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 Kleinguett, 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
To the parish family of St. Martha,

While the story in today’s Gospel account from Mark 4 is about Jesus quieting the storm on the sea, the principal focus of the story is not upon the miracle as such but on the identity of Jesus. The historical context of this account is important in order to understand its meaning and the teaching that Mark the evangelist intends to convey to us. At the time this Gospel was being written, the image of a boat was a common metaphor or symbol for the Church. Jesus had sent his disciples off on mission and their journey would take them into pagan territories where they encountered many trials and tribulations. Like the boat on the water, the early disciples met up with violent rejections and even persecution. They felt threatened and thought that they were about to sink. In contrast to Jesus, who is sound asleep in the stern of the boat as the storm rages, the disciples are not calm at all. They are paralyzed with fear. In their state of panic they wake Jesus and express their fear of perishing. Jesus’ response is immediate and definitive. He rebukes the wind and the waves just as he had earlier rebuked the demons and unclean spirits. The story tells us that the sea was quickly made to be calm and peaceful.

Thus, the point of the story is not the miracle, although the disciples undoubtedly believe that Jesus can work miracles. They had already witnessed Jesus’ miraculous powers while accompanying him during their time of discipleship. The point that Mark is making is that, even though Jesus has been with his disciples for a good while, they still do not know who he is. (In fact this is a common theme that runs throughout the Gospel of Mark. As our archbishop, Cardinal DiNardo, likes to point out: “In Mark the disciples get dumber and dumber!”) Jesus is far more than just a miracle worker! He is the Messiah, the Son of God. The disciples are filled with fear and do not have enough faith to comprehend what is happening to them. Mark is encouraging the disciples and is teaching them that they do not need to fear the storms that may come their way if they have faith. **Jesus is in the boat with them!** The message to the early disciples and to us is the same: the Lord Jesus is present to the Church and our mission and ministry will not end in disaster no matter what difficulties we may encounter. The real struggle, both then and now, is to learn to trust in the presence of the Lord Jesus and allow faith to overcome fear.

Fr. Chester Borski

FATHER’S DAY BLESSING

God our Father, in your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Peter’s Pence Collection Next Weekend

Next weekend our diocese will take up the Peter’s Pence Collection, which provides the Holy Father with the funds he needs to carry out his most important charitable works. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Your gift makes you a pilgrim of charity around the globe.

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS FOOD DRIVE NEXT WEEKEND

Next weekend, June 27 & 28, we will be collecting donations of non-perishable food and personal care items. Donations will benefit St. John of the Cross Food Pantry in New Caney. Thank you for your continued generosity by contributing non-perishable grocery items to help those in need. *(Please place your Food Donation in the Rotunda before Mass. There will be a sign in the Narthex directing everyone to the Rotunda and a sign in the Rotunda showing where to place the food.)*
**TODAY’S READINGS**

**First Reading** — The Lord said to Job: Who shut within doors the sea? And who said: Thus far shall you come but no farther! (Job 38:1, 8-11).

**Psalm** — Give thanks to the Lord, his love is everlasting (Psalm 107).

**Second Reading** — Whoever is in Christ is a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:14-17).

**Gospel** — Who is this whom even wind and sea obey? (Mark 4:35-41).

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** Gn 12:1-9; Ps 33:12-13, 18-20, 22; Mt 7:1-5

**Tuesday:** Gn 13:2, 5-18; Ps 15:2-4ab, 5; Mt 7:6, 12-14

**Wednesday:** **Vigil:** Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-6ab, 15ab, 17; 1 Pt 1:8-12; Lk 1:5-17

**Day:** Is 49:1-6; Ps 139:1-3, 13-15; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80

**Thursday:** Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 [6b-12, 15-16]; Ps 106:1b-5; Mt 7:21-29

**Friday:** Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 8:1-4

**Saturday:** Gn 18:1-15; Lk 1:46-50, 53-55; Mt 8:5-17

**Sunday:** Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; 2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15; Mk 5:21-43 [5:21-24, 35b-43]

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday:** Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Father’s Day; Summer begins

**Monday:** St. Paulinus of Nola; Ss. John Fisher and Thomas More

**Wednesday:** The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

**Saturday:** St. Cyril of Alexandria; Blessed Virgin Mary

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

In today’s Gospel reading we hear Jesus commanding the wind and sea to be at peace, to be still. The Gospel scene depicting Jesus and his disciples on a boat seems appropriate for the summer. It is a season to contemplate nature and to find God in the wonders of His creation. It is also a time to contemplate, as stewards of the Lord’s abundant gifts, all of creation as God’s gift and that ultimately it is God who has control over the world and not us.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon./June 22</th>
<th>Fri./June 26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am †Mary Piccolo</td>
<td>8:30 am †Jack Scholer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues./June 23</td>
<td>Sat./June 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am †Hugh Evans</td>
<td>5:30 pm †Camille Hughes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm †Contance Cavanaugh</td>
<td>Sun./June 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed./June 24</td>
<td>7:00 am Mary Ann Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am †Ana Guerrero</td>
<td>9:00 am †Anthony DiPrima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am †Mary Keelen</td>
<td>11:00 am †Teresa Parisi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs./June 25</td>
<td>Fri./June 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am †Charly Chua</td>
<td>1:00 pm †Jovani Aguilera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am †Mr. &amp;Mrs. Constancial &amp; Consorcia La Rosa</td>
<td>5:30 pm †Jim Bradshaw</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Barbara Youll
Kathy Marek (wife of Wayne Marek)
Jerri Priest (mother of Kelly Sandoval)
Walter Lee Lambert (husband of Mary Lou Lambert)
Harold Simonetti (brother of John Simonetti)
Minerva Salazar
William Brossart
Barbara Peck
Al Kriston


If you would like to add a loved one’s name to the recently deceased or sick list, please call the parish office, 281-358-6637, or e-mail jodis@stmartha.com

Please pray for our active military as seen on the wreath in the Narthex.

To add a loved one call: Jodi at 281-358-6637 or e-mail jodis@stmartha.com
**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

**FAITH FORMATION SUMMER HOURS:**
Beginning Monday, June 22nd, Faith Formation Summer Office Hours will be 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Monday through Thursday.

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED BEGINNING MONDAY, JULY 20TH THROUGH FRIDAY, JULY 31ST.**
**THE OFFICE WILL RE-OPEN, MONDAY, AUGUST 3RD WITH REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS, 9:00AM – 4:00PM, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY.**

**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. Remaining June Dates: 23 & 30. July Dates: 7 & 14

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](https://www.youtube.com).
Click the [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com) icon on the website home page to view.
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK Up To The Minute AFF Information. Click the [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) icon on the website home page and join.

**NEW MEDIC-ALERT PROGRAM**

In order to better serve parishioners should they become suddenly ill while attending our weekend Masses and on Holy Days of Obligation, we are beginning a “Medic-Alert” program. If you are a doctor or nurse and are willing to help us when we have parishioners fall ill at Mass, please check in with an usher when you arrive and give them your cell or pager number so you can be reached during the Mass by text or paging should an emergency arise.

Should you have any questions about this program, please e-mail Barry Robichaux at barry.robichaux@us.ibm.com.

**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**

Join us! NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES, A MINISTRY FOR SINGLES AGES 40+, gathers on Wednesday, June 24, to talk/eat/drink at 7:00 P.M. at Pete’s Burger Place, 24626 Loop 494 in Kingwood (1½ mile north of Northpark Drive). For more information, 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 at either St. Martha’s or St. Mary Magdalene’s website.

**ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

SMCS has the following openings for the 2015-2016 school year:
- Degreed and certified teachers for:
  - First grade
  - Second grade

For consideration please submit your résumé and letter of introduction to: principal@stmarthacs.org.
For more information, please contact the school office at 281-358-5523.

**YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON - SUMMER VACATION**

The Senior Citizen Luncheons held at St. Martha on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday of each month will **NOT** be held during the Summer. We will **resume** on **Wednesday, September 9, 2015**. Have a great summer and check the bulletin in August for information on the September luncheons.
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, June 22nd
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
Sister Mildred Truchard, Vocation Director of Incarnate Word Convent in Victoria, Texas will speak to us about, Supporting the Vocation Discerner.
RSVP: Diddy Muck
muck@kingwoodcable.net
281-615-2015

Life Awareness Weekend, July 24-26 (Starts Friday at 5pm-Sunday at 2:30pm) in Holy Name Retreat Center. Come and join other single men and women of faith, ages 18-45, who are searching and discerning God’s call in their lives. Life Awareness is a weekend retreat of prayer, silent reflection, presentations, group discussions, and sharing on one-on-one encounters and guidance from priests and religious sisters and brothers, as you learn more about priesthood and religious life. This retreat is designed to help young adults to learn and explore whatever vocation God might be calling them, to search deeply for the guidance, and to grow in courage to do the will of God. It will provide the time, environment, and opportunity to clarify one’s calling without any pressure of commitment. Come join us! Holy Name Retreat Center, 430 Bunker Hill Rd Houston, Texas 77024. Information: Deacon Gary Hilbig 832-549-4140 gary.hilbig@allsaints.us.org Henry Majoue 832-606-1372 Hjmajoue@gmail.com.

Parenting/Youth Events

SUMMERTIME EDGE NIGHT
Monday, June 22 [6:30 – 8:00 pm]
Bring ALL of your friends entering 6th – 8th grade for FREE pizza, and a whole night of FUN!

**come in outside clothes that can get wet!**

SUMMER OF SERVICE
Tuesdays, June 30-July 21 [9:00 am – 1:00 pm]
Meet at St. Martha’s Youth Center
Cost: $4 if you want lunch

*Attention Parents! We need parents to commit to chaperoning and driving to make this program possible!
Lisa Hartsfield: lisal@stmartha.com

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.
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.
OPEN HOUR: FIRST AND SECOND ADORERS ARE NEEDED ON MONDAY 2-3AM!
Second adorers are needed for the following hours:
- Sunday: 1-2 AM, 2-3 AM, Noon-1 PM, 2-3 PM, 3-4 PM, 7-8 PM
- Monday: 1-2 AM, 6-7 PM, 8-9 PM, 11 PM-Midnight
- Tuesday: 2-3 AM, 5-6 AM
- Wednesday: 1-2 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 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.
Rome with Monsignor Borski!

“...the faithful who by Baptism are incorporated into Christ, are placed in the People of God...and to the best of their ability carry on the mission of the whole Christian people in the Church and in the world.” (Lumen Gentium, 31)

This document from the Second Vatican Council (VC II) calls on the laity to do the work of the Church. If you are a minister of the Eucharist, music, social outreach, hospitality, catechesis, service or any other church ministry, VC II made a difference in your life and the Church. This was the genesis of lay ministry.

We will celebrate the closing of the Council in a special way with a pilgrimage to Rome, December 4-11 and Msgr. Borski, who was a seminarian in Rome during the Council, will be our Spiritual Director and “insider font of knowledge.” We'll have an audience with Pope Francis, visit St. Peter's and see numerous sites in the Eternal City as well as a brief visit to Assisi.

An information evening will be held on Wednesday, June 24, at 7 p.m. in the Activity Center (Faith Formation Campus). Dr. Timothy Mullner, the Catholic Program Director at Faith Journeys, will be joining us via Skype to answer any questions you might have. If you are interested in the journey but are unable to attend that evening, contact Carla Lewton in the Adult Formation Office of St. Martha’s. [carlal@stmartha.com; 281-713-8968]

Faith Journeys Presents: An Advent Pilgrimage to Italy Celebrating Vatican II’s 50th Anniversary December 4-11, 2015

Especially designed for
Msgr. Chester Borski, Spiritual Director
Anne Comeaux, Pilgrimage Host

For more Information please call: Faith Journeys at 1-877-732-4845 Opt. 1
St. Martha contact, Carla Lewton, carlal@stmartha.com, 281-713-8968.

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, July 6, 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.

Martha's Kitchen

Thank you, parishioners, for your financial support that allows Martha's Kitchen to continue feeding those in need of a meal each weekday. The summer months can be very difficult for those who are without resources to meet the basic need of daily nutrition. Please use your Martha's Kitchen envelopes, Faith Direct, or Matching Funds through your employer to contribute to this outstanding ministry. Martha's Kitchen Memorial Cards are also available in the church office to remember a special birthday, anniversary or loved one.

Happy Father's Day to all the Dads of St. Martha's Church. Thanks your for your diligence, wisdom, patience, faith and smiles. God Bless!

CANCARE

St. Martha is an affiliated faith-based member of CanCare. CanCare is a network of trained volunteers including cancer survivors, family members of cancer survivors and medical professionals who provide emotional support to others facing cancer. If you (or someone close to you) have been diagnosed with cancer and would like to talk to someone, CanCare can match you with a cancer survivor or caregiver for one-on-one emotional support. Founded in 1990, CanCare is now partnered with over 100 congregations of varied faiths, hospitals and corporations. All services are confidential and without charge. You may visit the website at www.cancare.org, or call CanCare direct at 713-461-0028 (please mention you are a member of St. Martha Catholic Church). For more details contact the St. Martha CanCare coordinator, Roger Schuelke, at 281-358-8060.
The Fortnight for Freedom: Freedom to Bear Witness will take place from June 21 to July 4, 2015, a time when our liturgical calendar celebrates a series of great martyrs who remained faithful in the face of persecution by political power—St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher, St. John the Baptist, SS. Peter and Paul, and the First Martyrs of the Church of Rome. The theme of this year's Fortnight will focus on the "freedom to bear witness" to the truth of the Gospel.

THE RIGHT TO PRACTICE
FAITH IN DAILY LIFE

USCCB Fact Sheet 2015

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY PRESERVED
Hobby Lobby Wins!

The Green family began what became Hobby Lobby Stores, a retail chain of arts and crafts stores, out of a garage in the family's home in Oklahoma. The Hahn family likewise began Conestoga Wood Specialties, a cabinet-making business, out of a garage in the family's home in Pennsylvania.

The Greens are evangelical Christians who strive to operate Hobby Lobby in a manner consistent with biblical principles. Hobby Lobby pays full-time employees at almost double the minimum wage, offers generous health benefits, and allows employees ample time off from work. The Hahns, who are Mennonite, similarly strive to operate Conestoga Wood in a way that honors their faith.

Both the Hahns and the Greens believe that life begins at conception, and their religious beliefs prohibit them from facilitating abortion. Unfortunately, a mandate from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) would force the Greens and the Hahns to cover certain drugs and devices that can end life after conception. Coverage of these drugs and devices is required in the companies' health plans under threat of potentially fatal fines by the federal government.

The Greens and the Hahns were forced to sue the federal government to vindicate their rights under the U.S. Constitution and federal law to exercise religion. They argued that Americans do not give up their freedom when they open family businesses.

The U.S. Supreme Court decided on June 30, 2014 that closely held businesses like Hobby Lobby and Conestoga can exercise religion under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, a law that passed Congress nearly unanimously and was enthusiastically signed into law by Pres. Bill Clinton in 1993. The Court also found that the HHS mandate constitutes an unjustified, substantial burden because of the millions of dollars in annual fines that both companies would face if they did not comply with it.

The U.S. bishops have voiced their strong support for families like the Greens and the Hahns. The bishops filed a friend-of-the-court brief with the U.S. Supreme Court supporting Hobby Lobby and Conestoga in their challenge to the HHS mandate. The bishops explained that they oppose “any rule that would require faithful Catholics and other religiously motivated business owners to choose between providing coverage for products and speech that violate their religious beliefs, and exposing their businesses to devastating penalties.”

The bishops have repeatedly voiced their concern for faithful people in business so that they can continue to live out their faith in daily life.

What can you do to ensure the protection of religious freedom at home and abroad?
The U.S. Bishops have called for a Fortnight for Freedom from June 21 to July 4, 2015. Please visit www.fortnight4freedom.org for more information on this important time of prayer, education, and action in support of religious freedom!
La Quincena por la Libertad: La libertad para dar testimonio tendrán lugar desde junio 21 hasta julio 4, 2015, un momento en que nuestro calendario litúrgico celebra una serie de grandes mártires que permanecieron fieles en medio de la persecución por el poder político-St. Tomás Moro y San Juan Fisher, San Juan Bautista, SS. Pedro y Pablo, y los primeros mártires de la Iglesia de Roma. El tema de la Quincena de este año se centrará en la "libertad para dar testimonio" a la verdad del Evangelio.

EL DERECHO DE PRACTICAR LA FE EN LA VIDA DIARIA

Hoja de datos de USCCB 2015

SE PRESERVA LA LIBERTAD RELIGIOSA ¡Hobby Lobby gana!

La familia Green comenzó Hobby Lobby Stores en un garaje de su casa en Oklahoma lo que se convirtió en una cadena minorista de tiendas de arte y artesanías. Fue igual para la familia Hahn que fundó Conestoga Wood Specialties, un negocio de fabricación de gabinetes, en un garaje de su casa en Pennsylvania.

Los Green son cristianos evangélicos que se esfuerzan por manejar Hobby Lobby de manera coherente con los principios bíblicos. Hobby Lobby les paga a los empleados a tiempo completo casi el doble del salario mínimo, ofrece generosos beneficios de salud, y permite a los empleados bastante tiempo de vacaciones. La familia Hahn, que son menonitas, de modo similar se esfuerzan por manejar Conestoga Wood de una manera que honre su fe.

La familia Hahn y la familia Green creen que la vida comienza en la concepción, y sus creencias religiosas les prohíben facilitar abortos. Lamentablemente, un mandato del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de EE. UU. (HHS) obligaría a los Green y a los Hahn a cubrir ciertos fármacos y dispositivos que pueden poner fin a la vida después de la concepción. La cobertura de estos productos es obligatoria en los planes de salud de las compañías bajo amenaza de recibir multas onerosas por parte del gobierno federal.

Los Green y los Hahn fueron obligados a demandar al gobierno federal para reivindicar sus derechos en virtud de la Constitución de EE. UU. y la legislación federal para ejercer la religión. Ellos argumentan que los estadounidenses no renuncian a su libertad cuando abren negocios familiares.

La Corte Suprema de EE. UU. decretó el 30 de junio de 2014 que negocios familiares como Hobby Lobby y Conestoga pueden ejercer sus derechos religiosos bajo la Ley de Restauración de la Libertad Religiosa aprobada casi unánimemente por el Congreso y promulgada como ley por el pres. Bill Clinton en 1993. La Corte también dictó que el mandato de HHS constituye una carga sustancial e injustificada debido a los millones de dólares en multas anuales que aplicarían a estos negocios si desestimaran el mandato.

En riesgo está la libertad de familias como los Green y los Hahn, y también de familias católicas que operan negocios conforme a su fe, de no participar en la financiación o facilitación de fármacos y dispositivos que posiblemente puedan ponerle fin a la vida.

Los obispos de EE. UU. han dado sólido apoyo a familias como los Green y los Hahn. Los obispos presentaron un amicus curiae a la Corte Suprema apoyando a Hobby Lobby y Conestoga en su desafío al mandato de HHS. Explicaron que se oponen a “cualquier norma que exija a los fieles católicos y a otros dueños de negocios con motivaciones religiosas elegir entre brindar cobertura para productos y expresión que violan sus creencias religiosas, y exponer a sus negocios a sanciones devastadoras”.

Los obispos han expresado de manera reiterada su preocupación por los fieles que tienen negocios para que puedan continuar viviendo su fe en la vida diaria. ¡Les pedimos que recen para que la Corte Suprema defienda este derecho básico.

¿Qué puede hacer para asegurar la protección de la libertad religiosa?
Los obispos de EE. UU. han pedido una Quincena por la Libertad del 21 de junio al 4 de julio de 2015. ¡Visite www.fortnight4freedom.org para más información sobre este importante tiempo de oración, educación y acción para apoyar la libertad religiosa!
Reflexión sobre las lecturas:
San Pablo nos recuerda en su carta a los Corintios que todos los que viven para Jesús, ya no viven para sí mismos, sino para aquel que murió y resucitó por ellos. También nos dice que el que vive según Cristo es una criatura nueva; para él todo lo viejo ha pasado. Vivir de acuerdo a los mandamientos de Jesús nos hace hombres y mujeres nuevos, capaces de dar nuestras vidas por Jesús y por los demás. Pero el ser nuevo requiere sacrificar nuestros viejos hábitos, pecados y pasiones y, a veces, tenemos miedo de hacerlo; pero Jesús nos dice, como a los apóstoles en el barco: ¿Por qué tenían tanto miedo? ¿Aún no tienen fe? Cambiar para ser nuevos implica tener fe en Jesús y en lo que Él nos prometió: Que iba a estar con nosotros hasta el final de los tiempos y que, sí seguimos sus mandamientos, alcanzaremos la resurrección y seremos eternamente felices junto con Él.

Compromiso de la semana: ¿Qué necesito cambiar para ser un hombre/mujer nuevo como Jesús lo quiere?

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
**Ministerio Hispano**

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

**Cáliz de Vocaciones:**
Está interesado/a 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.

---

**Ministerio Sagrada Familia**

**Iglesia Sta. Marta, Kingwood, Texas**

Con inmensa alegría queremos presentar un ministerio que nace inspirado en la sagrada familia de Nazaret. Dirigido a las familias de nuestra parroquia que desean encontrar una iglesia que les dé soluciones, que les oriente con sus necesidades y les proporcione un lugar que les permita acobijarse, les edúque y les proteja.

Eso es en esencia lo que buscamos edificar en este nuevo ministerio. Estamos hablando de participar en una Iglesia que dé una respuesta viva y clara a las comunidades, que ayude a compensar sus necesidades, a sanar sus enfermedades, brindando no solo apoyo espiritual y emocional, sino un seguimiento constante a su situación.

En el MSF, queremos ofrecerles soluciones concretas, es decir, generar las respuestas a las problemáticas implementando actividades, programas, seminarios, talleres y retiros que serán impartidos de manera conjunta con otros ministerios de la parroquia y se llevarán a cabo durante todo el año.

El programa incluye:
- Formación en nuestra fe católica. Crecimiento y desarrollo espiritual. Incentivo y formación de nuevos líderazgos en la comunidad.
- Ayuda sicológica y emocional. Oportunidades de integración entre padres e hijos. Reducción de brechas generacionales.
- Acérquense, pregunten o participen y sean testigos de cómo juntos construiremos ese camino, sea Ud. también puente entre la Iglesia y las familias, irradiando de esa manera la alegría de ser católicos comprometidos.

Las reuniones tendrán lugar todos los lunes, a las 7 pm, en la pequeña Capilla del Colegio Sta. Marta.

Para cualquier información Favor comuníquese con Janett o Rubén Manosalva al 281-706-5068 o al correo electrónico: matrimonios@stmartha.co

---

**Noches de Adoración y Alabanza**

**Praise and Worship Night**

"Buqueme a mi y Viviran"

Amos 5: 9

Ven a dejar tus peticiones a los pies de Jesus Cristo
Cada cuarto Martes de mes:
Come join us every fourth Tuesday of the month:

**Martes:**
**JUNIO 23**
**JULIO 28**

Iglesia Catolica Sta. Martha
4301 Woodridge Parkway
Porter, Tx 77365

Te invita: Grupo de Oración e Intercisión Sta. Martha
email: orendonecereskonstmartha@gmail.com