

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON—HOUSTON



10330 HILLCROFT ST. | HOUSTON, TX 77096 | (713) 729-0221

WWW.STMHOUSTON.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 (Closed from 12-1 PM for lunch)

Monday to Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

SACRAMENTS

Please visit our website for details about our
Sacramental preparation:

<https://stmhouston.org/sacraments>

Come fly with us!

Blessed is She invites you to join us for two nights of unique worship, engaging talks, Eucharistic Adoration and Confession. All women 18+ are invited! Monday and Tuesday, August 16-17 at St. Thomas More Catholic Church from 7-9pm. Come lean into the Father's love and learn to fly in trust and surrender. Grab your tickets and find out more info at blessedisshe.net/revivals.

STM PARISH SCHOOL

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

School Office Hours (Summer)

Monday to Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Summer for our teachers has come to a close. Monday, August 2nd, our teachers return to our campus to begin the preparations for the 2021-2022 school year. Please pray for our school as we embark on this new year. We still have spaces in most grade levels and are conducting tours for our future students. Currently, we are actively looking for a Middle School English and Reading teacher and a lower school teacher assistant. Call 713-729-3434 and see what wonderful opportunities STM holds for you.

Yours in Christ,
Carolina Bowman, School Principal

CARDINAL DINARDO ON THE HYDE AMENDMENT

I write to inform you of a new threat to the unborn under consideration by the federal government and to urge you to act now on behalf of our unborn brothers and sisters.

The Hyde Amendment, included in every federal budget since 1976, is a historically bipartisan, common sense measure that prohibits taxpayer funding of elective abortions. It is estimated that, since its inception, this Amendment has saved the lives of over 2.4 million unborn persons. Disturbingly, the recently-proposed federal budget aims to do away with Hyde and other longstanding protections for the unborn, making taxpayer funds available for elective abortions and further imperiling the lives of our most vulnerable brothers and sisters.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has created a petition for Catholics, asking Congress to maintain the Hyde Amendment and similar provisions for the current budget. This petition can be found at NoTaxpayerAbortion.com. The USCCB will present all signatures to Congress in advance of a final vote on the federal budget. I urge all Catholics to join me in reaching out to the U.S. Congress today.



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends in Christ,

Can you believe that it's already August? This time of the year is usually pretty exciting because it involves preparation for all the busy activity of autumn. In the midst of the busyness, it's easy to get distracted from our ultimate goal. In his letter to the Colossians, St. Paul says, "If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth" (Colossians 3:1-2). While August is a month of preparation and focus on the immediate future, August also has two important liturgical celebrations that help us focus on our ultimate goal: The Transfiguration and the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

On Friday, August 6, we celebrated the Feast of the Transfiguration. The Bible tells us that Jesus took Peter, James and John with him up the mountain to pray, and "while he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white" (Lk 9:29). Jesus reveals his glory to these disciples, and it gives them a foretaste of the heavenly life to come. The disciples also heard a voice on the mountain, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him" (Lk 9:35). The Feast of Transfiguration reminds us that, even in the midst of our busy lives, we cannot forget to listen to Jesus because listening to him and following him leads us to eternal life.

On Sunday, August 15, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Church teaches that at the end of her earthly life, Mary was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory. This event is not explicitly recorded in the Bible, and yet it is something we are obliged to believe as Catholics because it is a dogma of the faith. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says, "The Church's Magisterium exercises the authority it holds from Christ to the fullest extent when it defines dogmas, that is, when it proposes, in a form obliging the Christian people to an irrevocable adherence of faith, truths contained in divine Revelation or also when it proposes, in a definitive way, truths having a necessary connection with these" (CCC 88). There are objective truths of the Christian faith that are not explicitly contained in Scripture, and we are obliged to believe them. This obligation is for our benefit because "there is an organic connection between our spiritual life and the dogmas. Dogmas are lights along the path of faith; they illuminate it and make it secure" (CCC 89).

Why is it important for us to believe in the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary? Because it reveals our future life of heavenly glory. It reveals to us that we will have bodies and souls in heaven (for all of us conceived with the stain of original sin, our souls will be reunited with our bodies at the final Resurrection). It reveals to us that we will reach our ultimate goal of heaven if we follow Mary's example of always saying "Yes" to God. This month of August, let's continue to heed Paul's teaching: "If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth."

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Clark



St. Maximilian Kolbe
August 14

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday
6:30 AM & 5:30 PM
Saturday
9:00 AM

Saturday Vigil
5:00 PM
Sunday
7:30, 9:00, 11:00 AM
1:00 PM (español)

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

**Tuesday &
Wednesday**
6:15-7:00 PM
Saturday
3:30-4:45 PM

On the cover:

Elijah in the Desert
Washington Allston
1818

Stewardship for August 1, 2021
Thank you for your generous donations!

Collection	\$ 17,971.00
<u>Online Giving</u>	<u>\$ 11,100.89</u>
	\$ 29,071.89



2021 Goal	\$ 150,000.00
Collected	<u>84,259.00</u>
Remaining	\$ 65,741.00

Contributing Parishioners: 257

DSF Spotlight: Catholic High School Scholarship Grants
 All private Catholic high schools within the Archdiocese receive an annual DSF grant to provide tuition assistance to applying students. These schools include: Cristo Rey College Preparatory, Duchesne Academy, Frassati Catholic High School, Incarnate Word Academy, O’Connell College Preparatory School, St. John XXIII High School, St. Agnes Academy, St. Pius X High School, St. Thomas High School, and Strake Jesuit College Preparatory.

MINISTRY FAIR, AUGUST 28-29

Life is slowly coming back to “normal” and it is time that we reinvigorate the life of the parish. Mass attendance is on the increase and we are readying the campus and our meeting spaces to welcome back our ministries and groups.



The parish is planning a Ministry Fair for the weekend of August 28-29, after all Masses. If you were/are a leader of a ministry or group at STM, please contact us and let us know that you wish to participate in the fair. Perhaps you have an idea for a new group or ministry? Let us know. Contact Suzie Hamilton, shamilton@stmhouston.org or 713-729-0221.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 8
 7:30 am *Betty & Gabriel Ikeakor Family
 9:00 am †Peter Vincent Lomonte Jr.
 11:00 am *Missa Pro Populo
 1:00 pm *Xitaly Diaz

Monday, August 9
 6:30 am *Michelle Kanu
 5:30 pm †Lynsdon Gonsalves

Tuesday, August 10
 6:30 am †Maurice Hendrix
 5:30 pm †Robert Schwartz

Wednesday, August 11
 6:30 am †Apollonia Nwachukwu
 5:30 pm †Fr. Peter Ferguson

Thursday, August 12
 6:30 am †Wayne Meyer
 5:30 pm *Ben Warner IV

Friday, August 13
 6:30 am *Nnamdi Nwachukwu
 5:30 pm †Michael Sauseda

Saturday, August 14
 9:00 am †Marie Amato
 5:00 pm †Bill & Connie O’Connor

Sunday, August 15
 7:30 am †Herlinda Mendoza
 9:00 am *Missa Pro Populo
 11:00 am †Joe Fogarty
 1:00 pm †Carolina Sarrazola

† (Deceased)
 * (Special Intention)

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 your donations.



You can scan the QR code here or visit our parish homepage at STMHOUSTON.ORG for details and registration.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING FOR ADULTS

As our campus opens up and more activities will start taking place, we need to verify that everyone has had the **Safe Haven** training. Please make sure your Certification and Background Checks are current if you have already taken the training. If you are a new volunteer, you will need to take the training for the first time. Please refer any questions to Eloise Starr, 713-729-0221

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK/
COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND**

If you or a loved one is suffering from a serious illness and needs to be anointed or is unable to make it to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office, 713-729-0221.

Please pray for the souls of our parishioners who have recently died.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Robert Willis | Manuel de Jesus Lara |
| Rosa Cotoc Pum | Henry Krason |
| Filiberto C. Cerezo | Bill Gorton |
| Salvador Rodriguez | Stanford Dupaty |

**Next Coffee
& Donuts**



August 15

Join us in Servant Hall for donuts, coffee, and fellowship, after all Masses!

**PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC
EXPOSITION & ADORATION**

Go here to create an account and sign up for a Holy Hour or as a substitute.

stmhouston.weadorehim.com

Questions?
Text Bob Brill, 713-598-4838 or
Edna Valdez, 713-425-9506.



This is the current Adoration Chapel schedule:

- Monday 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM**
- Tuesday 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM**
- Wednesday 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM**
- Thursday 7:00 AM – Sunday 11:00 PM** *(the chapel is open around the clock during these days.)*

We hope this schedule is temporary. As soon as all of our hours are filled we will start Perpetual Exposition and Adoration. Please pray that more people volunteer to be adorers.

- MONDAY: 12:00 PM, 3:00 PM, 4:00 PM, 3:00 AM**
- TUESDAY: 3:00 AM**
- THURSDAY: 3:00 AM**
- FRIDAY: 10:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 7:00 PM**
- SATURDAY: 10:00 AM**

WE ARE IN NEED OF A FEW PEOPLE TO COMMIT TO TAKE ONE OF THESE HOURS ON A WEEKLY BASIS AND OUR ADORATION CHAPEL CAN REMAIN OPEN AROUND THE CLOCK.

GRANTED, THESE ARE HARD HOURS, BUT IS JESUS CALLING YOU TO BE TAKE ONE OF THESE HOURS?

Del escritorio del P. Clark

Queridos amigos en Cristo,

¿Pueden creer que ya es agosto? Esta época del año suele ser bastante emocionante porque implica la preparación para todas las actividades del otoño. En medio del ajetreo, es fácil distraerse de nuestro objetivo final. En su carta a los Colosenses, San Pablo dice: “Si, pues, habéis resucitado con Cristo, buscad lo que está arriba, donde Cristo está sentado a la diestra de Dios. Piensa en lo de arriba, no en lo de la tierra” (Colosenses 3: 1-2). Si bien agosto es un mes de preparación y enfoque en el futuro inmediato, agosto también tiene dos importantes celebraciones litúrgicas que nos ayudan a enfocarnos en nuestro objetivo final: la Transfiguración y la Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María.

El viernes 6 de agosto celebramos la Fiesta de la Transfiguración. La Biblia nos dice que Jesús se llevó a Pedro, Santiago y Juan a la montaña para orar, y "mientras oraba, su rostro cambió de aspecto y su ropa se volvió de un blanco resplandeciente" (Lc 9:29). Jesús revela su gloria a estos discípulos y les da un anticipo de la vida celestial por venir. Los discípulos también escucharon una voz en la montaña: “Este es mi Hijo escogido; escúchalo” (Lc 9,35). La Fiesta de la Transfiguración nos recuerda que, incluso en medio de nuestra ajetreada vida, no podemos olvidarnos de escuchar a Jesús porque escucharlo y seguirlo nos lleva a la vida eterna.

El domingo 15 de agosto celebramos la Solemnidad de la Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María. La Iglesia enseña que al final de su vida terrenal, María fue asumida en cuerpo y alma a la gloria celestial. Este evento no está registrado explícitamente en la Biblia y, sin embargo, es algo en lo que estamos obligados a creer como católicos porque es un dogma de la fe. El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica dice: “El Magisterio de la Iglesia ejerce la autoridad que tiene de Cristo en la mayor medida posible cuando define dogmas, es decir, cuando propone, en una forma que obliga al pueblo cristiano a una adhesión irrevocable a la fe, verdades contenidas en la Revelación divina o también cuando propone, de manera definitiva, verdades que tienen una conexión necesaria con ellas” (CIC 88). Hay verdades objetivas de la fe cristiana que no están contenidas explícitamente en las Escrituras y estamos obligados a creerlas. Esta obligación es para nuestro beneficio porque “existe una conexión orgánica entre nuestra vida espiritual y los dogmas. Los dogmas son luces en el camino de la fe; lo iluminan y lo aseguran” (CCC 89).

¿Por qué es importante para nosotros creer en la Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María? Porque revela nuestra vida futura de gloria celestial. Nos revela que tendremos cuerpos y almas en el cielo (porque todos nosotros concebidos con la mancha del pecado original, nuestras almas se reunirán con nuestros cuerpos en la Resurrección final). Nos revela que alcanzaremos nuestro objetivo final del cielo si seguimos el ejemplo de María de decir siempre "Sí" a Dios. Este mes de agosto, sigamos prestando atención a la enseñanza de Pablo: “Si, pues, fuiste resucitado con Cristo, busca lo que está arriba, donde Cristo está sentado a la diestra de Dios. Piensen en lo que está arriba, no en lo que está en la tierra”.

Sinceramente suyo en Cristo,

Padre Clark

Dios todopoderoso y eterno, a quien, enseñado por el Espíritu Santo, nos atrevemos a llamar nuestro Padre, trae, oramos, a la perfección en nuestros corazones el espíritu de adopción como tus hijos e hijas, para que merezcamos entrar en la herencia que has prometido. Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo, tu Hijo, que vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, por los siglos de los siglos.



Santa Clara
11 de Agosto