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

Senior Priest: Rev. Nick Pasadilla
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Richard McNeillie
Deacons: Mr. Jon Barfield, Mr. Tony Cardella, Mr. Ed Kleinguehl, 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: 12:00 PM
Life Teen: 5:30 PM
Nursery at 9:00, 11:00 & 1:00 Spanish Mass

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 and Ceremony: Call the Parish Office to register

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
COMMUNITY LIFE MINISTRIES CONT.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS
Willie Chesnut ACTSCore@STMartha
Wayne Theis wayne.theis@suddenlink.net

NEWCOMERS/WELCOMING/HOSPITALITY
Kevin & Donna O 281.358.1959x213
Marion and Chris Dickson
Brian & Mary Anne Sokol 281.361.9720
Ana Luisa Rodriguez 281.358.1959x241
Laura Gallardo 281.358.1950x252

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES
DIRECTOR OF LITURGY
Marilyn Parra 281.358.6637x280

BAPTISM
Angela Wemyss 281.358.9720
CAPTORS
Pat Timpanaro 281.358.9338

CHILDREN’S ADORATION
Annette Salazar 281.358.1492

CHILDREN’S CHOIR
281.358.6637

COMMUNION TO THE SICK
Hospital Visit
Angela Wemyss 281.358.9720
Nursing Home & Homebound
Pat Timpanaro 281.358.9338

Hispanic Communion to the Sick
Amelia Murphy 713.865.6946

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
OF THE EUCHARIST
Pam Rockwell 281.358.1959x230

GREETERS
Nora Twycoff 281.814.5431

GREEN FAMILY MASS
Casey Levy caselevy@me.com

LECTORS
Ena Baumeyer
MARTHA’S ALTAR GUILD & DESIGNERS
Marilyn Parra 281.358.6637x280

PERPETUAL Eucharistic ADORATION
Robyn Laumbach 281.360.7897

SACRISTANS
Art Voltmann 281.361.6117

SOUND BOARD MINISTRY
Bill Phillips 713.419.9278

TECHNOLOGY MINISTRY TEAM
Joy Ehrman 281.358.1959x251

USHERS
Barry Robichaux Barry.Robichaux@us.ibm.com

OUTREACH MINISTRIES CONT.
HOSPITAL MINISTRY
Sarah Clark 281.361.8832
Sheila Yepsen 281.358.5585

MARY GORETTI NETWORK
Shannon Doltz 713.770.9213

MARTHA’S KITCHEN
Sr. Maria Elena 713.224.2522

MOTHER TERESA MINISTRY
Paola Lam 832.284.1991

PRO-LIFE (GABRIEL PROJECT)
713.225.5826

PROJECT RACHEL
Bennie Develle 281.812.8641

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS FOOD DRIVE
Marie Burkh 281.361.3650

ST. JOSEPH HELPERS
Bill Beck 281.360.7023

ST. MARTHA BETWEEN JOBS AND BEYOND
Bob Simpson 713.410.2844

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
281.358.6636

SECOND FAMILY MINISTRY
Peggy Wehe 281.360.3244

SOCIAL JUSTICE
Bob Simpson 713.410.2844

MINISTERIOS EN ESPAÑOL
COORDINADOR DE MINISTROS HISPANOS
Onc. Alfredo Soto 281.713.8917
COORDINADORA DE CATECISMO PARA JÓVENES Y SACRAMENTOS
Irene Soto 281.358.1959x269

CORO DE ADULTOS
Luis Valles 32.620.1888

GRUPO DE ORACIÓN
Carmen Ogando 832.767-8826

HOSPITALIDAD
Gustavo Zapata 832.247.9955

LECTORES
Kristina Garcia 281.796.9084

LEGIÓN DE MARIA
Veronica Reymond 281.785.9943

MARIA GORETTI NETWORK EN ESPAÑOL
Patricia Lopez 281.389.1210

MATRIMONIOS Y SAGRADA FAMILIA
Janett o Ruben Manosalva 281.706.5068

MÉNISTROS EXTRAORDINARIOS DE LA EUCARISTIA
Juan Russo 954.439.1127

MONAGUILLOS
Pastor Pastor 832.514.5741/832.633.0145

RICA
Jaique Gomez 281.973.1857

VOCACIONES Y CALZ DE VOCACIONES
Tony Lasalle 646.489.1554

FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
Bill Grun 281.360.3829

MARTHA’S GARDENERS
Wayne Theis wayne.theis@suddenlink.net

ST. MARTHA’S OFFICE ANGELS
Emma Rocha 281.365.6637 x262

COMMUNITY LIFE MINISTRIES
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY LIFE
Francine Puglia 281.361.9854

ACTS RETREAT
Wille Chesnut ACTSCore@STMartha-AGTS.org

ANNUNCIATION
Francine Puglia 281.361.9854

CARING COOKS
Karen Register 281.358.1485

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS
Sherry Hundi yellowrose716@live.com

CENTERING PRAYER
Greg LaCour gplacour@gmail.com

COLUMBIAN SQUIRES
Mark Roseland 281.782.3145

COUPLE FOR CHRIST
Mary Lou & Ramon De La Cruz 832.527.1072

DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP
Patty Jackson

LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS
Jodi Schode 281.358.9855

MARRIAGE PREP. INFORMATION
To Register 281.358.6637

MARTHA’S GUILD
Angela Wemys 281.358.9720

MOTHER’S DAY OUT
Patty Jackson 281.358.1959x250

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING
Marion and Chris Dickson 713.516.7097

NEWCOMERS/WELCOMING/HOSPITALITY
Kristene Hergenrother 281.713.8961

NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES
Peggy Byrnes 281.359.4560

RECEPTION VOLUNTEERS
Barb Setser 281.358.4129

NANCY LANDVOGT 281.358.6637 x202 (Funerals)

ROSEMARY GUILD
JoAnna Love 281.361.0391

SCOUTING
Acenthal Claassen 832.455.3764

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION
www.stmartha.com, Click on Ministries, Community Life, Spiritual Direction

SUNDAY NURSERY
Patty Jackson 281.358.1959x250

TEAMS OF OUR LADY
Kevin & Donna O’Kelley 281.360.9644
Kevin & Michelle Campisi 281.361.4201
Brian & Mary Anne Sokol 281.642.3621
Nick & Joanna Landy 281.324.1231

VOCATIONS COMMITTEE
Phil & Diane Applegate 281.361.2913

OUTREACH MINISTRIES
SOCIAL SERVICES
281.358.6637

CANCARE
Roger Schuelke 281.358.8060

CRIMINAL JUSTICE MINISTRY
Jaime S. Gomez 281.973.1857

PUBLIC PRAYER WARRIORS
Donna Rybey dmrueby-earthlink.net

H.A.M.
Alejandra Gutierrez 832.860.4860

Current Loan Debt: $12,773,139
Recap for October 2015
Contributions to reduce the debt: $187,972
Payments to reduce the debt: $187,700
Over(Short) $272
From the Pastor

To the parish family of St. Martha,

We begin the Advent Season with the realization that it is not always easy to enter into a time of spiritual preparation for Christmas in our present day culture. Over the next four weeks there will be a myriad of messages trying to convince us to spend time, money, and energy in order to have a meaningful holiday experience. While there is nothing inherently wrong with investing ourselves in this way to prepare for this wonderful season of Christmas, such hectic activity can become a stumbling block. Advent is meant to be a time of spiritual renewal, a time to pause and reclaim our spiritual strength, rather than to dissipate our energy by attending countless parties and shopping sprees. Advent is a time of waiting with a certain amount of reserve and a kind of hush and quiet. For those who follow Jesus Christ, it is a time of expectancy in which we look more deeply into our lives and recognize that there is a sense of incompleteness and emptiness surrounding us. We begin to understand that this is not only about our own personal circumstances but also about our world. There is the realization that our human efforts alone will not fill up this void in our lives and we are in need of something that will indeed satisfy our deepest longing for completeness and fulfillment. That “something” is really Someone sent to reveal the mystery of God’s presence and love to us in a concrete way. We are in need of a Savior!

In the Church’s liturgy during this season we encounter the figure of Mary, the expectant mother of Jesus. She is the perfect symbol of Advent and the one who can teach us how to wait in patience and in hope. There is no mystery that touches us humans so profoundly as that of an expectant mother. She waits and prepares, certainly with some uncertainty and anxiety, but also with a kind of peace and confident awareness that beyond sight, there is a movement taking place within her that will eventually result in a new creation. That wondrous event will bring forth a human person, sacred in the eyes of God and of infinite value. Advent is a special time which helps us recall that moment in history when the whole world waited for the birth of the Savior. In a sense we are still waiting in eager expectation for the meaning of that first Christmas to fill our hearts with assurances that this wonderful event took place so that our lives would one day experience completeness forever. During this Advent let us model our lives on that of Mary, the pregnant woman of faith, who dares to dream of a world filled with God’s redemptive presence. Let us join her in courage and conviction as she sets out to help bring about a world of peace and joy for all people.

Fr. Chester Borski

MASS TIMES FOR THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION—DECEMBER 8TH
(Holy Day of Obligation)
December 7 (Vigil): 7:30 p.m.
December 8: 12 noon & 7:30 p.m.
School Mass (Woodland Hills Campus) — 8:30 a.m.
Please Note: The parish office will be closed Tuesday, December 8th.

Jubilee Year of Mercy
Dec. 8, 2015—Nov. 20, 2016

Celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy with a great new app from Our Sunday Visitor! 365 Days to Mercy is designed to accompany you on your spiritual journey during the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The app includes daily reflections on mercy, everyday Scripture reflections, Pope Francis’ tweets, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Novena, and lots more. Go to your app store and search “365 Days to Mercy” and install it today! Go to OSV.com/YOM to learn more.

SHARING SUNDAY ~ DECEMBER 12 & 13

Each year during Advent our parish makes a special effort to share our blessings with other parishes in the Galveston-Houston Archdiocese. Through our annual Sharing Sunday we are able to help local parishes distribute food and gifts to needy families. Gifts are needed for children, adults, and senior citizens. Please wrap and tag these gifts with the age and gender of the recipient (for example, boy age 10-12). Grocery items are also needed but do not need to be wrapped. Take time to discuss with your family ways that your Christmas can be shared with other families. ADOPT A FAMILY: Through the St. Martha Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, our church assists many families during the Christmas season. This year, we’d like to again give our parishioners the opportunity to adopt one of these families from our area. This will be done in coordination with SvdP volunteers the week before Sharing Sunday. If you are interested, please contact Alice Jones at 713-410-6844, or by e-mail at jjones@kingwoodcable.com.
**Today's Readings**

**First Reading** — The days are coming when the Lord will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).

**Psalm** — To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).

**Second Reading** — May the Lord make you increase and abound in love that you may be blameless in holiness; conduct yourselves so as to please God (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).

**Gospel** — There will be signs and you will see the Son of Man coming with power and great glory. Be vigilant (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).


**Readings for the Week**

**Monday:** Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22

**Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

**Thursday:** Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday:** Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

**Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8

**Sunday:** Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

**Saints and Special Observances**

**Sunday:** First Sunday of Advent

**Monday:** St. Andrew

**Tuesday:** World AIDS Day

**Thursday:** St. Francis Xavier

**Friday:** St. John of Damascus; First Friday

**Saturday:** First Saturday

**Stewardship Thought of the Week**

That we strengthen our relationship with Jesus through the sacrament of Reconciliation.

“But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.”

(Luke 21:28)

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation of the birth of Jesus. His first coming, as we await his second coming. In this Advent season, use the sacrament of Reconciliation to strengthen your relationship with Jesus. It’s never too late.

**Mass Intentions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon./Nov. 30</th>
<th>Sat./Dec. 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am †Carol Michelini</td>
<td>8:30 am Pro-Life Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues./Dec. 1</td>
<td>Wed./Dec. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am †Marcie Brennan</td>
<td>8:30 am †Javier Aguilar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm †Pedro Garcia</td>
<td>10:00 am †Andrea Orrego</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun./Dec. 6</td>
<td>Thurs./Dec. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am †Florence Kerrigan &amp; Sharon Kerrigan Koening</td>
<td>6:30 am †Maria Vivian Binoya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>†Donna Hopkins</td>
<td>11:00 am †Natalie Novosad Stafford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri./Dec. 4</td>
<td>Fri./Dec. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am †Donald Hogan</td>
<td>8:30 am †Donald Hogan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

† Please remember the recently deceased and their families in your prayers

Elizabeth Dean
Richard Gaffney (husband of Virginia Gaffney)
Gina Weinzapfel (wife of David Weinzapfel)
Lucia Kratz
Mary Tierney
Paul Latz (husband of Christine Latz and father of Julia Gilligan)
Clara Johnson
Gale Ingram (husband of Mary Ingram)


(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 Organizations and Opportunities**

**REMINDER FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PRE-REGISTERED:** EXTRAVORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK TRAINING will be held Monday, November 30, 2015, from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm in Room 3 of the Family Life Center.

**NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES**

**NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES, A MINISTRY FOR SINGLES AGES 40+**, will have its next event on Wednesday, December 2, when we gather to talk/eat/drink at 7:00 pm at Jason's Deli, 1275 Kingwood Drive in Kingwood. On Saturday, December 5, join us for 5:30 pm Mass at St. Mary Magdalene’s in Humble; meal afterwards at China River, 9606 FM 1960 West in Humble. Meet in the narthex at 5:15 pm. For more info, contact Elizabeth Schields (281-441-2552) or elizabeths2@peoplepc.com or Peggy Broyles (281-359-4560 or peggybomom4@gmail.com) or subscribe to us on Flocknote at St. Martha’s or St. Mary Magdalene’s web-site.

**BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE:**

The Book of Remembrance will be in the back of the Church for you to write in names of family members or friends who have died.

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 more information contact Bruce Farmer: 281-360-4047. Or to register, please visit the website www.passionist.org/holyname.

**St. Martha's Men's Retreat at Holy Name Passionist Retreat Center**

January 8-10, 2016

Start the New Year with a relaxing Retreat Weekend

Retreat Theme "Mercy: A Glimpse into the Heart of God"

In keeping with this Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, we are invited to gaze upon Jesus Christ, the face of the Father's Mercy.

*"Be merciful just as your Father is merciful" Luke 6:36*

For more information contact Bruce Farmer: At 281-360-4047

Or to register, please visit the website www.passionist.org/holyname

**Pastoral Care Ministry**

An Opportunity for Deacons & Lay People to Provide Pastoral Care

16-Week Training Course to be held at the St. Mary Seminary on Thursdays 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM, January 14th through May 12th

Four-fold Purpose

1. To bring the Presence of the Church to the Sick and the Dying
2. To provide basic skills of pastoral and sacramental care
3. To understand the Patient in a context of Health Care Facilities
4. To understand how to care for one’s self as a Pastoral Care Minister

Three to Four (3-4) Hours per week of Patient Visitations in Hospital

If interested, please contact Office of Diaconate at e-mail: deaconoffice@archgh.org (713-686-4345 ext 229) or Dcn. Gerald DuPont: gerald@gwdupont.com (281-703-0227) or contact Sarah Clark (281-361-8832).

**Enrollment for this course is limited to 25 persons**

**YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON - Christmas Luncheon & Celebration**

Young at Heart-ers - Christmas is coming and so is our Young at Heart Christmas Luncheon and Celebration. Come join your YAH (Young at Heart) family and enjoy a delicious Christmas luncheon just for you. There will be entertainment, gifts, and fellowship (sorry, no bingo this month). Join us for the festivities at St. Martha's Family Life Center on **Wednesday, December 9 at 11 am**. Bring a friend with you and join the fun! If transportation is needed, contact 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.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

**Tuesday Morning:** Breakfast & Bible Study, 9:15 – 10:30 am

Faith Formation Campus, Room 2. Reading, studying & sharing on the Sunday Scriptures led by Carla Lewton. All are welcome. December Dates: 12/1, 15, 22, 2015

**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** - AFF Information

Click the **Facebook** icon on the website home page and join.
You are invited to join together in prayer to pray for vocations and implore Our Lord to send laborers into the vineyard.

Where: St. Martha Catholic Church
When: Every second Tuesday of the month after the 7:00 p.m. Mass.
Also: Every second Friday of the month after the 8:30 a.m. Mass.

The intent is to focus our prayer for vocations one special day a month. This Holy Hour will include Exposition and Benediction with a special monstrance blessed by Saint John Paul II for the sole purpose of uniting us in prayer for vocations.

All are invited as we embark upon this tremendous opportunity to ask the Lord of the Harvest to provide the vocations needed to serve His Church!

Did you know? “Nuns” are women religious who have professed solemn vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience and live a life of prayer and penance within cloistered communities? There is a difference between a ‘nun’ and a ‘sister.’

Did you know? “Sisters” are women religious who also have taken traditional religious vows but are engaged in active ministries among the public? They usually live in a convent.

Did you know? “Brothers” live in Religious Communities. They take vows and promise to use their talents to serve God wherever the Community decides they are needed. Brothers are not ordained.

http://www.houstonvocations.com/religious-life/ for information and events.

Collegian Moms Prayer Group:
The Collegian Moms Prayer Group will meet on Monday, December 14th from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Room 7 of the Family Life Center at the Woodland Hills Campus. All moms with children preparing for college, currently enrolled in college, or recently graduated from college are cordially invited. Questions? E-mail Gloria Gamez at mornglor@yahoo.com

The Serra Club Northeast of Houston
You are invited to join together in prayer to pray for vocations and implore Our Lord to send laborers into the vineyard.

Where: St. Martha Catholic Church

When: Every second Tuesday of the month after the 7:00 p.m. Mass.
Also: Every second Friday of the month after the 8:30 a.m. Mass.

The intent is to focus our prayer for vocations one special night a month. This Holy Hour will include Exposition and Benediction with a special monstrance blessed by Saint John Paul II for the sole purpose of uniting us in prayer for vocations. All are invited as we embark upon this tremendous opportunity to ask the Lord of the Harvest to provide the vocations needed to serve His Church!

Did you know? Please join the ALMEIDA FAMILY in prayer this week as they host the Chalice and pray for Vocations. Interested? Please contact Karen Ehlig at 281-361-7127 or by e-mail at karenehlig@gmail.com to schedule a week.
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

MONSIGNOR BORSKI TO BE HONORED

The Missionary Catechists of Divine Providence will be honoring Monsignor Borski at the Humanitarian Award Dinner on **Friday, February 12th, 2016** at the Omni Hotel -9821 Colonnade Blvd. San Antonio.

Monsignor Borski is being honored for his spirit of generosity through his years of service by encouraging and preparing lay ecclesial ministers to enable grass-root people to value and share their gifts with the Church. Monsignor Borski held the position of Archdiocesan Director of Religious Education for four years and Rector of St. Mary’s Seminary for nineteen years. Monsignor has inspired the St. Martha community to reach out to parishioners and our communities through the 100 + dynamic ministries available at St. Martha.

**Come join us at the dinner** – tickets are available for $100 apiece or $1,000 for a table of 10. Watch future bulletins for more information on how you can reserve your spot. If you are unable to attend, your generous donations will show support for our Pastor.

The funds will benefit the Order of Sisters of The Missionary Catechists of Divine Providence (two of their members manage Martha’s Kitchen) and the other sisters have been working at the diocesan and parish levels in religious and academic education, hospital and prison chaplaincy and social services for over 83 years.

The Divine Mercy ministry will hold a PRAYER SERVICE on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Dec. 8th in the Chapel on the Woodland Hills Campus from 12-1 pm.

All are welcome for this Hour of Grace.

**Pro-Life Mass and Rosary:**
Every 1st Saturday at 8:30 a.m. Please join us Saturday, Dec. 5.
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.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed in the chapel at the Faith Formation Campus every Sunday at 3 pm for the conversion of sinners, the sick and the dying. Everyone welcome!

St. Vincent de Paul Society
The St. Martha Conference of St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank the Parish for its generous support of our recent Black Bag /Family Challenge Collection. Donations from this collection totaled $54,501, with 229 Families contributing to the Family Challenge. Because of your compassion and extraordinary generosity, our Conference will be able to continue its mission to assist those in need in our community.

September and October were an active period as we helped 709 people with Rent, Mortgage, Utilities, Food, Medical, and Auto Expenses totaling $17,972.

As we begin Advent we are called to “Be watchful! Be alert!” as we stand in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. Your gifts to St. Vincent de Paul will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God’s love this Christmas. Thank you for your continuing support and prayers for this ministry and may God bless you and your family.

“At the same time I would encourage you to keep in mind all those people around us who are trapped in a cycle of poverty. They too need to be given hope.”
-Pope Francis, Address to Congress, September 14, 2015

St. Martha has been selected to participate in a National Study!
St. Martha has been selected to participate in a national study of vibrant parishes conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute!

Please help us participate by completing a 10-15 minute survey online. The survey will be emailed to you by DiscipleMakerIndex@measuring-success.com. The survey will only be available from the week of January 18 through Ash Wednesday, February 10 and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on what efforts the parish is doing to help you grow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole.

We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to Msgr. Borski and our various ministries as we plan ahead and try to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results in the summer of 2016 at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

If we don’t have an email address for you, please send an email to jodis@stmartha.com with your name so we can add you to the list. Or cut out the box below and drop your information in the collection basket during one of the weekend Masses.

We are updating our database!
(Please print legibly)

Name: ________________________________
Email: ________________________________
Phone: ________________________________

(Deadline to submit e-mail address is Wednesday, December 9th)
Thank you for helping with this important project!
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 robynfly@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.

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, 281-812-8641, 713-435-9215, or bdevelle@comcast.net.

Young at Heart Luncheon - Donation Requests
The Young at Heart Christmas Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, December 9. As in years past, we are asking for your kind generosity in donating door prize gifts for our senior guests (men and women). We have been averaging 85-90 people and our Christmas luncheon is always our biggest! Here are a few donation ideas (not to exceed $10) - gift card to a restaurant or movie theater, home or Christmas decor, jewelry, lotion, games, puzzles, candy, food basket (non-perishable), sports merchandise, picture frames, household items or lightweight tool set. Donations should not be wrapped and can be dropped off at Nancy Landvogt’s office on the Faith Formation campus, Mon. - Wed., 9 am - 4 pm and Fri., 9 am - 4 pm. All donations are greatly appreciated! If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail Carol Bateman at carolb625@gmail.com. Thank you for your generosity!
The birth of Jesus brings the divine message of love directly to humankind. Jesus came to teach us the way to follow God’s will. During this season of light, we reflect in awe. While we may sometimes feel as if there is "no room in the inn" for us, we trust that Jesus has a place ready for his faithful stewards.

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<td>9:15 am Breakfast &amp; Bible Study</td>
<td>9:15 am Little Rock Study, FLC</td>
<td>7:30 pm Vigil Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception</td>
<td>3 pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy</td>
<td>7 pm Cornerstone Bible Study</td>
<td>7 pm Mission Trip Info Mtg., FLC</td>
<td>3 pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy</td>
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<td>8:30 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2</td>
<td>8:15 am RCIA</td>
<td>6:15 pm RCIA</td>
<td>6:15 pm RCIA</td>
<td>8:30 am School Mass</td>
<td>9:45 am Cornerstone Bible Study, Activity Center</td>
<td>5:30 pm Vigil Mass-Feast of Mary, Mother of God</td>
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<td>3:30 pm Mission Trip Info Mtg., FLC</td>
<td>10 am Martha’s Quilters, Rm 3</td>
<td>11 am Young at Heart Christmas Luncheon-Christmas Celebration</td>
<td>10:30 am Martha’s Quilters, Rm 3</td>
<td>6:30 pm Parish Penance Service</td>
<td>9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2</td>
<td>8:30 am School Mass</td>
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<td>SHARING SUNDAY</td>
<td>7-9 pm Mom’s Prayer Group, Rm 7</td>
<td>7:30 pm Advent Worship Night with John Finch, FLC</td>
<td>9:45 am Cornerstone Bible Study</td>
<td>6:30 pm Parish Penance Service</td>
<td>Our Lady of Guadalupe</td>
<td>9:15 am Baptism Class</td>
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<td>9:15 am Breakfast &amp; Bible Study</td>
<td>7 pm Cornerstone Bible Study, Rm 3</td>
<td>7-8:30 pm Mission Trip Info Mtg., FLC</td>
<td>9:45 am Cornerstone Bible Study</td>
<td>6:15 pm RCIA</td>
<td>6:30 pm Rosary</td>
<td>8 pm Mass</td>
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<td>Christmas Eve Mass times: 4:00pm, 7:00pm Midnight</td>
<td>8:30 am School Mass</td>
<td>Parish Office Closed</td>
<td>9:15 am School Mass</td>
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<td>Christmas Mass times: 9:00am, 11:00am, &amp; 1:00pm (Spanish Mass)</td>
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Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass times: 8:30 am (School Mass), 12 noon, 7:30 pm
12-1 pm Feast of the Immaculate Conception Prayer Service, Chapel
7 pm Cornerstone Bible Study

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph
3 pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Para la familia de la parroquia de Santa Marta,
Comenzamos el tiempo de Adviento, con la conciencia de que no siempre es fácil entrar en un tiempo de preparación espiritual para la Navidad en nuestra cultura actual. Durante las próximas cuatro semanas habrá una gran cantidad de mensajes que tratarán de convencernos que gastar tiempo, dinero y energía con el fin de tener unas vacaciones significativa. Aunque no hay nada inherente malo en invertir en nosotros mismos en esta manera de prepararse para esta maravillosa temporada de Navidad, tales actividades agitadas pueden convertirse en un obstáculo. Adviento está destinado a ser un tiempo de renovación espiritual, un tiempo para hacer una pausa y recuperar nuestra fuerza espiritual, en lugar de disipar nuestra energía asistiendo a innumerables fiestas y salidas de compras. El Adviento es un tiempo de espera, con una cierta cantidad de reserva y una especie de silencio y tranquilidad. Para los que siguen a Jesucristo, es un tiempo de esperanza en que miramos más profundamente en nuestras vidas y reconocemos que hay un sentido de lo incompleto y vacío que nos rodea. Empezamos a entender que esto no es sólo acerca de nuestras propias circunstancias personales, sino también acerca de nuestro mundo. Existe la conciencia de que nuestros esfuerzos humanos por sí solos no llenan este vacío en nuestras vidas y que están en necesidad de algo que de hecho va a satisfacer nuestro más profundo anhelo de plenitud y satisfacción. Ese “algo” es realmente Alguien enviado para revelar el misterio de la presencia de Dios y el amor a nosotros de una manera concreta. ¡Estamos en la necesidad de un Salvador! En la liturgia de la Iglesia durante esta temporada nos encontramos con la figura de María, la futura madre de Jesús. Ella es el símbolo perfecto de Adviento que nos puede enseñar cómo esperar con paciencia y en esperanza. No hay ningún misterio que nos afecte a nosotros de una manera concreta. ¡Estamos en la necesidad de un Salvador! En la liturgia de la Iglesia durante esta temporada nos encontramos con la figura de María, la futura madre de Jesús. Ella es el símbolo perfecto de Adviento que nos puede enseñar cómo esperar con paciencia y en esperanza. No hay ningún misterio que nos afecte a nosotros de una manera concreta. ¡Estamos en la necesidad de un Salvador! En la liturgia de la Iglesia durante esta temporada nos encontramos con la figura de María, la futura madre de Jesús. Ella es el símbolo perfecto de Adviento que nos puede enseñar cómo esperar con paciencia y en esperanza. No hay ningún misterio que nos afecte a nosotros de una manera concreta. ¡Estamos en la necesidad de un Salvador! En la liturgia de la Iglesia durante esta temporada nos encontramos con la figura de María, la futura madre de Jesús. 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**1º Domingo de Adviento**

**Reflexión sobre las lecturas:**
En la segunda lectura de hoy, San Pablo nos pide que mantengamos un corazón irreprochable en la santidad ante Dios. Jesús nos da la clave de cómo mantener ese corazón irreprochable, a través de la vigilancia y la oración. Jesús les dijo a sus discípulos: “Velen, pues, y hagan oración”. Lo que hace un velador es cuidar y estar atento que no venga un ratero a robar. Nuestra vigilancia, el velar, debe ser estar atentos en nuestra alma para que el demonio no venga a robarnos la amistad con Dios al tentarnos a pecar. Tenemos que estar atentos todo el tiempo, ya que el demonio se vale de muchas artimañas para hacernos caer; la principal de ellas, la que usó con Adán y Eva, el hacerlos creer que lo que hacemos no es malo, que Dios nos lo prohibió para que no fuéramos como dioses. La segunda arma, y la más poderosa de todas, es la oración. Si nos mantenemos en oración constantemente con Dios, va a serle mucho más difícil al demonio el tentarnos. Nuestro refugio debe ser la oración.

Debemos empezar el día en oración, ofreciendo a Dios ese día y después, seguir orando durante el día, platicando con Dios, pidiendo, ofreciendo, agradeciendo, preguntando, consultando, compartiendo todo lo que nos pasa. Destinar por lo menos 5 minutos al diálogo con Dios sobre nuestra vida, sin distracciones. Y luego, terminar el día orando, agradeciendo por un día más y reflexionando sobre las cosas que hicimos bien y mal, para poderlas corregir.

Compromiso de la semana: Dedicaré un mínimo de 5 minutos diarios a la oración con Dios.

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

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**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.

**PARA VICTIMAS DE ABUSO**

*María Goretti Network en Español*

En Septiembre próximo comenzará en St. Martha un grupo de apoyo conformado por hombres y mujeres que han sido abusados en algún momento de su vida y que buscan sanación y perdón. Para mayor información llame al teléfono 281-389-1210 o envíe un e-mail a mariagorettiespanol@gmail.com. Allí le informaremos el lugar y hora de las reuniones y contestaremos sus preguntas.

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**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.

**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

**Proyecto Gabriel—**

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

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**RITO DE INICIACIÓN CRISTIANA PARA ADULTOS**

Los Sacramentos son ayudas, medios, herramientas, gracias que Jesús nos dejó para poder seguirlo por el camino de nuestra vida diaria, que no siempre es fácil, por eso nos invita a tomar nuestra cruz y seguirle hacia la vida eterna. Estas ayudas-sacramentos están aquí en la Iglesia y son para todos a nadie se le pueden negar si está dispuesto a seguir a Jesús. Pero muchos de nosotros solo nos bautizaron y no tenemos todos nuestros Sacramentos de iniciación que son: El Bautismo, La Confirmación y La Eucaristía; por tal razón no participamos de estas ayudas que nuestro Señor Jesús le dejo a su iglesia por medio de su sacrificio en la cruz.

Si este es tu caso (y eres mayor de 18 años) o conoces a alguien que quiere unirse a nuestra Iglesia Católica? Ayudalo y pasale este anuncio, invitalo a participar en el proceso del RICA. Este proceso es para Católicos y No Católicos que tienen muchas preguntas o dudas y quieren entender nuestra fe o completar sus sacramentos. Ven y participa con nosotros. Las reuniones son los Jueves de 6.30-9.00 p.m. comenzamos con una cena antes de nuestra plática.

**Comunícate con Jaime Gómez (281-973-1857)**

sacramentos@stmartha.co

Participa en el RICA en Español.

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**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 al 281-706-5068 o puedes comunicarte por email: matrimonios@stmartha.co

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**Ministerio Hispano**