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 en-
ter 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.
SECOND READING — Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:1-4).

Gospel — I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing (Luke 12:49-53).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday: St. Stephen of Hungary

Friday: St. John Eudes

Saturday: St. Bernard

Year of Mercy — Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Jubilee Year of Mercy bids us share our own experience of Jesus’ mercy with those on what Pope Francis calls the “peripheries” — people who feel marginalized, even unwelcome — inviting them to come home. But with all this mercy, why today’s mayhem? “Do you think I have come to establish peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division” (Luke 12:51). Jesus “breaks down” those “breakups” in painful detail — parents, children, even in-laws. “Against” appears eight times in five verses. Jeremiah faced death for bearing witness (Jeremiah 38:4). Can’t we bear at least a small share of the sometimes merciless cost of sharing mercy? The Letter to the Hebrews warns us, keep your “eyes fixed on Jesus” and “so great a cloud of witnesses,” lest we “grow weary and lose heart” as we run “the race that lies before us” (Hebrews 12:1-3). After all, “for the sake of the joy that lay before him,” Jesus “endured the cross” (12:2). Can’t we endure our small crosses for the sake of sharing mercy?


TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — They took Jeremiah and threw him into the cistern (Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10).

Psalm — Lord, come to my aid! (Psalm 40).

Second Reading — Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith (Hebrews 12:1-4).

Gospel — I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing (Luke 12:49-53).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28

Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10-12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35cd-36ab; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ez 43:1-7a; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 23:1-12

Sunday: Is 66:18-21; Ps 117:1, 2; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday: St. Stephen of Hungary

Friday: St. John Eudes

Saturday: St. Bernard

Year of Mercy — Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Jubilee Year of Mercy bids us share our own experience of Jesus’ mercy with those on what Pope Francis calls the “peripheries” — people who feel marginalized, even unwelcome — inviting them to come home. But with all this mercy, why today’s mayhem? “Do you think I have come to establish peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division” (Luke 12:51). Jesus “breaks down” those “breakups” in painful detail — parents, children, even in-laws. “Against” appears eight times in five verses. Jeremiah faced death for bearing witness (Jeremiah 38:4). Can’t we bear at least a small share of the sometimes merciless cost of sharing mercy? The Letter to the Hebrews warns us, keep your “eyes fixed on Jesus” and “so great a cloud of witnesses,” lest we “grow weary and lose heart” as we run “the race that lies before us” (Hebrews 12:1-3). After all, “for the sake of the joy that lay before him,” Jesus “endured the cross” (12:2). Can’t we endure our small crosses for the sake of sharing mercy?


**TODAY’S READINGS**

First Reading — They took Jeremiah and threw him into the cistern (Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10).

Psalm — Lord, come to my aid! (Psalm 40).

Second Reading — Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith (Hebrews 12:1-4).

Gospel — I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing (Luke 12:49-53).

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28

Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10-12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35cd-36ab; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ez 43:1-7a; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 23:1-12

Sunday: Is 66:18-21; Ps 117:1, 2; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday: Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday: St. Stephen of Hungary

Friday: St. John Eudes

Saturday: St. Bernard

**Year of Mercy — Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

This Jubilee Year of Mercy bids us share our own experience of Jesus’ mercy with those on what Pope Francis calls the “peripheries” — people who feel marginalized, even unwelcome — inviting them to come home. But with all this mercy, why today’s mayhem? “Do you think I have come to establish peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division” (Luke 12:51). Jesus “breaks down” those “breakups” in painful detail — parents, children, even in-laws. “Against” appears eight times in five verses. Jeremiah faced death for bearing witness (Jeremiah 38:4). Can’t we bear at least a small share of the sometimes merciless cost of sharing mercy? The Letter to the Hebrews warns us, keep your “eyes fixed on Jesus” and “so great a cloud of witnesses,” lest we “grow weary and lose heart” as we run “the race that lies before us” (Hebrews 12:1-3). After all, “for the sake of the joy that lay before him,” Jesus “endured the cross” (12:2). Can’t we endure our small crosses for the sake of sharing mercy?


**FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION**

Monday, August 15, is the Feast of the Assumption, normally a Holy Day of Obligation. This year the obligation to attend Mass has been dispensed since the feast day falls on a Monday. You are, however, invited to celebrate this feast at one of the following Masses: 8:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, August 15.

**FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION**

Monday, August 15, is the Feast of the Assumption, normally a Holy Day of Obligation. This year the obligation to attend Mass has been dispensed since the feast day falls on a Monday. You are, however, invited to celebrate this feast at one of the following Masses: 8:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, August 15.

**INFIRM PRIESTS COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND**

The annual Infirm Priests Collection is a major source of revenue through which the Archdiocese is able to provide much needed medical and emergency support for our retired and infirm priests. This year the Infirm Priests Collection is August 13 and 14. Please be as generous as you can in this important need.
To the parish family of St. Martha,

Most of us look forward to those times when we can have peace of mind and freedom from stress and anxiety at home and at work. While that is our hope and dream, the Scripture readings for the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time promise anything but peace and tranquility for those who are faithful to the call of God. In the first reading we have an account from the Prophet Jeremiah who had spoken out against the abuses of the rulers of his day. Because of his actions, Jeremiah is thrown into a cistern and is left there to die. God would have to come to his rescue. In the second reading from the Letter to the Hebrews we are reminded that as followers and disciples of the Lord Jesus we will frequently find ourselves in conflict with those around us and with the values they espouse. And in the Gospel we find Jesus himself telling us that he did not come to bring peace to the world but division! He insists that this division will be experienced even within families where “a father will be divided against his son … a mother against her daughter.” We know that in fact this sometimes happens, and not simply because of faith and discipleship, but because of the effects of sin and selfishness.

If there is anything we can say about Jesus and his teaching in the Gospel, we can surely say that he was real and his teaching quite practical. As the Son of God, he knew that all of us are called to live by the promises of God. In other words, we are people of the covenant and we are to live in this world as people of faith and citizens of God’s kingdom. Faith enables us to face reality as it truly is with the realization that this world is not permanent and lasting. While we are sojourners and pilgrims, we have been invited by the Lord to help influence this world by the quality of our lives, giving witness to values of the kingdom of God. Jesus announces to his disciples, “I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!” The fire that Jesus tells us about is meant to burn away our unrealistic attachment to this world and its set of false values. Such a fire may be upsetting to us, quite challenging, and rightfully so. At times we need to be shaken up and forced out of our complacency and usual way of dealing with life. Jesus reminds us that there is an urgency about his call for us to become engaged in the transformation of the world. The Gospel message is really a direct challenge for us to reflect on our baptismal commitment and to consider practically how we might revitalize our Catholic faith. Hopefully this challenge provides us with the occasion and motivation to look at concrete ways by which we can become “intentional disciples” in our parish faith community. And next Sunday we will have the opportunity to sign up for parish ministry in the areas of faith formation and liturgical ministry at one of our stewardship renewal weekends. To prepare for this time of commitment, let us spend this week asking the Holy Spirit to set us “on fire” so that we will step forward and sign up to help further the Lord’s kingdom.

Fr. Chester Borski

2016 Stewardship Renewal

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” ~ 1 Peter 4:10

Stewardship is not something new, but it does require constant renewal. Each year we pause as a parish to consider how we are doing on our stewardship journeys -- both as individuals, and collectively as a parish. This month, every registered family of St. Martha will receive a Stewardship Renewal Package in the mail. Enclosed in the 2016 Stewardship Guidebook is a Stewardship Covenant. Our covenant this year goes beyond the doors of the church. It is a way of life that can be lived out each day in many ways. Please take some time to prayerfully reflect about the ways you have been blessed and complete your Stewardship Covenant with God. Please keep this covenant close by over the next year to help you remember the commitment made between you and God. Additional copies will be available in the parish office, on the parish website and in the Narthex.

This year’s Renewal also consists of three different weekends designed to learn more about parish ministries. You will have an opportunity to meet with ministry representatives to ask questions and sign up. Please join us in the Narthex after each Mass on the following weekends:

- August 20 & 21: Faith Formation and Liturgy Ministries
- September 24 & 25: Community Life Ministries
- October 22 & 23: Outreach, School, & Administration Ministries

(For a complete listing of St. Martha ministries please see last page of the bulletin under Stewardship—Time, Talent and Treasure)

VIRTUS WORKSHOPS

St. Martha will be offering the following workshops in English:

- Protecting God’s Children: Tues., August 16, 6:30 p.m. in the FLC
- Keeping the Promise Alive (Refresher): Wed., August 31, 6:30 p.m. in the FLC

You must pre-register online at www.virtusonline.org.

You must arrive at least 30 minutes early. No walk-ins and no children allowed.

For more information, please contact Ana Luisa Rodriguez or Michelle Campisi at 281-358-1959 x212.
**St. Martha Women's ACTS Retreat September 15 - 18, 2016**
Questions? Contact the retreat director, Stacie Eakin, at 713-898-1335 or saeakin0409@icloud.com.

**PARISH BLOOD DRIVE:** The 3rd Parish Blood Drive for 2016, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, is scheduled for TODAY, August 14th, from 8:00 am until 1:45 pm at the Activity Center on Woodland Hills Drive. Walk-ins are always welcome on the day of the Blood Drive. As always, the Knights of Columbus would like to thank St. Martha parishioners for generously giving the gift of life.

**YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON -**
The Young at Heart Luncheons held at St. Martha's on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday of each month will begin September 14. Have a great summer and check the bulletin in August for information on the September luncheons.

**Check us out!** Join NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES, A MINISTRY FOR SINGLES AGES 40 and older, on Wed., Aug. 17, to talk/eat/drink at 7:00 p.m. at Uberrito Mexican Grill, 7025 FM 1960 East in Atascocita. For more info, contact Elizabeth Schields (281-441-2552 or elizabeths2@peoplepc.com) or Peggy Broyles (281-359-4560 or peggybmom4@gmail.com) or subscribe to us on Flocknote at St. Martha’s website.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**
The Office Will Be Closed Monday, August 15, for the assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Office Will Re-Open on Tuesday, August 16, with regular business hours: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

**Tuesday Morning:** Breakfast & Bible Study

**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 YOU DONATIONS.**

**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! No matter how long you have been away and no matter what the reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic Church.

Please join us for informal listening/Q&A sessions and an update of the Catholic faith facilitated by former non-practicing Catholics. Next 6-week session starts Tuesday, September 6, 2016.

Catholics Returning Home sessions provide updated information on the basics of Catholicism in an informal, support group format. Topics include:
- *Welcome and Overview of the Series: Sharing by Team and Participants*
- *Stories of Faith and Catholicism, Continued Sharing*
- *The Church Today – Changes since Vatican II, Q&A*
- *Explanation of Reconciliation, Q&A*
- *Explanation/Walk through of the Mass, Q&A*
- *The Creed: What Catholics Believe, Wrap-Up, Q&A*

If you would like more information or to participate, please contact:
Carla Lewton, carlal@stmartha.com, 281-713-8968

**Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration**
“Could you not watch one hour with Me?” Mark 14:37
Listed below are hours that are most in need of adorers at this time. However, please note that no hour is really ever “filled” because parishioners are always invited to choose an hour that works best for them, regardless of whether or not there are other adorers already there in prayer.

Both regular adorers and substitutes are needed at this time. Even if you do not have a regular hour, please feel free to visit our Blessed Lord at any time knowing that He is always waiting for us with joyful anticipation.

**OPEN HOUR: TUESDAY 1-2AM**
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. Wednesday: 1-2 AM, 5-6 PM.
- Friday: 1-2 AM, 6-7 PM. Saturday: 1-2 AM, 3-4 AM, 9-10 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 robynfly@ embarqmail.com. If you need a substitute, please call one of our division leaders: Robyn Laumbach at 281-360-7897 for Midnight- 6 AM, Karen Ehlig at 281-361-7127 for 6 AM-Noon, Annunciata Hopkins at 281-360-1258 for Noon-6 PM, and Beth Beckham at 281-435-1439 for 6 PM-Midnight.
**PROJECT RACHEL**

Project Rachel will be starting our fall group discussions on abortion on **September 22**. Please call for more information on place and time: Bonnie Develle at 713-435-9215 or develle@comcast.net.

*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.*

---

**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 jjehlig@gmail.com for more information.

*Familia is a division of Cana Family Institute.*

---

**Archdiocesan Family Life Ministry Events For Fall**

**Ministry to the Widowed:** The Harvesting Our Tears program, an eight week support group for the widowed meets every second Thursday of the month from September 8, 2016 – May 11, 2017. St. Dominic Center Morkovsky Hall Building, Room 202, 2403 Holcombe Blvd., Houston, Texas 77021. To register: Call Elsa Aguilera at 713-741-8708 or at eaguilera@archgh.org

**Retrouvaille:** Next rediscovery weekend for marriages in crisis is October 14, 15, & 16 in Houston, Texas. Register at: http://www.retrouvaille.org

**MARTHA’S QUILTERS:** As a tangible reminder of God’s love during times of illness, Martha’s Quilters provide handmade blessed quilts and afghans to St. Martha parishioners who are ill or undergoing surgery or other medical treatment. To request a quilt or a crocheted afghan, be placed on our prayer list, or to make a donation, please contact Michelle Lowe at mmleaf@gmail.com, 713-294-8779, or Betty Rucka at bettyrucka@rocketmail.com, 281-973-1540.

**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.

---

**St. Martha Rosary Guild**

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/4th Thursday 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

---

**Young Adults of St. Martha**

youngadults@stmartha.com

**Bible Study**

- **Prayer, Service, Fellowship, Friends, Sports, Spirituality**
- **St. Martha**

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.

This is a simple program of support, encouragement and recovery for those who find themselves separated or divorced and are looking for a way to navigate through the myriad of feelings and emotions in the aftermath. Led by a team of divorced Catholics, some of the topics discussed include:

- Healing, Anger, Divorce and Annulment,
- Helping Children Cope, Forgiveness, Gratitude, Hope

Please join us knowing that the Church supports and wants you – you belong! Yes, we can be divorced and still Catholic.

September 7 – November 3, 2016
Wednesday Evenings – 7:00 to 8:30 PM
St. Martha Parish Office Conference Room
(Next to the Church)

For information and registration, please contact:
Liz Dukes  281-384-9929  edukes@hotmail.com

* Cost: $15 for the book but don’t let cost be a deterrent please!

ARISE TOGETHER IN CHRIST is a parish-centered process of spiritual renewal and evangelization that enables people to deepen their faith, develop a closer relationship with Christ, grow in community, and reach out in service to others. It emphasizes people living in good relationship with one another, as they make concrete application of the gospel to their life situations.

New small groups are forming in our parish again this Fall. Those Parishioners returning to the program do not need to re-register. Group leaders will be contacting you soon.

Sign-up Weekend – September 10 & 11, 2016
Registration cards will be available in the Narthex after all Masses the weekend of Sept. 10 and 11.
Just complete the card and return it to the Faith Formation Office, Parish Office or place in the box available in the Narthex.
The ARISE Six Week Fall Session will begin the week of October 2, and run through the week November 6, 2016.

Interested in being a small group facilitator or hosting a small group in your house? You don’t need to be a Bible scholar or teacher to lead a group – it takes is a desire to meet new people and grow in your faith! Also, you don’t have to be both a host and a facilitator; we can pair host families with facilitators so you might want to offer your home as a meeting place.

For sign-up information contact Carla Lewton at 281-713-8968 or e-mail carlal@stmartha.com.

Martha’s Kitchen News
Congratulations Sr. Julie!!!
Congratulations to Sister Julie, MCDP, in celebrating fifty years of sisterhood and service to our Lord, on August 6, 2016.

Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace Course: From Mon., Sept. 12 to Mon., Nov 7 the Financial Planning Committee will be offering Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University. There is no charge for the course other than the course materials which should be purchased directly from Dave Ramsey. Information about the class, registration and purchase of the course material can be done at the following link: http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/class/1021340. For more information, please call Patty Schulze at 713-560-7444 or e-mail Patty at pattyschulze63@gmail.com.

Serra Club Northeast of Houston
Invites You To Their Monthly Dinner and Meeting
Monday, August 22, 2016
6:30 pm Social, 7:00 to 8:30 pm Dinner and Program at Italiano’s Restaurant
217 FM 1960 at Bypass Road East in Humble
The cost for dinner is $15.00 per person.
Membership is open to all Catholics. Monsignor Borski, Club Chaplain, will open the meeting in prayer.
Our guest speaker for August will be Bill Clay, Governor of Serra USA District 10 who will speak about vocation activities in Houston.
RSVP: Diddy Muck
muck@kingwoodcable.net/281-615-2015
Serra Clubs fosters and promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life; encourages and affirms vocations to the consecrated life and nurtures the spiritual growth and formation of its lay members.

CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS: Please join the Muck 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.

WE EACH HAVE A VOCATION – the thing to do is answer the call. We each have something to give. Dorothy Day

Holy Hour of Adoration for Vocations Exposition & Benediction
- 2nd Tuesday – 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- 2nd Friday – 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
Sponsored by Serra Club Northeast of Houston
CATECHESIS CORNER . . .

CCE, LIFETEEN & SACRAMENT

Registration has begun!!!

Please stop by the Faith Formation Office during regular office hours or visit the CCE table after one of the English Masses the weekend of August 20th and 21st.

Visit to www.stmarts.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
• Subtitute Teachers

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

Parents of High-Schoolers—

Support our high school students with the power of your prayers. Sign up to be given one prayer day a month to pray for the parish’s high schoolers and help us cover them in prayer. There are no meetings to attend and your prayers are offered privately in whatever method of prayer you prefer. For more information or to be given a day on our high school Prayer Quilt, e-mail Lori DiSorbo at lrdisorbo@gmail.com.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!!!!

Children’s Liturgy is looking for a few talented parishioners! Currently we are seeking:

♦ A painter to create a custom design and decorate our Ambo for the 3rd to 5th graders.
♦ We are also looking to create two banners - can be painted, sewn, quilted – to guide our little ones to their respective rooms from the main church during mass.

If you would like to share your time, talent and treasure for the Children’s Liturgy, please contact Jaclyn Dement at 713-851-6751 or Mary Anne Sokol at 281-642-3821.

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.

Parish Festival News

Parish Festival Raffle Tickets are Now Available

Parish Festival Raffle Tickets are available in the Parish Office for pickup and distribution. They will also be distributed after every Mass the weekends of Aug. 13-14, Aug. 27-28 and Sept. 10-11.

$1 of each raffle ticket purchased can be designated to go to the Parish’s St Martha Ministry of choice. Just note name of ministry on back side of ticket stub. This is an excellent way for Ministries to promote sales and raise funds to do more of the Lord’s work that they feel passionate about.

Four exciting prizes targeted for ladies and men alike will be awarded (See below for description). Drawing will be on October 8 at the Festival. Winners do not need to be present to win. Person/s under 18 years of age are not eligible to win.

1st Prize - iPhone 6s Plus and Apple Watch Combo, $1398 value
2nd Prize - LSU Tigers at Texas A&M Aggie’s Football Kyle Field, November 24 (College Station, TX), 4 tickets and 4 tee shirts, $1026 value
3rd Prize - Messina Hot Winery & Resort Villa Bed & Breakfast, 2 nights and 2 dinners, $900 value
4th Prize - Large Kamado Pro Ceramic Charcoal Grill from Home Depot - $699 value

The cost is $5 per ticket or 11 tickets for $50. Proceeds will be used to pay for prizes and pay down church debt.
FRUITS OF YOUR LABOR

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration is personal time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in our Adoration Chapel, located in the back of the church. Adorers commit to one hour each week to spend time in the presence of Christ, strengthening their personal relationship with Him. In the month of July we had 1,176 hours logged with our regular committed adorers. In addition to this, we had 610 visitors pray for varying amounts of time. It is impossible for us to give an exact number of hours devoted by them. However, their presence is still a huge statement to the power of prayer and the devotion of our parish to this ministry. We are also so proud of the children who come to pray on Tuesday mornings during their weekly adoration hour! All involved in Eucharistic Adoration bring blessings to the entire parish through their devotion and prayer. Your family is encouraged to attend together at any time.

GABRIEL PROJECT: The Gabriel Project Ministry helps mothers through crisis pregnancies. We are working with a new mother that has contacted us for help both spiritually and emotionally. We will make sure that the mother has what she needs to bring her baby home. There is a special bond between the Gabriel Angels and our mothers. We are pleased to announce the birth of a beautiful, healthy 8 lb baby boy. Please pray for these parents that God will watch over them and guide them and their children during some difficult times.

THE CORNERSTONE
Catholic Scripture Study

The Book of Exodus – “A Pilgrimage of Faith”

- The exodus event is ancient, yet always new. Join us as we listen to God’s voice speaking to us through the ages.
- See how this book sets the foundations of salvation and points forward to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- The Cornerstone is a Catholic Bible study group that leads you on a “faith journey” that can transform your heart and mind.

When: Ladies’ groups - Wednesday mornings 9:45 AM - 12 Noon
Ladies’ groups in Spanish – Wednesdays 9:45 AM - 12 Noon
(Childcare available Wednesday class only)

Men’s groups - Tuesday evenings 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Men’s groups in Spanish – Tuesday evenings 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

All Are Welcome
Classes begin & Visitor’s Day—for inquiries:
Day class: September 14th
Evening class: September 20th

Where: Day Class - Activity Center - Faith Formation campus
Evening class – Adult Faith Formation classroom 2

To Register or questions Contact:
English: Ray Baudier
(281) 467-8321 or rayban@uddenlink.net
Spanish speakers: Zuri Jackson
(281) 733-7571 or zurijackson@msa.com

Banns of Marriage
The Parish of San Francisco in San Miguel Ayende, Guanajuato has requested that we announce the Banns of Marriage for Alejandro Garcia Perez and Andrea Alejandra Natera Escobar, who will be married October 8, 2016. If any persons know of a serious reason why this couple should not be married please call the parish office at 281-358-6637.

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.

Sean and Kari Tracey’s
Shepherd’s Cup
Cardinal DiNozio’s 9th Annual Charity Golf Classic

Let your Swing Make a Difference!
Help Support St. Mary’s Seminary, Faith and Clergy Formation and Catholic Education.

COMPETE FOR THE SHEPHERD’S CUP
Teams consisting of registered parishioners from the same parish can compete for the perpetual Shepherd’s Cup Parish Champions trophy that can be displayed at the winning team’s parish!

JOIN US AT THE CLUBS OF KINGWOOD
MONDAY
OCTOBER 3, 2016

For more information, to sponsor or register visit SHEPHERDSCUP.ORG
In the words of Pope Francis, “progress in building a people in peace, justice and fraternity depends on four principles related to constant tensions present in every social reality.” The four principles include the dignity of the human person, the common good, subsidiarity, and solidarity.

**Solidarity**

Solidarity is “a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to ... the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all.” It is found in “a commitment to the good of one's neighbor with the readiness, in the Gospel sense, to ‘lose oneself' for the sake of the other instead of exploiting him, and to ‘serve him’ instead of oppressing him for one's own advantage.”

We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers’ and sisters’ keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions and requires us to eradicate racism and address the extreme poverty and disease plaguing so much of the world. Solidarity also includes the scriptural call to welcome the stranger among us—including immigrants seeking work—by ensuring that they have opportunities for a safe home, education for their children, and a decent life for their families and by ending the practice of separating families through deportation. In light of the Gospel’s invitation to be peacemakers, our commitment to solidarity with our neighbors—at home and abroad—also demands that we promote peace and pursue justice in a world marred by terrible violence and conflict. Decisions on the use of force should be guided by traditional moral criteria and undertaken only as a last resort. As Bl. Paul VI taught, “If you want peace, work for justice” (World Day of Peace Message, January 1, 1972). 53.

In reference to solidarity, a special emphasis must be given to the Church’s preferential option for the poor. While the common good embraces all, those who are weak, vulnerable, and most in need deserve preferential concern. A basic moral test for any society is how it treats those who are most vulnerable. In a society marred by deepening disparities between rich and poor, Sacred Scripture gives us the story of the Last Judgment (see Mt 25:31-46) and reminds us that we will be judged by our response to the “least among us.” The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains: Those who are oppressed by poverty are the object of a preferential love on the part of the Church which, since her origin and in spite of the failings of many of her members, has not ceased to work for their relief, defense, and liberation through numerous works of charity which remain indispensable always and everywhere. (no. 2448)

54. Pope Benedict XVI has taught that “love for widows and orphans, prisoners, and the sick and needy of every kind, is as essential to [the Church] as the ministry of the sacraments and preaching of the Gospel” (Deus Caritas Est, no. 22). This preferential option for the poor and vulnerable includes all who are marginalized in our nation and beyond—unborn children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and terminally ill, victims of injustice and oppression, and immigrants.

These four principles and related themes from Catholic social teaching provide a moral framework that does not easily fit ideologies of “right” or “left,” “liberal” or “conservative,” or the platform of any political party. They are not partisan or sectarian, but reflect fundamental ethical principles that are common to all people. As leaders of the Church in the United States, we bishops have the duty to apply these moral principles to key public policy decisions facing our nation, outlining directions on issues that have important moral and ethical dimensions. More detailed information on policy directions adopted by our bishops’ conference can be found in Part II of this document. We hope Catholics and others will seriously consider these policy applications as they make their own decisions in public life. (Excerpted from the USCCB document Forming Consciences For Faithful Citizenship)

**Questions for your consideration:**

How extensive is our Charity Work?
Where do we stand on Immigration?
Are we effective in combatting unjust discrimination, both economically and morally?
Formando Conciencia para ser Ciudadanos Fieles

En palabras del papa Francisco, “para avanzar en esta construcción de un pueblo en paz, justicia y fraternidad, hay cuatro principios relacionados con tensiones propias de toda realidad social.” Los cuatro principios son la dignidad de la persona humana, el bien común, la subsidiariedad y la solidaridad.

A continuación un extracto del documento del USCCB

El Reto de Formar la Conciencia para ser Ciudadanos Fieles

La Solidaridad

La solidaridad confiere particular relieve a la intrínseca sociabilidad de la persona humana, a la igualdad de todos en dignidad y derechos, al camino común de los hombres y de los pueblos hacia una unidad cada vez más convencida. . . . La solidaridad debe captarse, ante todo, en su valor de principio social ordenador de las instituciones, según el cual las “estructuras de pecado” (Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, nos. 36, 37) que dominan las relaciones entre las personas y los pueblos, deben ser superadas.

Somos una sola familia humana, independientemente de nuestras diferencias nacionales, raciales, étnicas, económicas e ideológicas. Somos los cuidadores de nuestros hermanos y hermanas donde quiera que se encuentren. Amar a nuestro prójimo tiene dimensiones globales y requiere de nosotros la erradicación del racismo y la búsqueda de soluciones a la pobreza y enfermedades extremas que afectan tanto al mundo. La solidaridad también incluye el llamado 25 bíblico a acoger al forastero entre nosotros, incluidos los inmigrantes que buscan trabajo, asegurando que tengan oportunidades para un hogar seguro, una educación para sus hijos y una vida decente para sus familias, así como poniendo fin a la práctica de separar a las familias por medio de la deportación. A la luz de la invitación del Evangelio de ser constructores de la paz, nuestro compromiso de solidaridad con nuestro prójimo —en nuestro país y en el extranjero— también nos exige que promovamos la paz y busquemos la justicia en un mundo dañado por una violencia y conflictos terribles. Las decisiones de usar la fuerza deberían estar guiadas por criterios morales tradicionales y tomadas sólo como último recurso. Como enseñó el beato Pablo VI: “Si quieres la paz, trabaja por la justicia” (Mensaje para la celebración de la Jornada Mundial de la Paz, 1 de Enero de 1972).

En referencia a la solidaridad, se debe dar un énfasis especial a la opción preferencial de la Iglesia por los pobres. Mientras que el bien común abarca a todos, quienes son débiles, vulnerables y están más necesitados son merecedores de una opción preferencial. Una prueba moral básica para cualquier sociedad es la forma en que trata a los más vulnerables. En una sociedad dañada por las disparidades entre los ricos y los pobres, la Sagrada Escritura nos ofrece el relato del juicio final (véase Mt 25:31-46) y nos recuerda que seremos juzgados de acuerdo a nuestra respuesta hacia los “más pequeños”. El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica explica que:

“Los oprimidos por la miseria son objeto de un amor de preferencia por parte de la Iglesia, que, desde los orígenes, y a pesar de los fallos de muchos de sus miembros, no ha cesado de trabajar para aliviarlos, defenderlos y liberarlos. Lo ha hecho mediante innumerables obras de beneficencia, que siempre y en todo lugar continúan siendo indispensables.” (no. 2448)

El Papa Benedicto XVI ha enseñado que “practicar el amor hacia las viudas y los huérfanos, los presos, los enfermos y los necesitados de todo tipo, pertenece a su esencia [de la Iglesia] tanto como el servicio de los Sacramentos y el anuncio del Evangelio” (Deus Caritas Est, no. 22). Esta opción preferencial por los pobres y los vulnerables incluye a todas las personas marginadas en nuestra nación y más allá de ella: los niños no nacidos, las personas con discapacidad, los ancianos y enfermos terminales, las víctimas de la injusticia y la opresión y los inmigrantes. Estos cuatro principios y temas relacionados de la doctrina social católica ofrecen un marco moral que no encaja fácilmente ni en las ideologías de la “derecha” o la “izquierda”, “liberales” o “conservadores”, ni en los programas de ningún partido político. No pertenecen a ningún partido político en particular ni son sectarias, sino que reflejan principios éticos fundamentales que son comunes a todas las personas. Como líderes de la Iglesia de los Estados Unidos, nosotros, los obispos, tenemos el deber de aplicar estos principios morales a las decisiones políticas públicas clave que afronta nuestra nación, perfilando directrices a seguir sobre temas que tienen dimensiones morales y éticas importantes. Se puede encontrar información más detallada respecto a las directrices de las políticas ofrecidas por la Conferencia de obispos en la segunda parte de este documento. Esperamos que los católicos y otras personas consideren seriamente la aplicación de estas directrices a las políticas cuando tomen sus propias decisiones en el ámbito público.

Preguntas para reflexionar:
¿Qué tan extensas son nuestras acciones de Caridad?
¿A quién apoyamos con el tema de Inmigración?
¿Somos efectivos en combatir la injusta discriminación, tanto económica como moral?
Para la familia de la parroquia de Santa Marta,
La mayoría de nosotros esperamos esos mo-
mentos en los que podemos tener la tranqui-
lidad y ausencia de estrés y ansiedad en el hogar y en el
trabajo. Si bien esa es nuestra esperanza y el sueño, las
lecturas para el domingo 20 del tiempo ordinario prometen
paz y tranquilidad a aquellos que son fieles a la llamada de
Dios. En la primera lectura tenemos un relato del profeta
Jeremías, que se había pronunciado en contra de los abu-
sos de los gobernantes de su época. Debido a sus accio-
nes, Jeremías es arrojado a una cisterna y dejado allí para
morir. Dios tuvo que venir a su rescate. En la segunda lec-
tura de la carta a los hebreos nos recuerda, que como se-
guidores y discípulos del Señor Jesús vamos a encontrar-
os con frecuencia en conflicto con los que nos rodean y
con los valores que defienden. ¡Y en el Evangelio encon-
tramos a Jesús mismo que nos dice que él no ha venido a
traer la paz al mundo, sino división! Él insiste en que esta
división se experimentará incluso dentro de las familias en
las que "un padre estará dividido contra el hijo ... una ma-
dre contra su hija". Sabemos que, de hecho, a veces ocu-
rrere, y no simplemente a causa de la fe y el discipulado, pe-
ro también debido a los efectos del pecado y el egoísmo.
Si hay algo que podemos decir acerca de Jesús y su en-
señanza en el Evangelio, sin duda podemos decir que era
real y su enseñanza muy práctica. Como Hijo de Dios, sa-
bía que todos nosotros estamos llamados a vivir por las
promesas de Dios. En otras palabras, somos personas de
la alianza y hemos de vivir en este mundo como personas
de fe y ciudadanos del reino de Dios. La fe nos permite
hacer frente a la realidad, ya que realmente es la constata-
ción de que este mundo no es permanente y duradero.
Mientras que somos extranjeros y peregrinos, hemos sido
 invitados por el Señor para ayudar a influir en este mundo
por la calidad de nuestras vidas, y dando testimonio de los
valores del reino de Dios. Jesús anuncia a sus discípulos:
"He venido a poner fuego a la tierra y, ¡cuánto desearía
que ya estuviera ardiendo!", El fuego del que Jesús nos
habla se entiende para quemar nuestro apego realista a
este mundo y su conjunto de falsos valores. Un incendio
de este tipo puede ser molesto para nosotros, todo un reto,
y con razón. A veces tenemos que ser sacudidos y forza-
dos a salir de nuestra complacencia y la forma habitual de
hacer frente a la vida. Jesús nos recuerda que hay una
urgencia de su llamado para que se involucren en la trans-
formación del mundo. El mensaje del Evangelio es real-
mente un desafío directo para que reflexionemos sobre
nuestro compromiso bautismal y que consideramos prácti-
camente cómo podemos revitalizar nuestra fe católica. Con
suerte este desafío nos proporcionará la ocasión y motiva-
ción para buscar formas concretas en cómo podemos lle-
gar a ser "discípulos intencionales" en nuestra comunidad
de fe parroquial. Y el próximo domingo tendrán la oportuni-
dad de inscribirse para el ministerio parroquial en las áreas
de formación en la fe y el ministerio litúrgico en uno de
nuestros cursos de fin de semana de renovación de

El éxodo es un suceso antiguo, pero a la vez siem-
pre nuevo. Únete a nosotros para escuchar la voz
de Dios que nos habla a través del tiempo

El libro del Éxodo - "Un peregrinaje de fe"
♦ El éxodo es un suceso antiguo, pero a la vez siem-
pre nuevo. Únete a nosotros para escuchar la voz
de Dios que nos habla a través del tiempo

Cuándo: Grupos de damas en español – Miércoles
de 9:45 AM a 12 del mediodía
Grupos de damas en inglés – Miércoles de 9:45
AM a 12 del mediodía
Grupos de damas y caballeros en español –
Martes de 7 a 9 PM
Grupos de damas en inglés – Martes de 7 a 9 PM

Inició clases y Día de Visitantes:
Clase de los miércoles: 14 de septiembre
Clase de los martes: 20 de Septiembre

Donde:
Clase de los miércoles: Salón de Actividades del
Centro de Formación Religiosa
Clase de los martes: Salón #2 del Centro de
Formación Religiosa

Para inscripciones o preguntas contactar a:
Para español: Zuri Jackson
(281)733-7571 or zurijackson@msn.com
Para inglés: Ray Baudier
(281) 467-8321 or raybau@suddenlink.net

Padre Chester Borski