

## Religious Education & RCIA

### RE NEWS

\*1<sup>st</sup> Communion was Saturday, May 1 at 10 a.m. We will share the names of all our 1<sup>st</sup> communicants later this spring.

\*\*Confirmation II practice will be May 5 at 5:30 and confession will follow at 6 p.m.

\*\*Confirmation will be celebrated on Friday, May 14 at 7 p.m. with Bishop Zurek.

\*Our last in-person RE class will be Sunday, May 2. Have a blessed summer!

\*The Diocese of Amarillo has adopted the *Virtus* program, Protecting God's Children, for the training of adults working with minors. Registration for *Virtus* training must be done online in advance of the scheduled training. To register go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) and follow the instructions. From that site you will be able to register for any session offered in the diocese. If you have questions, please call Ann Lueb at the parish office.

### RCIA NEWS

\*\*Please welcome our newest Catholics:  
Michael Dykhouse           Kyler Robinson  
Michael Swartzendruber   Milisa Rodriguez  
Rebecca Swartzendruber

\*\*We are now in the fourth stage of RCIA: the Mystagogy Period. "Mystagogy" means "studying the mystery" and refers to how we are all called to continue to study the ways God speaks to us and calls us to grow in faith.

\*\*Want to know more about becoming Catholic? Please contact Kerry Acker!

Contact Kerry Acker DRE at [kacker@stthomasamarillo.org](mailto:kacker@stthomasamarillo.org) or 806.358.2461, Ext. 106, for more info on RCIA or Religious Education.

## St. Thomas the Apostle Youth

### Steubenville 2021 - Dallas, Texas

There will be eighteen of us going to Lone Star Steubenville this summer! Please pray for us as we embark on this life-changing journey! Our trip is June 25-8, and your prayers are much appreciated. We have had a wonderful year, and we are excited to finish it off with our Steubenville conference.

## Staying Informed



### NEED MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PARISH?

Visit our website at [www.amarillo.church](http://www.amarillo.church)

Keep up with what is going on at St. Thomas by signing up for **Flocknote** at [www.amarillo.church](http://www.amarillo.church) and like us and follow our latest news and updates on **Facebook** at [www.facebook.com/amarillo.church](http://www.facebook.com/amarillo.church)

Please remember St. Thomas the Apostle Church in your wills, memorials, life insurance, stocks, annuities, living trusts and other planned gifts.

Thank you.

## Adult Faith Formation

### Daily Prayer this Week

We can hold the words of Jesus in our hearts all week. As we do, we will discover their attractiveness and invitation. We will also encounter resistance in ourselves and in others.

It takes practice to stay focused in the background of our daily life. We all have years of habit to overcome. However, we can practice letting this consoling message of Jesus find a place in our conscious awareness at various points in our day, whether it is in the shower, while getting dressed, or simply whenever we are on our way from one place to another. Sometimes it will take a conscious effort to let these thoughts replace the thoughts that are there already. In the background of our day is where our worries reside. It's where we carry anxiety and stress. Sometimes it is where we carry on imaginary conversations with others or "replay" past conversations. Often a song or piece of music just replays over and over.

This is a great week to get in touch with our deepening desires and to let my conversations with Jesus grow in friendship. The easiest way to do this is to simply say simple ordinary things -- the very way I would say them to a close friend.

*"Jesus, every time I hear you say I don't have to let my heart be troubled, I pause. I sense you are pointing to the 'troubles' I'm working through today. You're asking me to let go of them, aren't you? I'd like to, Jesus, but some of this is big stuff. It scares me. I know some of what I need to do, but I put it off. I know what I'm avoiding. It helps to focus on your love for me this week. I guess what I really need to ask you for today is that you let me trust you more completely. It is really nice these days to feel that you are so close to me, and that I'm not alone today."*

Creighton University's **Online Ministries**

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