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 Kleingueitl, Mr. Bob MacFarlane, Mr. Al O’Brien, Mr. Guy T. Puglia, and Mr. John Schuster

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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ask and you will receive;
Seek and you will find;
Knock and the door will be opened to you.

Luke 11:9

JULY 24, 2016
To the parish family of St. Martha,

The Scripture readings for the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time remind us of the importance and necessity of making prayer the center of our lives. In the account from the Gospel of Luke which we hear today, the followers of Jesus were quite aware that he spent significant time in prayer. In today’s Gospel story one of the disciples makes the following request: “Lord, teach us to pray.” And Jesus uses the occasion to teach them to address God as “Father.” (Note that Luke’s version of the Lord’s Prayer is shorter than the version we usually pray which is from Matthew.) Jesus goes on to instruct the disciples that they can approach the “Father” with total trust and confidence at any time just as they would a loving parent or close friend. The Church teaches that God enters into a life-giving relationship with people of faith through the sacrament of baptism and through this relationship we become God’s adopted children. Prayer is thus seen as God drawing his children closer to his heart and making their hearts like his own. Another important thing to note about the teaching of Jesus is that prayer is the “one thing” necessary that is referred to in last Sunday’s Gospel account of Martha and Mary. Mary chose the “better part” or the “one thing” and was drawn into the outpouring of the Father’s love.

Praying is not a one-time shot in life or something we do only when all seems lost and we are desperate. It is not so much about “saying prayers” as it is about becoming a person of prayer. This requires time and a commitment to focus on God and his will for us. A great question we can ask ourselves concerning our commitment to a regular prayer life is the following: when and where do I pray? This provides a simple and practical checkup about the reality of prayer in our lives. Most of us have met authentic people of prayer. We recognize them not so much because we witness them praying at church or in their homes but because their life of prayer influences everything they say and do. We usually sense a depth of maturity and a gift of peace which touch us when we are in contact with them. I am convinced that we are blessed with many such men and women and young people here at St. Martha. Let us take time to thank God for their presence in our faith community and let us ask the Lord to teach us to pray with the same trust and childlike confidence that they manifest. Becoming people of prayer lies at the heart of becoming good and faithful stewards and faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Fr. Chester Borski

PLEASE JOIN US!!!!!!

FRIDAY, JULY 29th,
FOR THE FEAST OF
SAINT MARTHA.
WE WILL HAVE MASS
AT 7:30 PM
FOLLOWED BY AN
ICE CREAM SOCIAL IN
THE NARTHEX.

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS FOOD DRIVE

This weekend, July 23 & 24, 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.)
Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday: St. Peter Chrysologus; Friday: St. Martha

World Youth Day, Krakow—July 26

Tuesday: Ss. Joachim and Anne; Monday: St. James

Sunday: Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time


MASS INTENTIONS

Mon./July 25  8:30 am † Earl Keeling
     11:00 am † Michael J. Benigno Family
Tues./July 26  8:30 am † Leticia R. Fernandez
     7:00 pm † Michael J. Benigno Family
Wed./July 27  8:30 am † Charles Fallon
     10:00 am † Raul Chavez
Thurs./July 28  6:30 am † Agnes McDonnell
     8:30 am † Priscilla Patricio
Fri./July 29  8:30 am † Carl Burris
Sat./July 30  5:30 pm † Jean Guide
Sun./July 31  7:00 am † Roseann Munger
     9:00 am † Mark Endsley
     11:00 am † Barbara & Michael Vincent Mahalic
     1:00 pm † Alancia Martinez
     5:30 pm † Donald Hogan

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

William “Bill” Fairlie (husband of Rose Fairlie)
Lee Partipilo (mother of Cindy Mosby)
Ron Christy (father of Jason Christy)
Horacio “Lacho” Ayala (husband of Angelica Ayala)
James McPhearson, Sr.
Ronnie May (husband of Claire May, father of Camille Morrison, Dorothy Alspaugh, Rhonda Kelly and Ron May)
Elvia Holguin
Herman Charles Jenny

Please remember the sick and their families in your prayers: Marie Burk,
John H. Hensley and John H. Hensley Jr., Sandra Theis, Norma Ross, Jean Lake,
Jim Black, Katie Cowan, Caroline Esposito, Julio Volkerts, Margie Vega, Victoria Ramirez, Marlena Neathery, John King, Janie & Robert Alvarado, Michael Symon,
Tiare Tamura, Liz Donohue, Joseph Sullivan, Michael Sullivan, Sharon Laine,
Hertz Family, Elizabeth Dean, Gabriella Schlereth, Jane Hemberger, Mary Lohman
Moon, Lucille Burke, Tina Wooten, Don and Angie Chesnut, Humberto Garcia,
Penny Gaido, Minerva Haney, Becky Kelly, Stephanie Barimeau, Juanita Solis,
Lauri Baunmeyer Kay, Veronica (Ronny) Villamor, Wanda Bacoro, Waldon Landry,
Susan Thom, Tiffany Bedran, Grant McGaggart, Patrick Giordano, Millie Smaadyk,
Myiriam Varela, Rita Landvogt Corbell, Tom Alosio, Joe Alosio, Carmen Alosio,
Jaxson Prye, Ronald Schulze, Santiago Morales, Maryann Kupstas,
Peggy Cole, Anji Ray, Nora Alonzo, Maria Saenz, Rebecca Martin, Jana Francis,
Catherine Casey, Mary Chovan, Lisa Warner, Jean Tomba, Rick Franz, Rita Hansen,
Helmut Zehrer, Dan Kite, Catherine Sedlak, Melinda Moore, Efrain Cubillos
Sarmiento, Eduardo Rousy, Edufil Rodriguez, Mariano Torres, Gladys Forero,
Victor P. Carvajal, Lucy de Carvajal, Orlando Moreno, Dung Van Chuc, Carol Villella,
Elea Childre, Lucy Richardson, Joan Ardoin, Elvia Zambrano, Natacha
Cooke, Gerardo Ramos, Jaime Ramos, Dan Grohn, Larry Hattersley, Paul Gombos,
Myrna Piccione, Michelle Holm, Carol McAndrews, Scott McAndrews, Candace
Nicole Hupp, Joe & Diane Moseley, Consuelo Rodriguez Baez, Janie Medina,
Sherry Russell, Rowan Mae Sullivan, Robyn Laumbach, Michelle Furman, Marilyn
Northcutt, Mary Homb, Rodney Gullo

Please pray for our active military as seen on the wreath in the Narthex. To add a
loved one call: Jodi at 218-358-6637 or e-mail jodis@stmartha.com

Year of Mercy—Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time—World Youth Day in Krakow:

This week, the universal Church focuses in prayerful solidarity on World Youth Day
in Krakow, where WYD’s founder, Saint John Paul II, served as archbishop. Its
theme coincides with that of Pope Francis’ Jubilee Year of Mercy: “Blessed are the
merciful, for they will be shown mercy” (Matthew 5:7). Today’s Gospel echoes the
same theme, as Jesus unites prayer with mercy in “The parable of the persistent
friend.” Jesus teaches us not only what words to pray, but what deeds must match
authentic prayer. How beautifully down-to-earth is Jesus’ portrait of a God who can
be trusted to do what is best for us. A pesky neighbor disturbs a sleeping friend and
upsets the household. Yet beautiful images unfold. Persevering prayer receives
active, practical mercy in loaves of bread, recalling Luke’s unique expression for the
Eucharist, “the breaking of bread” (Luke 24:35; Acts 2:42). WYD, the Jubilee, and
Jesus thus unite to define perfect prayer as persevering communion with God and
unconditional mercy toward our neighbor. —Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.
ADULT FAITH FORMATION
THE FAITH FORMATION OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THE LAST TWO WEEKS OF JULY. THE OFFICE WILL RE-OPEN MONDAY, AUGUST 1, WITH REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY.

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.

NO BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY THE MONTH OF JULY.

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 You Tube. Click the You Tube 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.

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.
**2016 Archdiocesan Prayer Breakfast**

**July 28, 7:30 a.m.**

Hilton Americas-Houston  
1600 Lamar Street  
Houston, Texas 77010

Speakern:

Most Reverend Michael Sis  
Bishop of San Angelo

Get your Tickets now!  
Visit our website to reserve your space:  
www.archgh.org/prayerbreakfast

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**YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON - SUMMER VACATION**

The Young at Heart Luncheons held at St. Martha’s on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday of each month will **NOT** be held during the Summer. We will **resume** on **Wednesday, September 14**. Have a great summer and check the bulletin in August for information on the September luncheons.

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**Out of work? Looking for a change? We can help!**

Meetings every Friday from 9:15am to noon in 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 smarathabetweenjobs@gmail.com or call Bob Simpson at 713-410-2844.

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**Commutation 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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**Vocation Corner**

**DEAR YOUNG PEOPLE:** Do not be afraid of Christ. He takes nothing away, and He gives you everything. When we give ourselves to Him, we receive a hundredfold in return.  
**Pope Benedict XVI**

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**CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS:**

Please join the McTaggart 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.

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**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, July 25, 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

Our guest speaker will be Sister Pauline Troncole, with Sisters of Charity, who will speak to us about the works of mercy with Catholic Charities.

RSVP: Diddy Muck  
muck@kingwoodcable.net  
281-615-2015
Are Your Kids Excited for Sunday?
Come and see what we are learning in Children’s Liturgy! Every Sunday at 9 am 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 Pre-school 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.

CATECHESIS CORNER . . .

CCE, LIFETEEN & SACRAMENT
Registration Begins
Tuesday August 2nd
in the Faith Formation Office
during regular office hours and
After all English Masses the weekend of
August 20th and 21st.
Visit to www.Stmartha.com for more
information on registration and to volunteer.
Sign Up soon!!!

Limited Openings for the 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR!
Visit our school website at www.stmarthacs.org for more information or contact Registrar Jodie Richter at richterj@stmarthacs.org.

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
- Substitute Teachers

For more information, please visit our website at www.stmarthacs.org or contact Principal Mrs. Tina Lewis at 281-358-5523.

ST. MARTHA SUNDAY NURSERY
Sundays- 9 AM, 11 AM and 1:00 PM
Open every Sunday, with the exception of Thanksgiving weekend, Christmas, New Year’s Day and Easter.

EDGE NIGHT EXTRAVAGANZA
Monday, July 25
[6:30PM – 12:00AM]
ALL 6th-8th grade [2016-17] students
Come enjoy the EDGE night experience and then stay for hours of more FUN! There will be pizza, prayer, games and more games!
At St. Martha’s Family Life Center (FLC)
Bring a snack to share, otherwise it’s FREE!
*Stop by the Faith Formation Office to fill out a permission form or email: lisa@stmartha.com
Divine Mercy Chaplet-
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!

Day Trip To Galveston- Tentative date August 7th- We will be taking a trip to Galveston as a pilgrimage to the Holy Door at St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica. Pope Francis extended a temporal privilege allowing Catholics to obtain a plenary indulgence during the Year of Mercy by passing through a designated Holy Door during the Year of Mercy. We will stay for Mass at the cathedral and then go to the beach for a picnic lunch. We are still in the planning stages of this event. We will be carpooling from the church parking lot. Please e-mail youngadults@stmartha.com for more information.

Bible Study – Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. in the church. We are currently studying the Book of 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). Please subscribe to our e-mail list via Flocknote new.flocknote.com/stmartha/YAStMYoungAdults/ or visit www.facebook.com/groups/YAStM/ or www.stmartha.com/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.

Houston Aggie Catholics!
Please join us for an Aggie Catholic Maroon Mass to welcome our new Aggie Catholic freshman, transfer students and their families and learn about all of the great things happening at St. Mary’s!

Date: Saturday, July 30th
Mass Time: 5:00 p.m.
Location: Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, 1111 St. Joseph Parkway, Houston 77002
Light dinner and program will follow at Cathedral Centre. RSVP to Beth Ogden, 979-846-5717, ext. 110 or e-mail bogden@aggiecatholic.org.

Rosary after Daily Mass- A group of parishioners gathers after the 8:30 a.m. daily Mass, when able, to pray the rosary. All are welcome to join them in the back of the church in front of the Mary statue to pray the rosary to honor our Blessed Mother.

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
“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, 3-4 PM. Monday: 5-6 PM, 10-11 PM. Tuesday: 2-3 AM, 7-8 AM, 5-6 PM. Wednesday: 1-2 AM, 5-6 PM. Friday: 1-2 AM, 6-7 PM. Saturday: 1-2 AM, 3-4 AM, 7-8 PM, Noon -1 PM, 2-3 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.

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

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Pro-Life Mass and Rosary:
Every 1st Saturday at 8:30 a.m. Please join us Saturday, August 6.

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.

Women’s Familia
Mother of Young Children, working in the home or outside of the home…finally…something just for you! Want an opportunity to grow in solid friendships with other moms just like you, delve more deeply into who you are as a woman, wife and mother in the light of your faith and equip yourself with practical tools that can be applied right away: Call Christiana Chavez at 713-303-1749 or miller_christiana@hotmail.com to learn more.
Meetings are held on the 2nd/4th Monday of the month from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. in the FLC with babysitting provided.
The cost for the Familia book is $35; partial scholarships are available.

Men’s Familia
Do you want to be a better man….for your wife, for your children, for yourself? Make your family GREAT – Experience friendship with other Catholic men as you explore principles to help you make decisions at work, as a husband, father and leader of your family.
The Men’s Familia team will meet monthly from September – April, day of the week, time and location TBD. The cost for the book is $45; partial scholarships are available. Contact John Ehlig at tjehlig@gmail.com for more information.
Familia is a division of Cana Family Institute.

Think there isn’t anyone pulling for your marriage? Think again.
Teams of Our Lady USA-A movement of conjugal spirituality
Marriage is a challenge. Whether a couple is newlywed, raising a family, or “empty nesting”, the call to grow together in love is ever present. Often couples find they are living in a social climate where forces and stresses are at work that can undermine both their marriage and their faith. All over the world, couples have found a way to meet their desire for growth in love and faith through the Teams of Our Lady (TOOL) movement.
A team is a group of five to seven couples that have decided to join together to find support in their efforts to lead Gospel lives. The team meets once a month, in each other’s homes, for a simple meal and in a spirit of friendship share their experiences of the previous month. After dinner, the mood shifts to the more obviously spiritual as the team reflects on scripture and prays. Finally, they discuss study material on married life and faith. The team meeting is truly a unique gathering – lively and enjoyable, yet structured and meaningful.
If you would like to join such a group, plan on attending a 45 minute Information Meeting on Sunday, July 24, at 3:30 p.m. in Room 2 at the Woodland Hills Campus. Contact Donna at 281-360-9644 or e-mail dwokelley@gmail.com for more information and to reserve a spot.
The following is excerpted from the USCCB document *Forming Consciences For Faithful Citizenship*.

**The Dignity of the Human Person**

Human life is sacred. The dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. Direct attacks on innocent persons are never morally acceptable, at any stage or in any condition. In our society, human life is especially under direct attack from abortion, which some political actors mischaracterize as an issue of “women’s health.” Other direct threats to the sanctity of human life include euthanasia and assisted suicide (sometimes falsely labelled as “death with dignity”), human cloning, in vitro fertilization, and the destruction of human embryos for research.

Catholic teaching about the dignity of life calls us to oppose torture, unjust war, and the indiscriminate use of drones for violent purposes; to prevent genocide and attacks against noncombatants; to oppose racism; to oppose human trafficking; and to overcome poverty and suffering. Nations are called to protect the right to life by seeking effective ways to combat evil and terror without resorting to armed conflicts except as a last resort after all peaceful means have failed, and to end the use of the death penalty as a means of protecting society from violent crime. We revere the lives of children in the womb, the lives of persons dying in war and from starvation, and indeed the lives of all human beings as children of God. We stand opposed to these and all activities that contribute to what Pope Francis has called “a throwaway culture.”

**Questions for your consideration:**

- What can we do to alleviate the deadly attacks on fellow Christians?
- Can we stop the ongoing destruction of over one million innocent human lives by abortion?
- Can physician assisted suicide ever be tolerated?
Ministerio Hispano

Para la familia de la parroquia de Santa Marta,

Las lecturas de la Escritura para el domingo 17 del tiempo ordinario nos recuerdan la importancia y la necesidad de hacer de la oración el centro de nuestras vidas. En el relato del Evangelio de Lucas, que oímos hoy, los seguidores de Jesús eran muy conscientes de que pasó un tiempo considerable en la oración. En la historia del Evangelio de hoy uno de los discípulos hace la siguiente petición: “Señor, enséñanos a orar”. Y Jesús aprovecha la ocasión para enseñarles a dirigirse a Dios como “Padre”. (Tenga en cuenta que la versión de Lucas de la Oración al Señor es más corta que la versión que suele rezarse que es la de Mateo). Jesús pasa a instruir a los discípulos que pueden acercarse al “Padre” con total confianza y confidencia en cualquier momento tal como lo harían un padre amoroso o un amigo cercano. La Iglesia enseña que Dios entra en una relación que da vida a las personas de fe a través del sacramento del bautismo y por medio de esta relación llegamos a ser hijos adoptivos de Dios. La oración es vista, así como Dios dibuja a sus hijos cerca de su corazón y hacer de sus corazones como el suyo. Otra cosa importante a tener en cuenta sobre la enseñanza de Jesús es que la oración es la "única cosa" necesaria que se hace referencia en el relato del Evangelio del domingo pasado de Marta y María. María escogió la "mejor parte" o "una cosa" y se vio envuelta en la efusión del amor del Padre.

Orar no es un tiro de una sola vez en la vida o algo que hacemos sólo cuando todo parece perdido y estamos desesperados. No se trata tanto de "decir oraciones" ya que se trata es de convertirse en una persona de oración. Esto requiere tiempo y un compromiso de centrarse en Dios y su voluntad para nosotros. Una gran pregunta que nos podemos hacer con respecto a nuestro compromiso con una vida de oración es el siguiente: ¿cuándo y dónde puedo orar? Esto nos proporciona un chequeo sencillo y práctico sobre la realidad de la oración en nuestra vida. La mayoría de nosotros hemos conocido a personas auténticas de oración. No los reconocemos tanto porque asistamos a rezar en la iglesia o en sus casas, pero debido a que su vida de oración influye en todo lo que dicen y hacen. Por lo general, percibimos una profundidad de madurez y un don de la paz que nos toca cuando estamos en contacto con ellos. Estoy convencido de que hemos sido bendecidos con muchos de estos hombres y mujeres y los jóvenes aquí en Santa Marta. Tomemos tiempo para agradecer a Dios por su presencia en nuestra comunidad de fe y pidamos al Señor que nos enseñe a orar con la misma confianza y seguridad infantil con que se manifiestan. Convertirse en personas de oración está en el centro de llegar a ser buenos y fieles administradores y fieles discípulos de Jesucristo.

Padre Chester Borski

17º Domingo de Cuaresma

Reflexión sobre el Jubileo de la Misericordia:

La sexta obra de misericordia corporal es: Socorrer a los presos. La privación de nuestra libertad es uno de los castigos más severos que existe. La sociedad es corresponsable en muchos de los crímenes. Uno de los ministerios menos acudidos es el de visitar a los prisioneros en cárceles y centros de detención, se necesitan más voluntarios para poderlo hacer bien. Aún si no los puedes visitar, todos podemos rezar por ellos, por su conversión y por sus familias y víctimas. Jesús le dijo a San Faustina: “Mientras más grande sea el pecador, mayor derecho tiene para Mi Misericordia”. La oración es un muy poderosa y todos la pueden usar. También es muy importante el ayudar a nuestros hermanos, que aunque no están físicamente en alguna cárcel, son presos de algo: Sus pasiones, la tecnología, sus vicios, etc. Mucha gente necesita la ayuda de otros para poder liberarse de aquello que los mantiene atrapados y nos los deja vivir de acuerdo a lo que Dios nos manda. Seamos misericordiosos con ellos.

Compromiso de la semana: Rezaré por las personas que están en prisiones y centros de detención.
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, 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
- 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? Ayudalo 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.

Sabado, Octubre 8, 2016

Festival de St. Martha y Mercado de Otoño

4301 Woodridge Parkway desde las 12:00 p.m. hasta las 8:00 p.m. con lluvia o sol

Encontrando a Mercy

Familia, Amigos, Diversion

Subastas en Vivo y Silenciosa Mercado Música en Vivo Payaso Alimentos y Bebidas Jardín de Cerveza Juegos e Inflables Face Painting

Boletos de Rifa en $5.00

1er Premio: Paquete de Iphone 6 plus y un reloj apple

2º Premio: 4 Boletos y 4 Playeras para ver el partido de LSU Tigers vs Texas A&M

3er Premio: 2 noches con cena incluida en el Messina Hof Winery Resort Villa

4º Premio: Grill grande de carbon marca Kamado ProCeramic

Las ganancias beneficiarán a la Iglesia Santa María y sus ministros.

Para obtener más información póngase en contacto con Tom Gallagher smparish@festival@gmail.com

MARIA GORETTI NETWORK ESPANOL PARA TODA VICTIMA DE ABUSO

MGN es Un grupo de apoyo formado por personas que han vivido cualquier tipo de abuso en algún momento de su vida y que están buscando sanación y perdón. Para mayor información llamal al teléfono 281-389-1210 o enviar un email a mariagrettiesspanol@gmail.com. Allí le darán más información sobre el lugar y hora de las reuniones y contestaremos sus preguntas.

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: legionemaria@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.