Welcome to Sts. Martha, Mary & Lazarus, Friends of Jesus Catholic Church
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Senior Priest: Rev. Nick Pasadilla
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Alfonso Tran
Deacons: Mr. Jon Barfield, Mr. Tony Cardella, Mr. Ed Kleinguetl, Mr. Bob MacFarlane, Mr. Al O’Brien, Mr. Guy T. Puglia, Mr. John Schuster, and Mr. Alfredo Soto

Parish Office hours:
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Monday-Friday

Liturgy & Sacraments

Weekend Masses
First Saturday (Pro-Life Mass): 8:30 AM
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM
Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 AM
En Español 1:00 PM
Life Teen: 5:30 PM
Nursery: 9:00, 11:00, 5:30 Life Teen

Weekday Masses
Monday: 8:30 AM
Tuesday: 8:30 AM & 7:00 PM
Wednesday: 8:30 AM & 10:00 AM
Thursday: 6:30 AM & 8:30 AM
Friday: 8:30 AM

Sacrament of Penance
Tuesday:
Church: 6:30 - 7:00 PM
Saturday:
Church: 10:30 - 11:45 AM
Church: 4:30 - 5:20 PM

Perpetual Adoration
Adoration Chapel: 24 hrs.

Anointing of the Sick
Please call for a priest if you are seriously ill at home, about to enter the hospital, or if someone is close to death.

Baptism
Classes: Last Sunday of the month, call the Parish Office to register
Ceremony: First Saturday of the month

Marriage
Preparation at least six months before the wedding. Register to attend an information meeting by calling 281-358-6637.

4301 Woodridge Parkway, Porter, TX 77365
281-358-6637 • fax 281-358-7973 • www.stmartha.com

All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him. — Psalm 72:11
TODAY’S READINGS

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

Psalm — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel — Magi from the east arrived, looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).


READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72: 1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week
Monday: St. John Neumann
Tuesday: St. André Bessette
Wednesday: St. Raymond of Penyafort; Julian Calendar Christmas

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

The three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the infant Jesus brought Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh as part of their worship. What gifts have I brought to this celebration to offer to the newborn Savior?

MASS INTENTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon./Jan. 5</th>
<th>Sat./Jan. 10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am †Marcie Brennan</td>
<td>5:30 pm †Josephine Karpinski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues./Jan. 6</td>
<td>Sun./Jan. 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 am †Charles &amp; Rosalie Matassa</td>
<td>7:00 am †Bill Cheek</td>
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<td>7:00 pm †Mildred Russotto</td>
<td>9:00 am †Natalie Novosad</td>
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<td>Wed./Jan. 7</td>
<td>Stafford</td>
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<td>10:00 am †Justin Belmar</td>
<td>11:00 am †Helen Brownell</td>
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<td>8:30 am Teresa Guzman</td>
<td>1:00 pm †Lorenzo Suarez</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am †Justino Belmar</td>
<td>5:30 pm †James Elder</td>
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</tbody>
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Thurs./Jan. 8

6:30 am †Bob Schwartz
8:30 am †Katherine Wagner
8:30 am †Jorge Willars

Fri./Jan. 9

† PLEASE REMEMBER THE RECENTLY DECEASED AND THEIR FAMILIES IN YOUR PRAYERS †

Patricia Ann Myer
Michelle Berube (wife of Steve Berube)
Tom Spears (brother of Christy Keeling)
Gloria Lehay (mother of Laura & mother-in-law of Tony Cardella)
James Ronald Vincent (father of Matt & father-in-law of Karen Vincent)
Ismo Roy Escude (mother of Jody & mother-in-law of Mark Jeansonne)
John E. Lee III (father of Christina Lee-Sobus)


IMPORTANT SCHEDULE CHANGES:

Please note that beginning this month the Saturday Pro-Life Mass time will be changed to 8:30 a.m. Also, the monthly Baptisms which have been scheduled on the first Sunday of the month at 3:00 p.m. will now be moved to the first Saturday of each month at 9:30 a.m.

CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS:

Please join the Henderson Family in prayer this week as they host the Chalice and pray for Vocations. Interested? Please contact Albert Holden at 713-292-6066 or by e-mail at aaholden@embarqmail.com to schedule a week.
From the Pastor

To the parish family of St. Martha,

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, the fascinating account of the Magi or wise men who strike out on a journey to follow a star. The image of the life of faith as a journey is one of the most powerful in all of Scripture. The venture of the Magi is a very particular kind of journey that beautifully illustrates this image of the life of faith. Theirs is a search which involves great courage and faith. To set out on a search suggests that one leaves something that is known and moves toward something that is unknown and unfamiliar. It involves risk-taking and personal sacrifice. (This was indeed the experience of several of our parishioners who made the Camino in Spain this past summer.) The Magi lived quite securely in the land of Babylonia and they were the masters of their arts, sciences, and culture. They were very much at home in their land and in control of their lives. But they left all that behind and ventured out into unfamiliar territory, without the security of even knowing what they would find. It is the image of every true believer who seeks to find God. Starting out from what is known and familiar, with an awareness of one’s own needs and hopes, and moving out into a world of the unknown and the infinite, knowing only that God’s presence seems to beckon to one’s deepest longings, describes the essence of the journey of faith. A search can never be completely planned although it requires that one be prudent and make necessary preparations. An honest searcher must be willing to be surprised and be ready to surrender the right to determine which experiences will be involved. This was the attitude of the Magi. They came with questions, not with answers. They had expectations but not demands. What they found was far beyond their dreams.

So it must be with every person who chooses to set out on a journey in search of God. Those believers who are unwilling to be surprised and even disturbed by God on their faith journey will miss the personal encounter with God. Those who seek to enter into the presence of God but only on their own terms will have a superficial encounter with God at best. Those who claim to know where they will find God on their journey or who claim the right to define what God must be like, will be disappointed and left unfulfilled. To construct our own image of God is really idolatry. A true searcher in the faith has a powerful trust in the promises of God, even when those promises seem beyond us or too good to be true. In the lives of each of us the birth of the Savior has set in motion something very powerful, something very deep, and something very sacred. Perhaps we have ignored or even denied this longing and desire for many years but it is always there. God invites us once again to set out on this journey. With the Magi as our examples, let us follow the star and discover the presence of our God all around us, especially in the tender and seemingly insignificant events and moments in our everyday lives.

Fr. Chester Borski

Revive & Thrive: Sustaining the New Evangelization

A Day of Prayer for all parishioners involved in ministry.

DATE: Saturday, January 10, 2015
TIME: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

We will begin at 8:30 a.m. with coffee and doughnuts, Morning prayer will be at 9:15 a.m. and we will conclude with Mass at 11:45 a.m., which will include a commissioning ceremony for 2015.

Living With a Grateful Heart: A Faith Sharing Group

Spiritual author Paula d’Arcy says, “While we are looking elsewhere, God comes to us disguised as our lives.” Women of the parish are invited to join a 6 week faith sharing group beginning Monday, January 5. Our theme will be PRAYING WITH OUR LIVES. We will explore this topic through group discussion, Scripture, music, poetry and prayer. Pat Timpanaro, and Marie Rabalais will facilitate. The gathering will be held in the FLC Room 2 on the Woodland Hills campus from 10:30 - noon each Monday for 6 weeks. If you are interested in joining, contact Pat Timpanaro at 281 361 9338 or patimpanaro@embarqmail.com.
**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

**Sunday Morning:** Video Series “An opportunity to learn while your children are learning”

**BEGINNING JANUARY 11, 2015 - A VIDEO SERIES BY ROBERT BARRON – “PRIEST, PROPHET AND KING”**

Join us during the elementary Faith Formation sessions for an informal video series for adults.

Drop in for a light breakfast, stimulating video presentation and lively conversation!

Woodland Hills Campus – Room 2

**Series Dates:** January 11, 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22, March 1, 2015

**Tuesday Morning:**

Breakfast & Bible Study, 9:15–10:30 am – Faith Formation Center, Room 2. Reading, studying & sharing on the Sunday Scriptures led by Carla Lewton. All are welcome. BIBLE STUDY WILL RESUME, JANUARY 6, 2015

**January Dates:** 6, 13, 20, & 27

**St. Martha Adult Faith Formation**

Website: [www.stmartha.com](http://www.stmartha.com). Recordings of previous adult classes, handouts, PowerPoints, upcoming events, schedules, important links, music, and more… check it out!

Adult Faith Formation videos available for viewing on [You Tube](http://www.youtube.com). Click the [You Tube](http://www.youtube.com) icon on the website home page to view.

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

Up To The Minute AFF Information. Click the [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com) icon on the website home page and join.

**SPANISH ACTS RETREAT FOR MEN**

The fifth ACTS men’s retreat in Spanish (MS-5) will take place on January 22-25, 2015. For additional information, please contact Art Rocha at 832-527-2729.

**NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES**

Join **NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES, A MINISTRY FOR SINGLES AGES 40+**, on Wednesday, January 7, to talk/drink/eat at 7:00 P.M. at RC’s Pizza, 1202 Kingwood Drive in Kingwood. For more info about the group, contact Elizabeth Schields (281-441-2552 or elizabeths2@peoplepc.com) or Peggy Broyles (281-359-4560 or peggybmom4@gmail.com) or subscribe to us on Flocknote on either St. Martha’s or St. Mary Magdalene’s website.

**PROJECT RACHEL**

New Project Rachel group begins January 6th. Call for more information and directions to off site location!

Project Rachel is the confidential and compassionate outreach to women who have had an abortion or been involved in an abortion. Its purpose is to foster reconciliation and healing between the parent and Christ, His Church, the child, and all other significant relationships. Questions? Contact Bonnie Develle, L.P.C., 281-812-8641, 713-435-9215, or bdevelle@comcast.net.

**YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON - HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Young at Heart-ers - Welcome to the New Year! Make the Young at Heart Luncheon one of your New Year's Resolutions. Try it - you'll like it!!! Continue your New Year's celebration and join us for our first luncheon of 2015 on Wednesday, January 14. There will be fellowship, bingo and lunch at St. Martha's Family Life Center. Bingo begins at 11 am, followed by lunch and fellowship that ends at 2 pm. Bring a friend with you and join the fun! We meet on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday of each month. If transportation is needed, contact Minnie Romo at minerva.romo@gmail.com or Domenica Seitz at 713-899-1016. If you have any questions, please call Nancy Landvogt at 281-358-6637 x 202, e-mail nancyl@stmartha.com or Nancy Karpinski, 713-594-4430.

**VIRTUS WORKSHOP**

A VIRTUS workshop will be offered at St. Martha on Tuesday, January 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. **No late admittance after 6:30 p.m.** Please plan to arrive by 6:00 to get paperwork. **You must bring a current driver's license, ID or passport to the session with your name and date of birth to match your pre-registration on VIRTUS.** You must attend a VIRTUS workshop to volunteer or work with children and youth in the parish, school, or any church related organization. Please register for the workshop at [www.archgh.org](http://www.archgh.org). Select the Safe Environment icon on the bottom of the screen. Then select Register & Attend a “Protecting God’s Children Workshop” to view a listing of sessions by date and to register for a session. This class is for adults 18 and older. Please note, no walk-ins will be admitted (this is a new diocesan policy).
MARTHA'S QUILTERS:
Martha's Quilters provide handmade blessed quilts to infirm St. Martha parishioners as a tangible reminder of God's love during times of illness. To request a quilt, be placed on our prayer list, or make a donation, please contact Noreen Borys at njborys@embarqmail.com - 832-259-1848 or Angela Wemyss at angelawemyss@hotmail.com - 281-361-9720. Martha's Quilters meet every Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. in Rm 3.

For Survivors of Abuse—Maria Goretti Network (MGN)
A peer to peer self help support group for women and men focusing on healing and forgiveness. For information on monthly meetings e-mail: stmarthamgn@gmail.com or call (281) 360-4045.

ROSARY GUILD
The Rosary Guild will no longer collect items for Dickinson after January 2015. Beginning in February 2015, only prayer books, holy cards, bibles, CCD textbooks, rosaries, and religious articles will be collected. For more information or questions, please contact JoAnna at 281-361-0391 or jloup3@yahoo.com.

Men's ACTS Retreat
February 12-15, 2015
Registration for the February Men’s ACTS retreat (English) has begun. The ACTS retreat is a 3 day/3night retreat that focuses on Adoration, Community, Theology and Service, and is presented by parishioners of St. Martha. Registration is limited and is on a first-come first-served basis, and must include a non-refundable deposit of $50. The cost of the retreat is $190, but do not let the financial considerations prevent you from attending the retreat, please prayerfully consider attending this exiting retreat!! If you have any questions, you can contact the retreat director, Chris Pozzi at 832-370-8944 or stmmlmensacts@gmail.com.

Marriage and A New Way to Love
Marriage is sacred, exciting, and fun but it can also be boring, challenging, and just okay at times. A NEW WAY TO LOVE – is a six week marriage enrichment series on living God’s purpose for your marriage.
It will start Tuesday, January 20, 7:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center (Woodland Hills).
It is a great gift to give your spouse whether you are engaged to be married, married six months or 60 years.
Registration is required.
For questions or registration, e-mail Francine at franp@stmartha.com.
Childcare may be requested with your registration. To cover the cost of each participant manual, $30.00 per couple will be collected at the first session.

St. Martha's Men's Retreat at Holy Name Passionist Retreat Center
January 9-11, 2015
Start the New Year with a relaxing Retreat Weekend. Retreat Theme "Meeting the Jesus I Never Knew"
Becoming Companions at the Foot of the Cross
“So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones and members of the household of God”–Ephesians 2:19
For more information contact Bruce Farmer:
at 281-360-4047 or register online: www.passionist.org/holynameweekendretreats
St. Martha School Scoops

St. Martha Catholic School is a fully accredited school for students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. Our curriculum builds strong academic skills, Catholic values and moral character in a safe, secure, and caring environment. Our students attend weekly Mass and celebrate reconciliation during the school day throughout the school year. We are blessed to have the involvement of our parish priests in many of our school activities. We offer the sports of soccer, basketball, baseball, track, volleyball and girls' softball. We also support a drama club, a band program, Rosary Guild, Student Council, BETA Club and other student activities.

Visit our school website at www.stmarthacs.org for more information or contact Registrar Jan Rodine at 281-358-5523 for a tour.

The Mission of St. Martha Catholic School is to provide a quality education sharing in the total Catholic formation of each person by developing mind, heart and spirit.

Monica's Hope: Prayerful Support for Parents of Troubled Children

Don't suffer in silence and solitude. Within our Catholic Community there are many with seriously troubled children of all ages. Problems like addiction, criminality, and mental disorder. Our experience is that sharing the burden lightens the load. And in the example of St. Monica you can pray for your child and you can find peace. The next meeting will be January 5, 7:30-9:00 p.m. in Room 1 (Library). Questions? Call Paul and Marcia Aegerter at 281-812-1288 or e-mail marciaaeg@aol.com

MOM’S PRAYER GROUP:

Have a child going to college? There are lots of changes and decisions at this time for our youth. What better way to send them to college than covered in prayer? Join other moms in prayer the second Tuesday of every month (January 13) at 7:00 p.m. in Room 5 of the Family Life Center. If you can, bring your rosary or one will be provided. Questions? E-mail Pat Azzollini at patlini2000@yahoo.com.

ST. MARTHA SUNDAY NURSERY

Sundays- 9 AM, 11 AM and 5:30 PM (Life Teen)
Open every Sunday, with the exception of Thanksgiving weekend, Christmas, New Year’s Day and Easter. Ages: 12 months old through age 4.

JUST SHOW UP AND HAVE FUN

Drinks, Snacks, and Awards
Contact: Mark Roseland
Phone: 713-805-4959
E-mail: mark.roseland@bakerhughes.com
Date of Competition: January 10, 2015
Location: St. Martha Activity Center
Time: 2:30 to 4:30 PM
Sponsored by: St. Martha Knights of Columbus Council # 12320
Please note: Entrants may compete in only one local competition.
Age as of January 1, 2015: 9-14 years old.

BACK TO SCHOOL SOCIAL

FRIENDS, GAMES, MUSIC, and FUN!
ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS AND FRIENDS!!!

Saturday, January 10, 2015
[6:00 – 9:00 PM]
in the FLC
COST: $6 if you pay by Thursday, January 8
$8 if you pay at the door
(must have signed permission slip or an adult to sign)

Lisa Hartsfield: lisal@stmartha.com
Bottle Distribution January 10th and 11th
Help us share the truth with young women and teens who find themselves in a crisis pregnancy.

The Baby Bottle Boomerang is a fundraiser, crucial to the continued success of the pro-life ministries: Gabriel Project at St. Martha and Birthright of Humble.

We will distribute the empty bottles on January 10 and 11 after all Masses. When you return them full of coins, bills and checks, your gifts will help women served by The Gabriel Project and Birthright of Humble.

The Bottle Return is January 17 and 18 at all Masses.
Thank you for your support and generosity!

Questions or if you would like to help: paula_amsler@msn.com.

Please pray for our active military as seen on the wreath in the Narthex. To add a loved one call: Carole Parslow 832-689-5824 or e-mail carolep8359@gmail.com.

Teams of Our Lady presents "One In The Lord"
Deacon Tom Vicknair returns to St. Martha for a day of marriage enrichment at the Family Life Center on Saturday, February 7th, 2015 beginning at 11:30 a.m. and ending with 5:30 p.m. Mass.
Everyone is welcome! Please RSVP to Nick and Joannah Landry nslandry@mac.com by January 15th if childcare is needed. Child must be 12 months or older.
We look forward to breaking bread and celebrating our marriage vocation with all of you!

What is Catholics Returning Home?
Catholics Returning Home is a program that invites non-practicing Catholics, of any age, to return home to the Catholic Church and resume active practice of their faith. If you are a Catholic who has been away from the Church for a while, this invitation is for you.
No matter how long you have been away and no matter what reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic Church.

Please join us for informal listening sessions and an update of the Catholic faith facilitated by former non-practicing Catholics.

January 13 – February 17, 2015
Tuesday Evenings - 7 pm – 8:30 pm
Room #3 in the building next to the Family Life Center
3702 Woodland Hills Drive

The Catholics Returning Home sessions provide updated information on the basics of Catholicism in a non-threatening, support group format. The sessions are informational and formational. Topics of the six week sessions are:

♦ Welcome and Overview of the Series: Sharing by Team and Participants
♦ Further sharing and discussion
♦ The Church Today – Changes since Vatican II, Q&A
♦ Explanation of Reconciliation/Confession, Q&A
♦ Explanation/Walk-through of the Mass, Q&A
♦ The Creed: What Catholics Believe Wrap-Up, Q&A

If you would like more information or to participate, please contact: Carla Lewton at carlal@stmartha.com or call 281-713-8968

* Babysitting is available upon request.
* All who choose to participate in this program will remain in confidence with the CRH Team and other fellow participants.
The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed every Sunday at 3:00 p.m. in the Woodland Hills chapel.
Everyone welcome.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OFFER MASS CARDS
Mass Cards benefiting St. Mary’s Seminary are available in the parish office from Monday through Friday from 9:00-4:00. Cards are $3.00 per person/$4.00 per couple/$10 per family for monthly remembrances and $25.00 for perpetual remembrances.
All Masses are said at St. Mary’s Seminary, and cannot be scheduled for a particular time. Make checks payable to the Catholic Daughters, Court of St. Martha.

Frassati Catholic High School Application Deadline
The priority application deadline for the 2015-2016 school year is January 15, 2015. Apply today at frassaticatholic.org! To schedule a tour, arrange a shadow day, or for more information about Frassati Catholic High School, call 832-616-3227.

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF DEVOTION TO PRAYER IN ST. MARTHA PARISH
“Could you not watch one hour with Me?” Mark 14:37
Our parish is incredibly blessed to have Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration available in our adoration chapel twenty-four hours a day. Jesus dwells in the Blessed Sacrament because of His infinite love for each one of us, and He is always present there in the Blessed Sacrament patiently waiting for us to come and spend time with Him.
Listed below are hours that are most in need of adorers at this time. However, please note that no hour is really ever “filled” because parishioners are always invited to choose an hour that works best for them, regardless of whether or not there are other adorers already there in prayer.
Both regular adorers and substitutes are needed at this time. Even if you do not have a regular hour, please feel free to visit our Blessed Lord at any time knowing that He is always waiting for us with joyful anticipation.
Second adorers are needed for the following hours:
If you are interested in participating in this ministry or would like more information, please contact Robyn Laumbach at either 281-360-7897 or robynbfly@embarqmail.com. If you need a substitute, please call one of our division leaders: Robyn Laumbach at 281-360-7897 for Midnight-6 AM, Karen Ehlig at 281-361-7127 for 6 AM-Noon, Annunciata Hopkins at 281-360-1258 for Noon-6 PM, and Beth Beckham at 281-435-1439 for 6 PM-Midnight.

Communion to the Sick:
If you or a loved one are in Kingwood Hospital, and would like a Communion Minister to visit, call the church office at 281-358-6637 to let us know. Hospital regulations require us to have the patient’s name and room number before we send someone.

MARTHA'S KITCHEN NEWS
During this beautiful Christmas season, Martha’s Kitchen is reminded of all of the blessings that the parishioners and clergy of St. Martha Church have bestowed upon our ministry. We are blessed to be the recipient of your continued generosity and volunteer spirit. May you and your family experience a joyous New Year!
Note: Martha's Kitchen will be closed through Jan. 2, and will reopen on Monday, Jan. 5.
Para la familia de la parroquia de Santa Marta,
Hoy celebramos la fiesta de la **Epifanía**, la fascinante historia de los magos o sabios que hacen un viaje siguiendo una estrella. La imagen de la vida de fe es como un viaje y es uno de los más poderosos en toda la Escritura. La aventura de los Reyes Magos es un tipo muy particular de viaje que ilustra bellamente esta imagen de la vida de fe. Esta búsqueda implica un gran coraje y fe. Emprender una búsqueda sugiere que uno deja algo que conoce y se mueve hacia algo que es desconocido y no familiar. Este envuelve un riesgo y sacrificio personal. (Esto fue de hecho la experiencia de varios de nuestros feligreses que hicieron el Camino en España este verano pasado). Los Reyes Magos vivían bastante seguros en la tierra de Babilonia y ellos eran los especialistas en su arte, ciencias y cultura. Estaban bien cómodos en sus tierras y en control de sus vidas. Pero dejaron atrás todo eso y se aventuraron en territorio desconocido, sin la seguridad de saber ni siquiera lo que iban a encontrar. Es la imagen de un viaje y es la imagen de un hombre que busca encontrar a Dios. Partiendo de lo conocido y familiar, con la consciencia de las propias necesidades y esperanzas, y moviéndose a un mundo de lo desconocido y lo infinito, sabiendo sólo que la presencia de Dios parece atraer a uno de los anhelos más profundos, describe la esencia de la camino de fe. Una búsqueda nunca puede ser completamente planificada aunque requiere que uno sea prudente y haga los preparativos necesarios. Un buscador honesto debe estar dispuesto a ser sorprendido y estar dispuestos a renunciar a los derechos de determinar que estarán involucrados experiencias. Esta fue la actitud de los Reyes Magos. Llegaron con preguntas, no con respuestas. Tenían expectativas, pero no exigencias. Lo que encontraron fue mucho más allá de sus sueños.

Y así debe ser con cada persona que decide emprender un viaje en busca de Dios. Aquellos creyentes que no están dispuestos a ser sorprendido y aun perturbado por Dios en su camino de fe se perderá el encuentro personal con Dios. Los que tratan de entrar en la presencia de Dios, sólo en sus propios términos tendrán un encuentro superficial con Dios. Los que dicen saber dónde van a encontrar a Dios en su viaje o que reclamar el derecho a definir lo que Dios tiene que ser, serán decepcionados y no llenados.

Un verdadero buscador en la fe tiene una poderosa confianza en las promesas de Dios, incluso cuando esas promesas parecen más allá de nosotros o demasiado buenas para ser verdad. En la vida de cada uno de nosotros el nacimiento del Salvador ha puesto en marcha algo muy poderoso, algo muy profundo, y algo muy sagrado. Tal vez hemos ignorado o inclusive negado este anhelo y el deseo de muchos años, pero siempre está ahí. Dios nos invita una vez más a emprender este viaje. Con los Reyes Magos como nuestros ejemplos, sigamos la estrella y descubramos la presencia de nuestro Dios a nuestro alrededor, especialmente en los eventos aparentemente insignificantes y momentos de nuestra vida cotidiana.

*Padre Chester Borski*

**Solemnidad de la Epifanía del Señor**

**Reflexión sobre las lecturas:**

En la Solemnidad de la Epifanía del Señor celebramos la “manifestación de Jesús” a los hombres. Jesús se da a conocer a través de una estrella a los magos de oriente. Jesús, quien decidió nacer en un lugar pobre y carente de comodidades, es adorado por unos magos poderosos y ricos. Esos magos reconocieron en Jesús como el Rey de los Judíos e hicieron un largo viaje para hacerle unos regalos con un profundo significado: Oro por ser Rey de reyes, Incienso por ser Dios y Mirra por ser hombre, quien a través de su muerte redimiría los pecados del mundo. La Escritura también nos dice que los magos se llenaron de inmensa alegría cuando vieron de nuevo la estrella. Esa es la misma alegría que nosotros debemos sentir al recordar que Jesús, Rey del Universo, Dios y Hombre al mismo tiempo, nació en Belén para el perdón de nuestros pecados y para abrirnos de nuevo las puertas del cielo. El merece todo nuestro amor y toda nuestra adoración y la mejor forma de hacerlo es siguiendo su ejemplo y amando a Dios y a nuestros semejantes como Él lo hizo.

**Compromiso de la semana:** Iré a la capilla por una hora esta semana para adorar a Jesús y meditar en la importancia de su nacimiento en mi vida.

Recibimos sus comentarios a esta columna o al contenido en español de este boletín en el correo electrónico: boletin@stmartha.co
Ministerio Hispano

RICA:
No estás bautizado, no haz hecho tu primera comunión o no estás confirmado!!!! Piensas que como no lo hiciste de niño es muy difícil recibirlos como adulto? Conoces a alguien que no tiene todos sus sacramentos? No es difícil. Nosotros te ayudamos en el proceso. Pero tu tienes que dar el primer paso. Comunícate con Jaime Gomez 281-973-1857 o escribe a sacramentos@stmartha.co. hoy mismo!!!!!

Convalidación de Matrimonios:
¿Te falta el Sacramento de Matrimonio? ¿Necesitas ayuda emocional o espiritual en tu Matrimonio? Para más información llama al Sr. Rubén o Sra. Janett Manosalva a 281-706-5068 o puedes comunicarte por email: matrimonios@stmartha.co

Cáliz de Vocaciones
Está interesado de tener el Cáliz de Vocaciones en su hogar, Para más información favor de llamar al Sr. Pastor al 832-514-5741 o por email al: comitecalizdevocaciones@stmartha.co.

Monaguillos: Si su niño/a está interesado a servir de Monaguillo, Favor de llamar al Sr. Pastora al 832-514-5741 o por email al: monaguillos@stmartha.co.

Ministerio Legión de María:
Están cordialmente invitados todos los viernes a las 7:00 PM en el salón 2 de las instalaciones de Woodland Hills Dr. Mayores informes con la Sra. Veronica Reyes (281.728.9843) o por email: legiondemaria@stmartha.co

### January 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Mary, Mother of God Mass: 9 am, 11 am, &amp; 1 pm (Bi-lingual Mass) Parish Office, Faith Formation Office and Martha’s Kitchen Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Epiphany of the Lord</td>
<td>Martha’s Kitchen &amp; Faith Formation Office Reopens</td>
<td>9:15 am Breakfast &amp; Bible Study</td>
<td>8:30 am School Mass</td>
<td>6:30 pm RCIA</td>
<td>9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2</td>
<td>8:30 am—12:30 pm Revive &amp; Thrive: Sustaining the New Evangelization, A Day of Prayer 2:30-4:30 pm KofC Free Throw Contest 6-9 pm EDGE Social, FLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Baptism of the Lord</td>
<td>10:30 am Living with a Grateful Heart</td>
<td>9:15 am Breakfast &amp; Bible Study</td>
<td>8:30 am School Mass</td>
<td>6:30 pm RCIA</td>
<td>9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2</td>
<td>Baby Bottle Boomerang Return</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Jr. Day—Parish Office Closed</td>
<td>9:15 am Breakfast &amp; Bible Study</td>
<td>8:30 am School Mass</td>
<td>6:30 pm RCIA</td>
<td>Spanish ACTS (Men) Retreat Begins</td>
<td>St. John of the Cross Food Drive</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</td>
<td>9:15 am Little Rock Scripture Study, FLC</td>
<td>9:15 am Breakfast &amp; Bible Study</td>
<td>8:30 am School Mass</td>
<td>6:30 pm RCIA</td>
<td>9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2</td>
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</tbody>
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### Events
- **January 1**: 8:30 am Pro-life Mass
- **January 4**: The Epiphany of the Lord 3 pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- **January 5**: Martha’s Kitchen & Faith Formation Office Reopens 10:30 am Living with a Grateful Heart 7:30 pm Monica’s Hope Support Group, Rm 6
- **January 6**: 9:15 am Breakfast & Bible Study 7 pm Cornerstone New Project Rachel group begins
- **January 7**: 8:30 am School Mass 10:30 am Martha’s Quilters, Rm 3
- **January 8**: 6:30 pm RCIA
- **January 9**: 9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2
- **January 10**: 8:30 am—12:30 pm Revive & Thrive: Sustaining the New Evangelization, A Day of Prayer 2:30-4:30 pm KofC Free Throw Contest 6-9 pm EDGE Social, FLC
- **January 11**: The Baptism of the Lord 10:45 am Video Series, Rm 2 2 pm Rosary Guild, Rm 2 3 pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- **January 12**: 10:30 am Living with a Grateful Heart
- **January 13**: 9:15 am Breakfast & Bible Study 6:30 pm VIRTUS Workshop, FLC 7 pm Mom’s Prayer Group, Rm 5 7 pm Cornerstone RISE 7 pm Catholics Returning Home, Rm 2
- **January 14**: 8:30 am School Mass 9:45 am Cornerstone 10:30 am Martha’s Quilters, Rm 3 11 am Seniors Luncheon
- **January 15**: 6:30 pm RCIA
- **January 16**: 9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2
- **January 17**: Baby Bottle Boomerang Return
- **January 18**: 11 am Seniors Luncheon
- **January 19**: Martin Luther King Jr. Day—Parish Office Closed 10:30 am Living with a Grateful Heart
- **January 20**: 9:15 am Breakfast & Bible Study 7 pm Cornerstone 7 pm Catholics Returning Home, Rm 2 7 pm A New Way to Love
- **January 21**: 8:30 am School Mass 9:45 am Cornerstone 10:30 am Martha’s Quilters, Rm 3
- **January 22**: 6:30 pm RCIA
- **January 23**: 9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2
- **January 24**: St. John of the Cross Food Drive
- **January 25**: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 10:45 am Video Series, Rm 2 3 pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy St. John of the Cross Food Drive Catholic Schools Week
- **January 26**: 9:15 am Little Rock Scripture Study, FLC 10:30 am Living with a Grateful Heart 11 am SVdp, Rm 1 6:30-8 pm EDGE Night, FLC
- **January 27**: 9:15 am Breakfast & Bible Study 7 pm Cornerstone 7 pm Catholics Returning Home, Rm 2 7 pm A New Way to Love
- **January 28**: 8:30 am School Mass 9:45 am Cornerstone 10:30 am Martha’s Quilters, Rm 3 11 am Seniors Luncheon
- **January 29**: 6:30 pm RCIA
- **January 30**: 9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2
- **January 31**:
STEWARDSHIP of Time, Talent and Treasure

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Brian & Mary Anne Sokol 281.642.3821
Nick & Joannah Landry 281.324.1231

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Pastor Pastor 832.514.5741/832.633.0145

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Bill Grun 281.360.3829

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RICA
Jaime Gomez 281.973.1857

A STEWARDSHIP PRAYER
Gracious and Loving God, the old year has passed and a new year begun. We thank you for Your active presence in our busy lives, for the opportunities given, and for blessings received. As we embrace a new year, breathe freely through us and renew our spirits with fresh resolve and purpose. Give us the grace to be good stewards of all that You have entrusted to us and to serve You with generous, compassionate and loving hearts. Bless our days ahead. Give us the courage to be faithful. And show us how to proclaim the Good News of Your Son, Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever. Amen.