



## Liturgy of Christian Burial

✠ Thomas “Tom” Alex Broussard  
July 1, 1961 - March 18, 2019

Friday, March 22, 2019 11:00 a.m.  
St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica  
Beaumont, Texas



*“Never let anything so fill you with sorrow that you forget the joy of the resurrection.”*

Mother Teresa

# Gathering Rites

## *Reception at the Cathedral Door*

Tom was baptized in Christ. His body is now received at the door of the Cathedral, sprinkled with holy water and covered with the white pall as a reminder of his baptism.

We pray that as Tom died and rose with Christ, that he may now be clothed in the radiance of Christ's eternal glory.

## *Procession*

### *Gathering Hymn*

### *Jerusalem, My Destiny*

#### Jerusalem, My Destiny 399

Refrain

I have fixed my eyes on your hills, Je - ru - sa - lem, my  
des - ti - ny! Though I can - not see the end for me, I  
can - not turn a - way. We have set our hearts for the  
way; this jour - ney is our des - ti - ny. Let  
no - one walk a - lone. The jour - ney makes us one.

Verses

1. Oth - er spir - its, less - er gods, have court - ed me with lies.  
2. See, I leave the past be - hind; a new land calls to me.  
3. In my thirst, you let me drink the wa - ters of your life.  
4. All the worlds I have not seen you o - pen to my view.  
5. To the tombs I went to mourn the hope I thought was gone.

D.C.

Here a - mong you I have found a truth which bids me rise.  
Here a - mong you now I find a glimpse of what might be.  
Here a - mong you I have met the sav - ior, Je - sus Christ.  
Here a - mong you I have found a vi - sion, bright and new.  
Here a - mong you I a - woke to un - ex - pect - ed dawn.

## *Opening Prayer*



# Liturgy of the Word

***First Reading***

*Wisdom 4:7-15*

***Responsorial Psalm***

*Psalm 145: I Will Praise Your Name*

## 76 Psalm 145: I Will Praise Your Name

Refrain



***Second Reading***

*Romans 14:7-9, 10-12*

***Gospel Acclamation***

***Gospel***

*John 14:1-6*

***Homily***

***Prayer of the Faithful***

*Response:*  
*Child of Mary, Hear Our Prayers*



# Liturgy of the Eucharist

## *Preparation of the Gifts*

## *Here I am, Lord*

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you  
call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Here I am, Lord'. It consists of three staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you'. The second staff contains 'call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.'. The third staff contains 'I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.'.

Text: Isaiah 6; Dan Schutte  
Tune: Dan Schutte; Arr. by Michael Pope, SJ, John Weissrock  
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## *Preface Acclamation (Holy, Holy, Holy)*

## *Memorial Acclamation*

## *Great Amen*

## Communion Rite

## *The Lord's Prayer*

## *Sign of Peace*

## *Breaking of the Bread Litany (Lamb of God)*

# Reception of Holy Communion

**For Catholics:** *As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity of confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible. (Code of Canon Law, Canon 916). A frequent reception of the sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.*

**For other Christians:** *We welcome all Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common Baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions that separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they all may be one" (John 17:21). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own churches. According to the Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of Holy Communion by Christians of these churches. (Canon 844§3).*

*Canon law provides Eucharistic sharing by other Christians who do not have full communion with the Catholic Church only when the diocesan bishop deems there is an exceptional circumstance and the following conditions are present: the other Christian on their own asks for the sacrament, they manifest a Catholic faith in the sacrament, are properly disposed and cannot approach a minister of their own community (Canon 844§4).*

**For non-Christians:** *We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. We have high regard for their traditions, friendship, and join them in promoting unity among all peoples. It is our joy to unite with them in praying for the peace and unity of the human family while respecting our common traditions, which do not include Eucharist sharing.*

**For all not receiving Communion:** *All who are not receiving Holy Communion are invited to express their prayerful desire for unity with God and with one another by approaching the altar at communion time with their hands crossed over their hearts. The minister will pray for this unity at the front of the Cathedral with all those in the communion line who have their hands crossed over their hearts.*

## Communion Hymn

## One Bread, One Body

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all,  
one cup of bless-ing which we bless. And  
we, though man-y, throughout the earth,  
we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

## Meditation Hymn

## Ave Maria

## Prayer after Communion

# Final Commendation

## *Invitation to Prayer*

### *Song of Farewell*

Gently, legato (♩ = 74–80)  
*mp*

May songs of the an - gels wel - come you and  
guide you a - long your way. — May the  
smiles of the mar - tyrs greet your own as  
dark - ness turns in-to day. — *mf* Ev - 'ry fear will  
*mp* be un - done and death will be no  
more, — as songs of the an - gels  
bring you home be - fore the face of God. —

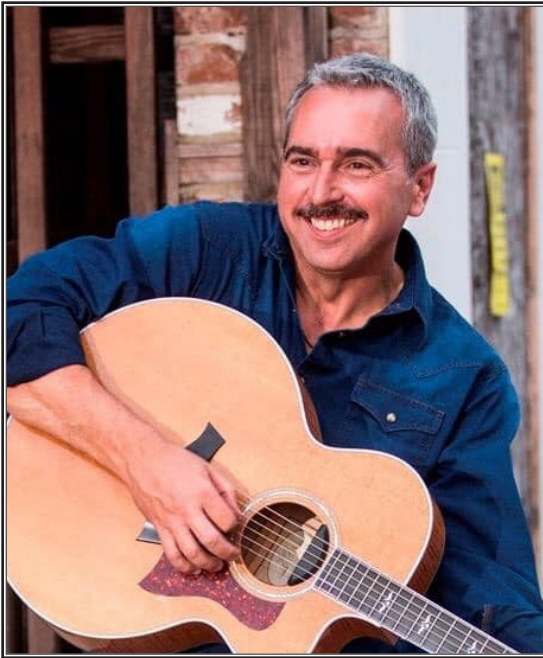
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The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 2/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Gently, legato' with a quarter note equal to 74-80 beats per minute. The dynamics range from mezzo-piano (mp) to mezzo-forte (mf). The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

## *Prayer of Commendation*

### *Song of Commendation*

### *Songs of the Angels*



Thomas Alex Broussard, 57, of Beaumont, died Monday, March 18, 2019 in his home surrounded by his loving family. A lifelong resident of Beaumont, Tom was a fifth generation Texan, fourth generation funeral director, and a descendant of a pioneer family. He spent the final two years of his life fighting glioblastoma, a form of brain cancer. His fight was fueled by the love of his wife, family and community.

Tom grew up one of four children in the West end of Beaumont. He attended Sallie Curtis Elementary, Marshall Middle School and Forest Park High School. A licensed Funeral Director since 1983, Tom was Co-CEO of Broussard's Mortuary where he had a very special gift of empathy and caring, which allowed him to provide comfort to so many in their most difficult times.

In school, Tom excelled at both sports and music. His sporting accolades started with baseball at West End Little League ("Blue Tops"), coached by his father, Alex. He also loved football, playing at the YMCA, Forest Park and eventually suiting up with Lamar University.

Tom had the gift of music, whether it be his playing talents or his soothing voice. His music career began with the choir at Marshall and Forest Park. After learning the guitar, he began to write songs and often performed at retirement homes, Rotary meetings and both men's and women's ACTS retreats. Tom's passion and music helped to initiate the ACTS retreats in Louisiana. The seed that Tom planted with ACTS in Louisiana is still growing today in all ACTS retreats. Tom also led the music ministry at Infant Jesus Catholic Church in Lumberton for many years.



His talents graced the community outside of church as well, singing and playing with the infamous local bluegrass group ‘Tastes Like Chicken’ known to perform at several local functions including the Harvest Club.

Tom’s caring heart and comforting demeanor made him a natural born funeral director, a trait passed down from his father, Alex. Tom served his faith community and profession throughout his life, including the Board of Directors of Selected Independent Funeral Homes from 2007-10, and as Board President in 2010. He is a past Board Chairman of the Beaumont Chapter of the American Red Cross, Past Board President and Advisory Director of the Garth House, and Mickey Mehaffy Children’s Advocacy Program. Tom served on the Boards of Beaumont Foundation; Catholic Charities of Southeast Texas, where he was past Board Chair. He also worked with the Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, where he was a graduate of Leadership Beaumont, and served as Chairman of the Board, and Past Chairman of Government Affairs. He was a past Board President of Magnolia Cemetery Company, past Advisory Board Member to the March of Dimes, Advisory Director for Elijah’s Place, a program of Catholic Charities that provides care for grieving children and was a longtime Board Member and volunteer for the Young Men’s Business League (YMBL).

Tom’s community service awards include Small Business Person of the Year from the Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce and the President’s Volunteer Service Award presented by the President’s Council on Volunteer and Civic Participation. He was named person of the year by the Quota Club of Southeast Texas and was honored for his community involvement by being named Honorary Hurricane by the Beaumont Chapter of the American Red Cross. The Broussard family was honored by the Diocese of Beaumont with their Harvest of Hope as well as the American Cancer Society’s Cattle Barons Ball. Tom took great joy in participating as a spotter in auctions because it meant raising money for the worthy causes of the community.

Tom always looked for the good in all people, wanting to make the community a better place. While involved with the Chamber of Commerce, he brought together representatives from diverse groups of Beaumont to discuss their differences and forge a positive path forward for the community.

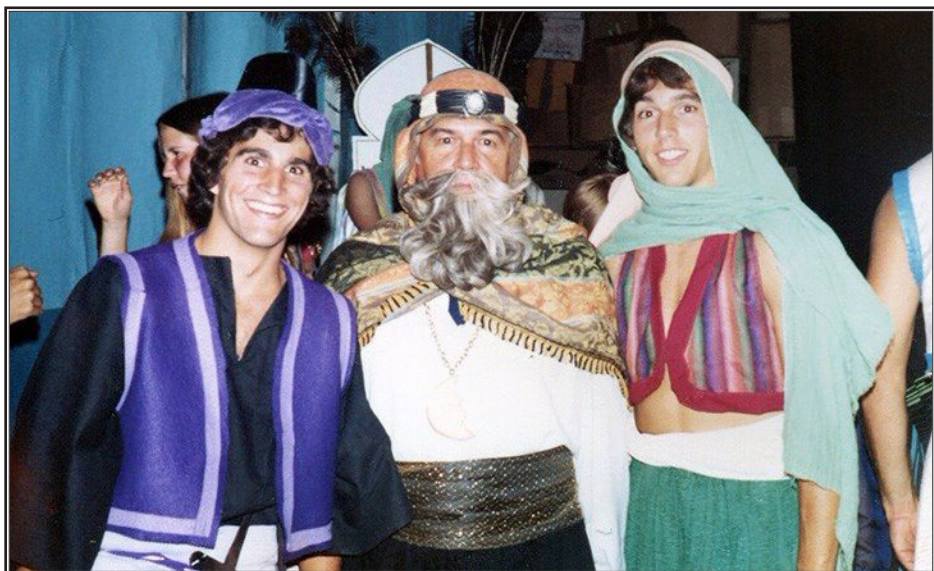
Tom found the love of his life in Vanessa Holmes and they were married in April of 2018 at St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica. It was considered by many to be the wedding of the year, giving his beloved wife her perfect day. Even though their relationship was relatively brief, the depth of their love was immeasurable. They enjoyed traveling and took advantage of every moment they had together.

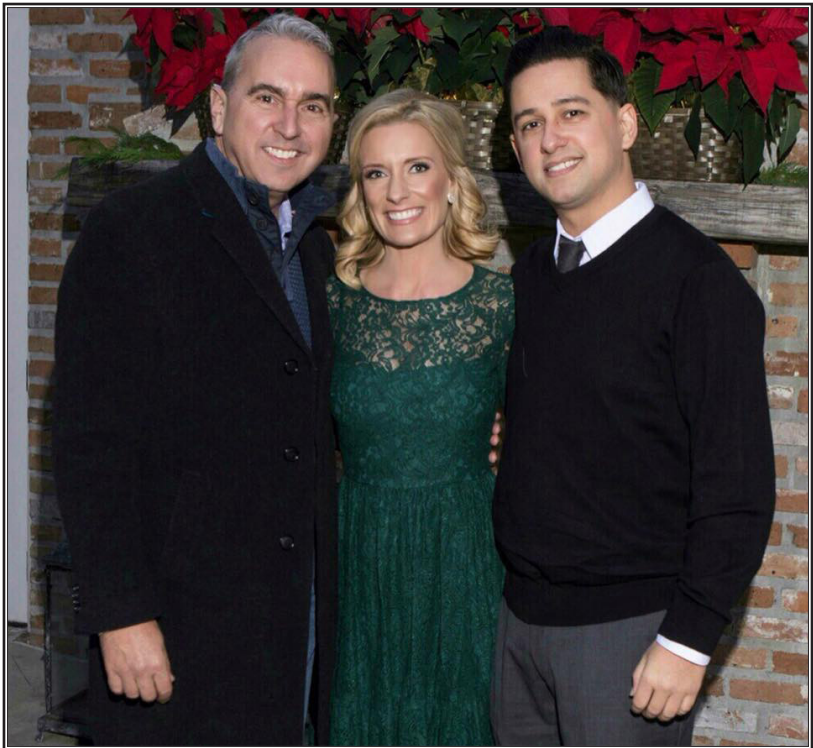
Tom is survived by his wife Vanessa, his son Lee, and soon-to-be born son Thomas Jr., his mother Marie, brothers Dale (Tenna) Broussard of Ellijay, GA, David (Toni) Broussard of Spring, TX, sister Marian (Steve) West of Carrollton, TX. Nieces Katie, Brittany, Elizabeth, Bailey, Brooklyn, Molly and Leah, nephews Dale, Christopher (Kristi), Alex, Joshua, Nicholas and Alex Anderson, great-niece Brianna, great-nephews Tanner, Hunter and Christopher Jr., and his beloved dog, Jax. Tom was preceded in death by his father Alex.

The family would like to thank the community of southeast Texas for all the love and support over the past 21 trying months. We would also like give thanks to the doctors and nurses of Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center, MD Anderson Cancer Center and Dr. Yvonne Kew for their care of Tom.















**Celebrant**  
**Presiding**  
**Placing the Pall**

**Reverend Monsignor Jeremiah J. McGrath**  
**Most Reverend Curtis J. Guillory, S.V.D., D.D.**  
**Marie Broussard, Marian Broussard West**  
**Pat Holmes**

**Gift Bearers**

**Tenna Broussard, Toni Broussard**  
**Jayne Broussard Toepfich**

**Servers**

**Provided by St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica**

**Lectors**

**Brittany Broussard, Elizabeth Broussard**

**Cantor**

**Abigail Dueppen**

**Organist**

**Dr. Scott Feldhausen**

**Pallbearers**

**Dale Broussard, David Broussard**

**Eriic Harris, Jimmy Hartung**

**Mike Valdez, Rich Courville**

**Honorary Pallbearers**

**Alex Broussard, Chris Broussard**

**Dale Broussard, Josh West**

**Butch Holmes, Cody Holmes, Mark Holmes**

**ACTS brothers, Young Men's Business League**



### **Interment**

**Magnolia Cemetery**  
**Beaumont, Texas**

### **Memorial Contributions**

**Garth House**  
**1895 McFaddin Avenue**  
**Beaumont, Texas 77701**



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#### **Saint Anthony Cathedral Basilica Mission Statement**

*"A caring Catholic community celebrating and sacrificially sharing God's love with all peoples through spirituality, scripture, sacrament, stewardship, study and service."*

*Broussards*  
Established 1889

Please sign Tom's guest book and share your memories at  
[www.broussards1889.com](http://www.broussards1889.com)