March 6, 2016

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 Kleinguetl, 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 & 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
Today's Readings

First Reading — God’s people enter the promised land, observe the Passover, and eat of the produce of the land (Joshua 5:9a, 10-12) or 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34) or Psalm 23.

Second Reading — We are now ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17-21) or Ephesians 5:8-14.

Gospel — We must rejoice when our brother who was dead in sin repents and comes back to life (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) or John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38].

Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:3-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-10, 25-30
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9b-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday: Is 43:16-21; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11; Alternate readings (Year A): Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Lent
Monday: St. John of God
Wednesday: St. Frances of Rome
Friday: Abstinence

Jubilee Year of Mercy

On Laetare Sunday, we rejoice as Luke’s Jesus proclaims that God is boundlessly merciful. The parable’s prodigal son returns home, not authentically repentant but desperate, having squandered on prostitutes (or so his older brother claims) the inheritance wrongly demanded while his father still lived. This selfish son is only spared ritual “shaming” when the father “shames” himself, running to embrace him, interrupting his prepared “act of contrition.” By doing so he challenges confessors, and all of us, to be signs, says Pope Francis, “of the primacy of mercy always, everywhere, and in every situation, no matter what.” Avoid the harshness of the elder son, Francis warns, “who stands outside, incapable of rejoicing,” his judgment “severe, unjust, and meaningless in light of the father’s boundless mercy” (Misericordiae Vultus, 17). If John’s Gospel is proclaimed, the “religiously observant” people there likewise serve to warn against harshly judging others, for the physical blindness of the man they expel from the synagogue is healed, while their own blindness of heart remains.

Mass Intentions

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon./Mar. 7</th>
<th>Fri./Mar. 11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am †Jimmy McAndrews</td>
<td>8:30 am †Jack Kiely</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues./Mar. 8</td>
<td>Sat./Mar. 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 am †Jack Kiely</td>
<td>5:30 pm †Merilyn Deane</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 pm †Bill Beseda</td>
<td>7:00 pm †John &amp; Esther Gross</td>
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<td>Wed./Mar. 9</td>
<td>Sun./Mar. 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 am †Francisca Garza Martinez</td>
<td>9:00 am †Carolyn R. McDermott</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am †Fernando Cuadra</td>
<td>11:00 am †Teresa Parisi</td>
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<td>Thurs./Mar. 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 am Lilia Napalit</td>
<td>1:00 pm †Rita Guerrero</td>
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<td>8:30 am †Mr. &amp; Mrs. A. Cohan</td>
<td>5:30 pm †Rosa Maria Rocha</td>
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Please remember the recently deceased and their families in your prayers.

Friday: Abstinence

Saturday: St. Frances of Rome

Mass Intention: St. Frances of Rome

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

What happens when a priest and a Rabbi exchange pulpits? Bridges are built!

“Honoring Nostra Aetate: The 50th anniversary of Vatican Council II - A story for our times” Rabbi Dan Gordon and Msgr. Borski exchanged pulpits during the month of February. Rabbi Dan’s talk is available on our parish website. To listen go to: http://www.stmarthaff.com/recent-additions-t-192.html

When you go to the link you can click on mp3 or audio player to listen.

Rabbi Dan Gordon has been the rabbinic spiritual leader of Temple Beth Torah in Humble since 1998. He has been involved with Jewish education for twenty-five years in a variety of capacities, including camp director, youth director and religious school principal. He also has an international reputation as a storyteller and folklorist, having toured throughout the U.S., Israel and Australia. In addition to his work with Temple Beth Torah, he teaches Jewish adult education classes in Houston, leads storytelling workshops for educators and serves as a chaplain to adult prisoners in Texas prisons.
To the parish family of St. Martha,
The Gospel reading for the 4th Sunday of Lent is the very familiar parable of the “Prodigal Son.”
The danger can be that the story has become so familiar to us that we might miss the invitation and the power of God’s word. The parable is an invitation that is addressed to each of us and it possesses a power in that God desires to lead us to true conversion of heart. It might be good for us to revisit this parable, especially during this Jubilee Year of Mercy. The two sons represent two distinct calls to conversion in our lives. Frequently when we are young and immature in spiritual matters, we are very much like the younger son. Later when we reach our adult years (e.g. in our 40s or 50s) we can stall out in our spiritual growth and think we can make our way through life by our own efforts and will power alone. In that sense we are very much like the elder son. For some people being like the younger son or the elder son is a matter of personal choices that remain the same throughout their lives. The younger son represents “the rule breaker” who experiences the restlessness brought on by the hungers of human desire and who chooses to sacrifice everything, even family ties, in an effort to satisfy those longings. But authentic human hungers cannot be satisfied by things, sensations, and material possessions no matter how exotic and expensive they may be. The elder son represents “the rule keeper” who did everything that was expected of him in a dependable and responsible way. Yet, he too failed to grow into the person that the Father desired him to become. Why? The parable seems to indicate that while he obeyed the Father, he did so only on a superficial level and did not learn to be rooted in the Father’s merciful love. When the moment of truth arrived and the prodigal returned, the elder son was unable to go beyond the rules and his own sense of fairness and justice and accept his brother with love and forgiveness. In fact he was deeply offended and chose to remain in anger and resentment. The elder son was unable to accept the truth of God’s word that the Father’s attitude to each of his children was exactly the same!

The focus of the parable is really not on either of the two sons but on the Father’s love. This parable presents us with an image of God that most of us continue to find unsettling and somewhat difficult to handle, especially if we are dealing with people who remind us of either of the two sons. At the heart of Jesus’ teaching in this parable of the Prodigal Son is the image of God to whom concepts like punishment, vengeance, and recrimination are empty words. The message invites us to believe in a God who asks us to accept the unconditional love he offers us as pure gift and also asks that we offer the same to one another. It really is that simple! At the same time our own human way of judging and comparing creates all kinds of tensions and difficulties for us. But difficult or not, the only way we are called to live as disciples is the way of total and compassionate love – “being merciful like the Father.” And someone has shown us the way: Jesus, the true Son of the Father! Let us pray for one another during the season of Lent so that we may learn to show this love to others.

Fr. Chester Borski

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS NEXT WEEKEND.
Don’t forget to turn clocks forward one hour.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE
Anointing Of The Sick Mass: Wednesday, March 23, at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
TRIDUUM SCHEDULE:
Holy Thursday Mass, March 24: 7:30 p.m.
   (No 6:30 a.m. or 8:30 a.m. Mass)
   “So you could not keep watch with Me for one hour?” Matthew 26:40
   We will be in prayer following the 7:30 p.m. Mass (Church closes at midnight)
Good Friday, March 25: 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, March 26: 8:30 p.m.
   (No 5:30 p.m. Mass today)
Easter Sunday, March 27: 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. (Spanish Mass).
Overflow Masses will be held in the Activity Center on the Faith Formation Campus 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 22, and no Reconciliation on Saturday, March 26.
The Season of Lent

PARISH MISSION
Monday, March 7, 7:00 p.m.:
Parish Mission talk on Forgiveness
Location: Church
Tuesday, March 8, 7:00 p.m.:
Intergenerational Healing Mass (Bilingual)
Location: Church
We highly recommend making a good confession before the healing mass.
Wednesday, March 9, 7:00 p.m.:
Adoration and Worship (Bilingual)
Location: Activity Center (old church) at the Woodland Hills Campus (3702 Woodland Hills Drive)
Thursday, March 10, 7:00 p.m.:
Parish Mission talk on Forgiveness (Spanish)
Location: Activity Center (old church) at the Woodland Hills Campus (3702 Woodland Hills Drive)
Presenter: Fr. Francis Frankovich
Fr. Francis is the Associate Director of the Catholic Charismatic Center, a Companion of the Cross and priest of 47 years. He has written several books on forgiveness, including “Forgiving From The Heart” and has worked extensively in ministries of healing and deliverance. Fr. Francis has been in Houston for more than 15 years, and is currently the director of Hispanic ministries at the Center.

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

Adult Organizations

ADULT FAITH FORMATION
Sunday Mornings: Video Series “An opportunity to learn while your children are learning”
A video series by Father Robert Barron – “Conversion”
Join us during the elementary Faith Formation sessions for an informal video series for adults. Drop in for a light breakfast, stimulating video presentation and lively conversation! Woodland Hills Campus – Rm 2 from 10:45 – 11:45 am. Remaining Series Dates: Mar. 6, 20, and Apr. 3
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. March dates: 8, 22, 29.

ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES: Are you a baptized adult Catholic who has received first Eucharist, is presently practicing your faith, but was never confirmed?
If you have questions or are interested in signing up for Confirmation, please call the Faith Formation Office, 281-358-1959, Carla Lewton, ext. 213 or Joanie Nugent, ext. 264. Weekly classes will be held on Thursday evenings beginning Mar. 31 through May 5, 7:00 – 9:00 pm at St. Martha’s Faith Formation Campus. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on either Sat., May 14, or Pentecost Sun., May 15, 2016. The final date, time and location will be determined at a later date.

St. Martha Adult Faith Formation Website: www.stmarthaaff.com
Recordings of previous adult classes, handouts, Powerpoints, schedules, important links, music, and more…check it out!

YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON - Rodeo Round-Up
Young at Heart-ers - Yeehaw - it's Rodeo time! Grab your Stetson, dust off your boots, lasso up a good time and come celebrate the Rodeo with your fellow Young at Heart-ers. Join us for fellowship, bingo and lunch at St. Martha's Family Life Center on Wednesday, March 9. Bingo begins at 11 am, followed by lunch and fellowship that ends at 2 pm. If you are new to our community or have never been, try us out. Bring a friend with you and join the fun! We meet on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday of each month. If transportation is needed, contact 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 Organizations and Opportunities

Men’s ACTS Retreat
March 31 – April 3, 2016
Registration for the March Men’s English ACTS Retreat will be held in the Narthex following all Masses through March 13th. The ACTS retreat is a 3 day/3 night 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 $50 deposit. The cost of the retreat is $190, but do not let financial considerations prevent you from attending the retreat. Please prayerfully consider attending this exciting retreat. If you have questions you can contact the retreat director, Kevin McKee, at 713-208-4185 or smccactsm18@gmail.com.

Monica's Hope for March:  
Due to the Parish Mission and Spring Break, we will not meet in March. We STRONGLY encourage you to join us for the Parish Mission. Please call Paul and Marcia Aegerter at 281-812-1288 if you'd like to talk before April!

NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES
NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES, A MINISTRY FOR SINGLES AGES 40+, gathers on Wednesday, March 9, to talk/eat/drink at 7:00 p.m. at Schlotsky’s Deli, 9781 FM 1960 Bypass West in Humble. For more info, contact Elizabeth Schields (281-441-2552 or elizabeths2@peoplepc.com) or subscribe to us on Flocknote at St. Martha’s website.

Vocations Corner

CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS:
Please join the RANEY 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.

Upcoming Discernment Opportunities
Discover (Men), March 10, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Women Seeking, March 10, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Descubre el Camino Recorrido (Hombres y Mujeres), March 17, 7 – 9:30 pm
Come and See Weekend Retreat, (Men), March 18-20, St. Joseph Seminary College, Covington, Louisiana. Come to this retreat and join other men who are seriously discerning priesthood or religious life. There will be talks, prayer, and a chance to interact with seminarians and other discerners. Event is free and space is limited.
Visit www.houstonvocations.com or call 713-652-8239 or email vocations@archgh.org for more information and to register for these upcoming events.

You are invited to Serra Club Northeast of Houston’s Monthly Dinner and 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 28, 2016 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
Mrs. Ann Timpe-Brennan, mother of a Dominican Sister of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist order, will speak to us about supporting your child’s vocation.
RSVP: Diddy Muck
muck@kingwoodcable.net
281-615-2015

Think there isn’t anyone pulling for your marriage?  
Think again.

Teams of Our Lady USA
A movement of conjugal spirituality
Information Meeting today, March 6, at 3:00 p.m. at the home of Donna and Kevin O’Kelley. Contact Donna at 281-360-9644 or e-mail dwokelley@gmail.com for more information and to reserve a spot.

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, 713-435-9215, or bdevelle@comcast.net.

The ROSARY GUILD is always looking for people to come share fellowship and learn how to make Rosaries to give to various Missions, Curias and any who would like them. We meet on the second Sunday of every month at the Woodland Hills campus in Room 2. You can find more out about us at http://www.marianiterosaryguild.org or Contact me Janice Cravens at 832-713-0556.
Mother’s Day Out Registration for the 2016-2017 school year has begun! The registration forms are available in the Faith Formation Office. For more information, please contact Patty Jackson at pattyj@stmartha.com or call the MDO office at 281-713-8970.

St. Martha School Scoops

THANK YOU to our SMCS families, friends and parish community for their support of the 11th Annual Archdiocesan Steps for Students 5K Walk/Run! The event was a wonderful success for our school and Catholic education throughout the Archdiocese. Fr. Richard did a great job motivating and leading our SMCS Crusaders for Christ and placed 2nd in his age division. Middle School Faith Formation Coordinator Lisa Hartsfield also represented the SMCS team and placed 2nd in her age division. Congratulations as well to ALL our SMCS Crusaders for Christ team members who participated in this fun event and demonstrated Crusader commitment, spirit and pride! This fundraising event was a great financial success for SMCS as funds were raised through SFS registrations and donations to help fill the gap between tuition charged and the cost to educate our students. We greatly appreciate the generosity of our school families, parishioners and community who continue to support us in the mission of SMCS.

Mark your calendars and join us on February 18, 2017, for the 12th annual Steps for Students event!

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 cross country, soccer, basketball, baseball, track, volleyball and girls’ softball. We also offer the following extracurricular activities: School Mass Choir, Drama Club, Chess Team and Club, Bravo Band, athletics program, Spanish Club, Rosary Guild, Student Council, National Jr. Beta Club, Student Ambassadors Club and other family and student activities.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR!
Visit our school website at www.stmarthacs.org for more information or contact Registrar Jodie Richter at 281-358-5523.

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.

Pro-Life Corner

February 10th - March 20th
Join with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for 40 days of prayer, penance and fasting

Will you not watch one hour with me? MT 26:40
Please join in the international 40 Days for Life effort of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion in America. Consider volunteering to pray for one or more hours outside of the largest late-term abortion mill in the Western Hemisphere:

St. Martha’s is invited to stand in prayer on the sidewalk
Where: Planned Parenthood, 4600 Gulf Freeway, Houston, TX
When: Friday, March 18th, 6:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Sign up for your hour, and then spread the word about this important life-saving effort! When people are present in prayer at an abortion site, through the Grace of God, hearts are changed, pregnant women choose life for their babies instead.

Carpool information and Signups available after all Masses, the weekend of March 12th and 13th in the Narthex. Carpools are available as follows:
MaryAnne, 281-615-0927, maryannehoward@cebridge.net, 5:45 AM -11:00 AM
Terice, 281-798-4477, terice.richards@gmail.com, 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Thank you from Our Lady of Guadalupe School
On behalf of the students, faculty and staff at Our Lady of Guadalupe School, thank you for your generous gift. Your gift of $5,000 enables us to maintain a long standing tradition of academic excellence and spiritual devotion. Donors like you make a difference every day and every gift makes an impact on the quality of education we offer as we continue to educate students who “Transform the World”.
We appreciate and thank you again for your commitment to Catholic education and Our Lady of Guadalupe School.
Gratefully,
Jan Krametbauer, Principal
Melissa Milligan, Development Director

Interested in Pursuing an Annulment?
Last Tuesday, St. Martha hosted a presentation from the Archdiocesan Tribunal on annulments. Thank you to all who attended this informative evening. If you missed that presentation and/or if you attended and would like to start the process, St. Martha has trained case sponsors ready to help:

- Jose Gonzalez-Mariscal
- Ines Munoz
- Mary Lou Purello
- Francine Puglia

If you are interested in pursuing an annulment, call Francine at the parish office at 281-358-6637 or email franp@stmartha.com and she will connect you with a case sponsor from the list above.

Holy Hour of Adoration for Vocations Exposition & Benediction
- 2nd Tuesday -- 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- 2nd Friday -- 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

* no scheduled Holy Hour 3/7 due to Parish Mission

For Survivors of Abuse—Maria Goretti Network (MGN)
A peer to peer self help support group for women and men focusing on healing and forgiveness. For information on monthly meetings e-mail: stmarthamgn@gmail.com or call 713-775-9213.

An invitation to You, a family member, friend or neighbor

What is Catholics Returning Home?
Catholics Returning Home is a program that invites non-practicing Catholics to return home to the Catholic Church and resume active practice of their faith. If you are a Catholic who has been away from the Church for a while, this invitation is for YOU! Please join us for informal listening/discussion sessions and an update of the Catholic faith facilitated by former non-practicing Catholics.

No matter how long you have been away and no matter what the reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Church and the community at St. Martha. Next session starts on April 5 – May 10, 2016, Tuesday evenings, 7:00 – 8:30 PM at the 3702 Woodland Hills campus, Room 2. We would love to meet you there!

If you would like more information or to participate, please contact:

Carla Lewton  carlal@stmartha.com  281-713-8968
Vicki Rück  vickiruck@suddenlink.net  713-927-8815

Thank you from St. Alphonsus Catholic Church
On behalf of St. Alphonsus Catholic Church we would like to thank you for your generosity at Christmas time. The community of St. Alphonsus is truly blessed to have so many people that like to help others. The joy you bring to our families and especially our children is immeasurable. A lot of our children only receive the gifts we pass out to them. They are always very grateful for the gifts they receive.
We certainly do appreciate your donation and pray that the blessings of the Lord will be with all of you in 2016.
Sincerely,
Rev. Carlos De La Torre Pastoral of St. Alphonsus
Director Cordray spoke to the issues raised by the faith and community leaders and promised that the CFPB would soon post new federal regulations to address predatory lending, and encouraged participants to participate in the regulatory comment period about the need to reign in the more usurious lender practices.

After presentations by Anna Babin, executive director of the United Way of Greater Houston and Jennifer Allmon, associate director of the Texas Catholic Conference, there was a community listening session in which more pastors, payday lending consumers, and charitable volunteers shared their concerns about the impact of predatory loans in the community.

Ultimately, the authority with ending these unfair lending practices rests with the state of Texas, and the legislators who have so far neglected to find an end to the cycle of debt created by these loans. The Texas bishops have indicated that they will continue to work for state regulatory reforms that reign in the worst excesses of these lenders.

“We cannot ignore the painful impacts of these loans on vulnerable families struggling to maintain self-sufficiency families,” said Archbishop Fiorenza at the meeting. “This inequity is what compels us to speak out on behalf of the struggling families we serve.”

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:

Sunday: 1-2 AM, 2-3 PM, 3-4 PM. Tuesday: 2-3 AM. Wednesday: 1-2 AM, 3-4 PM, 5-6 PM. Friday: 1-2 AM, 10-11 PM. Saturday: 1-2 AM, 3-4 AM, Noon-1 PM, 8-9 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.

Deadline for the March 27 Bulletin (Easter Sunday) is 9:00 a.m., Monday, March 7.
Deadline for the March 20 Bulletin (Palm Sunday) is 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 8.
Deadline for the March 27 Bulletin (Easter Sunday) is 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 15.

Submit announcements by: E-mail: jodis@stmartha.com; Drop off at the parish office; or Fax to 281-358-7973.

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.
Join Us for the Last Week of Receptions!

Join us for our final week of receptions. This is your opportunity to learn firsthand about the campaign, ask questions, receive your campaign materials and meet with your fellow parishioners. All families will be able to pick up their personalized campaign materials and learn how they may offer their support.

The remaining receptions are listed below.

March 9th- Campaign Reception 7pm- Church
March 10th- Campaign Reception 12pm- Church
March 10th- Campaign Reception 7pm- Church

You will not be asked to make a decision about your participation at the Campaign Reception. The presentation should last approximately one hour.

Please contact the Campaign Office at 281-358-6637 or at campaign@stmartha.com, and let us know when you will attend so that we may prepare for you.

Thank You to the Families that have Attended a Campaign Reception!

Thank you to those families who have attended a campaign reception. Msgr. Borski and the Campaign Committee are appreciative of your time, dedication and support of the campaign. Don't forget to return your pledge card so that the momentum can continue to build. You can return your pledge card either by mail, by placing it in the collection basket or by stopping by the parish office.
Los esperamos durante la última semana de Recepciones!

Unanse a nosotros durante la ultima semana de recepciones. Esta es su oportunidad para aprender de primera mano toda la información de la Campaña, hacer preguntas, recibir el material correspondiente y conocer otros miembros de la parroquia. Todas las familias podrán recoger su material personalizado y conocer la forma de ofrecer su apoyo.

Las fechas de las Recepciones pendientes son: (En ingles)

Marzo 9- Recepción de Campaña 7pm- Iglesia
Marzo 10- Recepción de Campaña 12pm- Iglesia
Marzo 10- Recepción de Campaña 7pm- Iglesia

*No se le pedirá que tome una decisión sobre su participación durante la Recepción de la Campaña. La presentación dura aproximadamente una hora.*

Favor de llamar a la Oficina de Campaña al 281-358-6637 o escribir a campaign@stmartha.com, y dejarnos saber cuando podrá asistir para tener listo su material.

**GRACIAS A TODAS LAS FAMILIAS QUE YA HAN ASISTIDO A UNA RECEPCIÓN DE LA CAMPAÑA!**

Gracias a todas las familias que se han presentado a una Recepción. Msgr. Borski y el Comité de Campaña aprecian mucho el tiempo, dedicación y apoyo que han dado a la campaña. No se olviden de enviar su tarjeta compromiso para continuar con este esfuerzo. Pueden enviarla por correo, colocarla en una de las canastillas de recolección o entregarla en la oficina de la parroquia.
La lectura del Evangelio para el cuarto domingo de Cuaresma es la parábola, muy familiar, del "Hijo Pródigo". El peligro puede ser que la historia ha llegado a ser tan familiar que podemos perder la invitación y la poder de la palabra de Dios. La parábola es una invitación que se dirige a cada uno de nosotros, y posee un poder en el cual Dios desea llevarnos a la verdadera conversión del corazón. ¿Por qué? La parábola parece indicar que mientras que como el hijo más joven o el hijo mayor, es una cuestión de elección personal que sigue siendo los mismos durante toda su vida. El hijo menor representa "el interruptor de la regla" que experimenta la inquietud provocada por las hambres del deseo humano y que elige sacrificarlo todo, incluso los lazos familiares, en un esfuerzo por satisfacer esos anhelos. Pero auténticos anhelos humanos no pueden ser satisfechos por cosas, sensaciones y posesiones materiales, no importa lo exótico y caro que sean. El hijo mayor representa "el guardián regla" que hizo todo lo que se esperaba de él de una manera fiable y responsable. Sin embargo, también fue incapaz de crecer en la persona que el Padre deseaba que llegara a ser. Cuando llegamos a los años adultos (por ejemplo, en nuestros 40 y 50 años) se puede estar nuestro crecimiento espiritual y compasivo y creemos que podemos hacer nuestro camino por la vida por nuestros propios esfuerzos y fuerza de voluntad por sí sola. En ese sentido somos muy parecidos al hijo mayor. Para algunas personas que son como el hijo mayor, el Padre deseaba que el llegara a ser el hijo mayor. Para algunas personas que son como el hijo más joven, el Padre deseaba que el llegara a ser el hijo menor. Pero auténticos anhelos humanos no pueden ser satisfechos por cosas, sensaciones y posesiones materiales, no importa lo exótico y caro que sean. El hijo menor representa "el interruptor de la regla" que experimenta la inquietud provocada por las hambres del deseo humano y que elige sacrificarlo todo, incluso los lazos familiares, en un esfuerzo por satisfacer esos anhelos. Pero auténticos anhelos humanos no pueden ser satisfechos por cosas, sensaciones y posesiones materiales, no importa lo exótico y caro que sean. El hijo menor representa "el interruptor de la regla" que experimenta la inquietud provocada por las hambres del deseo humano y que elige sacrificarlo todo, incluso los lazos familiares, en un esfuerzo por satisfacer esos anhelos. Pero auténticos anhelos humanos no pueden ser satisfechos por cosas, sensaciones y posesiones materiales, no importa lo exótico y caro que sean. El hijo menor representa "el interruptor de la regla" que experimenta la inquietud provocada por las hambres del deseo humano y que elige sacrificarlo todo, incluso los lazos familiares, en un esfuerzo por satisfacer esos anhelos. Pero auténticos anhelos humanos no pueden ser satisfechos por cosas, sensaciones y posesiones materiales, no importa lo exótico y caro que sean. El hijo menor representa "el interruptor de la regla" que experimenta la inquietud provocada por las hambres del deseo humano y que elige sacrificarlo todo, incluso los lazos familiares, en un esfuerzo por satisfacer esos anhelos. Pero auténticos anhelos humanos no pueden ser satisfechos por cosas, sensaciones y posesiones materiales, no importa lo exótico y caro que sean. El hijo menor representa "el interruptor de la regla" que experimenta la inquietud provocada por las hambres del deseo humano y que elige sacrific...