TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
St. Thomas More Catholic Church
Archdiocese of Galveston—Houston

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church
10330 Hillcroft St. | Houston, TX 77096 | (713) 729-0221
www.stmhoustont.org
Parish Office

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church
10330 Hillcroft St.
Houston, TX 77096
(713) 729-0221
(713) 729-3294 fax
www.stmhouston.org

Parish Office Hours
Monday to Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Closed from 12:00-1:00 p.m. for lunch)

Clergy
Rev. Clark Sample, Parochial Administrator
Rev. Joseph Methanath, O.S.H., Parochial Vicar
Rev. Micheal Carmody, In Residence
Rev. Binny Philip, In Residence
Deacon David Johnson
Deacon John Krugh

Parish Staff
John P. Chambers, Jr., Pastoral Associate
Eloise Starr, Secretary
Rosio Contreras, Receptionist
Rogelio Mendoza, Bookkeeper
Gabriel Villarreal, Maintenance

RELIIGIOUS EDUCATION
Deacon David Johnson, Director
Mary-Therese Hafernik, Confirmation

Office of Music:
Sabrina Nguyen, Ed.D., Director, (713) 980-3111
Organist Jian Guang Shi, (713) 988-9829
Arturo Lider, Jr. & Melissa Martinez, Spanish (1:00 p.m.)
Rogelio Mendoza, Spanish (7:00 p.m.)

Parish School

Saint Thomas More Catholic School
5927 Wigton Drive
Houston, TX 77096
(713) 729-3434
(713) 721-5644 fax
www.stthomasmoreschool.org

School Office Hours
Monday to Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Staff
Kristen Thome, Principal
Nina Coltharp, Director of Preschool
Kathleen Prado, Director of Advancement
Judy Gentempo, Admissions
Noel Novak, Dean of Students
Linda Fox, Business Manager
Mary Heard, Secretary
Rebeka Zepeda, Nurse
Andrea Osborne, School Counselor

Parish Ministries

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)
Deacon John Krugh, Director

Respect Life Committee
Marianne Kahlich, Director

Building and Grounds Committee
Vince Stasio, Chairman

Mass and Confession Schedule

**Weekday Mass**
*Misa Entre Semana*

**Monday – Friday**
6:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Saturday
8:00 a.m.

**Confession**
*Confesiones*

**Tuesday • Martes**
6:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday • Miércoles**
6:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday • Sábado**
3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

**Weekend Masses**
*Misas del Fin de Semana*

**Saturday • Sábado**
5:00 p.m.

**Sunday • Domingo**
7:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
1:00 p.m. (español)
5:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m. (español)
Dear Friends in Christ,

We read in scripture, “God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them” (Genesis 1:27). Out of all the great things God has created, He has created human beings in a unique and special way that distinguishes us from the rest of creation. We are the only creature that has been "stamped" with God’s image and likeness, and we are the only creature that can know God. This truth is why the Bible consistently emphasizes the love of God and love of our neighbor. In the Ten Commandments, the first three commandments instruct us on how to properly respect God; the last seven commandments instruct us on how to properly respect our neighbor. Jesus summarizes the commandments and tells us, “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments” (Matthew 22:36-40).

As Catholics, we are not strangers to these scriptural teachings. We believe that every human being is created in the image and likeness of God and, therefore, human life is sacred from conception to natural death. As people living in the United States, we are reminded that the founders of this country believed in these self-evident truths: “That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness” (The Declaration of Independence). As Catholics living in the United States, we should recognize the dissonance between these ideals for respecting life and the current situation of our culture’s disregard for life. There is a lack of respect for the unborn, the dying, the elderly, the vulnerable, the imprisoned, the poor and the immigrant. We have confused our principles. We overvalue the pursuit of happiness at the cost of life and liberty.

In the United States, the Catholic Church observes the month of October as Respect for Life Month. Our bishops remind us of the truth that all human life is sacred, and they call all of us to recommit ourselves to respect human life at every stage and in every circumstance. Pope St. John Paul II once wrote, “Together we may offer this world of ours new signs of hope, and work to ensure that justice and solidarity will increase and that a new culture of human life will be affirmed, for the building of an authentic civilization of truth and love” (Evangelium vitae 6). This month, I encourage you to reflect on our principles and think about what you can do to help the respect of human life in our culture. If we are going to change anything in the world, we should always start with ourselves.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Clark
**Weekly Readings**

**Readings for the Week of October 6, 2019**

**Sunday**
Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10

**Monday**
Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary  
Jon 1:1—2:1-2, 11; Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8; Lk 10:25-37

**Tuesday**
Ps 130:1b-2, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 9-10; Lk 10:38-42

**Wednesday**  
Saints Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs; Saint John Leonardi, Priest  
Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4

**Thursday**
Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 11:5-13

**Friday**
Saint John XXIII, Pope  
Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9; Lk 11:15-26

**Saturday**
Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lk 11:27-28

**Sunday**
Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
2 Kgs 5:14-17; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4; 2 Tm 2:8-13; Lk 17:11-19

**Lecturas Semanales**

**Lecturas por la Semana del 6 de Octubre de 2019**

**Domino**
Vigésimo séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario  
Hab 1, 2-3; 2, 2-4; Sal 94, 1-2, 6-7, 8-9; 2 Tm 1, 6-8; 13-14; Lc 17, 5-10

**Lunes**
Memoria de Nuestra Señora del Rosario  
Jon 1, 1-2, 1, 11; Jon 2, 3, 4, 5, 8; Lc 10, 25-37

**Martes**
Jon 3, 1-10; Sal 129, 1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8; Lc 10, 38-42

**Miércoles**
San Dionisio, Obispo, y Compañeros, Mártires; San Juan Leonardi, Presbitero  
Jon 4, 1-11; Sal 85, 3-4, 5-6, 9-10; Lc 11, 1-4

**Jueves**
Mal 3, 13-20; Sal 1, 1-2, 3. 4 y 6; Lc 11, 5-13

**Viernes**
San Juan XXIII, Papa  
Jl 1, 13-15; 2, 1-2; Sal 9, 2-3. 6 y 16, 8-9; Lc 11, 15-26

**Sábado**
Jl 4, 12-21; Sal 96, 1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lc 11, 27-28

**Domingo**
Vigésimoctavo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario  
2 Rey 5, 14-17; Sal 97, 1, 2-3ab. 3cd-4; 2 Tm 2, 8-13; Lc 17, 11-19

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**Key Pick Up**

Keys need to be picked up for meetings and events during parish office hours. Keys will not be available for pick up outside the parish office hours. Keys can be dropped off after your meeting through the key slot after hours or during business hours. Thank you.
St. Thomas More Catholic Church

Upcoming Events

Sunday, October 6
7:00 am SVDP Food Drive-Plaza
8:30 am Religious Articles Sale-Servant Hall
8:30 am Coffee & Donuts-Servant Hall
9:00 am CCE Parents-Youth Prayer Room
9:30 am RCIA (English)-Donovan’s Den
10:00 am Sanct Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room
11:00 am CCE Parents Spanish-Youth Media Room
4:00 pm Contem Choir Rehearsal-Church
6:00 pm Spanish Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room
6:00 pm Youth Group, Youth Center & New Gym

Monday, October 7
7:00 am Parish School, School
5:30 pm SVDP Meeting-Rectory Conference Room
6:00 pm Cub Scout Tiger/Lion Den Meeting-Scout House
7:00 pm Boy Scouts- Scout Rosary-Church
7:00 pm Apostolado de la Cruz-Youth Prayer Room
7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 99 Meeting-Scout House
7:30 pm Danza Tonantzin Dance Practice-Rehkopf Gym

Tuesday, October 8
9:30 am Senior Citizen Bingo-Scout House
3:30 pm Girl Scout Troop 147118 Meeting-Donovan’s Den
5:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 147062 Meeting-Scout House
6:00 pm TDOV Meeting-Youth Center
7:00 pm ESL(English as a Second Language)-School Building
7:30 pm Sounds of Faith Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

Wednesday, October 9
6:00 pm Confessions / Confesiones, Church
7:00 pm Spanish Choir Rehearsal-Church
7:00 pm Confirmation 1 Class-Servant Hall
7:00 pm Confirmation 2 Class-Servant Hall
7:00 pm Our Lady of Perpetual Help Prayer Group-Adore Chapel
7:00 pm RCIA(Spanish)-Youth Center
7:30 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting-Prinster Hall
7:30 pm Legion of Mary-Donovan’s Den Loft
7:30 pm RCIA Inquiry (English)-Donovan’s Den

Thursday, October 10
7:00 pm ESL(English as a Second Language)-School Building
7:30 pm Sanct Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room
11:00 pm Precious Blood Group-Adoration Chapel

Friday, October 11
10:30 am Bible Study, Youth Prayer Room
3:30 pm STM School After School Program-Rehkopf Gym
5:00 pm Legion of Mary (Spanish)-Donovan’s Den
7:30 pm Danza Tonantzin Dance Practice-Rehkopf Gym

Saturday, October 12
8:00 am Mass-Church
9:30 am Altar Server Training English-Church
10:00 am STreaMiners-Prinster Hall
1:30 pm Girl Scouts Meeting-Prinster Hall
3:30 pm Confessions / Confesiones-Church
4:00 pm Sounds of Faith Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room
5:00 pm Vigil Mass-Church
6:00 pm STM School Homecoming Dance-Rehkopf Gym

Sunday, October 13
9:00 am CCE Parents-Youth Prayer Room
9:30 am RCIA (English)-Donovan’s Den
10:00 am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room
11:00 am CCE Parents Spanish-Youth Media Room
3:00 pm Respect Life Rosary-Servant Hall
4:00 pm Contemporary Choir Rehearsal-Church
4:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 21012 Meeting- Scout House
6:00 pm Spanish Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

Stewardship

Please consider increasing your financial Stewardship to the parish. How much do you spend on your cell phone or cable bill vs. how much you donate to the Church? Your contribution is directly tied to our operating expenses. Even Mass has expenses for lighting, AC, music... we even have expenses for bread and wine.

Upcoming Special Collections

Archdiocese for Military Services
October 6, 2019

Propagation of the Faith Collection
October 20, 2019

Retired Priests Collection
November 10, 2019

Parish Goal: $193,000.00
Total Amount Paid: $70,669.80
Total Amount Pledged: $89,398.15
Total Number of Participant: 240
Total Number of Households: 4412
Average Participant Pledge: 372.49
Paid Over (Under) Goal: ($122,330.20)
Pledged Over (Under) Goal: ($103.601.85)
Percent Paid: 36.62%

Online Giving

The parish website has instructions on how to register for convenient on-line giving. You will have full control of your contribution account and scheduling. Visit our homepage for details and registration.

WWW.STMHOUSTON.ORG
Religious Education (CCE)

CCE Classes
Contact: Deacon David Johnson
deacondave@stmhouston.org
(713) 729-3435

All classes are held in the School
English Session 9:00 am to 10:30 am and
Spanish Session 11:00 am to 12:30 pm

Teen Confirmation
CLASSES BEGIN
Wednesday, October 2, 2019
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

** First meeting on October 2nd will assemble in Servant Hall for both Confirmation I and II **

Confirmation I
Meets in the Upstairs Youth Media Center
Wednesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Confirmation II
Meets in the School Building
Wednesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Adult Confirmation
Meets in the RE Building - Upstairs Prayer Room
Wednesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Bible Study
Sunday Bible Class for Parents and Parishioners are available on Sundays during the CCE sessions in the Upstairs RE Building Prayer Room.
Sunday, October 20, 2019
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

DID YOU KNOW it takes hundreds of volunteers to run Oktoberfest. Listed below are some of the parish organizations/groups who make Oktoberfest not only possible, but successful...

- Boy Scouts
- Cub Scouts
- Filipino Community
- Girl Scouts
- Knights of Columbus
- Nigerian Catholic Women’s Organization
- RCIA
- Spanish Ministry
- STM Alumni and Family
- STM Faculty and Staff
- STM Students and Parents

We are always in need of additional volunteers. Please consider volunteering a couple of hours at Oktoberfest. We promise...you will meet the nicest people. Email Kathy Prado at kprado@stmorenews.com for more information on how to volunteer.

YOU MIGHT ASK...WHAT IS OKTOBERFEST? Oktoberfest is a day of fun and fellowship. While at Oktoberfest stop by one of our many food booths and eat lunch. Try to win a prize at one of our game booths. Too hot outside...take a break inside and play BINGO. Take your BINGO winnings and check out our Rummage Sale. Before you leave, make sure you purchase some raffle tickets!!!

Make plans to spend the entire day!!!
Parish Ministries

Building and Grounds Committee

If you are interested in using your talents to help the maintenance of the parish properties and grounds, please contact Vince Stasio for more details at vcstasio@gmail.com

STreaMliners’

Second Saturday of the month on Oct 12th STreaMliners’ Mtg 10:00am in we are back in Prinster Hall. Adults 50 and over!!!!!

Note: We will begin collecting for the Christmas Dinner Party for members on Saturday, December 14th, 6:30pm to 9:00pm in Servant Hall. Members $10pp and Guests $25pp.

Entertainment: String Quartet, “VIRTUOSI”

Don’t forget to bring food for STM Food Pantry and toiletries for LBJ Charity Hospital

Note: we are collecting dues for 2019

Friday, October 25th - Coushatta Casino w/ Frances Landry. 1st Class Bus Coach – $25 pp cash includes ($10 food voucher) Coffee, Donuts at 6:30am. Must have 40 people. Bus leaves sharply at 7:00am from the rear parking area near Prinster Hall. Returns abt. 7:30pm. STM parishioners and friends are invited to join us! Call Frances Landry at (713) 723-2035

Bus leaves sharply at 7:00am from the rear parking area near Prinster Hall.

Tuesday, October 29th - Sea Center Texas in Lake Jackson, TX. Aquarium and a guided tour of the Marian Hatchery. Lunch on your own at Red Snapper Inn. Bus leaves sharply at 7:00am from the rear parking area near Prinster Hall. For more info, Call Joyce Coles at (713) 774-2628

Email: jcoles8433@sbcglobal.net

Knights of Columbus Southwest Council #3910

Meetings are held the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from 7:30 - 9:00 pm in Prinster Hall.

If you’re interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith or obtaining exclusive access to top-rated insurance protection for your family, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you.

Southwest Council 3910 will conduct a membership drive after each Mass on Saturday, October 5, 2019 and Sunday, October 6, 2019. Please consider joining our council. For more information, visit www.kofc.org or www.kc3910.org or contact Membership Director Reynolds Contreras at (713) 417-6180.

Respect Life Committee

Each human being is a precious gift from God, worthy of respect, protection, and life from conception to natural death. To help defend the most vulnerable of lives, by prayer and action, please consider joining the STM Respect Life Committee.

The committee meets monthly for prayer, quarterly for planning meetings, sponsors parish pro-life activities and participates in archdiocesan events. For more information please contact Marianne Kahlich at hekahlich@aol.com or (713) 728-4955

Prayer Shawl Ministry

For more information, visit: www.stmhouston.org or contact Margaret Schueler at (713) 666-1311 or via email at meschueler2@gmail.com

For more information, visit: www.stmhouston.org or contact Margaret Schueler at (713) 666-1311 or via email at meschueler2@gmail.com
New Altar Server Training for Students in 5th - 10th Grades

Students who are baptized, received their First Communion, and are attending weekend Masses regularly are invited to be altar servers for their St. Thomas More Church Family.

Training will be on Saturday, October 12th at 9:00 a.m. in the church (following the 8:00 a.m. Mass). A parent needs to attend with the student.

PARENTS if you and your child agree to participate in training to be an altar server at St. Thomas More, please send your name, your child's name and grade to stm.altar.server@gmail.com so we are prepared for the correct number of students. E-mail any questions to stm.altar.server@gmail.com

NEW SERVERS can study the vocabulary terms and review attentional study material by visiting the church’s homepage at stmhouston.org and look for the link titled “Altar Server Training.”

Vincentian Reflection: "Jesus came to Nazareth where he had been reared, and entering the synagogue on the sabbath as he was in the habit of doing, he stood up to do the reading...." Vincent makes a clear explicit choice: All aim at loving him, but they love him in different ways: Carthusians by solitude; Capuchins by poverty; others, again, by singing his praises. But we are bound to show it by leading the people to love God and their neighbor. The vision Vincent offers is not one of Christ as teacher, nor as healer, nor as “perfect adorer of the Father” (the vision of Berulle), nor “perfect image of the divinity” (the vision of Francis de Sales), but of Evangelizer of the poor. Vincent’s disciples are called to enter into the following of Christ in the very terms with which, in Luke’s gospel, Jesus opens his public ministry: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; therefore he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring glad tidings of joy to the poor....” In Luke’s perspective, a new age is dawning. Jesus announces the good news of the kingdom to all, but especially to the poor, the weak, the lowly, the outcasts of the world. St. Vincent’s spirituality flows from his contemplation of this Christ. The driving force that generates both the incredible activity and the gentle contemplation of this great saint is his vision of the Evangelizer of the Poor. He encourages his followers to contemplate this Christ again and again. “O how happy they will be who can repeat at the hour of their death those beautiful words of Our Lord: ‘He sent me to bring good news to the poor.’”

ACTS Retreat Ministry Potluck and Information Night

If you have made an ACTS retreat with any parish, you are invited to come to a potluck social on Saturday, October 26, 2019 in Servant Hall at 6:30 pm. Share fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ and learn about our next steps in continuing the ACTS Retreat Ministry at STM. A representative from the Houston Chapter of ACTS Missions will present information about creating a Formation Team and going forward with Men's and Women's retreats.

For more information, contact Marlene Wark at 281-796-1561 or marlene.wark@gmail.com.

Religious articles will be sold in Servant Hall after the morning Masses on

This Sunday, October 6, 2019

This is a perfect opportunity to buy gifts or to stock up your personal inventory.
**How to Pray the Rosary**

The Rosary is a Scripture-based prayer. It begins with the *Apostles’ Creed*, which summarizes the great mysteries of the Catholic faith. The *Our Father*, which introduces each mystery, is from the Gospels. The first part of the *Hail Mary* is the angel’s words announcing Christ’s birth and Elizabeth’s greeting to Mary. St. Pius V officially added the second part of the *Hail Mary*. The Mysteries of the Rosary center on the events of Christ’s life. There are four sets of Mysteries:

**Joyful**: Annunciation, Visitation, Nativity, Presentation in the Temple, Finding in the Temple

**Sorrowful**: Agony in the Garden, Scourging at the Pillar, Crowning with Thorns, Carrying of the Cross, Crucifixion and Death

**Glorious**: Resurrection, Ascension, Descent of the Holy Spirit, Assumption, Coronation of Mary

**Luminous**: Baptism of Jesus, Wedding Feast at Cana, Jesus’ Proclamation of the Kingdom, Transfiguration, Institution of the Eucharist.

The repetition in the Rosary is meant to lead one into restful and contemplative prayer related to each Mystery. The gentle repetition of the words helps us to enter into the silence of our hearts, where Christ’s spirit dwells. The Rosary can be said privately or with a group.

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**Bulletin Sponsorships**

We are looking for sponsors for our weekly bulletin. If you have a bulletin. If you have a business, we invite you to advertise in our weekly bulletin. Or, if you have a loved one who passed away, you can put an “In Loving Memory.” For more information, please call Fred Barrera at (323) 646-7735 or via email at fbarrera@diocesan.com

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**Patrocinio de boletines**

Estamos buscando patrocinadores para nuestro boletín semanal. Si tienes un boletín. Si tienes un negocio, lo invitamos a anunciarlo en nuestro boletín semanal. O, si tiene un ser querido que falleció, puede poner un "En memoria amorosa". Para obtener más información, llame a Fred Barrera al (323) 646-7735 o por correo electrónico a fbarrera@diocesan.com
ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please call the parish office to make an appointment with a priest.

INFANT BAPTISM and CLASSES (0 months - 6 years old):
Baptismal Class for parents interested in having their infant (or child) baptized is offered every third Saturday of the month. English classes meet at 9:00 a.m. in the RE Building Upstairs Media Room and Spanish classes meet at 10:00 a.m. in the RE Building Upstairs Prayer Room.

Attendance is required of both parents and godparents. St. Thomas More ONLY accepts active registered members of the parish, and living in zip codes 77096 and 77035. It is recommended that parents attend this prior to the arrival of their infant for the convenience of the family.

If godparents are married, they must be married by the Catholic Church and bring proof. Single godparents must have received all three (3) sacraments and bring proof. Pre-registration is required, please contact the parish office for the English class at (713) 729-0221.

MARRIAGE PREPARATIONS:
Engaged couples, please contact the parish office at 713-729-0221 for more information at least 6 months to a year ahead of the wedding.

FUNERALS:
In the event of the death of a loved one, call the parish office at (713) 729-0221.

VISITING THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND:
If you are unable to come to church and would like to receive Holy Communion, or if you know of anyone who is home-bound and would like to receive communion, please call the parish office at (713) 729-0221.

R.C.I.A.
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Interested in joining the Catholic Church?

This process is known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). It begins with informal questions and answer sessions. Inquiry sessions are held on Sunday mornings, 9:30 am - 11:00 am in Donovan’s Den and Wednesday evenings, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm, RCIA inquiry. For more information, contact Deacon John Krugh on Sunday or call the church office at (713) 729-0221

“DSF is a concrete way of expressing solidarity – solidarity with our youth, the incarcerated, the poor and marginalized, those discerning their vocation – that is, the members of the Body of Christ.”

Have YOU made your pledge or paid your share to the Diocesan Services Fund on behalf of St. Thomas More?

www.archgh.org/dsf
Queridos amigos en Cristo:

Leemos en las Escrituras: “Dios creó a la humanidad a su imagen; a imagen de Dios los creó; varón y hembra los creó” (Génesis 1:27). De todas las grandes cosas que Dios ha creado, ha creado a los seres humanos de una manera única y especial que nos distingue del resto de la creación. Somos los únicos que hemos sido "estampados" con la imagen y semejanza de Dios. Esta verdad es la razón por la cual la Biblia enfatiza constantemente el amor de Dios y el amor a nuestro prójimo. En los Diez Mandamientos, los primeros tres mandamientos nos instruyen sobre cómo respetar adecuadamente a Dios; Los últimos siete mandamientos nos instruyen sobre cómo respetar adecuadamente a nuestro prójimo. Jesús resume los mandamientos y nos dice: “Amarás al Señor, tu Dios, con todo tu corazón, con toda tu alma y con toda tu mente. Este es el mayor y el primer mandamiento. El segundo es así: amarás a tu prójimo como a ti mismo. Toda la ley y los profetas dependen de estos dos mandamientos” (Mateo 22: 36-40).

Como católicos, no somos ajenos a estas enseñanzas bíblicas. Creemos que todo ser humano es creado a imagen y semejanza de Dios y, por lo tanto, la vida humana es sagrada desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural. Como personas que viven en los Estados Unidos, se nos recuerda que los fundadores de este país creían en estas verdades evidentes: “Que todos los hombres son creados iguales, que su Creador les otorga ciertos Derechos inalienables, que entre ellos están la Vida, la Libertad y la búsqueda de la felicidad” (La Declaración de Independencia). Como católicos que viven en los Estados Unidos, debemos reconocer la disonancia entre estos ideales para respetar la vida y la situación actual del desprecio de nuestra cultura por la vida. Hay una falta de respeto por los no nacidos, los moribundos, los ancianos, los vulnerables, los encarcelados, los pobres y los inmigrantes. Hemos confundido nuestros principios. Sobrevaloramos la búsqueda de la felicidad a costa de la vida y la libertad.

En los Estados Unidos, la Iglesia Católica observa el mes de octubre como el Mes del Respeto a la Vida. Los obispos de los Estados Unidos nos recuerdan la verdad de que toda la vida humana es sagrada, y nos llaman a todos a comprometernos a respetar la vida humana en cada etapa y en cada circunstancia. El Papa San Juan Pablo II escribió una vez: "Juntos podemos ofrecer a este mundo nuestro nuevo signo de esperanza, y trabajar para asegurar que la justicia y la solidaridad aumenten y que se afirme una nueva cultura de la vida humana, para la construcción de una auténtica civilización de la verdad y el amor" (Evangelium vitae 6). Este mes, les animo a que reflexionen sobre nuestros principios y piensen en lo que pueden hacer para ayudar a respetar la vida humana en nuestra cultura. Si vamos a cambiar algo en el mundo, siempre debemos comenzar con nosotros mismos.

De ustedes en Cristo,

Fr. Clark
BENDICIONES PARA TRES AÑOS Y DE QUINCE AÑOS: Para que su hijo/hija reciba una Bendición o celebración de los quince años la familia del participante deben ser miembros activos de la parroquia. Para la celebración de los quince años la participante debe estar en el programa de educación religiosa de la parroquia el año de la celebración y el anterior o seguir un proceso de formación de fe, ya sea en la escuela católica o siguiendo en el Catecismo. Para mayor información contáctese al 713-729-3435.

Tengan en cuenta que las bendiciones de los domingos sea de quince años o tres años, NO SE PERMITE FOTOGRAFOS NI TOMAR FOTOS DURANTE LA MISA.

Ministerio de Comunión a los enfermos y a los confinados: Si usted no puede venir a la iglesia y desea recibir la Santa Comunión, o si sabe de alguien de nuestra comunidad en nuestra área que está enfermo y no puede salir de casa para la misa y desea recibir la comunión, por favor llame a la oficina parroquial, 713-729-0221.

Qué usar y qué no usar en Misa

Como una señal de respeto por nuestro Salvador y Redentor, es importante que preste especial atención a su vestimenta. El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica declara: “Para prepararse para una recepción digna de este sacramento, los fieles deben observar el ayuno requerido para la Iglesia. El comportamiento corporal (gestos, vestimento) debe transmitir el respeto, la solemnidad y la alegría de este momento en que Cristo se convierte en nuestro huésped”. (CCC, 1387)

Cuando entramos a la Casa de nuestro Señor para la adoración en la Santa Misa, le pedimos que se vista de manera modesta y apropiada, mostrando un respeto cristiano por los demás. Sabemos que el verano en Houston es muy caluroso. Sin embargo, los pantalones cortos que bajan hasta la rodilla son mucho más respetuosos que los pantalones de gimnasia y los zapatos o las sandalias son más reverentes que las chanclas. En general, los hombros deben estar cubiertos, los escotes del vestido o blusas deben ser apropiadamente más altas, los vestidos deben ser respectuosamente más largos hasta la rodilla. La ropa ajustada, como los jeans ajustados, los vestidos ajustados y las blusas transparentes y vestidos transparentes, acentúan las partes del cuerpo que se consideran sagrados. El vestir (ropa) que use debe encajar con la profunda reverencia de la Sagrada Eucaristía en la Casa de Dios. Recuerde que al vestirse con modestia, podemos ayudar a otros a enfocarse en la oración y menos en las tentaciones provocadas por la elección inapropiada de ropa.
RITO DE INICIACION CRISTIANA PARA ADULTOS

El Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos, conocido por la siglas (R.I.C.A.) es un proceso comunitario de formación catequética, espiritual y educativa para los adultos que buscan convertirse en miembros plenos de la Iglesia Católica Romana a través de una conversión de la mente y el corazón.

EL PROGRAMA DE R.I.C.A. ES PARA:
1. Cualquier persona que nunca ha sido bautizada.
2. Cualquier persona que ha sido bautizada en otra fe cristiana y le gustaría convertirse a la fe católica romana.
3. Cualquier persona que fue bautizado católico pero nunca recibió los sacramentos de la primera comunión y/o confirmación.
4. Cualquier católico que ha recibido todos los sacramentos pero que le gustaría profundizar en su fe asistiendo a las sesiones de R.I.C.A. Te invitamos a unirte también a esta jornada de fe.

MINISTERIO DE MANTELES DEL ALTAR:
Se necesitan Voluntarios para ayudar a lavar y planchar los manteles del altar. Si le interesa, comunicarse con la Sra. Mary Ann Jurika, mahaljurica@att.net

Sabes tú que compartes la función de Cristo como sacerdote?
¿Quién es para ti el Espíritu Santo? ¿Quieres tú una relación más íntima con la tercera persona de la Trinidad?
Te invito a que vengas a la primera reunión del Apostolado de la Cruz el lunes 16 de septiembre a las 7:00 PM en el segundo piso del edificio de Educación Religiosa

NUESTRA PARROQUIA OFRECE ADORACIÓN A JESUCRISTO

Realmente presente en El Santísimo Sacramento 24 horas al día / 7 días de la semana en nuestra capilla de la parroquia. Para mayor información sobre Adoración Eucarística comunicarse: adoration@stmhouston.org o 832-869-7483.
Por favor considere comprometerse estar con Jesús los Domingos de 4:00 am a 5:00 am.

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