Mass and Confession Schedule

**Weekday Mass**
**Misa Entre Semana**
- **Monday – Friday**
  - 6:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
- **Saturday**
  - 8:00 a.m.

**Confeccion**
**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)

**Masses**
- 6:30 a.m.
- 8:15 a.m. (School Mass)
- 12:10 p.m.
- 5:30 p.m.
- 7:30 p.m. (español)

**Liturgy of the Word with Ashes**
10:30 a.m.
Dear Friends in Christ,

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent. The word “Lent” comes from the Old English word “lencten,” which means “spring season.” In Spanish, Lent is called “Cuaresma,” which comes from the Latin word, “Quadragesima,” which means “fortieth.” Forty is a significant number in the Bible. The rain that caused the famous flood of Noah lasted forty days. Moses spent forty days with God on Mount Sanai. The Hebrews wandered in the desert for forty years. Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil, where he fasted for forty days and forty nights. Forty is a significant number in the Bible, and it’s a significant number for us as well. Lent marks the forty days we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Jesus’ resurrection on Easter Sunday. We prepare ourselves for this great event through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Prayer: “When you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you” (Matthew 6:6). Prayer is time spent with God. Our parish has a 24-hour adoration chapel, which gives us the great opportunity to spend as much time as we want with our Lord. This Lent, I encourage you to spend some time with Jesus. The Lord will repay you.

Fasting: “When you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not appear to others to be fasting, except to your Father who is hidden. And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you” (Matthew 6: 17-18). Our official days of fasting are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. By fasting, the Church says that we can have one meal and two small meals that together do not equal a full meal. We can fast on other days. We can also abstain from using some of the things we enjoy in our life (TV, sweets, etc.). When we fast, it helps us focus less on ourselves and more on the things that really matter in life.

Almsgiving: “When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let you left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you” (Matthew 6:2-4). Almsgiving means giving money to the poor and performing other acts of charity. In our materialistic culture, money has become a false idol. Giving money to charitable causes obviously helps those in need, but it also helps ourselves because it helps keeps our materialistic tendencies in check. If you don’t know where to direct your almsgiving, consider giving to DSF and to our parish.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Clark
### Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, February 23
- 7:30am † Juanita Rivera
- 9:00am * Neka Madu
- 11:00am * Missa Pro Populo
- 1:00 pm † Venancio Garcia-Suarez
- 5:00 pm * Chelsea & Chinedu Chukwunyere
- 7:00 pm † Maksim Shparlik

#### Monday, February 24
- 6:30am † Nereida Emiliani
- 5:30pm * Mike Mc Crate & Family

#### Tuesday, February 25
- 6:30am * Chigozie Nwachukwu
- 5:30pm * Michael Alexander

#### Wednesday, February 26
- 6:30am † Mark Kleine
- 5:30pm † Katherine Burda

#### Thursday, February 27
- 6:30am † Kenneth Amega
- 5:30pm * Donald Kanu

#### Friday, February 28
- 6:30 am * Navarro Family
- 5:30pm * Deceased members of the Hafernick Family

#### Saturday, February 29
- 8:00am * Nnamdi Nwachukwu
- 5:00pm † Connie O Connor

† (Repose Soul)
* (Special Intention)

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### Weekly Readings

#### Scripture Readings for the Week of February 23, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Jas 3:13-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mk 9:14-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Jas 4:1-10; Ps 55:7-8, 9-10a, 10b-11a, 23; Mk 9:30-37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17; 2 Cor 5:20—6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 9:22-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 5:27-32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>First Sunday of Lent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19 or Rom 5:12, 17-19; Mt 4:1-11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Lecturas Semanales

#### Lecturas de las Escrituras por la Semana del 23 de Febrero de 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Día</th>
<th>Lecturas</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domingo</td>
<td>Séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lev 19, 1-2, 17-18; Sal 102, 1-2, 3-4, 8 y 10. 12-13; 1 Cor 3, 16-23; Mt 5, 38-48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunes</td>
<td>Santo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stgo 3, 13-18; Sal 18, 8, 9, 10. 15; Mc 9, 14-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martes</td>
<td>Santo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stgo 4, 1-10; Ps 54, 7-8, 9-10a, 10b-11a, 23; Mc 9, 30-37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miércoles</td>
<td>Miércoles de Ceniza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jl 2, 12-18; Sal 50, 3-4, 5-6a. 12-13, 14 y 17; 2 Cor 5, 20—6, 2; Mt 6, 1-6, 16-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jueves</td>
<td>Mañanas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dt 30, 15-20; Sal 1, 1-2, 3, 4 y 6; Lc 9, 22-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viernes</td>
<td>Mañanas</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Is 58, 1-9a; Sal 50, 3-4, 5-6a. 18-19; Mt 9, 14-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sábado</td>
<td>Domingo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Is 58, 9b-14; Sal 85, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lc 5, 27-32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domingo</td>
<td>Primer Domingo de Cuaresma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gen 2, 7-9; 3, 1-7; Sal 50, 3-4, 5-6a. 12-13, 14 y 17; Rom 5, 12-19 o Rom 5, 12, 17-19; Mt 4, 1-11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, always pondering spiritual things, we may carry out in both word and deed that which is pleasing to you.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen
St. Thomas More Catholic Church

Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 23
9:00 am  CCE Parents (English)-Youth Prayer Room
9:30 am  RCIA (English)-Donovan’s Den
10:00 am Choir Gala Practice-Servant Hall
10:00 am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room
11:00 am CCE Parents (Spanish)-Youth Media Room
4:00 pm  Contemporary Choir Rehearsal-Church
6:00 pm  Spanish Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

Monday, February 24
10:00am  Talleres de Oración y Vida - Donovan’s Den
6:50 pm  Apostolado de la Cruz-Youth Prayer Room

Tuesday, February 25
9:30 am  Senior Citizen Bingo-Scout House
6:15 pm  Confession-Church /Confesiones-Iglesia
7:00 pm  English As A Second Language (ESL)-School Building
7:00 pm  Pastoral Council Meeting-Rectory Conference Room
7:00 pm  Talleres de Oración y Vida-Youth Media Room
7:30 pm  Sounds of Faith Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

Wednesday, February 26
7:00 pm  Our Mother of Perpetual Help Prayer -Adoration Chapel
7:00 pm  Spanish Choir Rehearsal-Music Room
7:30 pm  Knights of Columbus (K of C) Meeting-Prinster Hall
7:30 pm  Legion of Mary Meeting-Donovan’s Den
7:30 pm  R.C.I.A. Inquiry Meeting (English)-Donovan’s Den

Thursday, February 27
7:00 pm  Hispanic Ministry Meeting-Donovan’s Den
7:00 pm  English As A Second Language (ESL)-School Building
7:30 pm  Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

Friday, February 28
10:30 am  Bible Study-Youth Prayer Room
5:00 pm  Knights of Columbus (Kof C) Fish Fry-Prinster Hall
5:00 pm  Legion of Mary (Spanish) Meeting-Donovan’s Den
7:00 pm  Via Crucis Viviente-Scout House

Saturday, February 29
3:30 pm  Confessions / Confesiones-Church
4:00 pm  Sounds of Faith Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

Sunday, March 1
8:00 am  Religious Article Sales-Servant Hall
8:30 am  Coffee and Donuts-Servant Hall
9:00 am  CCE Parents (English)-Youth Prayer Room
9:30 am  RCIA (English)-Donovan’s Den
10:00 am Choir Gala Practice-Servant Hall
10:00 am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room
11:00 am CCE Parents (Spanish)-Youth Media Room
4:00 pm  Contemporary Choir Rehearsal-Church
6:00 pm  Spanish Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

Stewardship for February 16, 2020

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collection</td>
<td>$38,973.79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online Giving</td>
<td>$3,907.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$42,881.76</td>
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Upcoming Second Collections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black &amp; Indian Missions</td>
<td>March 1, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Relief Services</td>
<td>March 22, 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019 Parish Goal: $193,000.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Amount Paid</td>
<td>$170,558.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Amount Pledged</td>
<td>$171,528.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Number of Participant</td>
<td>365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Number of Households</td>
<td>4412</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average Participant Pledge</td>
<td>469.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Over (Under) Goal</td>
<td>($22,441.85)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledged Over (Under) Goal</td>
<td>($21,471.85)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Paid</td>
<td>88.37%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 at STMHouston.ORG for details and registration.
**F A I T H  F O R M A T I O N**

**Grade School CCE**

*English Elementary and Middle CCE* meets in the School on Sundays from 9:00 to 10:30 am.

*Spanish Elementary and Middle School CCE* meets in the School on Sundays from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm.

*Teen Confirmation One (I)* meets on Wednesdays from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the Upstairs Youth Media Room.

*Teen Confirmation Two (II)* meets on Wednesdays from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the School.

*Bible Study for CCE Parents* is available on Sundays during the CCE sessions in the Upstairs RE Building Prayer Room.

**Youth**

*Young Disciples* is a gathering of teens on the 2nd Sunday of the month to fellowship together and learn more about the wonders and richness of the Catholic faith.

**Next gathering:** March 8, 2020

Join Danielle Luna as you learn more about how life truly looks in the eyes of teenage Catholics. We meet in the Religious Education Building, 2nd floor Youth Room after the 5:00 p.m. Mass.

“**The future is in your hearts and in your hands. God is entrusting to you the task, at once difficult and uplifting, of working with Him in the building of the civilization of love.**”

- Saint John Paul II

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**Adults**

The *Word of Truth Bible Study* for adults meets on Fridays from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm in the Upstairs Prayer Room. Starting on January 17th, an exciting Bible study series called: “Our Father’s Plan,” will be launched. This series takes as its content talks given biblical scholars Dr. Scott Hahn of Franciscan University of Steubenville and Jeff Cavins from The Great Adventure Bible Studies. This is a 24-week Bible and Catholic study that will help deepen your knowledge of the Sacred Scriptures and enrich your spirituality and prayer as you integrate the Scriptures into your communion with God. Join us!

*Adult Confirmation* takes place on Wednesdays, from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the Upstairs Prayer Room in the RE Building.

*ACTS Reboot Formation Group Meeting:* 2/18/20, 7 pm in Donovan's Den. St. Thomas More parish is in the process of establishing an ACTS retreat ministry. This requires us to create a Formation Group, which will guide us in the process of working with the Houston Chapter of ACTS Missions in finding a parish to help with our next retreats for men and women. All in our parish who have made an ACTS retreat with any parish are invited to come to an informational meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2020. You do not have to be planning to continue as a member of the Formation Group, just come and find out about the process and how you can support it. We will meet in Donovan's Den from 7-8:30 pm. For more information, contact Marlene Wark at 281-796-1561 or via email at marlene.wark@gmail.com

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 called “Inquiry.” Inquiry sessions are held on Sunday mornings from 9:30 am - 11:00 am and Wednesday evenings, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm in Donovan’s Den. For more information, contact Deacon John Krugh at John Krugh at deacon@krugh22.com
Contacts

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
Ingrid Gooding, Bookkeeper
Gabriel Villarreal, Maintenance

Religious Education
Deacon David Johnson, Interim Director
Mary-Therese Hafernik, Confirmation

Office of Music:
Sabrina Nguyen, Ed.D., Director, (713) 980-3111
Jian Guang Shi, Organist (713) 988-9829
Rommys Orozco (1:00 p.m.)
Lisa Veneralla (5:00 p.m.)
Rogelio Mendoza, Spanish (7:00 p.m.)

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

www.facebook.com/stmhoul
**Parish Ministries**

**The Society of St. Vincent de Paul:** The Society at STM is committed to helping those less fortunate in our immediate area. Due to the generous donations of food and funds from the parish, the Society is able to operate a food pantry and to make home visits to those requesting financial assistance. If further needs are identified upon a home visit, appropriate referrals to resources at the parish or in the community will be made.

Pantry Hours are Tuesday/Thursday 9:00-11:00 am & 1:00-3:00 pm, and the third Saturday of the month 10:00 am-12:00 pm. For more information on this outreach ministry call the office at (713) 980-3113.

**Meals and Samaritan Ministry:** If you are looking for a way to help out the parish community, please consider joining the meals ministry and/or the Samaritan ministry! These two ministries allow you to practice the corporal acts of mercy with the community. We are looking for cooks for both ministries! Please contact Monique Close at goodsamaritans@stmhouston.org or at (713) 628-3323 with questions or to volunteer in this ministry of compassion.

**Respect Life Committee:** Please join Respect Life the second Sunday of every month from 9:00 - 9:40 p.m. in the Adoration Chapel. We will pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet for the protection of life from conception to natural death. 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

**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

**Perpetual Adoration:** If you wish to sign up for a Perpetual Adoration hour to watch with our Lord for one hour a week, please contact Edna Valdez at valdezedna5@gmail.com or (713) 425-9506

**STreaMliners:** Second Saturday of the month on February 08th STreaMliners’ Mtg 10:00am in Prinster Hall. Adults 50 and over are welcome!

Note: We will begin collecting dues for 2020, $20 per member and collecting for our Christmas project the “Crime Stoppers.” Please make checks out to St. Thomas More Church. “Don’t forget to bring “Toothpaste or Bar Soap” for the STM Food Pantry and Toiletries for the Hospital. Entertainment: A K-9 Bomb Sniffer dog and handler from the Houston Police Dept.

**Friday, February 28th** Coushatta Casino with France Landry. 1st Class Bus Coach – $15 pp cash includes ($10 free play) 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 – 713-723-2035.

**Tuesday, March 10th** trip is also before the March meeting. The March day trip is a visit to the San Jacinto Monument which includes a 30 minute film on Texas history and elevator ride to the top observation deck, $12pp. Lunch on your own at the Monument Inn at noon. Their seafood and rolls are to die for. Bus leaves sharply at 9:00am from the rear parking area near Prinster Hall. Contact Beth Massa at 281-450-1386 or email emassa@sbcglobal.net or to Joyce Coles 713-774-2628 or jcoles8433@sbcglobal.net or drop in mail slot at 6206 Yarwell.

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**Bulletin Announcements**

Bulletin announcements are due Monday, 5:00 pm for the following Sunday. Please contact John Chambers at jchambers@stmhouston.org to add a parish ministry, group, or event in the bulletin. All requests are subject to approval and space availability and will be formatted to fit the overall design of the bulletin. Thank you.
Valentine’s Day is the perfect time to romance your spouse. Worldwide Marriage Encounter puts the spark back in your marriage. Learn a tool that will help you communicate about the important things. Sign up today to attend one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend (March 13-15 or May 15-17). Contact Brian & Tina Little at 281-773-4014 for more information or go on-line to www.houstonme.org

Deacon David Johnson transfers his diaconate ministry to St. Benedict the Abbot Catholic Church

The term “diakonia,” from the Greek meaning “to serve,” is at the heart of Deacon David's impulse when living out his diaconate ministry. Deacon David has been an amazing servant to the community of St. Thomas More. Our loss is St. Benedict’s gain. His diaconate assignment will officially start at St. Benedict’s the weekend of March 1st. Deacon David will still remain on staff at STM as Interim Director of Religious Education.


Presented By
Fr. Clark Sample

7:00 p.m. | Servant Hall*
March 2
March 9
March 16
March 23

No RSVP Required
*DUE TO POSSIBLE USE OF SERVANT HALL DURING CHURCH FLOOR REPAIRS, A NOTICE WILL BE PUT UP ABOUT CHANGE OF VENUE FOR THE CLASSES.

Religious Articles

Religious articles will be sold in Servant Hall after the morning Masses on March 1, 2020.

This is a perfect opportunity to buy gifts. Stock up on your personal inventory in time for the Season of Lent.
SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick:
Please call the parish office to make an appointment with a priest.

Marriage Preparations:
Engaged couples, please contact the parish office at least 6 months to a year ahead of the wedding to begin the church reservation process and marriage preparation.

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.

Baptism Preparation and Classes:
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.

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

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH SCHOOL
Reaching Minds · Touching Hearts · Shaping Souls

St. Thomas More Parish School is “committed to developing the minds, hearts, and souls of our students. By planting faith-filled seeds of good habits, we open our students’ minds to knowledge, their hearts to service, and their souls to the beauty of God’s Creation.”

* Now Accepting Applications for the 2020-2021 School Year *

To schedule a private tour, call the office at (713) 729-3434.

Application and other information can be found at www.stthomasmore-school.org
Adorers of the Blessed Sacrament
Needed for These Hours!

Monday 4:00 am  Friday 4:00 pm
Monday 3:00 pm  Friday 8:00 am
Monday 4:00 pm  Friday 11:00 am

Tuesday 2:00 pm  Saturday 2:00 am
Tuesday 3:00 pm  Saturday 3:00 pm

Wed. 7:00 am  Saturday 7:00 pm
Wed. 2:00 pm

Thursday 11:00 am

If you would like to inquire about taking an hour in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at STM, please contact Edna Valdez at valdezedna5@gmail.com or (713) 425-9506. Please prayerfully consider giving your time to Jesus in this most special way. Thank you.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
January Report

The Society at STM is committed to helping those less fortunate in our immediate area. Due to the generous donations of food and funds from the parish and school, the Society is able to operate a food pantry and to make home visits to those requesting financial assistance. If further needs are identified upon a home visit, appropriate referrals to resources at the parish or in the community will be made.

During the month of January 636 individuals were fed with 181 bags of groceries, and 12 families were provided with $2,708 of rent, utility or furniture assistance. Thank for your continued support and prayers for our friends who come to us in need.

Special thanks to our STM students who collected food during Catholic Schools Week. STM preschool 4 year old's collected 100 items for 100 Day. AND to Boy Scout Troop 99 and Harmony Science Academy students who participated in the Souper Bowl for Caring food drive during Super Bowl weekend. Their collections of 1,725 canned and packaged items were donated to our SVdP pantry. Troop 99 collected 1,032 items! Way to go scouts! We appreciate the youth thinking of our pantry friends throughout the year.

SAVE THE DATE! Lenten Food Fair, Saturday March 28th at 12:00 pm. Volunteers needed 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. This is a great opportunity for our youth to earn service hours and for families to serve our community together. Please contact socialservices@stmhouston.org or the pantry office for more information.

Pantry Hours are Tuesday/Thursday 9:00-11:00 am & 1:00-3:00 pm, and the third Saturday of the month 10:00 am-12:00 pm. For more information on this outreach ministry call the office at (713) 980-3113.
Queridos amigos en Cristo:

Este miércoles es Miércoles de Ceniza, que marca el comienzo de la Cuaresma. La palabra "Cuaresma" proviene de la antigua palabra inglesa "lencten", que significa "temporada de primavera". En español, Lent se llama "Cuaresma", que proviene de la palabra latina "Quadragesima", que significa "cuadragésimo". Cuarenta es un número significativo en la Biblia. La lluvia que causó el famoso diluvio de Noé duró cuarenta días. Moisés pasó cuarenta días con Dios en el monte Sanai. Los hebreos vagaron por el desierto durante cuarenta años. Jesús fue llevado por el Espíritu al desierto para ser tentado por el diablo, donde ayunó durante cuarenta días y cuarenta noches. Cuarenta es un número significativo en la Biblia, y también es un número significativo para nosotros. La Cuaresma marca los cuarenta días que nos preparamos para la celebración de la resurrección de Jesús el domingo de Pascua. Nos preparamos para este gran evento a través de la oración, el ayuno y la limosna.

Oración: “Cuando ores, ve a tu habitación interior, cierra la puerta y reza a tu Padre en secreto. Y tu Padre que ve en secreto te lo pagará” (Mateo 6: 6). La oración es tiempo con Dios. Nuestra parroquia tiene una capilla de adoración abierta las 24 horas, nos brinda la gran oportunidad de pasar todo el tiempo que queramos con nuestro Señor. Esta Cuaresma, te animo a que pases un tiempo con Jesús. El Señor te lo pagará.

Ayuno: “Cuando ayunas, unge tu cabeza y lávate la cara, para no mostrar a los hombres que ayunas, excepto a tu Padre que está oculto. Y tu Padre que ve lo que está escondido te lo pagará” (Mateo 6: 17-18). Nuestros días oficiales de ayuno son el Miércoles de Ceniza y el Viernes Santo. Al ayunar, la Iglesia dice que podemos tener una comida completa y dos comidas pequeñas que juntas no equivalen a una comida completa. Podemos ayunar en otros días. También podemos abstenernos de usar algunas de las cosas que disfrutamos en nuestra vida (TV, dulces, etc.). Cuando ayunamos, nos ayuda a centrarnos menos en nosotros mismos y más en las cosas que realmente importan en la vida.

Limosna: “Cuando das limosna, no toques una trompeta delante de ti, como lo hacen los hipócritas en las sinagogas y en las calles para ganar el elogio de los demás. Amén, te digo que han recibido su recompensa. Pero cuando das limosna, no dejes que tu mano izquierda sepa lo que hace tu derecha, para que tu limosna sea secreta. Y tu Padre que ve en secreto te lo pagará” (Mateo 6: 2-4). Dar limosna significa dar dinero a los pobres y realizar otros actos de caridad. En nuestra cultura materialista, el dinero se ha convertido en un falso ídolo. Dar dinero a causas benéficas obviamente ayuda a los necesitados, pero también nos ayuda a nosotros mismos porque ayuda a mantener controladas nuestras tendencias materialistas. Si no sabe a dónde dirigir su limosna, considere dar a DSF y a nuestra parroquia.

De ustedes en Cristo,

Fr. Clark
**Donación en línea**

El sitio web de la parroquia tiene instrucciones sobre cómo registrarse para dar su donación en línea. Usted tendrá control total de su cuenta de contribución y podrá programar la fecha de retiro de su contribución. Visite nuestra página de web para más detalles y registro.

[WWW.STMHouston.ORG](http://WWW.STMHouston.ORG)

**Anuncios en el Boletín**

Los anuncios en el boletín deben entregarse el lunes a las 5:00 p.m. para incluirlos en el boletín del domingo siguiente. Comuníquese con John Chambers a jchambers@stmhouston.org para agregar el ministerio parroquial, grupo o evento en el boletín. Todas las solicitudes están sujetas a aprobación y disponibilidad de espacio y serán formateadas para ajustarse al diseño general del boletín.
**Bautizo infantil:** Niños/as de 0 meses a 6 años. Las clases de preparación bautismal para Padres y Padrinos, son el tercer sábado de cada mes de 10:00 am a 1:00 pm (registración inicia a las 9:30am) en el 2do. Piso del edificio de Educación Religiosa. **Necesitamos toda su atención durante la clase, no se permiten niños en la clase.**

**Requisitos:**
1. Los Papás: deben ser miembros activos y estar registrados en la parroquia de St. Thomas More, 6 meses antes de solicitar el Bautismo o vivir en el código postal 77096 y 77035.
2. Los Padrinos: deben ser suficientemente maduros y mayores de 16 años de edad, haber recibido los sacramentos de Bautismo, Confirmación y Eucaristía y ser miembros activos de la Iglesia Católica y canónicamente libres de llevar a cabo sus tareas. Si son casados, deben de ser casados en la Iglesia.
3. Inscribirse en la Oficina parroquial para la Clase de Preparación Bautismal
4. Asistir a la Clase de preparación Bautismal el tercer sábado del mes, ambos Papás y Padrinos

**Después de la clase de preparación bautismal:**
5. Entregar a la oficina la forma de registro de papás y acta de nacimiento del niño/a
6. Entregar a la oficina la forma de registro de padrinos y acta de matrimonio

**Legion de María (Español)**
Si desean servir a Dios, por medio de la Virgen María, nuestro ministerio, se reúne todos los viernes a las 7:00pm en Donavon's Den. Tenemos como misión la devoción al santísimo rosario, peregrinar la Virgen María en los hogares, visitar enfermos, etc. Si tienes ese llamado en tu corazón para servir o recibir a la Virgen María, no tardiés, la Virgen María te espera. Para mas informacion llame: Gricelda Sanchez al (713) 550-3608.

**Celebración de Quince Años:** Para Señoritas y Jóvenes
Si te gustaría recibir la bendición de Dios en este día tan especial para ti. Te invitamos a que vengas y reserves tu día de acción de Gracias

**Requisitos:**
- Los papás deben de ser miembros activos y estar registrados en la parroquia por lo menos 6 meses antes de solicitar la celebración o vivir en la zona postal 77035 0 77096.
- Haber recibido los sacramentos del Bautismo y Primera Comunión.
- Estar en el programa de educación religiosa el año anterior a la celebración y estar en el proceso de recibir la confirmación.

El/ La joven y los papás deben de asistir al día de preparación espiritual de Quince Años. Para mas informacion llamar a la oficina al 713-729-0221

**Ministerio de comidas y ministerio samaritano:** está buscando una manera de ayudar a la comunidad parroquial, ¡considere unirse al ministerio de comidas y / o al ministerio samaritano! Estos dos ministerios le permiten practicar los actos corporales de misericordia con la comunidad. ¡Estamos buscando cocineros para ambos ministerios!

El Ministerio de Comidas proporciona comidas a los feligreses que no pueden cocinar por sí mismos debido a una situación médica a corto plazo. Estamos buscando cocineros que se comprometan a cocinar UN DÍA AL MES. También necesitamos personas que estén interesadas en ser un cocinero sustituto para el ministerio de comidas.

El Ministerio Samaritano ofrece una comida caliente para las familias en duelo y sus invitados después de un funeral. La comida será proporcionada, al igual la organización del salón y servida por el ministerio samaritano.

Ambos ministerios fueron partes activas importantes de nuestra comunidad parroquial durante décadas. ¡Estamos emocionados de ponernos en funcionamiento nuevamente! Póngase en contacto con Monique Close (713) 628-3323 o mogecoclose@yahoo.com si tiene preguntas o para ser voluntario.