

## Timeline of Mile Stones

### St Therese Catholic Parish

- 1979, Aug 6, 13, & Oct 14 - Small group meetings at Canton Town Hall to consider starting a parish in Canton.
- 1980, Sept 15 - Msgr. James Tucek met with 30 families at Service Cafe. Plans made for weekly Sunday Mass and religious education.
- 1980, Sept 28 - Msgr. Tucek celebrated Mass in the home of Bill and Dottie Adamski.  
It was the first Catholic Mass in Van Zandt County.
- 1980, Oct 05 - Msgr. Tucek celebrated first regular Sunday Mass in Eubank Chapel.  
About 30 people were in attendance.
- 1981, July 12 - Parishioners voted to name the mission, *St. Therese of the Child Jesus*.
- 1981, Aug 24 - Bishop Thomas Tschoepe officially designated St Therese of the Child Jesus as a mission church in care of St Edward Parish, Athens.  
*The Ladies Circle* and men's *The Holy Name Society* inaugurated.
- 1982, January 6 - Two acres of land along FM 859 purchased from the Branton family.
- 1982 Spring - Construction began on multi-purpose building.
- 1982, Aug 22 - First Mass celebrate in the new multipurpose building.
- 1982, Sept 26 - Bishop Tschoepe dedicated the first parish multipurpose building.
- 1982-1992 - Deacon Al Riha served as first deacon.
- 1984 - Fr. Sam Metzger assigned to St Edward's and St Therese Mission. Weekly Mass attendance about 125, with 200 on First Monday weekend.
- 1985 - Deacon Bill Flores began assisting especially Hispanic families of St. Therese.
- 1987 - New Diocese of Tyler was established East Texas.
- 1987 - Eight classrooms added onto multipurpose building; weekly average of 45 students at this time, plus adult faith formation.
- 1995, Nov 11 - Bishop Carmody assigned Fr. Mathew Edassery as first full-time pastor of St. Therese Mission.
- 1996 - A new Rectory was built for the pastor.
- 1997, March to Sept - Construction of permanent Church building.
- 1997, Oct 1 - Bishop Carmody dedicated the Church building and altar. Bishop Carmody elevated St. Therese Mission to the level of a parish.
- 2002-2004 - Some parish volunteers ran the pre-school program called *The Little Disciples* for children.
- 2006, Oct 1 - Parish began annual tradition of St Therese Novena of Masses and Novena Prayers, which continues through present time.
- 2006, Oct 15 - Parish celebrated 25th anniversary of designation of St. Therese of the Child Jesus Mission by Bishop Tschoepe. Bishop Alvaro Corrada del Rio presided at the 10 am bilingual Mass.
- 2007, Oct 6 - First Parish Festival of St. Therese, Family Fun Day, uniting our community in celebratory thanksgiving to God and our patroness St. Therese.
- 2008, 2009, 2010 - Parish Festival close to the Feast Day of St. Therese.
- 2011 - Parish Celebrations with dinner and bingo.
- 2016, November 10 - Ground breaking for the construction of a new parish hall.
- 2018, June 10 - Blessing of the new parish hall by Bishop Joseph Strickland
- 2020, July 1 - Appointment of new Pastor, Fr. Jesudoss Thomas
- 2020, November - COVID 19 shutdown of the parish.
- 2021, July—Aug - Renovation of the Rectory
- 2021, August 26 - Purchase of four acres of land from Kent Eubanks by Fr. Jesudoss and some parishioners; Deacon Larry Edwards, Rhita Koches, Cindy Malouf, & Mike Perez.
- 2021, Nov 2-10 - New Fence Line was installed by Mike Perez and Juan Carlos Grijalva families.
- 2022, Oct 1 - Parish celebrates the 25th anniversary of the Consecration of the Altar & Church.