FR. HAI’S CORNER

The Epiphany of the Lord
“And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)

Today we celebrate the revelation of God to humanity in the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus was a man of the people. That’s why people called him a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners. As a man of people Jesus even touched the untouchable and allowed the untouchable touching him. As a man of the people Jesus reached out to all – rich and poor alike. But, as man of people Jesus concentrated most on those who really needed him most, the sinners.

“For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost”(Luke 19:10). This the ideal of going after the lost sheep and ministering to all people espoused by pope Francis, who once famously urged bishops and priests to be shepherds, living with the smell of the sheep.

Prayer for the Jubilee “Year of Mercy”

Lord Jesus Christ,
You have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief. Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: “If you knew the gift of God!” You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his omnipotence above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God. Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with His anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace.

EL RINCON DEL PADRE HAI

La Epifanía del Señor
“Y el Verbo se hizo carne, puso su tienda entre nosotros, y hemos visto su Gloria: la Gloria que recibe del Padre él Hijo único; en el todo era don amoroso y verdad.” (Juan 1:14)

Hoy celebramos la revelación de Dios a la humanidad en la persona de Jesucristo. Jesús fue un hombre del pueblo. Es por eso que la gente lo llamaba un glotón y un borracho, amigo de publicanos y pecadores. Como hombre de pueblo Jesús incluso tocó lo intocable y permitió le tocaran los intocables. Como hombre entre la gente Jesús extendió la mano a todos - ricos y pobres por igual. Pero, como hombre del pueblo Jesús se concentra en la mayor parte de aquellos que realmente lo necesitaban más, los pecadores. "Porque el Hijo del Hombre ha venido a buscar y a salvar lo que estaba perdido" (Lucas 19:10). Este es el ideal expresado por el Papa Francisco el de ir tras la oveja perdida y de ministrar a todas las personas, y quien a su vez también urgió a los obispos y sacerdotes para ser pastores, que viven con el olor de las ovejas.

Oración para el Jubileo del “Año de la Misericordia”

Señor Jesucristo,
Tú nos has enseñado a ser misericordiosos como el Padre del cielo, y nos has dicho que quien te ve, lo ve también a Él. Muéstranos tu rostro y obtendremos la salvación. Tu mirada llena de amor liberó a Zaqueo y a Mateo de la esclavitud del dinero; a la adúltera y a la Magdalena del buscar la felicidad solamente en una criatura; hizo llorar a Pedro luego de la traición, y aseguró el Paraíso al ladrón arrepentido. Haz que cada uno de nosotros escuche como propia la palabra que dijiste a la samaritana: ¡Si conocieras el don de Dios! Tú eres el rostro visible del Padre invisible, del Dios que manifiesta su omnipotencia sobre todo con el perdón y la misericordia: haz que, en el mundo, la Iglesia sea el rostro visible de Ti, su Señor, resucitado y glorioso. Tú has querido que también tus ministros fueran revestidos de debilidad para que sientan sincera...
**Community Corner**

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

**Baptism Information**

Next Baptism Preparation Class (English): January 16, 2016
Adult Education Building, St Peter Room; 8:45am-12:00pm

**Marriage Preparations**

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

**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.

**Welcome to the 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](http://www.stmhouston.org).

**Anointing of the sick**

This Sacrament is offered bilingual on Saturdays after the 8:00am Mass.

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**El Rincon de la Comunidad**

**Guardería**

No hay guardería disponible para las misas de 1pm o 7pm

**Información de bautismos**

Próxima Clase para preparación Bautismal será el 16 de Enero del 2016 en El Salón Prinster de 9:45am-1:00pm. Para más información, favor de llamar a la oficina de Educación Religiosa.

**Convalidaciones—desea usted casarse por la iglesia**

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

**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](http://www.stmhouston.org).

**Unción de los enfermos**

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

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**MASS INTENTIONS / INTENCIONES DE LA MISA**

**Monday /Lunes 01-04-2016**

6:30am  Grace Riley-Health
5:30pm  †Madelyn & Leon Oliva

**Tuesday/ Martes 01-05-2016**

6:30am  †Joe Peters
5:30pm  †Eva Roche

**Wednesday/ Miercoles 01-06-2016**

6:30am  †Daris Casserly
5:30pm  †Theresa Roy

**Thursday/ Jueves 01-07-2016**

6:30am  Fr. Hai-Special Intention
5:30pm  †William Harrell
7:30pm  Margaret Schueler-Birthday Intention
8:15am  Marguerita Collins-McIntosh; Niyyah Boxie; Shadow; Leti Rose & Isabel Ley (STMS volunteers)

**Friday/ Viernes 01-08-2016**

6:30am  †Josephine LeDay
5:30pm  †Wilma Prejean la Fleur
11:00am  †SFC Paul Bergman

**Saturday/ Sabado 01-09-2016**

8:00am  †James Bunner
7:30pm  †Rev. Gerald Cullen
5:00pm +Theresa Dianna & Anthony Louis

**Sunday/ Domingo 01-10-2016**

7:30am  †Billie Tomlinson-Birthday Intention
9:00am  +Aaron Yang
11:00am  †John R. Womack
1:00pm  †Rodolfo Villabona
5:00pm  †Theresa Flaherty
7:00pm  †Jan Tennert
7:00pm  All Souls in Purgatory

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

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**MESSAGE FROM PARISH ADMINISTRATION**

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

Favor de continuar orando por Auntin Tice para su pronto retorno.
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22--4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/ Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19--5:4/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30

LA EPIFANÍA DEL SEÑOR

Levantate, Jerusalen, envuelta en resplandor, porque ha llegado tu luz y la Gloria del Señor brilla sobre ti (Isaías 60:1-6).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA
Lunes: 1 Jn 3:22--4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Martes: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mc 6:34-44
Miércoles: 1 Jn 4:11-18/ Mk 6:45-52
Jueves: 1 Jn 4:19--5:4/Lc 4:14-22a
Viernes: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lc 5:12-16
Sábado: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30

Equip us, O God, to be the light and salt of the world during this New Year. The Parish Vocations Committee

ATTENTION CCE PARENTS / ATENCION PADRES CON HIJOS EN LA DOCTRINA:

CCE CLASSES RESUME ON SUNDAY JANUARY, 10 2016
CLASES DE CATECISMO REANUDAN EL DOMINGO 10 DE ENERO, 2016
HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION CLASSES RESUME WEDNEDAY JANUARY 13, 2016 AT 7PM
CONFIRMACION DE JOVENES REANUDAN EL MIERCOLES 13 DE ENERO, 2016 A LAS 7PM

Financial Stewardship (12/25/15)
Christmas Collection
Actual Collection/Colecta Actual $ 26,465.08

Financial Stewardship (12/27/15)
Actual Collection/Colecta Actual $ 36,387.08
Budgeted Amount/ Presupuesto $ 35,200.00
Over (+)/Under(-) $ 1,187.08

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

Adult Confirmation Classes
Are you 18 years or older and have not yet been confirmed? Are you interested in preparation classes to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?
There will be an Adult Confirmation Information Meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the Adult Ed. Building St. Peter Room.
For more information, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you,
Deacon David Johnson

Religious Education

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!

Horas para cubrir en nuestra Adoración Eucarística: Se necesita un adorador permanente para cubrir los domingos de 1-2 a.m.
La capilla permanece abierta 24 horas al día gracias al compromiso de aquellos que toman una hora Santa semanal. Para obtener más información pongase en contacto con Fermin Bravo 832-869-7488 o meygod7@gmail.com. ¡Por favor haga el compromiso!

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Danos los necesario, O Dios, para ser la luz y la sal del mundo durante este Año Nuevo.
Comite de Vocaciones Parroquial
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
LA EPIFANÍA DEL SEÑOR

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 fee of $240.00 includes, 3 nights lodging, all meals, supplies, resources and transportation from STM
• 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

A Note of Thanks!
I would like to thank each of you who prayed for me during my surgery, hospitalization and recovery. God has truly blessed me through your prayers! I would also, like to thank the STM meals ministry who have provided meals for me since my discharge for the hospital. You all have a very special gift and I sincerely thank you for sharing it with me. I still have a way to go in my recovery and your continued prayers are appreciated. STM is truly a family of families!

With gratitude,
Kathi Gino

Good Samaritans of STM
Thank you to all Good Samaritans for your help and dedication in making our ministry successful whenever a funeral reception is needed. You are greatly appreciated. If you are interested in helping our ministry this new year, please contact the parish office.

May God bless you and yours in this coming New Year.

Love and prayers,
Gerry Steiner

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2016 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest. The competition will take place on Jan. 17th at 1 PM in the Gym. Winners will progress through local district and state competitions. International champions are announced by the Knights of Columbus headquarters based upon scores from the state-level competitions. All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in this event. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. For entry forms or additional information contact: Mike Wark, phone – 713-988-1609.

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Te invitamos a participar a los Talleres de Oración y Vida, del Padre Ignacio Larrañaga. TOV (Talleres de Oración y Vida) son un servicio para aprender y profundizar en el arte de orar. Este aprendizaje tiene un carácter eminentemente experimental, como un taller: orando se aprende a orar. Se aprende a entrar en la relación personal con el Señor, con variadas modalidades, desde los primeros pasos hasta las alturas de la contemplación. Orar, además de gracia, en cuanto actividad humana es también arte, por eso la organización del Taller contiene y ofrece una pedagogía progresiva, un carácter metódico y mucha disciplina.

¿Resultados? Amigos y discípulos del Señor

Para mayor información comuníquese con Gerardo o Maria Elena Vazquez 832-493-1749 o 713-943-0819 Darán inicio en Enero 19 del 2016 de 7:00pm a 9:00pm
This week around STM…

Sunday, January 3, 2016 “Epiphany of the Lord”
2:30pm  Baptisms—English

Monday, January 4
9:30am  Bible Study-Rectory
3:00pm  Scouting-Scout House
6:00pm  ACTS Woman’s– Prinster Hall
6:30pm  Praise and Worship-Church
7:00pm  Spanish Evangelization -AE St. Peter Rm
7:30pm  Apostleship of the Cross-AE-St. Paul Rm

Tuesday, January 5
9:45am  Bridge Club-Donovan’s Den
3:00pm  Scouting– Scout House
4:00pm  Hoop’n on Hillcroft-Rehkopf Gym
7:00pm  K of C District Meeting-Prinster Hall

Wednesday, January 6
3:00pm  Scouting-Scout House
4:00pm  Hoop’n on Hillcroft-Rehkopf Gym
6:00pm  PTO-Youth Media Room
7:00pm  Our Mother of Perpetual Help Prayer Grp– Chapel
        K of C Officers-Prinster Hall; Room F
        Respect Life-Rectory
        R.C.I.A.(Spanish)-Youth Prayer Room
7:30pm  Legion of Mary– AE-St. Paul Rm.

Thursday, January 7
3:00pm  Scouting– Scout House
4:00pm  Hoop’n on Hillcroft-Rehkopf Gym
6:30pm  Gabriel Project-Rectory
        Bill Ledbetter(Band Pract.)-Donovan’s Den
7:00pm  K of C Golf Meeting-Prinster Hall;Room F
        Combined Choir Practice—Church
7:30pm  Apostleship of the Cross-AE St. Paul Rm
        Word of Truth Bible Study-AE St.Peter Rm

Friday, January 8
3:00pm  Scouting-Scout House
4:00pm  Hoop’n on Hillcroft-Rehkopf Gym
5:00pm  K of C Fish Fry-Prinster Hall
6:30pm  Overeaters Anonymous-AE St. Peter Rm
7:00pm  Spanish Choir (7 pm)-AE St. Mary Rm.

Saturday, January 9
7:30am  Hoop’n on Hillcroft-Rehkopf Gym
8:00am  Daily Mass
8:30am  Anointing of the Sick (BILINGUAL)
9:00am  ACTS for Women-Servant Hall
10:00am  STreaMliners in Prinster Hall
        Spn. Evangelization Team-AE St. Paul
12:00pm  Spn. Legion of Mary (Scout House)
5:00pm  Danza Tonantzin in Rehkopf Gym

Meet the STM Devoted Staff

Megan Morfessis is a 3rd grade teacher at St. Thomas More Parish School. She has a Bachelor of Arts from Saint Mary’s College at Notre Dame in Elementary Education and a Minor in Mild Intervention. She has a Master of Education from Towson University in Early Childhood Education. She has been teaching for 5 years. She was born in Bryan, Texas and moved away to the East Coast as a child. Her family recently all relocated back to their roots in Texas. She and her husband moved from Rockville, Maryland last year. They are both enjoying their new lives here in Texas and could not be happier. Her interests are gardening and cooking. Mrs. Morfessis says “I love teaching at STM because everyone here is like my extended family. I am greeted every day with smiles and warm welcomes. It has been a pleasure to teach 3rd grade at St. Thomas More.”

Conozca al Personal Devoto de STM

Megan Morfessis es maestra de 3er grado en la escuela St. Thomas More. Tiene una Licenciatura de Artes en Educación Primaria de St. Mary’s College en Notre Dame y una Licenciatura Menor en Intervención Académica. También tiene una Maestría en Educación Temprana de la Universidad de Towson. La Sra. Morfessis ha sido maestra por 5 años. Nació en Bryan, Texas y creció en la costa del este. Toda su familia recientemente regresó a sus raíces en Texas. Ella y su esposo se mudaron a Houston de Rockville, Maryland el año pasado. Sus intereses son la jardinería y la cocina. La Señora Morfessis dice: “Me encanta trabajar en STM porque aquí todos son como familia. Todos los días me saludan con una sonrisa. Es un placer poder enseñar tercer grado en St. Thomas More.”
STreaMliners’- 2016
****************************************************
Jan. 09, Sat. STreaMliners’ Meeting – 10:00a.m. in Prinster Hall
Adults over 50 only!!!!
$15 dues are due for 2016
Entertainment: Executive Director for Better Business Bureau
*****Don’t forget to bring can goods for the STM Pantry!!
Your toiletries for the LBJ Charity Hospital
Don’t forget your donation to our Christmas Charity “The 100 Club” Make out checks to ST.Thomas More
Call Joyce Coles for more info @ 713-774-2628
****************************************************
Jan. 18, Thurs. - Natural Museum of History – $10.00pp
Lunch on your own at Cleburne’s Cafeteria
Call Jane Falk for more info @ 713-729-2592
Bus leaves at 9am from the rear parking area near Prinster Hall
Jan. 21, Thurs. - Coushatta Casino in Kinder, LA -“Day Trip” $15pp pp (includes $10.00 Freeplay)
Coffee, Donuts & Hot Kolaches at 6:30am Bus leaves at 7:00am from the rear parking area near Prinster Hall. Returns abt. 7:00pm
Streamliners’ trips are open to all of STM’s families and friends!!!!!!! For info call Ed’s Tours – 713-723-2035
****************************************************
Come to play Bridge and enjoy Fellowship! Tuesday, January 5, at 9:45 am! All card players welcome to join us in Donovan’s Den for a day of bridge; bring $1.00 and lunch, drinks and snacks provided. The fun starts at 9:45 am, so don’t be late!

Please patronize our advertisers. It is through their support that our bulletin is provided