Jn 10:22-30

**Wednesday, April 28:**

Acts 12:24—13:5a/Jn 12:44-50

**Thursday, April 29:**

Acts 13:13-25/Jn 13:16-20

**Friday, April 30:**

Acts 13:26-33/Jn 14:1-6

**Saturday, May 1:**

Acts 9:26-31/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

**Sunday, May 2:**

Acts 9:26-31/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

### PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

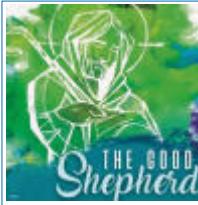
#### OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND:

Kate Schmidt, Ben Canales, Steve Chontos, Glenda Fassauer, Braxton Sandoval, Cheryle Wayne, Jerry Stone, Jerry Terry, Esther York, Mike O'Neill, Emile Jones, Madeline Arrott, Betty Cutting, Judy Allen, Jordan Barrientez, Paul Kiefer, JoAnn Mercer, John (Jack) Hoben, LaRuth Haverfield, Richard Herbsleb, James Rhodes, Rod Lancour, Jack Turner, Ray Ramirez, C. D. Williams, Kim Zinsmeyer, Margaret Herring, Carol Olivas, Jac DeMont, Marilyn Carr, Glenda Gerber, Cecilia Gleason, Jeannine Bellinghausen, Erminia Wiggs, Tom Leezer, Steven Torres, Marisa Delgado, Rhonnie Kaplan, Gerald Lis, Alicia Gurney, Shirley Shaughnessy, Madeline Ryberg, Yvonne Ehly, Jimmy Davis, Melvin Maikoetter

#### OUR SERVICE MEN & WOMEN:

Sheldon Fowler, A. J. Serafin, Lee Wingfield, Sean Callahan, Bryan Revell, John Nussbaum, Rachel Nussbaum, Matt Nussbaum, Christopher Schrock, David Oviedo Cantu, Jacob Bitonel, Jason Freeby, Jacob Tumbelson, Swasey & Jena Brown, Cody Keesee, Justin Spencer, Ryan Huseman, Toby Bitonel, Jeremiah Tumbleson, Jarred Romero, William Weinheimer, Trevor Bunkers, Chase Logan, Justin Werner, Jacob Tumbleson

### Stewardship



"I am the good shepherd...and I lay down my life for the sheep...and they will heed my voice."  
~JOHN 10:14-16

When you pray, do you only ask Jesus for the things that you want? Do you ever ask Him what He wants from you? How do you listen for His response? Many time, Jesus responds in "quiet whispers" that re not so obvious. So, take time every day, in silence, to actively listen for His voice.

[~archstl.org](http://archstl.org)

## Sacrament Information

If you are new parents and/or first-time sponsors, you are required to attend a Baptism class before the reception of the sacrament. Please call the parish office, 358-2461, to register for the next scheduled class.



**GETTING MARRIED?** If you are getting married sometime this year, NFP is a mandatory requirement in the Diocese of Amarillo for couples seeking the sacrament of matrimony. For more information and class schedules near you, please visit the website, [www.amarillodiocese.org/nfp](http://www.amarillodiocese.org/nfp).

## Holy Cross Catholic Academy



The Calendar Party was a huge success!

The faculty and staff at Holy Cross Catholic Academy wish to thank all of the supporters that help make Holy Cross possible. Be it through prayer, monetary donations or volunteering, your support truly makes a difference in the lives of the students and their families at Holy Cross.

Go Mustangs!

## Catholic Question

### Confirmation Sponsor

#### Question:

What are the requirements for being a confirmation sponsor?



#### Answer:

Although many dioceses have specific requirements for who can be a sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation, the Code of Canon Law identifies certain requirements that are true for all dioceses and parishes. First, the sponsor should be chosen by the one to be confirmed (or, in some cases, by the parents or even the pastor). Second, a sponsor must be at least sixteen years old (unless the local bishop has chosen another age, or a special exception has been made). Third, the sponsor must be a Catholic who has been confirmed and who has already received the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Beyond this, they must lead "a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on." Fourth, they can have no sort of canonical penalty or impediment. Finally, they cannot be either the father or mother of the one to be confirmed (See Canons 893, §1 and 874, §1).

In some cultures, it is customary for one of the confirmand's godparents to act as sponsor, although this is not required by Church law.

To learn about the requirements for your parish or diocese, you can consult your pastor or your parish or diocesan director of religious education or the diocese's office liturgy and worship.

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## Everyday Stewardship

### RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

#### Confidence in Princes

Have you ever confided your problems to a friend, only to get the answer, "have you prayed about it as much as you've talked about it?"

Like all good advice, it can really irritate the recipient at first. Here I am, vulnerable and wounded, unloading my problems, and this joker tries to load them right back up and ship them off to Someone with a higher pay grade.

But again, like all good and irritating advice, it rings true if you sit and think about it.

Sure, venting is helpful. We all need that friend or family member who can listen to our problems. But if we ever start to think that person can solve them, it's a good sign that we're losing perspective.

Are you looking to the world for an answer? Are you looking in the mirror, expecting to find a solution to your problems? Are you expecting happiness, peace, contentment or justice to come from any place other than God?

"It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to put confidence in princes," the Psalms tell us. Well, I've never put much confidence in princes. But when it comes to problems, I often find myself telling God to take a step back — "I've got this."

It's tough to pray about any problem as much as you talk about it. We want so badly to tackle the issue ourselves. But I'll let you in on a secret: it doesn't matter what the question is, we don't have the answer. Take it to the One who does.

~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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### Attention Lectors

Since we have been dealing with the pandemic, **no monthly Ministry Schedules are being mailed or emailed**. Everyone who is currently signed up to be Lector is still on the Lector list for the Mass time originally requested. However, we are not fully aware of who is regularly attending the weekend Masses; therefore, if you are a Lector and would like to participate in the weekend liturgies and do the readings at a particular Mass (right now, one lector does both readings) please call the office and you will be put on the list of lectors to be contacted. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused. We are all looking forward to the day when things will return to a more normal state and truly appreciate your willingness to help. If any lector is in need of a workbook, we still have a number of copies on hand. God bless.



### ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH STAFF

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Pastor .....                                       | Rev. John Valdez   |
| Deacon .....                                       | .Blaine Westlake   |
| Deacon .....                                       | Phillip Whitson    |
| Deacon.....  | Mark White         |
| Deacon .....                                       | Darryl Dixon       |
| Retired Deacon .....                               | Terry Pevehouse    |
| Retired Deacon.....                                | Jim Brown          |
| Music Director/Organist/Choir Master.....          | Jim Gardner        |
| Children/Youth Choir Director.....                 | Mykel Byersmith    |
| Religious Ed & Adult Faith Formation Director..... | Kerry Acker        |
| Youth Director.....                                | Andrew Neighbors   |
| Parish Secretary .....                             | Rita Walker        |
| Facility Administrator .....                       | Bryan Webb         |
| Parish Bookkeeper .....                            | Virginia Christian |
| Parish Life Coordinator .....                      | Julie Jones        |
| Ministry Assistant .....                           | Dayamin Winchester |
| Music Secretary .....                              | Judith Tucker      |
| Music/RE Assistant .....                           | Stephanie Kelley   |
| Facility Assistant .....                           | Glen Starcher      |
| Custodian .....                                    | Mark Ebenkamp      |
| Custodian .....                                    | Curtis Zeissel     |
| Liturgical Environmentalist.....                   | Julie Pierce       |

### *Mass Intentions*

**MONDAY, APRIL 26**

9:00 AM  
+Harold Lowery by Anne Stich

**TUESDAY, APRIL 27**

9:00 AM  
+Jack Roach by the Slaton Family

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28**

9:00 AM  
+Dick Wilcox by Pat Wilcox

**THURSDAY, APRIL 29**

9:00 AM  
+Pete Aboytes by Elsa Aboytes

**FRIDAY, APRIL 30**

9:00 AM  
Deceased Members of the Sullivan Family  
by Shari Sullivan

**SATURDAY, MAY 1**

5:00 PM  
+Mary Ann Ebenkamp by Her Family

**SUNDAY, MAY 2**

7:00 AM  
**MEMBERS OF THE PARISH FAMILY**

9:00 AM  
+Myron Lasher by Joe & Eunice Schilling  
11:15 AM  
+Rita Artho by the Her Family



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