The 6th of December has always been a celebration as St. Nicholas Day. This year his feast day falls on the Second Sunday of Advent, so the celebration of Sunday liturgy precedes the feast day of St. Nicholas.

According to the Lives of Saints, St. Nicholas was a 4th century Bishop of Myra, a city in Lycia, a province of Asia Minor. Perhaps one of the best-known stories about his generosity toward the poor and needy centers on that of a poor man who was unable to provide dowries for his three daughters of marriageable age. This saintly Nicholas secretly tossed a bag of gold through the poor man’s window on three separate occasions, thus enabling the daughters to be married.

Over the centuries, this particular legend evolved into the custom of gift-giving on the saint’s feast. December 6 always brings much celebrating, especially in Eastern Europe and the Germanic countries such as Germany, Austria, Switzerland and the Netherlands. Italy also celebrates this saint’s day. In the English-speaking countries and in America, Santa Claus emerged (or evolved) from the stories and legends of St. Nicholas. Santa Claus was kind and generous to children and adults. Unlike “St. Nick”, Santa Claus is largely a non-religious character.

Inspired by St. Nicholas’ life, let us look at our approach to material goods during the Christmas season and seek ways to extend our sharing to those in real need. Remember to bring your Christmas gifts for the children in need to Church, next Sunday, December 13th. Of course, you can also drop your gifts at parish office during the week.

Finally, this week, don’t forget two important Marian feast days, December 8 – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and December 12 – the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Check the bulletin and 2015-2016 Holidays Calendar for mass times. God bless.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Readings for the week of December 6</th>
<th>Lecturas de la Semana, 6 de diciembre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, 7:</strong> Memorial of St. Ambrose</td>
<td><strong>Lunes, 7:</strong> Fiesta de San Ambrosio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is 35: 1-10; Ps 85: 9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 5: 17-26</td>
<td>Is 35, 1-10; Sal 84, 9ab-10. 11-12. 13-14; Lc 5, 17-26</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, 8:</strong> Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</td>
<td><strong>Martes, 8:</strong> Soledad la Inmaculada Concepción de la Santísima Virgen María</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1: 26-38</td>
<td>Gn 3, 9-15. 20; Sal 97, 1. 2-3ab. 3bc-4; Ef 1, 3-6. 11-12; Lc 1, 26-38</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, 9:</strong> Is 40: 25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, &amp; 10</td>
<td><strong>Miércoles, 9:</strong> Is 40, 25-31; Sal 102, 1. 2-3. 4 y 10; Mt 11, 28-30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mt 11:28-30</td>
<td><strong>Jueves, 10:</strong> Is 41, 13-20; Sal 144, 1 y 9. 10-11. 12-13ab; Mt 11, 11-15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, 10:</strong> Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 &amp; 9, 10-21, 12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15</td>
<td><strong>Viernes, 11:</strong> Is 48, 17-19; Sal 1, 1-2. 3, 4, &amp; 6; Mt 11:16-19</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, 11:</strong> Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</td>
<td><strong>Sábado, 12:</strong> Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zec 2:14-17; Ps Judith 13:18 bcd-e, 19; Lk 1:26-38</td>
<td>Za 2,14-17; Sal Jdt 13,18 bcd-e. 19; Lc 1,26-38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, 12:</strong> Third Sunday of Advent</td>
<td><strong>Domingo, 13:</strong> Tercer Domingo de Adviento</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zep 3:14-18a; Ps Is 12:2-3, 4,5,6; Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:10-18</td>
<td>Sof 3, 14-18; Sal Is 12, 2-3. 4bcde. 5-6; Flp 4, 4-7; Lc 3, 10-18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMMUNITY CORNER

NURSERY
The nursery is available during the 9am Mass for newborns to 4 years. There is no charge nor reservations needed.

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BAPTISM INFORMATION
Next Baptism Preparation Class (English): December 19, 2015
Adult Education Building, St Peter Room; 8:45am-12:00pm

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MARRIAGE PREPARATIONS
Engaged couples please contact the parish office for more information at least 6 months to a year ahead of the wedding.

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INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?
This process is known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). It begins with informal question and answer sessions. Inquiry sessions are held on Wednesday evenings, 7:30-9:00 p.m. For more information, just come on Wednesday evening, or talk to Deacon John Krugh on Sunday or call the church office, 713-729-0221.

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WELCOME TO OUR PARISH
If you and your family are new to our neighborhood and wish to become members of the St. Thomas More Family, we invite you to come by the parish office to register or by visiting our web page at www.stmhouston.org.

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ANOINTING OF THE SICK
This Sacrament is offered bilingual on Saturdays after the 8am mass.

El Rincon de la Comunidad

GUARDERÍA
No hay Guardería disponible para las misas de 1pm o 7pm

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INFORMACIÓN DE BAUTISMOS
Próxima Clase para preparación Bautismal será el 19 de diciembre del 2015 en El Salón Prinster de 9:45am-1:00pm. Para más información, favor de llamar a la oficina de Educación Religiosa.

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CONVALIDACIONES—DESEA USTED CASARSE POR LA IGLE-SIA
El curso dará comienzo en Marzo 15, 2016 a Abril 19, 2016 por 6 semanas los martes en el Prinster Hall de 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Favor de llamar a la oficina de CCE para información. La misa en grupo será en Junio 4, 2016 o Diciembre 3, 2016. Para más información llamar al 713-729-3435

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BIENVENIDOS A NUESTRA PARROQUIA
Si usted y su familia son nuevos en el vecindario y desean ser miembros de nuestra Familia de Santo Tomas Moro los invitamos a registrarse en la oficina de la parroquia o visitando nuestra página web www.stmhouston.org.

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UNCIÓN DE LOS ENFERMOS
El sacramento de Unción de los Enfermos se ofrecerá el sábado después de la misa de 8 am.

MASS INTENTIONS / INTENCIONES DE LA MISA
Monday, December 7 / Lunes, 7 de Noviembre
6:30 a.m. † Nathaniel Uy
5:30 p.m. † Pat Scroggins

Tuesday, December 8 / Martes, 8 de diciembre
6:30 a.m. † Joe Peters
8:15 a.m.
5:30 p.m. † Zoraida Quintanilla
7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 9 / Miércoles, 9 de diciembre
6:30 a.m. † James Bunner
5:30 p.m. † Clyde Perrere

Thursday, December 10 / Jueves, 10 de diciembre
6:30 a.m. All Souls in Purgatory
5:30 p.m. † Angelina & Felipe Buenviaje

First Friday, December 11 / Primer Viernes, 11 de diciembre
6:30 a.m. † Rev. Joseph K. Kalladan
5:30 p.m. † Vicente Marifosque
11:00 a.m.

Saturday, December 12 / Sábado, 12 de diciembre
8:00 a.m. Jurica Family-Special Intention
5:00 p.m. Hansen Family Thanksgiving Bonilla

Sunday, December 13 / Domingo, 13 de diciembre
7:30 a.m. Iwunze Family-Special Intention
9:00 a.m. Emelda Ugwumady-Eze
11:00 a.m. † Nannie Tardo
1:00 p.m. † Anastacio Agundiz
5:00 p.m. † Dwainn Blain
7:00 p.m.

FOR MASS INTENTIONS PLEASE COME BY THE PARISH OFFICE.
PARA INTENCIONES DE LA MISA FAVOR DE PASAR POR LA OFICINA PARROQUIAL.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK / POR FAVOR OREN POR LOS ENFERMOS
Josephine LeDay, Therese Flaherty, Jan Tennert, Latondra Banks, James Murphy, Deanna Murphy, Irvin Schueler

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL SERVING IN THE MILITARY:
POR FAVOR DE ORAR POR LOS QUE ESTAN SIRVIENDO EN LAS FUERZAS ARMADAS :

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THE SAFE RETURN OF AUSTIN TICE TO HIS FAMILY.

Adoration / Adoración
The Blessed Sacrament will not be exposed starting Thursday December 24 at 4 pm. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed again on Saturday December 26 after the 8am Mass. The Chapel will remain open during this time for meditation and prayer.

El Santísimo Sacramento no estará expuesto comenzando el jueves 24 de Diciembre a las 4pm. Se expondrá nuevamente el Santísimo Sacramento el Sábado 26 de Diciembre después de la misa de 8am. La Capilla estará abierta durante estas fechas para meditación y oración.
We will have a potluck Christmas celebration at 4PM in the Youth Center Upper Room on Saturday, December 12th. Please bring your favorite dish! Come join the Funnn!

No Youth Group on Sunday Dec. 20 & 27, 2015; and January 3, 2016

La Inmaculada Concepción de la Virgen María
Misa de Obligación:
Martes, Diciembre 8, 2015 7:30pm (español)

THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE ~ The feast of our patroness is almost here. We invite you to come join us in this special celebration on Friday, December 11 at 11:00 PM beginning with a procession at 8:40 PM with the “Danza tonantzin” (Liturgical Native Dance) from Prinster hall to the church, followed by the re-enactment of the apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe at the church. We will conclude with a fellowship at the New Gym. Come and join this joyous occasion!!!

LA FIESTA DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE: DICIMBRE 11 ~ La festividad de nuestra patrona ya casi está cerca. Le invitamos a unirse a nosotros en esta celebración especial el viernes 11 de diciembre. Comenzando con una procesión a las 8:40 pm con la "Danza tonantzin", desde el salón Prinster a la iglesia. Seguido por las apariciones de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. La santa misa dará inicio a las 11 de la noche. Vamos a concluir con las mañanitas y luego saldremos en procesión al nuevo Gimnasio. ¡Ven y únete en esta ocasión feliz!

Eucharistic Adoration Needs:
A permanent adorer is needed for Sundays, 1-2 a.m.
Our chapel remains open 24 hours a day because of the commitment made by those who take a weekly Holy Hour. For more information, contact Fermin Bravo at 832-869-7488 or meygod7@gmail.com Please commit!

Las Posadas
Vengan con su familia y Únase a nosotros para Las Posadas que darán comienzo el miércoles, 16 de diciembre al 23 de diciembre a las 7:00 pm. Comenzaremos con el Rosario afuera del Prinster. Las Posadas es una celebración religiosa que rectificaciones el viaje bíblico de María y José como buscaron refugio en Belén antes del nacimiento de Jesús. La tarde concluirá con pan dulce, café y chocolate. ¡Ven y Únete a nosotros para orar, cantar y celebrar!

Come along with your family and join us for Las Posadas starting Wednesday, December 16—23 at 7:00 P.M. We will start with the rosary outside the Prinster Hall. Las Posadas is a religious celebration that reenacts the biblical journey of Mary and Joseph as they searched for shelter in Bethlehem before the birth of Jesus. The afternoon will conclude with, pan dulce and chocolate! Come and join us for prayer, singing and celebration!
STM Woman’s ACTS Retreat
January 14 – 17, 2016
• Calling all women interested in building a closer relationship with Christ and establishing lasting relations with like-minded women
• Mother of Perpetual Help Retreat Center, 3417 West Little York, Houston, TX., 77091
• Registration cost includes, 3 nights lodging, all meals, supplies, resources and transportation from STM
• Early Registration through December 6, 2015, cost is $200.00
• Late Registration after December 7, 2015, cost is $240.00
• Registration Deadline January 1, 2016
• All women are welcome regardless of faith background
• Contact Lillie Vega, Director at Lill53@aol.com or Debbie Luquette, Co-Director at DRLMBA@hotmail.com for additional information

Gracious God, you wish our love for you to be expressed in our love for others; give us the grace to serve you.
The Parish Vocations Committee
Dios de gracia, tu deseas que nuestro amor para ti pueda ser expresado en nuestro amor por los demás; danos la gracia para servirte. Comite de Vocaciones Parroquial

Graciously God, you wish our love for you to be expressed in our love for others; give us the grace to serve you.
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Dios de gracia, tu deseas que nuestro amor para ti pueda ser expresado en nuestro amor por los demás; danos la gracia para servirte. Comite de Vocaciones Parroquial

Financial Stewardship (11/23/15)
Actual Collection/Colecta Actual $ 31,190.99
Budgeted Amount / Presupuesto $ 35,200.00
Over (+)/Under(-) -$ 4,009.01
2nd Collection - Campaign for Human Development:
$ 4,554.19
Additional Collections:
Mission Sunday: $ 26.00
Building Fund: $ 115.00

Financial Stewardship (11/30/15)
Actual Collection/Colecta Actual $ 23,042.25
Budgeted Amount / Presupuesto $ 35,200.00
Over (+)/Under(-) -$12,157.75
Additional Collections:
Campaign for Human Development:
$ 289.00
Building Fund: $ 219.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!
¡Gracias por tu generosidad!!

Recipients we bless with our gift collection
- St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Clients
- Parishioners in Need
- Gabriel Project Moms & Children
- Kids Hope USA Students
- Blessed Sacrament Church
- St. Philip Neri Church
- St. Peter Claver Church
- Casa de Esperanza -
- Catholic Charities - CCE Families
- HISD Student Moms

Please be generous!
Holidays Calendar 2015 - 2016

Tuesday, December 8. Immaculate Conception
Mass at 6:30 AM, 8:15 AM School mass;
5:30 PM English & 7:30 PM Spanish

Friday, December 11. Our Lady of Guadalupe
Mass in Spanish at 11:00 PM

Sunday, December 13. 3rd Advent.
Gifts Giving Sunday.
Bring your Christmas gifts to church

Wednesday, December 16 -23 Posadas
In Spanish at 7:00 PM- Prinster Hall

Thursday, December 24. Christmas Eve
5:00 PM Children’s Mass - English
7:30 PM Vigil Christmas Mass – English
9:30 PM Vigil Christmas Mass – Spanish
12:00 PM Midnight Mass- English

Friday, December 25. Christmas Day
Mass at 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM (no evening mass)

Saturday, December 26.
Mass at 8:00 AM and Sunday Vigil mass 5:00 PM.
NO CONFESSIONS after mass

Thursday, December 31. New Year’s Eve.
Mass at 6:30 AM & 5:30 PM English, 7:30 PM - Spanish

2016 - HAPPY NEW YEAR - 2016

Friday, January 1, 2016.
Holy Day Obligation
Mass at 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM – in English only

Saturday, January 2, 2016.
Mass at 8:00 AM & Vigil mass 5:00 PM- English

Mass at 7:30, 9:00; 11:00 AM and
5:00 PM – English
Mass at 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM Spanish

IMPORTANT NOTE:
The Saturday morning mass will change
from 9:00 AM to 8:00 AM.
Sacrament of Anointing the Sick (bilingual Service) will be offered after the 8:00 am mass on Saturday.
No more confessions after 5 PM Saturday mass.
Confessions will be on Tuesdays after the
5:30 PM mass, from 6:15-7 PM.
The rest of the unrevised confession and mass times will remain the same.

Calendar de Días Festivos 2015-2016

Martes, 8 de diciembre. Inmaculada Concepción
Misa de 6:30am, 8:15 am-Misa para la Escuela)
Misa 5:30pm Ingles y 7:30 pm Español

Viernes, 11 de Diciembre.
Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
Misa en Español a las 11:00pm

Domingo, 13 de Diciembre.
3ro domingo de Adviento Fin de Semana de Regalar.
Traigan sus regalos de Navidad a la Iglesia

Miércoles, 16 al 23 de Diciembre.
Posadas En Español a las 7:00 PM

Jueves, 24 de Diciembre. Nochebuena
5:00pm Misa de Niños- Ingles
7:30 pm Misa de Nochebuena- Ingles
9:30 pm Misa de Nochebuena- Español
12:00 pm Misa de media noche- Ingles

Viernes, 25 de Diciembre. Navidad
Misa de 9:00am & 11:00am
(no habrá misa en la tarde)

Sábado, 26 de Diciembre. Misa de 8:00am y
Vigilia 5:00pm
(no confesiones después de misa)

Jueves, 31 de Diciembre. Vispera de Año nuevo
Misa a las 6:30am y 5:30 pm Ingles, 7:30pm- Español

2016- FELIZ AÑO NUEVO- 2016

Viernes, 1 de Enero del 2016. Día de Obligación
Misa 8:00am y 10:00am- Ingles solamente

Sábado, 2 de Enero del 2016.
Misa 8:00am y Vigilia 5:00pm –Ingles solamente

Domingo, 3 de Enero del 2016. Horario Regular.
Misa 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 am y 5:00pm- Ingles
Misa 1:00pm y 7:00pm –Español

AVISO IMPORTANTE:

Misa del sábado de 9:00AM cambiará a las 8 AM
Unción de los enfermos en bilingue se ofrecerá los sábados después de Misa de 8 AM
No habrá confesiones después de Misa de
5:00 pm el sábado pero se agregará confesiones los martes de 6:15pm a 7pm
depués de la Misa de 5:30 pm.

Los horarios de las Misas diarias y fin de semana, y confesiones los miércoles quedaran igual.
Meet the STM Devoted Staff

Mrs. Olivero is a STM Spanish Teacher for Kindergarten through 4th grade. She was born and raised in Guadalajara Mexico. She has a degree in International Business from the Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico. Ms. Olivero previously worked as a University of Texas School of Health Sciences tutor for disadvantaged Pre K children as well as teaching Spanish speaking adult computer literacy. She has been married to Dr. Juan Olivero, an STM graduate, for 14 years. They have two sons Fernando (5th grade) and Diego (3rd grade) both STM students. Her interests are quilt making, gardening, cooking, crafts, and traveling. She states “I love teaching at STM because it is a wonderful school rich in Catholic values and has a strong academic foundation. The students give me happiness and their enthusiasm and enjoyment of Spanish class fill me with joy.”

This week around STM….

Sunday, December 6
8:00am Religious Articles will be sold in Servant Hall
“Sweet Sunday” in Servant Hall
Christmas Crafts Sale in Plaza
9:30am RCIA (ENG)- St. Peter
2:00pm Young Disciples-Youth Center
2:30pm Baptisms—English
6:00pm Sp. Choir 7pm-St. Mary

Monday, December 7
9:30 am Bible Study— Rectory
3:00pm Scout Meetings-Scout House
6:00pm ACTS Women Mtg.-Prinster Main Hall
6:15pm OLOG—Practice for Celebration
6:30pm Spanish Legion of Maria-Rm F
7:00pm Spanish Evangelization Team-AE St. Peter Rm.
Spanish Choir (Combined) Practice—Church
7:30pm Apostleship of the Cross— AE- St Paul
Sp. Danza- Rehkopf

Tuesday, December 8
9:30am Senior Citizens Bingo-Scout House
3:00pm Scouting— Scout House
Parishioner Assistance Ministry in Rectory
6:00pm ESL-STM school
7:00pm Danza Tonantzín in Rehkopf
8:00pm Knights of Columbus Meeting

Wednesday, December 9
3:00pm School Christmas Program-Servant Hall
4:30pm Confirmation Teens and Parents-Reflection in Church
5:00pm Our Mother of Perpetual Help Prayer Grp. Ad. Chapel
7:00pm Confirmation Teens and Parents-Reflection in Church
7:30pm Word of Truth Bible Study— AE St. Peter Rm.
Apostleship of the Cross – AE St Paul
8:00pm Precious Blood Prayer Group-Donovan’s Den

Thursday, December 10
9:15am Altar Society-Church
3:00pm Scouts– Scout House
4:00pm Our Lady of Guadalupe-Prinster Hall
5:00pm Combined Choir Practice—Church
ESL— School
7:00pm Our Lady of Guadalupe Festivities-Gym & Church
7:30pm Word of Truth Bible Study— AE St. Peter Rm.
Apostleship of the Cross – AE St Paul
11:00pm Precious Blood Prayer Group-Donovan’s Den

Friday, December 11
9:15am Altar Society-Church
3:00pm Scouts– Scout House
4:00pm Our Lady of Guadalupe-Prinster Hall
5:00pm Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival—Church
6:00pm Our Lady of Guadalupe Festivities-Gym & Church
6:15pm Overeaters Anon. – AE St. Peter
11:00am Our Lady of Guadalupe Festivities-Gym & Servant Hall

Saturday, December 12
8:00am Daily Mass
8:30am Anointing of the Sick Service — English and Spanish
10:00am Spanish Evangelization Team-AE St. Paul
12:00pm Spanish Legion of Mary—Scout House
6:00pm STreaMliners Christmas Party—Servant Hall
7:30pm Danza Tonantzín Rosary-Rehkopf Gym
Dec. 12, Sat.  STreamliners’ Christmas Party– 6:30p.m.  
In Servant Hall
Come and enjoy a wonderful Turkey Dinner with all the trims.
Paid Members are free. Guest are $15.00 pp
Entertainment: “4th Degree Band” Lawrence, Mario & Tony
Don’t forget your donation to our Christmas Charity “The
100 Club” Make checks to ST. Thomas More
Call Joyce Coles for more info @ 713-774-2628

Dec. 16. WED.: Christmas Lights / Yellowstone / Paddlewheeler Dinner Cruise 
On the San Bernard River.  Bus Leaves at 3:30pm

OPEN TO ALL-PRINCESS EASTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE- MAR.6-13, 2016
HOUSTON-KEY WEST-FREEPORT--PRINCESSCAYS-HOUSTON  $1356.00 inside cabin PP DBL / $1586.00 outside cabin PP DBL Need names now $50.00 deposit
SPACE LIMITED CALL ED LANDRY @713 723 2035

Streamliners’ trips are open to all of STM’s families and friends!!!!!!! For info: call Ed’s Tours at 713-723-2035

Compulsive eating is an illness...but There is a Solution!
For more information on compulsive eating and the 12-step program of recovery: Overeaters Anonymous meets on Fridays @ 6.30 p.m. in the Adult Education Building adjacent to the parish office. Contact Sarah Tighe @ (832)801-3998 or email @ ssarahtighe@yahoo.ie if you have any questions.

ATTENTION: FOR POSTING ANNOUNCEMENTS PLEASE SEND COMPLETE INFORMATION TO:
bulletin@stmhouston.org DEADLINE MONDAY 12:00 NOON
AVISO: PARA PUBLICAR ANUNCIOS FAVOR DE ENVÍAR SU INFORMACIÓN COMPLETA AL:
bulletin@stmhouston.org ANTES DEL LUNES AL MEDIODÍA

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