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 Kleinguei, Mr. Bob MacFarlane, Mr. Al O’Brien, Mr. Guy T. Puglia, Mr. John Schuster, and Mr. Alfredo Soto

Baptized into Christ Jesus, we worship as one and reach out to all.

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 at 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

Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

John 3:14-15

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### TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of the chosen people (2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23) or 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.  

**Psalm** — Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you! (Psalm 137) or Psalm 23.  

**Second Reading** — By grace you have been saved (Ephesians 2:4-10) or Ephesians 5:8-14.  

**Gospel** — The Son was sent by God so that the world might be saved through him (John 14:12).  

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### MASS INTENTIONS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon./Mar. 16</th>
<th>Sat./Mar. 21</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Theresa Guzman</td>
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<td>Tues./Mar. 17</td>
<td>Margaret Kerrigan</td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Earl Keeling</td>
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<td>Wed./Mar. 18</td>
<td>Maria del Carmen Castillo</td>
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<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Donald Hogan</td>
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<td>Thurs./Mar. 19</td>
<td>Rosan Lazarone</td>
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<td>Fri./Mar. 20</td>
<td>Josefina Muriel</td>
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### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- **Monday:** Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54  
- **Tuesday:** Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16  
- **Wednesday:** Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30  
- **Thursday:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rm 4:13-16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a  
- **Friday:** Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30  
- **Saturday:** Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53  
- **Sunday:** Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33  

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### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- **Sunday:** Fourth Sunday of Lent; Second Scrutiny  
- **Tuesday:** St. Patrick  
- **Wednesday:** St. Cyril of Jerusalem  
- **Thursday:** St. Joseph  
- **Friday:** Abstinence; Spring begins

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### STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Jesus tells his disciples of the immeasurable generosity God has bestowed on them by offering His only Son for their salvation. Good stewards realize this wonderful gift. God has sacrificed what is most dear to Him for our sake. Do we rejoice in this gift of Our Savior and respond to this love with our own immeasurable generosity? Do we allow the light of Christ to shine in the world through us? Or do we withdraw, refusing this gift, and prefer to live in a way that denies the light of Christ? This week, reflect on the ways you allow the light of Christ to shine through you. Could that light reflect even more brilliantly through you?

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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.
From the Pastor

To the parish family of St. Martha,

The Scripture readings for the 4th Sunday of Lent speak about the debilitating effects of sin in our lives. In essence sin reflects our infidelity to the covenant and reminds us of the absolute need we have for God’s gift of salvation. The first reading from II Chronicles describes what happened to the people of Israel as a sign for what can happen to us. Early on Israel was blessed with unity and peace under the leadership of King David and his successors. But the people gradually drifted away from adherence to the covenant and this final chapter of the book records the collapse of this once great kingdom. The reading declares that “early and often” God sent messengers to the people in the hope that they would listen and change their hearts. The sacred author wants us readers to appreciate how compassionate God was in giving the people every opportunity to repent of their sins. The reading describes the terrible events that took place in 587 B.C. when the Babylonian army destroyed the city of Jerusalem and the temple of Solomon. Thus began the Babylonian exile for the people of Israel, a truly sorrowful time described as a land longing for its “lost Sabbaths.” The reading emphasizes that it was not the power of Babylon that brought down Israel, but the people’s own sinfulness. The message of the Word of God is quite clear: sin destroys human beings and their ability to become a united people. Each time we act selfishly, we become less capable of acting with charity. Each time we turn inward and focus upon ourselves, we become less capable of reaching out to other people and to God. By eating away at the values upon which human life must be built, sin cripples us and inhibits our ability to live in God’s world as his children. We move into a world that we ourselves have created, a world cut off from love, joy, and God’s grace. It is a world marked by frustration and a deep sense of failure and hatred.

But if the effects of sin are inevitable for those who choose to live in that type of hell, so too are the saving effects of God’s grace for those who choose to change their lives and live in God’s Kingdom. The Gospel text from John has Jesus promising Nicodemus that it is God’s plan that all people might be saved from sin and be able to live eternally in God’s presence. God has sealed this pledge or covenant with the life of God’s own Son: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life” (John 3:16). This is also the Church’s central message during the season of Lent. We are called to return to the Lord with our whole heart and listen to God’s plan for us. No one of us should be the least worried or anxious about what God has in store for us or truly intends for us. God desires the fullness of life for each of us. God desires that each of us be saved and live always in his presence. The only concern that any of us should ever have about our success or failure as human beings is whether or not we desire what God wants for us.

Fr. Chester Borski

There will be NO 7:00 PM Mass on Tuesday, March 17th, as Father Joe Butz will be leading the second night of our Parish Mission.

Parish Mission

The mission begins with missionary, Fr. Joseph Butz, preaching at all the weekend Masses this weekend, March 14 and 15.

Mission schedule: March 16-19. A session will be held each evening beginning at 7:00 p.m., lasting approximately 60 minutes. A penance service will be held after the Thursday session on March 19.

Biography of Fr. Joseph Butz: Born in Norway, Iowa, Father Joseph Butz is the eldest of five children. After serving in the Air Force for four years, he joined the Redemptorists. Ordained in 1970, Fr. Joe’s first assignment was the overseas mission of Amazonas, Brazil. In his 37 years there, Father Joe served in both urban and rural ministries. He returned to the United States in January 2008. After spending time in a well-deserved rest and becoming reunited with his family, he asked to join the Liguori Mission Team. His vast experience, love for the parish mission, and practical approach to the spiritual life makes him a valuable asset to any parish mission.

During this solemn and holy season of Lent, let us make a conscious effort to recommit ourselves to the three pillars of Lent: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. Supporting St. Martha Catholic Church through Faith Direct is a great way for us as a parish to observe consistent almsgiving. Please enroll today! Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our Church Code TX497 to sign up. Thank you and God bless.
The Season of Lent

EASTER FLOWERS
Donations for flowers to be used during the Easter Season in the Church may be made in memory of loved ones by using the envelope marked “Special Offering for Easter Flowers” in your envelope packet and indicating the name(s) on the line provided. The names will be published in an insert in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. The deadline for submitting these special envelopes is Palm Sunday, March 29.

Stations of the Cross will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the church every Friday during Lent.

LENTEN CONCERT
WITH
Larry Scott Metivier
Tuesday, March 24, 2015
7:30 PM
St. Martha’s Family Life Center
3702 Woodland Hills Drive
Kingwood, TX 77339

Larry has performed for Mother Teresa, Mother Angelica, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, Bob Hope and others. His original compositions capture the essence and spirit of the Lenten Season. He studied voice performance at the University of Puget Sound and holds a Master’s in Religious Education from Loyola which he uses to bring reflective thought and understanding to the life of Christ.

Seating is limited. Admission is FREE!

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

ANOEING OF THE SICK MASS: Wednesday, April 1, at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

TRIDUUM SCHEDULE:
Holy Thursday Mass, April 2: 7:30 p.m.
(No 6:30 a.m. or 8:30 a.m. Mass)
11:45 p.m. Night Prayer in the Church
(Chapel closes at midnight)
Good Friday, April 3: 3:00 p.m. - Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion
7:30 p.m. - Stations of the Cross
(No 8:30 a.m. Mass. Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence)
Easter Vigil, April 4: 8:30 p.m. (No 5:30 p.m. Mass today)
Easter Sunday, April 5: 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. (Spanish Mass).

Overflow Masses will be held at the Woodland Hills Activity Center at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.
(Chapel opens after 1:00 p.m. Mass. No 5:30 p.m. Lifeteen Mass and No Sunday Nursery)

PLEASE NOTE:
♦ There will be no Mass or Reconciliation on Tuesday evening, March 31, and no Reconciliation on Saturday, April 4.
♦ There will be Reconciliation on Good Friday, April 3, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
♦ The Parish Office will close at 12 noon on Holy Thursday, April 2, and will remain closed through Easter Monday, April 6. The office will re-open on Tuesday morning, April 7, at 9:00 a.m.
ADULT FAITH FORMATION
THE FAITH FORMATION OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE SPRING BREAK HOLIDAY - THROUGH SUNDAY, MARCH 15. THE OFFICE WILL RE-OPEN MONDAY, MARCH 16 AT 9:00 AM.


Thursday Evenings: ARE YOU AN ADULT CATHOLIC WANTING TO BE CONFIRMED?
If you have questions or would like to register for Confirmation, please call the Faith Formation Office, 281-358-1959, Carla Lewton, ext. 213 or Joanie Nugent, ext. 264. There will be a one day retreat on Saturday, March 21, 2015 at St. Mary Magdalene in Humble. The time and room location will be announced as they become available. Confirmation classes will be held Thursday evenings beginning April 9 through May 21, 2015 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at St. Martha’s Faith Formation Campus, 3702 Woodland Hills Drive. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on one of the following dates: Saturday, May 23, Pentecost Sunday, May 24, or Trinity Sunday, May 31, 2015. The time, and location will be determined at a later date.

St. Martha Adult Faith Formation Website: 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 YouTube. Click the YouTube icon on the website home page to view. LIKE US ON FACEBOOK Up To The Minute AFF Information. Click the Facebook icon on the website home page and join.

PROJECT RACHEL
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.

NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES
NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES, A MINISTRY FOR SINGLES AGES 40+, gathers on Wednesday, March 18, to talk/eat/drink at 7:00 P.M. at Jason's Deli, 1275 Kingwood Drive in Kingwood. For more info, contact Peggy Broyles (281-359-4560 or peggybmom4@gmail.com) or Elizabeth Shields (281-441-2552 or elizabeths2@peoplepc.com) or subscribe to us on Flocknote at St. Martha’s or St. Mary Magdalene’s website.

Young at Heart Luncheon (formerly Senior Citizen Luncheon) - Spring Fling
Spring is here and the trees & flowers are blooming. Come join us for a "Spring Fling" at St. Martha's Family Life Center on Wednesday, March 25. Bingo begins at 11 am, followed by lunch and fellowship that ends at 2 pm. Bring a friend with you and join the fun! The Senior Citizen Luncheon now known as the "Young at Heart Luncheon" is a get together of those 55+ who meet on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday of each month for fellowship, bingo and lunch. 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.

Marianite Rosary Guild of St. Martha Catholic Church
Our Rosary Guild meets every 2nd Sunday of the month at the Woodland Hills campus. E-mail JoAnna Loup, our coordinator, at jloup3@yahoo.com to join and help us bring more people closer to Jesus through Mary’s rosary and teach the life of Christ through the rosary prayers. View our website at www.MarianiteRosaryGuild.org. We offer beautifully made rosaries, large wall rosaries, and rosaries with hangers and frames. We also accept donations for our ministry on the website or by mail. Your support enables us to continue our mission to provide twine rosaries to many ministries.

Skilled Woodworker Needed
The Rosary Guild is in need of a skilled woodworker to donate their time to create more wood products for our ministry. Contact JoAnna Loup at jloup3@yahoo.com for more information.
**Adult Organizations and Opportunities**

**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: smarthamgn@gmail.com or call (281) 360-4045.

**THANK YOU to all of our Caring Cooks who have so generously given of their time to make meals for those in our parish community who are truly in need at a difficult time and have no one to provide meals for them. This is an awesome ministry open to anyone who would like to provide a meal every now and then to a fellow parishioner in need. We are a blessed community in that we have so many caring and helpful folks to help out when one of us is in need. If you would like to be a part of this truly rewarding team of caring cooks please call: Karen Rexer 281-354-8857 or Marian Brown 281-360-6914 to sign up. And as always, if you should find yourself or someone you know in need of help with meals during a very difficult time please know there is someone there to help.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food.”
Matthew 25:35

**St. Martha Women’s ACTS Retreat March 26-29**
Registration for the March Women’s (English) ACTS Retreat has begun. The ACTS retreat is a 3 day/3 nights 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 $50.00. The cost of the retreat is $190.00 but do not let the financial considerations prevent you from attending the retreat. Please prayerfully consider attending this exciting retreat!! If you have any questions, you can contact the retreat Director Acenith Claassen at 832-455-3764 or cennieclaas@yahoo.com.

**Martha’s Kitchen** is busily serving those in need of a meal each weekday as a result of the dedicated loyalty of donations from parishioners. Our ministry is most grateful for the Christmas donations and memorials. Please remember to use your special envelopes in order to fight hunger and help those who struggle to feed their families on a daily basis. During the Lenten season, we ask you to reflect on the poor and hungry of Houston. May God bless you!

**JOB OPPORTUNITY - NURSERY**
Position available for the Sunday Nursery and other church events. Please contact Patty Jackson at 281-713-8970, or e-mail pattyj@stmartha.com

**The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed every Sunday at 3:00 p.m. in the Woodland Hills chapel. Everyone welcome.**

**RAY S OF ENLIGHTENMENT**
**Divine Mercy Conference at Christ The Redeemer**
11507 Huffmeister, Houston, TX 77065
March 21, 9-5 pm

**SPEAKERS:**
Steve Pokorny, Fr. Roy Oggero, Don & Sherry Burns, Sally Flowers, Fr. Christopher Plant

**GRACE FILLED DAY - Music/Refreshments/Teachings/Pow er Point Presentations/3:00**

**Chapel of Divine Mercy Adoration / 5 pm Mass**
Registration is required – No Charge
Call 281-469-5533 (Seating is limited)
Jack Alexander jalexander@ctrcc.com

**Ministry for the separated and divorced:** This ministry is dedicated to providing outreach, support, and a caring presence during the difficult time of separation and/or divorce. A monthly Holy Hour and Tea Time is scheduled every fourth Thursday of the month at Warren Chapel at St. Dominick Archdiocesan Center, 2403 Holcombe Blvd., from 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Next meeting: March 26. For more information, please call 713-741-8708.

**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.
Parenting/Youth Events

Are you a 2nd – 8th grade student who would like to join our St. Martha’s Youth Choir for the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Easter Sunday, April 5th? If so, the time to join is now! Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 4:30 – 5:30 on March 19th & 26th, in the choir room of the church on Woodridge Parkway. Please contact barbtolson@comcast.net for more information.

Children’s Adoration Hour Every Tuesday—10 a.m. in the Chapel
Bring your children and grandchildren to a special hour with Christ. They will learn to offer prayer intentions, grow in their love for Christ, his mother Mary, and our Church and the Pope. We have time for silent prayer, a decade of the rosary, we talk about saints and reflect on gospel passages and sing songs. Parents and kids receive many graces from spending an hour a week with Christ. We hope you will come and see what it’s all about. Contact Annette Salazar at asalazar77339@yahoo.com or 281-358-1492 if you have any questions.

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.
“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.

OPEN HOUR: FIRST AND SECOND ADORERS ARE NEEDED ON MONDAY 2-3 AM!

Second adorers are needed for the following hours:
Sunday: 1-2 AM, Noon-1 PM, 2-3 PM, 3-4 PM, 7-8 PM. Monday: 1-2 AM, 8-9 PM, 5-6 PM, 11 PM-Midnight. Tuesday: 2-3 AM, 5-6 AM. Thursday: 1-2 AM, 3-4 AM, 5-6 PM. Friday: 1-2 AM, 5-6 PM, 6-7 PM. Saturday: 1-2 AM, 3-4 AM, 2-3 PM, 9-10 PM.

If you are interested in participating in this ministry or would like more information, please contact Robyn Laumbach at 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.
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 Monday, April 6, 7:30-9:00 p.m. in Room 2. Questions? Call Paul and Marcia Aegerter at 281-812-1288 or e-mail marciaaeg@aol.com

Journey to the Easter Vigil
The Penitential Rite

On Sunday, March 1st, 2015 at the 11:00 a.m. Mass the RCIA Candidates, those who are baptized and are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil, celebrated the Penitential Rite.

Please pray for the Candidates during their journey:
Laura Gokey, Ryan Reed, Maria Lacour & Edward Zambuto

asking Christ to send the Holy Spirit with the love of God that they may receive the redeeming graces of Christ.

Help! Help! Help!

Your help is needed on Friday, March 27th, immediately following the 8:30 am Daily Mass. The palms to be blessed at the Palm Sunday Masses need to be prepared. Help is needed by both men and women. Please meet by the relief of Martha, Mary, Lazarus and Jesus. Be sure to bring scissors! For more information, please call Gayle at 281-358-6637 or e-mail gayleh@stmartha.com

You are cordially invited to Serra Club Northeast of Houston’s Monthly Meeting

Serra Clubs foster and promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life; encourage and affirm vocations to the consecrated life and nurture the spiritual growth and formation of its lay members.

Membership is open to all Catholics.
Monsignor Borski, our Club’s Chaplain, will open the meeting in prayer.

Please join us: Monday, March 23, 2015
6:30 pm Social
7:00 to 8:30 pm Dinner and Program
Italiano’s Restaurant
217 FM 1960 at Bypass Road East in Humble, Texas

The cost for dinner is $15.00 per person
Larry Massey, Governor of Serra Club District 10, will speak about: The Coming Golden Age of Serra.
RSVP: Diddy Muck
muck@kingwoodcable.net
281-615-2015

2015 Catholic Faith In Action
Advocacy Day

Come join the Bishops of Texas and your fellow Catholics in Austin on March 24, 2015 to promote the Church’s values of Life, Justice, Charity, and Religious Freedom to members of the 84th Texas Legislature.

If you are interested in attending, contact
Bill McCabe at 713-582-9605

For more details, go to:
http://www.txcatholic.org/#!catholic-faith-in-action-advocacy-day/c1tkb
nos es si queremos lo que Dios quiere para nosotros. Apreciamos de nuestro éxito o fracaso como seres humanos que cualquiera de nosotros debe siempre tener en cuenta nuestra presencia. La única preocupación que cada uno de nosotros debe siempre tener es acerca de que escuchen y cambien sus corazones. El autor sagrado nos quiere que a nosotros nos centremos en cómo compasivo Dios estaba en dar al pueblo todas las oportunidades para arrepentirse de sus pecados. La lectura describe los terribles acontecimientos que tuvieron lugar en el año 587 A.C. cuan-do el ejército de Babilonia destruyó la ciudad y el templo de Jerusalén. Así comenzó el exilio de Babilonia para el pueblo de Israel, un tiempo verdaderamente doloroso descrito como una añoranza de la tierra por sus “días de reposo perdidos”. La lectura hace hincapié en que no era el poder de Babilonia lo que provocó la caída de Israel, sino la propia pecaminosidad del pueblo. El mensaje de la Palabra de Dios es muy claro: el pecado destruye a los seres humanos y su capacidad de convertirse en un pueblo unido. Cada vez que actuamos de manera egoísta, nos volvemos menos capaces de actuar con caridad. Cada vez que nos volvemos y nos centramos en nosotros mismos, nos volvemos menos capaces de llegar a los demás y a Dios. Al comer lejos en los valores sobre los que la vida humana debe ser construido, el pecado nos paraliza e inhibe nuestra capacidad de vivir en el mundo de Dios como hijos suyos. Nos adentramos en un mundo que nosotros mismos hemos creado, un mundo aislado de amor, la alegría, y de la gracia de Dios. Es un mundo marcado por la frustración y un profundo sentimiento de fracaso y odio. Pero si los efectos del pecado son inevitables para los que optan por vivir en ese tipo de infierno, también lo son los efectos de sal-vación de la gracia de Dios para aquellos que optan por cambiar sus vidas y vivir en el Reino de Dios. El texto del Evangelio de Juan presenta a Jesús prometiendo a Nicodemo que el plan de Dios de salvar a todas las personas que puedan ser salvos del pecado y ser capaces de vivir eternamente en la presencia de Dios. Dios ha sellado este compromiso o pacto con la vida de su propio Hijo: “Porque tanto amó Dios al mundo que dio a su Hijo único, para que todo el que crea en él no perezca, sino que tenga vida eterna” (Juan 3: 16). Este es también el mensaje central de la Iglesia durante el tiempo de Cuaresma. Estamos llamados a volver a Dios con todo nuestro corazón y escuchar el plan que tiene para con nosotros. Ninguno de nosotros debe estar menos preocupado o ansioso acerca de lo que Dios tiene reservado para nosotros o realmente quiere para nosotros. Dios desea la plenitud de vida para cada uno de nosotros. Dios desea que cada uno de nosotros nos salvemos y vivamos siempre en su presencia. La única preocupación que cualquiera de nosotros debe siempre tener acerca de nuestro éxito o fracaso como seres huma-nos es si queremos lo que Dios quiere para nosotros.
Ministerio Hispano

4º Domingo de Cuaresma
Reflexión sobre las lecturas:
San Pablo nos dice en su carta a los Efesios: “La misericordia y el amor de Dios son muy grandes; porque nosotros estábamos muertos por nuestros pecados, y Él nos dio la vida con Cristo y en Cristo”. Por otro lado San Juan nos escribe en su Evangelio: “Porque tanto amo Dios al mundo, que le entregó a su Hijo único, para que todo el que crea en Él no perezca, sino que tenga vida eterna”. Somos criaturas de Dios, Él nos creó para que lo amáramos, conocéramos y sirviéramos en este mundo. Es un amor incondicional, desinteresado e infinito de un padre amoroso por sus hijos. Pero ese amor tan grande requiere de nosotros una respuesta. Dios nos lo da gratuitamente y espera de nosotros una respuesta gratuita; Él no nos obliga a una respuesta sino que espera a que nosotros, libremente, decidamos amarlo. La historia de la salvación es una historia de amor. Dios todopoderoso, creador del Universo y todo lo que existe, crea al hombre por amor, pero le da libertad para que el hombre decida si quiere o no corresponder a ese amor; si el hombre corresponde a ese amor, amando, conociendo y sirviendo a Dios, ese hombre se salva y comparte la vida eterna, con felicidad plena en la presencia de Dios; pero si el hombre decide ignorar o reprochar ese amor de Dios y no corresponde a él, ese hombre se condena y se pierde de esa vida eterna con Dios. La decisión es nuestra: Amemos, Conozcamos y Sirvamos a Dios para alcanzar la vida eterna.

Compromiso de la semana: Meditaré en el amor infinito de Dios y en cual debe ser mi respuesta para amarlo, conocerlo y servirlo en este mundo.

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

RETIRO ACTS de Mujeres en español
30 de abril al 3 de mayo del 2015
Inscripciones para el retiro ACTS de mujeres en español se llevaran a cabo el día 1ero de marzo después de la misa.
El retiro de ACTS es un retiro de tres días y tres noches que se enfoca en Adoración, Teología, Comunidad y Servicio y es preparado por los parroquianos de la Iglesia Santa Martha. 1 cupo el limitado y la inscripción se llevara a cabo en orden de llegada con un depósito de $50.00 (cheque o efectivo).
El costo del retiro es de $190.00 pero si por algún motivo este monto le fuese dificil, podría aplicar por ayuda financiera. Por favor póngase en oración y considere asistir a este retiro tan especial. Si tiene alguna pregunta puede contactar a la directora Carolina Castillo al 281-684-3422 o por email carolina127@hotmail.com.

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

Cáliz de Vocaciones:
Está interesado de tener el Cáliz de Vocaciones en su hogar, Para más información favor de llamar al Sr. Tony Lasalle al 646-489-1554 o por e-mail al: comitecalizdevocaciones@stmartha.co.

Proyecto Gabriel—
¿Está embarazada? ¿Necesita ayuda durante su embarazo? No importa su edad! Para más información favor de llamar a 713-225-5826.

RICHA:
No estás bautizado, no haz hecho tu primera comunión o no está 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. Comuníquese con Jaime Gomez 281-973-1857 o escribe a sacramentos@stmartha.co hoy mismo!!!!!!

"El soportó el castigo que no traz la paz y por sus llagas hemos sido sanados"
(Isaías 53, 5)

Noche de Adoración y Alabanza
Martes 24 de Marzo 7:00 p.m.
Parroquia Sta. Martha
Kingwood, Texas