Fr. Hai’s Corner

Welcome to Holy Week of 2015. Historical documents tell us that as early as the fourth century, the Church celebrated this “Great Week” with a feeling of profound sanctity. It begins with Palm Sunday, which marks Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The central feature of the service proper to this day, as it was in the earliest times, is the procession of palms. The palms are blessed and are then borne in procession to the church. The other notable and very ancient feature of the present Palm Sunday service is the reading of the Gospel of the Passion by three readers.

Easter Triduum. On Holy Thursday, we re-live the Lord’s Last Supper, which Jesus shared with His apostles on the night He was betrayed and arrested. At the Mass, the priest will wash the feet of twelve, just as Jesus did. Also on this night, priests all over the world will renew their sacred vows. This is because, at the Last Supper, Jesus not only instituted the Mass (Eucharist) but also the ministerial priesthood.

On Good Friday, the day of the crucifixion and death of our Lord, we have the veneration of the Cross. A service is held at three o’clock in the afternoon in English and another at 7:30 PM in Spanish. We go forward and kiss the Cross in order to show honor and respect for Christ’s sacrifice for our sake. There is no consecration of the Eucharist on this day, and the Communion we receive will be from the night before, which has been reserved in the tabernacle.

Holy Saturday is a vigil. We keep watch for the expectant rising of Our Savior. By paying the price for our sins on the Cross, Jesus gained for us our eternal salvation, and heaven was opened once more. Also on this night, persons who have spent months of preparation will be received through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist into the Catholic Church for the first time. It is a joyous occasion.

Holy Week is a time to clear our schedules of unnecessary activities. Our minds and hearts should be fixed on Jesus and what He did for us. Let us bear the Cross so that may be worthy of wearing the crown He wore.

Fr. Hai

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, March 29, Masses as usual.

Holy Thursday, April 2, 7:30 p.m. Mass of the Lord’s Supper (bilingual)

Good Friday, April 3, Divine Mercy Novena, 2:30 p.m., Celebration of the Lord’s Passion, 3:00 p.m. / Divine Mercy Novena 7:00 p.m., Celebration of the Lord’s Passion 7:30 p.m. (Spanish)

Holy Saturday, April 4, Easter Vigil, 8:00 p.m. (bilingual)

Easter Sunday, April 5, 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m. (Servant Hall), 1:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Please note that the Divine Mercy Novena begins on Good Friday, 30 minutes before both the English and Spanish Celebrations of the Lord’s Passion.

The Food Drive SVDP held in March was a BIG SUCCESS! Thank you all for your generous contributions to help us help others in our community.

Collection Information July 2014-June 2015

Yearly Budgeted Offertory $1,850,523.00

Weekend Collection (03/22/2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEKLY</th>
<th>FISCAL YTD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actual Collection 38,987.20</td>
<td>1,389,366.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budgeted Amount 37,000.00</td>
<td>1,369,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over (+)/Under(-) +$1,987.20</td>
<td>+$20,366.61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Actual Collection for Fiscal YTD includes Holy Day Collection amounts.

Additional Collections:

- Children (Social Services) $ 9.00
- Building Fund $ 85.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Eucharistic Adoration: After the Mass on Holy Thursday, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight. At that time Adoration will be discontinued and will resume after the Easter Vigil, which should be around 10:30 p.m. on Holy Saturday.

Tues., 1-2 p.m.
Wed., 4-5 p.m.

Our chapel remains open 24 hours a day because of the commitment made by those who take a weekly Holy Hour. Please commit!!

Call Suzie Hamilton for info, 713-557-3036 or 713-729-0221.

Divine Mercy Novena Schedule:

Good Friday, April 3, 2:30 p.m. English / 7:00 p.m. Spanish
Holy Saturday, April 4, 2:30 p.m. English / 3:15 p.m. Spanish
Easter Sunday, April 5, 2:30 p.m. English / 3:15 p.m. Spanish
Easter Monday-Friday, April 6-10, 6:00 p.m. English / 7:00 p.m. Spanish
Saturday, April 11, 9:30 a.m.
Divine Mercy Sunday, April 12, 3:15 p.m. English / 8:00 p.m. Spanish
SIXTH SUNDAY OF LENT

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 29, 2015

**Sunday**
- Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
  - Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39

**Monday**
- Is 42:1-7; Ps 27; Jn 12:1-11

**Tuesday**
- Is 49:1-6; Ps 71; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

**Wednesday**
- Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69; Mt 26:14-25

**Thursday**
- Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Ps 89; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21
  - Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

**Friday**
- Friday of the Passion of the Lord
  - Is 52:13—53:12; Ps 31; Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9; Jn 18:1—19:42

**Saturday**
- Holy Saturday
  - Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1—2.2 or 1:1, 26-31a; Ps 104 or 33; Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 16; Ex 14:15—15:1; Ex 15; Is 54:5-14; Ps 30; Is 55:1-11; Is 12; Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4; Ps 19; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42 or Is 12 or Ps 51; Rom 6:3-11; Ps 118; Mk 16:1-7

**Sunday**
- Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
  - Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 29...**

**Monday, March 30**
- 6:30 a.m. Joseph Abaya Family, Thanksgiving
- 5:30 p.m. †Sonia Hartley

**Tuesday, March 31**
- 6:30 a.m. †Souls in Purgatory
- 5:30 p.m. Joanne Richards

**Wednesday, April 1**
- 6:30 a.m. Lagniton Family, Thanksgiving
- 5:30 p.m. †Richard Endres

**Thursday, April 2**
- 7:30 p.m. Priest's Intentions

**Friday, April 3**
- 3:00 pm.
- 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday, April 4**
- 8:00 p.m. Priest’s Intentions

**Sunday, April 5**
- 7:30 a.m. Polly & Jack Tolbert
- 9:00 a.m. †Mary Bishop
- 11:00 a.m. †Peter Long Bui
- 11:15 a.m. †Bert Link
- 1:00 p.m. For the Parish

The Knights of Columbus Council 3910 would like to invite all members of the parish and their friends to the annual STM Easter Egg Hunt. This year’s hunt will be at Prinster Hall beginning at 2:00 on Saturday April 4. The event is free to participants aged 0 to 9, we only ask you to bring your own basket. We’ll have the event rain or shine, but please pray for good weather.

**Seven Altars of Repose Pilgrimage - Holy Thursday night**

The seven altars of repose pilgrimage will start immediately after the Mass of the Lord’s Supper. We will gather outside the gym/youth room to pray, figure out carpooling, and leave as soon as possible. The order of altars are the same as in previous years - Annunciation, the Co-Cathedral Holy Rosary, UST, St. Anne’s, St. Vincent de Paul, and will arrive back at STM (church, not Servant Hall) before midnight. Deacon John Krugh, who will be on the pilgrimage, will remove the Blessed Sacrament at midnight.

There will be cheese, pepperoni, or sausage pizza at Holy Rosary ($1/slice) and water bottles ($0.25/bottle). Please rsvp with your pizza order to Mary Anne Jurica at 713-828-2124 (call or text) or mahaljurica@att.net. Also if you need a ride or have extra seats, please contact Mary Anne.
ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH
HOUSTON, TEXAS
March 29, 2015

STreaMliners (Adults over 50 only) - April 2015
$15 dues for the year—Adults over 50 only.

Saturday, April 11, monthly meeting-10 a.m. in Prinster Hall, pizza and bingo, $5 for 2 slices pizza & 2 bingo cards (don't forget food donation for STM food pantry and toiletries for LBJ Hospital)

Monday, April 13, County Bus Trip—pending

Thursday, April 16, Casino Day Trip—New Golden Nugget in Lake Charles, LA, $30 pp (includes $20 food coupon), coffee/donuts/hot roller sale at 8:30 a.m., bus leaves at 7:00 a.m., returning about 7:00 p.m.

NEW TRIP - June 18-22, 2015 DALLAS / FORT WORTH
5 DAYS 4 NITES $513.00 PP DBL $647.00 SGL
INCLUDES: INSURANCE, 4 BREAKFAST, 4 DINNERS

Dealey Plaza, Old Courthouse, JFK Memorial, West End Historic District, Thanks-Giving Square, Texas School Board Depository, Geo W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum, South Fork Ranch, Water Gardens, Sundance Square, Billy Bob's, Firth Worth Stockyards and see a cattle drive.

NEED DEPOSIT BY APRIL

**************************************************************************
Make checks payable to St. Thomas More Church
All trips leave from the back parking area near Prinster Hall. If you are parking your car please leave at least 5 spaces open around the dumpsters and recycling bins.

STreaMliner trips are open to all STM families and friends!

For info, call Ed's Tours 713-723-2035.

RESPECT LIFE ROSARY & DIVINE MERCY
On Sunday April 5, at 9:00 p.m. in the chapel, please join the Respect Life Committee in praying the rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet for Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty.

Gabriel Project in desperate need of volunteers to help organize baby storage:
We are so blessed to have generous parishioners donate baby items to our ministry!! We could use some help in our air-conditioned baby storage facility. We need volunteers who can pickup donations from the parish office, deliver to storage, sort, organize and assemble layettes for our new Gabriel Project mothers. If you are interested please call Leslie Corrigan at 713-253-2402 or email corrigancrew@reagan.com. Thank you

HAVE YOU SEEN IT?
Our Saint Vincent de Paul Conference has placed a large blue bin across the driveway from Prinster Hall for your donations of reusable clothing and shoes. The donations will be picked up regularly to go to the SVdP resale shops on Cedar Street in Bellaire and on the Gulf Freeway. Please make use of the bin for your spring cleaning discards. Just another way you can help our neighbors in need!

Flocknote is a way for the parish to communicate with you! If you don't have time to read the bulletin but want to know what's going on, sign up for this service. There are 2 easy ways to register for Flocknote (pick one):

Visit our network at
flocknote.com/stmhouston

or

Text “Hillcroft” to 84576

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First Saturday Devotion
The Blessed Mother promised Sister Lucia, the Fatima Seer, if you
1. pray the rosary
2. go to Confession (within 8 days before or after first Saturday)
3. receive Holy Communion
4. meditate on the mysteries of the rosary for 15 minutes

for five consecutive first Saturdays, with the intention of making reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, you will receive all the graces necessary for salvation at the hour of death. On first Saturdays, the rosary is prayed in STM chapel at 8:30am for these intentions and for the increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Will you help carry the cross of Jesus as a religious? The Parish Vocations Committee

HHH Golf Tournament
Golfers can register online at hhhgolf.org for the April 20, 2015 His Hands of Hope Golf Tournament at Quail Valley. For more information, see a Knight of Columbus member.

Golf Ball Drop Raffle
Thanks to all who helped lift Father Hai up high by donating to the Golf Ball Drop. Prize winners have been contacted, and their names will be published in the STM Bulletin on the weekend of Easter Sunday.

FIRST FRIDAY NOCTURNAL ADORATION
NO NOCTURNAL ADORATION THIS MONTH. THE FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH IS GOOD FRIDAY (APRIL 3), AND NO EXPOSITION IS PERMITTED.

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY FOR VOCATIONS
Join us in the Adoration Chapel each First Saturday at 8:30 a.m. as we pray the Rosary for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The next date will be April 4.
SIXTH SUNDAY OF LENT

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS:

TUITION UPDATE
Thank you to all the families who have paid their tuition for the 2014-2015 CCE year. However, as of this month we still have a fair amount of tuition that is still outstanding. We are dedicated to providing the best possible religious education program at St. Thomas More; however, this can only be done with your support. If at all possible, please pay your outstanding balance at your earliest convenience, payment plans are available. Thank you for your co-operation.

Meet the STM Saintly Staff

Margarita Flores is the person in charge of the maintenance and cleanliness of the Priests’ residence (rectory), the church offices and the church itself. She is married and has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and a great-grandchild on the way. Margarita has been an employee of St. Thomas More for 33 years. Margarita loves to dance. She enjoys her work here at STM because the people are very nice. She particularly enjoys spending her time keeping the Church clean (God’s house, as she calls it.) She considers STM her second home.

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Bienvenidos a la Semana Santa del 2015. Documentos históricos nos dicen que desde principios del siglo IV, la Iglesia celebro esta “Gran semana” con un sentimiento de profunda santidad. Comienza con el Domingo de Ramos, el cual marca la entrada triunfal de Jesús a Jerusalén. La característica central del servicio adecuado es hoy en día, como fue en los primeros tiempos, es la procesión de las palmas. Las palmas son bendecidas y luego son llevadas en procesión a la Iglesia. La otra característica notable y muy antigua del servicio presente del Domingo de Ramos es la lectura del Evangelio de la Pasión de Cristo por tres lectores.

El Viernes Santo, el día de la crucifixión y muerte de nuestro Señor, tenemos la veneración de la cruz. Un servicio que se lleva a cabo a las 3:00 pm en Ingles, y otro a las 7:30 pm en Español. Caminamos hacia adelante en el Templo a besar la cruz en orden de mostrar honor y respeto por el sacrificio de Cristo por nuestro bien. No hay consagración de la Eucaristía en este día, y la Comunión que recibimos será de la noche antes, la cual ha sido reservada en el Sagrario.

Sábado de Gloria es una vigilia. Mantenemos una vigilia por la esperada resurrección de nuestro Salvador. Pagando el precio por nuestros pecados en la cruz, Jesús alcanzo para nosotros una salvación eterna, y el cielo se abrió una vez mas. También en esta noche, las personas que han pasado meses de preparación, serán recibidas por primera vez en la Iglesia Católica a través del Bautismo, Confirmación y Comunión. Es una ocasión de alegría.

La semana Santa es el tiempo para limpiar nuestro horarios de actividades innecesarias. Nuestras mentes y corazones deberían fijarse en Jesús y en lo que El hizo por nosotros. Carguemos nuestra cruz para que sea digno de llevar la corona que llevaba.

El Padre Hai

HORARIO DE SEMANA SANTA

Jueves Santo, 2 de Abril, 7:30 p.m. Misa de la última cena (bilingüe)
Viernes Santo, 3 de Abril, Novena a la Divina Misericordia, 2:30 p.m., Celebración de la Pasión de Cristo, 3:00 p.m. / Novena a la Divina Misericordia 7:00 p.m., Celebración de la Pasión de Cristo 7:30 p.m. (Español)
Sábado de Gloria, 4 de Abril, Vigilia de la Pascua, 8:00 p.m. (bilingüe)
Domingo de Pascua, 5 de Abril, 1:00 p.m. (Español)

Por favor, tenga en cuenta que la Novena a la Divina Misericordia comienza el Viernes Santo, 30 minutos antes de las celebraciones de la Pasión de Cristo en Ingles y en Español.

BENDICIONES PARA LA PRESENTACION AL TEMPLO DE NIÑOS DE TRES AÑOS Y QUINCEAÑERAS

Para que sus hijos reciban la bendición se necesita registrarse en la Oficina de Religión al 713-729-3435

Los Caballeros de Colon del Consejo 3910 les gustaría invitar a todos los miembros de la Parroquia y a sus amigos a la búsqueda anual de huevos de pascua en STM. Este año la búsqueda será en Prinster Hall comenzando a las 2:00 pm el Sábado 4 de Abril. El evento es gratis para niños de 0 a 9 años de edad, solo le pedimos que traiga su propia canasta. El evento se llevara a cabo llueva o no, pero rece para que sea un bonito día.

Margarita Flores es la persona encargada del mantenimiento y la limpieza de la residencia de los sacerdotes (rectoría) las oficinas de la Iglesia y de la Iglesia misma. Ella esta casada y tiene tres hijos, 7 nietos y un bisnieto en camino. Margarita ha estado trabajando en St. Thomas More por 33 años. A Margarita le gusta mucho bailar. Ella disfruta su trabajo aquí en San Thomas More porque las personas son muy amables. Particularmente le gusta pasar su tiempo limpiando la Iglesia (la casa de Dios, como ella le llama) Ella considera a STM su segunda casa.
SIXTH SUNDAY OF LENT

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK / ORACION POR LOS ENFERMOS


PRAY FOR ALL SERVING IN THE MILITARY, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN OUR PARISH FAMILY


Austin Bennett Tice is a home schooled, Eagle Scout, National Merit Finalist, graduate of Georgetown University, former Captain in the United States Marine Corps and recipient of the 2012 George Polk Award for War Reporting. He is the eldest of seven children, and was born and raised in Texas.

In May of 2012, the summer before his final year at Georgetown Law School, he chose to go to Syria as a Freelance Journalist to report on the conflict there. Two days after his 31st birthday, on August 13, 2012, his editors, family and friends lost contact with Austin, as he was preparing to travel from Daraya, near Damascus, to Beirut, Lebanon.

Please continue to pray for the safe return of Austin to his family.

Please patronize our advertisers. It is through their support that our bulletin is provided at no cost to the parish. Thank you!