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

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

Liturgy & Sacraments

Weekend Masses
First Saturday (Pro-Life Mass): ....
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 5:30 -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.

If you wish to come after me, you must deny yourself and take up your cross daily and follow me.

Luke 9:23

JUNE 19, 2016 • TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
To the parish family of St. Martha,

In the Gospel account from Luke 9:18-24 which is used for the 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time, the evangelist describes the approaching end of Jesus’ ministry in the region of Galilee. It has become obvious that the fame of Jesus’ teaching and miraculous healing has spread throughout the area. However, there is an important question about whether or not the people understand Jesus’ true identity. He challenges Peter, the one who will be the head of the Church, to respond to the question, “Who do you say that I am?” Like the other disciples, Peter had witnessed Jesus performing marvelous works of healing and had heard him speak with special authority. But now the Lord invites Peter to move from being a passive observer of these events to becoming an active follower and true disciple. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, Peter boldly states, “You are the Christ of God.” This recognition of Jesus as the Messiah signals a crucial moment in this account form the Gospel of Luke. As faith is awakened and grows in the disciple, marveling about wonderful works is not enough. The disciple is invited to make a commitment – to follow in the footsteps of the Master. Like Peter, we too are challenged to respond by putting our lives on the line for the Lord. We are invited to move from being passive members of the Church to becoming actively engaged workers in the vineyard of the Lord.

As the Gospel narrative continues, the evangelist emphasizes the need to come to know Jesus and “his way” which leads to salvation. Our response to the question about who is Jesus is of utmost importance. Jesus is not simply a “feel good” Messiah who comes to eliminate suffering and death from human experience with the wave of a magic wand. Rather Jesus freely takes upon himself human suffering and weakness in order to show us that it is only in fully embracing our humanity that we will discover the power of God’s grace as gift. The Gospel reminds us that Jesus came to serve, not to be served. Paul tells us that though Jesus was in the form of God, “he emptied himself and took the form of a slave, being born in the likeness of men.” Jesus invites us, as he invited Peter, to become disciples by following “his way.” And that “way” is clearly pointed out as the end of the Gospel text today: “If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.” This call to discipleship is repeated each time we gather as a community to celebrate the Eucharist and are sent forth at the end of Mass to invite others to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Thank you for all who have generously responded to the call to share in Jesus’ ministry of service, especially to our new Acolytes who begin their ministry to the parish this weekend.

Fr. Chester Borski

2016 PARISH SURVEY RESULTS ARE IN!

Several months ago St. Martha’s participated in a national study of vibrant parishes conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute in Philadelphia. The “Disciple Maker Index” parish survey instrument was used to measure the engagement of our parishioners in the life of our parish community and the sense of satisfaction experienced in being members of St. Martha. The results are now in and they provide us with empirical data by which we can gauge the quality of our parish programs and overall parish life.

Some 172 parishes across the country participated in the study with more than 30,000 individual responses to the survey. An independent company (Measuring Success) received the confidential responses, tabulated the data, and scored the results. Here at St. Martha we had 1028 adult members of the parish who completed the survey and these numbers compare favorably with other large parishes.

A summary of the key findings are provided below. A more detailed report is being shared with our parish pastoral council, parish department heads, and several other committees which will examine the results in greater detail. We are committed to study this important data and discover how we can improve our parish offerings for the benefit of all our parishioners.

One key finding was on the topic of parishioners recommending the parish to others. The data shows that 62% of the respondents strongly agreed. This compared to a rating of 53% by large parishes in the total survey. Two years ago the rating that we received from the respondents was 60%. The factors involved in recommending one’s parish depend on the leadership of the pastor, an engaging Sunday Mass experience, feeling welcomed and accepted, quality of preaching, being helped to recognize God in one’s life, and parish information being easy to find.

While St. Martha’s rates above the norm in most categories compared to large parishes throughout the country, several areas are indicated for special attention. Our priests and deacons are challenged as preachers of the Word to provide a clearer connection of the biblical message with the everyday lives of people. The parish needs to equip parishioners with the ability to share their personal witness story with others. (This is experienced within certain retreat programs but needs to be expanded to the whole parish community.) In general all Catholic parishes including St. Martha’s need to do a better job of enabling parishioners to become intentional disciples who reach out to others and share the Gospel message.

We thank everyone who participated in the survey. Please know that we heard you! The parish leadership team will meet in July to begin implementing some of these findings during the coming year and helping everyone to become missionary disciples.
Today’s Readings

**First Reading** — Zechariah foretells the Messiah (Zechariah 12:10-11; 13:1).

**Psalm** — My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God (Psalm 63).

**Second Reading** — There are no distinctions or divisions; we all belong to Christ (Galatians 3:26-29).

**Gospel** — Peter proclaims Jesus as the Christ; Jesus speaks of his great suffering to come (Luke 9:18-24).

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**Readings for the Week**

**Monday:** 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Ps 60:3-5, 12-13; Mt 7:1-5

**Tuesday:** 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36; Ps 19:2-4, 10-11; Mt 7:6, 12-14

**Wednesday:** 2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3, Ps 119:33-37, 40; Mt 7:15-20

**Thursday:** 2 Kgs 24:8-17; Ps 106:1b-5; Mt 7:21-29

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

**Saturday:** Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Ps 74:1b-7, 20-21; Mt 8:15-17

**Sunday:** 1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; Gal 5:1, 13-18; Lk 9:51-62

**Saints and Special Observances**

**Sunday:** Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Monday:** Summer begins

**Tuesday:** St. Aloysius Gonzaga

**Wednesday:** St. Paulinus of Nola; SS. John Fisher and Thomas More

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

**Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary

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**Jubilee Year of Mercy**

**Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Today, as he often does, Luke portrays Jesus “praying in solitude” (Luke 9:18). The Jubilee Year of Mercy invites us to rediscover the value of silence as the prayerful setting in which to reflect on the ways in which God’s mercy transforms our lives, in order to make mercy the heart of our own lifestyle. But in a line that sounds odd, Jesus “rebuked” his disciples “and directed them not to tell anyone” (9:20–21) after they professed their faith in Jesus as “the Christ of God” (9:20). Jesus challenges us also to profess our faith not by what we do: take up our own cross daily (9:23) and “bear one another’s burdens” (Galatians 6:2). Our gratitude for God’s mercy toward us should make us instruments of God’s mercy toward all. Then, as Zechariah prophesies in today’s first reading, the fountain of God’s mercy will open to purify the whole world from the sin and selfishness that cause suffering and sorrow to so many (Zechariah 13:1).
Adult Organizations and Opportunities

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

Out of work? Looking for a change? We can help!
Meetings every Friday from 9:15am to noon
Room 2 on St. Martha’s Woodland Hills campus
3702 Woodland Hills Dr., Kingwood
St. Martha’s Between Jobs and Beyond ministry helps those who are looking for a new and more satisfying job.

- We can help with resume writing, interview preparation and networking.

- We also can help you get your head in the right place, spiritually and emotionally, which is critical for effective job seeking.

- We encourage a spirit of service to others. When we help others, we feel better.
Questions? E-mail stmarthabetweenjobs@gmail.com or call Bob Simpson at 713-410-2844.

Monica’s Hope: Prayerful Support for Parents of Troubled Children
Attention! Changes for our monthly meeting.
Due to the holiday, Monica’s Hope will meet on July 11 in Room 3 on the Woodland Hills Campus. Don’t suffer in solitude. Within our Catholic Community there are many with troubled children of all ages. Problems like addiction, criminality, mental illness, etc. Find support, strength, and encouragement in a confidential environment. And in the example of St. Monica, you can pray for your child and find peace. If you have questions, call Paul and Marcia Aegerter at 281-812-1288, e-mail marciaaeg@aol.com or Kathy Czubik at 713-213-7173, email kczubik@mac.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, 713-435-9215, or develle@comcast.net.

NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES
NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES, A MINISTRY FOR SINGLE AGES 40+, will gather on Wed., June 22, to talk/eat/drink at 7:00 P.M. at Jason's Deli, 1275 Kingwood Drive in Kingwood. On Sat., June 25, at 2:00 P.M., join us at “Patriotic Celebration: Kingwood Big Band,” at the Lone Star College Student Conference Center Ballroom, 20,000 Kingwood Dr. in Kingwood. Contact Ilmas.org or 832-779-1492 for tickets. For more info, contact Elizabeth Shields (281-441-2552 or elizabeths2@peoplepc.com) or Peggy Broyles (281-359-4560 or peggybmom4@gmail.com) or subscribe to us on Flocknote at St. Martha’s website.

IF YOU ARE A PASSIONATE AND FAITH-FILLED EDUCATOR, ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC SCHOOL HAS OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU!
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
- Kindergarten Teacher
- Middle School Social Studies Teacher
- Part-time Middle School Spanish Teacher
- Part-time Prek-Gr 3 Music Teacher
- Substitute Teachers
For more information, please visit our website at www.stmarthacs.org or contact Principal Mrs. Tina Lewis at 281-358-5523.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION
SUMMER HOURS FOR THE FAITH FORMATION OFFICE
BEGIN MONDAY, JUNE 20 THROUGH FRIDAY, JULY 15.
The office will be open Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM and closed on Fridays.
The office will be closed Monday, July 4 for the Independence Day Holiday and will re-open Tuesday, July 5 at 9:00 AM.

Tuesday Morning: Breakfast & Bible Study
9:30 – 10:45 am – Faith Formation Center, Room 2
Reading, studying & sharing on the Sunday Scriptures led by Carla Lewton.
All are welcome. June Dates: June 21 & 28.
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!
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.

THE FAITH FORMATION LIBRARY IS NO LONGER TAKING BOOK DONATIONS AT THIS TIME. PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SO GENEROUS, THE SHELVES ARE OVERFLOWING. THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS.
Vocation Corner

Public Announcement – Ordination of the Diaconate for Gary Yepsen

It is herewith announced that Gary Yepsen, a candidate for the Order of Diaconate will be ordained a deacon on January 14, 2017 at a Mass to be celebrated by Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston. If any person knows of a serious reason why this candidate should not be called to ordination, please notify Deacon Rob Ward, Director of Formation in the Office of the Diaconate, Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston at 281-723-1910 or e-mail rob.ward@smseminary.com. Please keep Gary in your prayers as he prepares for ordination into this sacred ministry. May he always be faithful to the Diaconal Ministry of Service of Word, Liturgy and Charity to which he is about to be ordained. This announcement is in compliance with Canon 1051:2 of the Code of Canon Law.

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, June 27, 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

Father Linh from St. John of the Cross Catholic Church in New Caney will be our guest speaker.
RSVP: Diddy Muck,
muck@kingwoodcable.net, 281-615-2015

Young Adults

Monthly Dinner – Monday, June 20th at 7 p.m. We will gather for a homemade meal with time for laughs, fellowship and prayer. This is a great way to get to know other young adults in the community. Please e-mail youngadults@stmartha.com for more information on the location.

YCP Executive Speaker Series – The Houston chapter of Young Catholic Professionals (YCP) will gather Tuesday, June 28 at 7 p.m. at St. Anne’s for its Executive Speaker Series. There will be free wine, beer, and appetizers at this free event, open to all young professionals in their 20s and 30s. Ms. Marcella Burke, associate at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, will be speaking. https://www.facebook.com/events/279335249071960/

Bible Study – Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. in the main Church. We are currently studying the Gospel of John and will soon be moving to Revelations. We are an informal group and encourage all to join. No prior Bible study experience is necessary! We will be meeting in the parlor, which is located in the rear of the church (when you enter the main doors, take the hall on your left--it is the first door on the left hand side).

Welcome Back Event for College Students – A Young Adults college age group is starting up for the summer! It will be Sunday nights after Life Teen in the FLC. All incoming freshmen through just graduated seniors are welcome to attend! Please e-mail youngadults@stmartha.com for more information.

Lunch and Bowling – Our bowling event was postponed due to flooding. Stay tuned for the new date.

YASTM has a new webpage stmartha.com/yastm! Please subscribe to our e-mail list via Flocknote new.flocknote.com/stmartha/YAStMYoungAdults/ or visit www.facebook.com/groups/YASTM/ to stay informed of upcoming events.

For questions about any events, please e-mail youngadults@stmartha.com. You may also call or text Matt, 718-887-6837.

WHAT IS A PRIEST?
A priest is a humble creature – a mystifying worker at all professions. His hours are the longest; his salary the smallest; his Boss the best! He likes good pastors, the smiles of children, a good sermon, a home-cooked meal, and the name “Father”. A priest is all things to all men in the sight of God. He may be misquoted, mistaken and misunderstood, but he'll always forgive – because he's a mediator; a peacemaker, a go-between heaven and earth. It's no wonder God loves him. He's a man standing at an altar, clothed in Holy clothes, who while being aware of his own nothingness speaks to God for us and to us for God. And although his greatest act is to offer sacrifice, his most consoling one is to say to me, "Go in peace – Your sins are forgiven."

Parenting/Youth

**Are Your Kids Excited for Sunday?**

Come and see what we are learning in Children’s Liturgy! Every Sunday at 9am your children are discovering their faith. Preschool to 5th graders explore the Gospel, get a deeper understanding of the mass, and learn how to listen to His voice.

Visit a class one Sunday and sign up if you think this is for you! We need more adult and teen volunteers in the Preschool to 2nd grade classes, to guide children through the activities and crafts that accompany the lesson plan. Get involved - let God open your heart to the graces He is pouring over the children of St. Martha.

Contact Jaclyn Dement at stmarthacm@hotmail.com or 713-851-6751.

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Limited Openings for the 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR!

Visit our school website at [www.stmarthacs.org](http://www.stmarthacs.org) for more information or contact Registrar Jodie Richter at richterj@stmarthacs.org.

School Office Summer Hours:
June 6 – July 22 * T-W-TH only *
8 a.m. – 12 noon (Closed July 5)

**IF YOU ARE A PASSIONATE AND FAITH-FILLED EDUCATOR, ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC SCHOOL HAS OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU!**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR**

- Kindergarten Teacher
- Middle School Social Studies Teacher
- Part-time Middle School Spanish Teacher
- Part-time Prek-Gr 3 Music Teacher
- Substitute Teachers

For more information, please visit our website at [www.stmarthacs.org](http://www.stmarthacs.org) or contact Principal Mrs. Tina Lewis at 281-358-5523.

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**ST. MARTHA SUNDAY NURSERY**

Sundays- 9 AM, 11 AM and 1:00 PM
Open every Sunday, with the exception of Thanksgiv- ing weekend, Christmas, New Year’s Day and Easter.

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Upcoming Food Drives & Food Fairs

**ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS FOOD DRIVE NEXT WEEKEND**

Next weekend, June 25 & 26, 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.)**

The **ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE** for **HAAM** is being conducted the weekend of **July 9 and 10**. **HAAM** needs non-perishable, nutritional items including: whole grain cereal, granola bars, whole grain pasta, brown rice, mac and cheese, canned fruit in juice, dry milk, canned vegetables (no sodium), meal-type soups, jelly, laundry detergent, personal hygiene items (soap, shampoo, razors, sanitary products, toothbrushes and toothpaste, etc.). Donations of cash and checks (payable to **HAAM**) also are being accepted. Thank you for your generosity!

**HAAM FOOD FAIR**

The Houston Food Bank will be donating food!!

When: Wednesday, June 22nd, 10:00 AM—2:00 PM.
Location: St. Martha’s Catholic Church parking lot. It will be first-come first-served basis.

**Parish Festival News**

Fall Market Vendors
We hope to see you at...
St. Martha’s Festival & Fall Market
on Saturday, October 8, 2016
from noon to 8 p.m.

We expect over 2,000 visitors enjoying great food, games, music, silent & live auction, beer garden, and Market Vendor Shopping!!!!

Fall Market Vendors: For added information on renting a Fall Market Booth, e-mail your name and products/services you would be selling to:

stmarthafallmarket@gmail.com

Reserve your Fall Market booth by July 30th and save $10.00!
The *Fortnight for Freedom: Freedom to Bear Witness* will take place from June 21 to July 4, 2016, 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. In the following weeks look for articles in the bulletin about witnesses of Religious Liberty in our country and the world.

**Martha’s Kitchen News**

Thank you for your continued financial support to Martha’s Kitchen. We are blessed by your loyalty and continued prayers—May God bless you! We wish all clergy and parishioners a healthy and safe summer. Please note: Martha’s Kitchen will be closed on Monday, July 3 for Independence Day.

**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. Martha Rosary Guild**

**Urgent!**

We need help making rosaries. Please come by and help us every Wednesday from 10:00am-2:30pm, at the Woodland Hills Campus, Room 2 and bring your lunch or join us every 2nd Sunday of the Month, Room 2 from 1:00pm-3:00pm. See you there! For more info contact Janice Cravens 832-713-0556, jlcrcp@yahoo.com or Gilda Womack at 281-989-4241, gawomack@hotmail.com.

Website: www.MarianiteRosaryGuild.org

Storefront: www.MarianiteRosaryGuild.etsy.com

**PERPETUAL EUCHARISTICADORATION**

Second adorers are needed for the following hours:

- **Sunday:** 1-2 AM, 2-3 PM, 3-4 PM. Monday: 2-3 PM, 5-6 PM, 10-11 PM, 11 PM-Midnight.
- **Tuesday:** 2-3 AM. Wednesday: 1-2 AM, 3-4 PM, 5-6 PM. Friday: 1-2 AM, 6-7 PM, 10-11 PM. Saturday: 1-2 AM, 3-4 AM, Noon-1 PM, 7-8 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.

**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.

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- **Sunday:** 1-2 AM, 2-3 PM, 3-4 PM. Monday: 2-3 PM, 5-6 PM, 10-11 PM, 11 PM-Midnight.
- **Tuesday:** 2-3 AM. Wednesday: 1-2 AM, 3-4 PM, 5-6 PM. Friday: 1-2 AM, 6-7 PM, 10-11 PM. Saturday: 1-2 AM, 3-4 AM, Noon-1 PM, 7-8 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.

**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.
Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher were Renaissance men. Talented and energetic, they contributed to the humanist scholarship of early modern England. More wrote theological and philosophical treatises, while making a career as a lawyer and government official. Bishop John Fisher worked as an administrator at Cambridge, confronted the challenge Martin Luther presented to Christian Europe, and most importantly served as Bishop of Rochester. As a bishop, he is notable for his dedication to preaching at a time when bishops tended to focus on politics. These men were brilliant. They both corresponded with Erasmus, who helped Bishop Fisher learn Greek and Hebrew, and who also famously referred to More as a man *omnia horarium*, a man of all seasons.

Above all their accomplishments, these men bore witness to a deep faith in Christ and his Church. More considered joining religious life and was assiduous in his devotional practices. As a married man, he committed himself wholly to his vocation as a father. At the time, disciplinary practices with children tended to be severe, but More’s children testify to his warmth, patience, and generosity.

St. John Fisher was a model shepherd and demonstrated remarkable humility. He remained in the small Diocese of Rochester his entire episcopal ministry, devoting himself to his local church rather than seeking promotion to a larger, more powerful diocese.

More and Fisher are well-known for opposing King Henry’s divorce. Ultimately, it was their refusal to sign an oath of supremacy that led them to be executed. King Henry VIII claimed to be the supreme head of the Church in England, asserting sovereign power over English Christians. Neither Fisher nor More could abide this claim, and their steadfastness to their consciences put them in conflict with the king. They were convicted of treason.

When More made his way to the gallows, he is said to have stated, “I die the King’s good servant, but God’s first.” Both More and Fisher were patriots. They never rose up to incite rebellion or foment revolution. They were no traitors. But when the law of the king came into conflict with the law of Christ, they chose Christ. These men gave their lives for the freedom of the Church and for freedom of conscience. They bear witness to the truth that no government can make a claim on a person’s soul.

Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher, pray that we too will be good servants to our country, but God’s first!
Santo Tomás Moro y san Juan Fisher fueron hombres del Renacimiento. Talentosos y enérgicos, contribuyeron a la erudición humanista en la Inglaterra de comienzos de la era moderna. Tomás Moro escribió tratados teológicos y filosóficos, además de ejercer como abogado y funcionario público. El obispo Fisher trabajó como administrador de Cambridge, enfrentó el desafío que Martin Luther presentó a la Europa católica y, lo más importante, se desempeñó como obispo de Rochester. En su función pastoral, fue notable por su dedicación a predicar en un tiempo en el que los obispos tendían a enfocarse en política. Estos hombres eran brillantes. Ambos se comunicaban por carta con Erasmo, quien ayudó al obispo Fisher a aprender griego y hebreo, y que famosamente también se refería a Moro como un hombre omnium horarium, un hombre de todos los tiempos.

Por encima de todos sus logros, estos hombres dieron testimonio de una profunda fe en Cristo y en su Iglesia. Moro consideró unirse a la vida religiosa y era asiduo en sus devociones. Como hombre casado, se comprometió enteramente a su vocación de padre. En aquel tiempo, la disciplina de los niños tendía a ser severa, pero los hijos de Moro fueron testigos de su calidez, paciencia y generosidad.

San Juan Fisher fue un pastor modelo y demostraba una humildad notable. Permaneció en la pequeña diócesis de Rochester durante todo su ministerio episcopal, dedicándose a su iglesia local más que a buscar el ascenso a una diócesis mayor y más poderosa.

Moro y Fisher son muy conocidos por oponerse al divorcio del Rey Enrique. Finalmente, fue su negativa a firmar un juramento de supremacía lo que los llevó a ser ejecutados. El Rey Enrique VIII se autonombró cabeza suprema de la Iglesia en Inglaterra, afirmando el poder soberano sobre los cristianos de aquel país. Fisher ni Moro aceptaron esta acción ilegítima, y sus compromisos de conciencia los pusieron en conflicto con el rey. Ambos fueron condenados bajo cargos de traición.

Se dice que cuando More caminaba hacia la horca, afirmó: “Muero siendo el buen siervo del rey, pero primero de Dios”. Moro y Fisher eran patriotas. Nunca se levantaron para incitar la rebelión ni fomentar la revolución. No eran traidores. Pero, cuando la ley del rey entró en conflicto con la ley de Cristo, escogieron a Cristo. Estos hombres dieron sus vidas por la libertad de la Iglesia y por la libertad de conciencia. Hasta el día de hoy el testimonio de ellos confirma la verdad de que ningún gobierno puede reclamar el alma de una persona.

Santo Tomás Moro y san Juan Fisher, oren para que nosotros también seamos buenos servidores de nuestro país, ¡pero primero de Dios!
Para la familia de la parroquia de Santa Marta,

En el relato del Evangelio de Lucas 9: 18-24 que es utiliza para el día 12vo domingo del tiempo ordinario, el evangelista describe la cercanía del final del ministerio de Jesús en la región de Galilea. Se ha hecho evidente que la fama de la enseñanza y las milagrosas curaciones de Jesús se han extendido por toda la zona. Sin embargo, hay una cuestión importante acerca de si o no la gente entiende la verdadera identidad de Jesús. Él desafía a Pedro, el que va a ser la cabeza de la Iglesia, para responder a la pregunta: "¿Quién dicen que soy yo?" Al igual que los otros discípulos, Pedro había sido testigo de las obras maravillosas de curación realizadas por Jesús y le había oído hablar con la autorización especial. Pero ahora el Señor invita a Pedro a pasar de ser un observador pasivo de estos eventos para convertirse en un seguidor activo y verdadero discípulo. Inspirado por el Espíritu Santo, Pedro afirma audazmente, "Tu eres el Cristo de Dios". Este reconocimiento de Jesús como el Mesías señala un momento crucial de este relato en el Evangelio de Lucas. A medida que la fe nazca y crezca en el discípulo, maravillándose acerca de las obras no es suficiente. El discípulo es invitado a hacer un compromiso - para seguir los pasos del Maestro. Al igual que Pedro, nosotros también tenemos el reto de responder; al poner nuestras vidas en la línea por el Señor. Se nos invita a pasar de ser miembros pasivos de la Iglesia a convertirnos en trabajadores que participan activamente en la viña del Señor.

A medida que continúa la narrativa del Evangelio, el evangelista hace hincapié en la necesidad de llegar a conocer a Jesús y "su camino", que conduce a la salvación. Nuestra respuesta a la pregunta acerca de quién es Jesús, es de suma importancia. Jesús no es simplemente un "sentirse bien" Mesías que viene a eliminar el sufrimiento y la muerte de la experiencia humana, con el movimiento de una varita mágica. En vez, Jesús toma libremente sobre sí el sufrimiento humano y la debilidad con el fin de mostrarnos que es sólo en la incorporación completa de nuestra humanidad que vamos a descubrir el poder de la gracia de Dios como un regalo. El Evangelio nos recuerda que Jesús vino a servir, no a ser servido. Pablo nos dice que cuando Jesús estaba en la forma de Dios, "se despojó a sí mismo y tomó la condición de esclavo, haciéndose semejante a los hombres". Jesús nos invita, como él invitó a Pedro, a convertirnos en discípulos siguiendo "su camino". Y que "El camino" está claramente señalado como el final del texto del Evangelio del día de hoy: "Si alguien quiere venir en pos de mí, niéguese a sí mismo, tome su cruz cada día y sigame". Este llamado al discípulado se repite cada vez que nos reunimos como comunidad para celebrar la Eucaristía y somos enviados al final de la misa para invitar a otros a seguir los pasos de Jesús. Gracias por todos los que han respondido generosamente al llamado a compartir en el ministerio de servicio de Jesús, especialmente a nuestros nuevos Acólitos que comienzan su ministerio a la parroquia este fin de semana.

Padre Chester Borski

12º Domingo Ordinario

Reflexión sobre el Jubileo de la Misericordia:

La primera obra corporal de misericordia es: Dar de comer al hambriento. En el mundo que vivimos más de 800 millones de personas sufren hambre todos los días, y no solo es un problema en África, Latinoamérica y Asia, sino que también en Europa y en Estados Unidos hay gente que no tiene lo suficiente para comer. Comer es una necesidad básica que tenemos los hombres y, muchos de nosotros somos insensibles a ese problema ya que tenemos que comer todos los días. Hay muchas formas en las que podemos ayudar a los que sufren hambre: Adoptar un niño en una asociación como "Compassion International", en donde por 38 dólares al mes dan de comer y cubren las necesidades básicas de un niño; apoyar los bancos de comida como el “Houston Food Bank”; participar en el ministerio de “Martha’s Kitchen” que da de comer a entre 300 y 500 personas todos los días en el centro de Houston; traer tarjetas de algún restaurante de comida rápida en nuestro automóvil y repartirlas a las gentes pobres que veamos. Lo importante es concientizarnos que hay gente con hambre y que cada uno de nosotros podemos ayudar a que, por lo menos una persona menos, pasen menos hambre cada día.
Compromiso de la semana: Si mi presupuesto me lo permite, adoptaré un niño en algún lugar po-bre a través de “Compassion International".
Ministerio Hispano

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 mucha 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 dejó 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? Ayúdalo y pasale este anuncio, invítalo 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) y participa en el RICA en Español.

Los 14 Días por la Libertad: La Libertad para dar Testimonio tomara lugar desde el 21 de Junio al 4 de Julio, 2016, tiempo en nuestro calendario litúrgico donde se celebran las fiestas de una serie de grandes mártires quienes se mantuvieron fieles mientras se enfrentaban a la persecución de los poderes políticos – Santo Tomás Moro, San John Fisher, San Juan Bautista, San Pedro, San Pablo y otros de los Primeros Mártires de la Iglesia en Roma. En las siguientes semanas encontrarán artículos en el boletín sobre hombres y mujeres de fe, que dan testimonio de la autentica Libertad Religiosa en nuestro país y en otras partes del mundo.

El banco de Comidas de Houston (HAAM) estará donando comida en el día Mercoles, 22 de Junio, 2016 de 10:00 AM—2:00 PM en el estacionamiento de la Iglesia de Santa Martha, 4301 Woodridge Pkwy. Porter, TX 77365

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 e-mail: legiondemaria@stmartha.co