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, 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.
**PREPARE THE WAY**
Second Sunday of Advent

Saint John the Baptist appears on the scene today as Advent enters its second week. The mysterious consumer of locusts and wild honey, John echoes the words of the prophet Isaiah as he calls for repentance in the face of the nearness of the kingdom of heaven. The rhythms of the Christian life are often confounding. Each year we meet the Baptist and hear his calls for repentance. Each year we see him pointing to the one who is coming after him, the Lord Jesus. Yet each year the words and actions of John the Baptist echo anew in our hearts, because we have fallen into old sinful traps again and again. Advent gives us the opportunity once again to turn away from our sinful ways and embrace the gospel way of life. John the Baptist invites us to prepare the way for the Lord, in whom we place our hope.

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**
Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent
Tuesday: St. Nicholas
Wednesday: St. Ambrose Day
Thursday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday: St. Juan Diego
From the Pastor

To the parish family of St. Martha,
The Gospel reading for the 2nd Sunday of Advent presents us with a key figure of this liturgical season: the prophet John the Baptist. He is described as a somewhat strange individual who is strongly driven with a vision. He desires that the world come to see at least in some way what he sees. John sees the awesome holiness of God in the coming of the Messiah! Throughout the Old Testament God readily revealed his almighty power, his creativity, his mercy, and his anger. However, God seemed to keep his holiness hidden from human beings. Only Moses, and then only for a brief moment, is ever depicted as having seen God face to face. The preaching of John the Baptist signals the coming of a new relationship between God and his people. The “new people of God,” those who will follow the Messiah announced by John, will be asked to embrace a new way of life, a new morality. It will demand holiness of life, not because the law requires it, but because God himself is holy and those who choose to follow the way of God’s Messiah must walk in his footsteps as children of God.

It is important to note that John the Baptist preached to a people who had grown lazy in their spiritual lives and comfortable with the reality of sin. They were very sure of themselves to the point of being self-righteous. In many ways John spoke to an age very much like our own. We do not like to hear prophets talk to us about sin, especially about our sins! We would much rather explain away human failing and evil in terms of societal pressures, psychological disorders, and cultural influences. However, sin is a concrete reality brought about by our personal choices. If there is sin in the world, it is so because people like you and me have allowed ourselves to become dull to the presence of the holiness of God and have chosen to live in a selfish way. We must hear the urgency of the call of the Baptist to purify our lives and regain a sense of the holiness of God. We must bring ourselves to the point where we too are shocked by sin, even outraged that sin has blurred our vision of a world touched by the presence of God. Let us hear, as if for the first time, this prophetic call of John the Baptist as addressed to our hearts: “Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

Fr. Chester Borski

Sacred Relics Of The Saints: Treasures Of The Church
St. Martha Parish presents a teaching and exposition of Sacred Relics on Dec. 6, at 7:35 PM (following 7:00 PM Mass). Father Carlos Martins of the Companions of the Cross will be here with his very special ministry to teach about these holy objects. He will bring with him over 150 relics, some as old as 2000 years. Among the treasures will be relics of St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux (the “Little Flower”), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska. In addition, there will also be present a portion of the veil of Our Lady, as well as one of the largest remaining pieces of the True Cross in the world. Those in attendance will be able to examine and venerate each relic. In the Church’s history many miracles and healings have been worked in the presence of relics, and many have been healed through this ministry. Please do not miss this opportunity. You are encouraged to bring your articles of devotion (such as rosaries, holy cards, etc.) and pictures of ill friends/family members that you will be able to touch to the reliquaries as a means of intercession. For additional information about these relics visit http://www.treasuresofthechurch.com.

St. Martha Women’s ACTS Retreat
Feb. 9-12, 2017
Registration for the February Women’s (English) ACTS Retreat will be held after all Masses this weekend, Dec. 3 & 4, in the Narthex. The ACTS retreat is a 3 day/3 nights retreat that focuses on Adoration, Community, Theology and Service and is presented by parishioners of St. Martha’s. Registration is limited and is on a first-come first-serve basis and must include a non-refundable deposit of $50. The cost of the retreat is $190 but do not let the financial considerations present you from attending the retreat. Please prayerfully consider attending this exciting retreat!! If you have any questions, you can contact the retreat Director Leida Corino at 713-560-4286 or stmarthaw21@gmail.com. God Bless!

SHARING SUNDAY—NEXT WEEKEND
DEC. 10 & 11
Each year during Advent our parish makes a special effort to share our blessings with other parishes in the Galveston-Houston Archdiocese. Through our annual Sharing Sunday we are able to help local parishes distribute food and gifts to needy families. Gifts are needed for children, adults, and senior citizens. Please wrap and tag these gifts with the age and gender of the recipient (for example, boy age 10-12). Grocery items are also needed but do not need to be wrapped. Take time to discuss with your family ways that your Christmas can be shared with other families. If you need more information please send an email to Gelly Estess at gellymar@suddenlink.net.
Adult Organizations and Opportunities

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

The Faith Formation Office will be closed Thursday, Dec. 8, for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The Office will re-open, Friday, Dec. 9, 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. December dates: 6 & 13

**St. Martha Adult Faith Formation Website:**
www.stmarthaff.com

Recordings of previous adult classes, handouts, Powerpoints, schedules, important links, music, and more...check it out!

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**CATHOLIC SINGLES**

NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES, A MINISTRY FOR SINGLES AGE 40 and older, will gather on Wednesday, Dec. 7, to talk/eat/drink at 7:00 PM at Dickey’s BBQ Pit, 9759 FM 1960 Bypass West in Humble. For more info, contact Elizabeth Schields (281-441-2552 or elizabeths2@peoplepc.com) or Peggy Broyles (281-359-4560 or peggymbmom4@gmail.com) or subscribe to us on Flocknote at St. Martha’s website.

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**ST. MARTHA’S GRIEF PROGRAM**

The next grief program starts on Jan. 3, 2017. Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings from 7-9 PM in Rm. 3 at the Woodland Hills Campus (Jan. 3 - Mar. 7). To sign up or for more information, call Laurie at 281-360-2714, or e-mail lauriecardella@outlook.com.

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

Young at Heart-ers - Christmas is coming and so is our Young at Heart Christmas Luncheon and Celebration. Come join your YAH (Young at Heart) family and enjoy a delicious Christmas luncheon just for you. There will be entertainment, gifts, and fellowship (sorry, no bingo this month). Join us for the festivities at St. Martha's Family Life Center on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 11 AM. Bring a friend with you and join the fun! If transportation is needed, contact Domenica Seitz at 713-899-1016. If you have any questions, please call Nancy Karpinski, 713-594-4430.

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**MONICA'S HOPE: PRAYERFUL SUPPORT FOR PARENTS OF TROUBLED CHILDREN**

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. The next meeting will be Monday, Dec. 5, 7:30 PM, in Room 1 on the Woodland Hills Campus. 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, e-mail kcubik@mac.com.

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**ST. MARTHA’S MEN’S RETREAT AT HOLY NAME PASSIONIST RETREAT CENTER**

Jan. 6-8, 2017
Start the New Year with a relaxing Retreat Weekend
Retreat Theme "Behold! A retreat with the Blessed Virgin Mary: Mother, Intercessor, Disciple"
The Scripture text which inspired the theme is the Wedding Feast of Cana (John 2: 1-11)
The Mother of Jesus was present at the wedding, she intercedes on behalf of the hosts and guests for they have no more wine and she instructs the servants-representing all who would follow him as disciples-to "Do as he tells you." Mary shows us the Way.
For more information contact Bruce Farmer, 281-360-4047. To register, please visit the website www.holynameretreatcenter.com

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**JOB OPENING IN THE FAITH FORMATION OFFICE**

The Faith Formation Office (located at 3702 Woodland Hills Drive) is currently accepting applications for a Receptionist/Adult Education Secretary position. This job is full time, 35 hours per week, Monday through Friday.
A detailed job description and application can be picked up at the Faith Formation Office. Applications will be taken through the end of the first week of December.

For more information, please contact Carla Lewton at 281-713-8968 or carlal@stmartha.com.

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**THE BISHOP’S PALACE TOUR—Galveston, Texas**

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2016
8 AM to 6 PM
Cost: $35 per person*
Must be 50+ years old to attend
Limited number of seats remaining!
Come join fellow parishioners ages 50+ for a relaxing bus ride to Galveston for a tour of the Bishop’s Palace. The tour bus will depart from Building 3 on the St. Martha Faith Formation Campus at 8 AM and return at 6 PM.
*Please note that meals are not included in the tour price.
Please register and pay for the tour at the parish office between 9 AM and 4 PM Monday through Friday. For more information, please contact Annunciata Hopkins at 281-360-1258 or 713-665-9583.

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**Job Opening in the Faith Formation Office**

The Faith Formation Office (located at 3702 Woodland Hills Drive) is currently accepting applications for a Receptionist/Adult Education Secretary position. This job is full time, 35 hours per week, Monday through Friday.
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**Parenting/Youth**

**St. Martha Rosary Guild**

We need help making rosaries. Please join us and we will teach you how to make a twine rosary while you enjoy an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

***During the holiday months, we will be meeting every other Wednesday: Dec. 7 & 21 from 11:30AM - 3:00PM, at the Woodland Hills Campus, Rm 2. We break for lunch at noon and pray the rosary.***

***We will NOT have a second Sunday meeting in December, but we will resume our second Sunday meetings beginning in January 2017 and thereafter.***

Contact Gilda Womack, our Coordinator at 281-989-4241 or gawomack@hotmail.com for questions or information.

Website: www.MarianiteRosaryGuild.org

Storefront: www.MarianiteRosaryGuild.etsy.com

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**Vocations Corner**

**Holy Hour of Adoration for Vocations Exposition & Benediction**

- 2nd Tuesday -- 7:30 - 8:30 PM
- 2nd Friday - 9:00 - 10:00 AM

Sponsored by Serra Club Northeast of Houston

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**THE VOCATION OF MARRIAGE**

When the Catholic Church teaches that marriage is a Christian vocation it is saying that the couple’s relationship is more than simply their choice to enter a union which is a social and legal institution. In addition to these things, marriage involves a call from God and a response from two people who promise to build, with the help of divine grace, a lifelong, intimate and sacramental partnership of love and life. The following resource is an initiative of the United States Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

http://www.foryourmarriage.org/

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**Chalice for Vocations**

Please join the **ROSS 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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**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!
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.

Project Rachel
The confidential and compassionate outreach to women who have had an abortion or been involved in an abortion. Its purpose is to foster reconciliation and healing between the parent and Christ, His Church, the child, and all other significant relationships. Questions? Contact Bonnie Develle, 713-435-9215, or bdevelle@comcast.net.

Young at Heart Luncheon - Donation Requests
The Young at Heart Christmas Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 14. As in years past, we are asking for your kind generosity in donating door prize gifts for our senior guests (men and women). We have been averaging 100-125 people and our Christmas luncheon is always our biggest! We are asking this year for donations of gift cards (not to exceed $10) to Walgreen’s, CVS, Kroger, Wal-Mart, HEB, Target, a restaurant, or movie theater. Donations can be dropped off at the main office near the church Monday-Friday 9 AM—4 PM or put in an envelope in the collection basket, clearly marked - YAH Luncheon Donation. All donations are greatly appreciated! If you have any questions, feel free to email Carol Bate- man at carolb625@gmail.com. Thank you for generosity!

St. Martha T-shirts
Now available for $6.
All sizes including Men, Ladies and Youth.
For more info or to purchase e-mail: pattyschulze63@gmail.com or stop by the parish office during normal business hours (Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

A New Way To Love
A New Way To Love is a weekly series on Living God’s purpose for your marriage. Developed by Harville Hendrix, Ph.D. and Helen LaKelly Hunt, Ph.D. based on the principles described in their bestselling book GETTING THE LOVE YOU WANT. Learn simple yet powerful tools to communicate more effectively and feel more connected with your spouse. Whether you are engaged, married six months or 60 years this series provides an opportunity to deepen your relationship. To cover the cost of each participant manual, $40.00 per couple will be collected at the first session.
Where: St. Martha, in the FLC at the Woodland Hills Campus,
(3702 Woodland Hills Drive, Kingwood, TX 77339)
When: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM, Tuesday evenings
Six Sessions: January 24, January 31, February 7, February 14, February 21, and February 28
For: Married or engaged couples
To register: Send an e-mail to francine@stmartha.com
Registration is required. Please include both husband/ wife names, both of your cell phone numbers and/or home phone number. Babysitting is available upon request. If babysitting is requested, please list the names and ages of your children requiring child care.
For more information, contact Francine at francine@stmartha.com or 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.

Advent Church Decorations
The flowers of course, are representing Saint Therese of Lisieux, the little flower. They are the small deeds that we can do through our everyday life that help us in our way to holiness; they are dried because they are waiting for the water. The water of Christmas. We all know that before the fruit, comes the flower. During Advent we have the opportunity to flourish, to then, in ordinary time give fruits.
“Instead of becoming discouraged, I said to myself: God cannot inspire unrealizable desires. I can, then, in spite of my littleness, aspire to holiness. It is impossible for me to grow up, and so I must bear with myself such as I am with all my imperfections, but I want to seek out means of going to heaven by a little way, a way that is very straight, very short, and totally new.” Saint Therese of Lisieux
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE
Dec. 24 (Vigil): 4:00 PM (Children’s Choir), 7:00 PM (Lifeteen Band), Midnight (Church Choir).
Dec. 25: 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM (Spanish Mass)
Please note: NO 7:00 AM or 5:30 PM Mass on Sunday, Dec. 25

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE
Dec. 31 (Vigil): 5:30 PM
Jan. 1: 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM (Spanish Mass)
Please note: No 5:30 PM Mass on Sunday, Jan. 1

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Regular times for the Sacrament of Reconciliation -
Tuesdays: 6:30 to 7 PM
Saturdays: 10:30 to 11:45 AM and 4:30 to 5:20 PM
Additional opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent -
Dec. 20: Parish Penance Service 6:30 PM
Please note: NO 7:00 PM Mass on Dec. 20

Christmas Flowers: Enclosed in your envelopes for December is a special envelope marked “Special Offering for Christmas Flowers.” All donations in these envelopes will be dedicated to the purchase of the flowers and greens used in the Church. There is a place on the back of the envelope for you to indicate in whose memory you would like the donation to be. The deadline to turn envelopes in is Dec. 16. (Donations must be received by deadline to be included in the Christmas bulletin).

THE 2017 SUNDAY MISSALS AND CALENDARS HAVE ARRIVED!
Sunday Missal - $2   Calendar - $1
Available in the Narthex or the Parish Office.

Rosary after Daily Mass: A group of parishioners gathers after the 8:30 AM 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.

CANCARE
St. Martha is an affiliated faith-based member of CanCare. CanCare is a network of trained volunteers including cancer survivors, family members of cancer survivors and medical professionals who provide emotional support to others facing cancer. If you (or someone close to you) have been diagnosed with cancer and would like to talk to someone, CanCare can match you with a cancer survivor or caregiver for one-on-one emotional support. Founded in 1990, CanCare is now partnered with over 100 congregations of varied faiths, hospitals and corporations. All services are confidential and without charge. You may visit the website at www.cancare.org, or call CanCare direct at 713-461-0028 (please mention you are a member of St. Martha Catholic Church). For more details contact the St. Martha CanCare coordinator, Roger Schuelke, at 281-358-8060.

You may now listen to the chanted Mass parts for Advent 2016 on the “Music Ministry” page of stmartha.com, sung in rehearsal by our Children’s Choir and 11am Choir. In addition, you may refer to the pew cards which contain the notation for these! Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!

Your donation works for aging religious. “I read that roughly 95 percent of donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious aid senior religious,” a donor writes. “That’s wonderful when we truly want our donations to work.” Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please support next week’s collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, and give to those who have given a lifetime.
Join us to learn more about these exciting opportunities. We will have two trip options:

**Summer 2017 Cartagena**
June 10-17, 2017

We will share details about each trip, including team size, cost, typical itinerary, what to expect, background and pictures of beautiful Colombia, more about Conviventia-CDA, our partner in Colombia, how to sign up and answer any other questions you may have.

**Fall 2017 Bogota**
Sept. 9-16, 2017

Information Session
When: **Dec. 11** (Sun.) 3 - 4 PM
Reception Parlor, left of Narthex in the church

Sign Up Day
When: **Dec. 11** (Sun.) 4 - 5:30 PM
Where: Main Church (Narthex)
* First-come basis, spots limited, $ 200 non-refundable deposit at sign-up

For questions, please contact Terry Stierman:
terry.stierman@conviventia.org
January 2016

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2nd Sunday of Advent
3 pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy
4 9:15 am Little Rock Study, PLC
5 7:30 pm Monica’s Hope Support Group, Rm 1
6 9:15 am Breakfast & Bible Study
7 7 pm Cornerstone Bible Study
8 7:30 pm Vigil Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception
9 7-8:30 am Reconciliation, Church
10 9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2
11 12 noon, 7:30 pm 12-1 pm Feast of the Immaculate Conception Prayer Service, Chapel
12 6:15 pm RCIA
13 7-8:30 am Reconciliation, Church
14 9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2
15 6:00 am Holy Hour for Vocations
16 8:30 am Pro-life Mass
17 9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2
18 6:00 am Holy Hour for Vocations
19 7-8:30 am Reconciliation, Church
20 9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2
21 6:00 am Holy Hour for Vocations
22 8:30 am Pro-life Mass
23 9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2
24 6:00 am Holy Hour for Vocations
25 7-8:30 am Reconciliation, Church
26 9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2
27 6:00 am Holy Hour for Vocations
28 8:30 am Pro-life Mass
29 9:15 am Unemployment Ministry, Rm 2
30 6:00 am Holy Hour for Vocations
31 8:30 am Pro-life Mass

MERRY CHRISTMAS
Christmas Mass times:
9:00am, 11:00am, & 1:00pm (Spanish Mass)

The birth of Jesus brings the divine message of love directly to humankind. Jesus came to teach us the way to follow God’s will.
During this season of light, we reflect in awe. While we may sometimes feel as if there is “no room in the inn” for us, we trust that Jesus has a place ready for his faithful stewards.
La lectura del Evangelio del segundo domingo de Adviento nos presenta una figura clave de esta época litúrgica: el profeta Juan el Bautista. Se describe como un individuo algo extraño que está fuertemente impulsado con una visión. Él desea que el mundo venga a ver al menos de alguna manera lo que ve. ¡Juan ve la santidad impresionante de Dios en la venida del Mesías! En todo el Antiguo Testamento, Dios reveló fácilmente su poder omnipotente, creatividad, misericordia y su ira. Sin embargo, Dios parecía mantener su santidad escondida de los seres humanos. Sólo Moisés, y sólo por un breve instante, es siempre representado como haberse visto con Dios cara a cara. La predicación de Juan el Bautista señala la llegada de una nueva relación entre Dios y su pueblo. El "nuevo pueblo de Dios", los que seguirán al Mesías anunciado por Juan, serán invitados a abrazar un nuevo modo de vida, una nueva moralidad. Exigirá la santidad de la vida, no porque la ley lo requiera, sino porque Dios mismo es santo y aquellos que eligen seguir el camino del Mesías de Dios deben caminar en sus pasos como hijos de Dios. En esta nueva moralidad, el mal del pecado, no es sólo que provoca el sufrimiento humano o que merece castigo, sino que es blasfemo. El pecado es una ofensa a la misma santidad de Dios, que está destinado a morar en el corazón de los hijos de Dios.

Es importante señalar que Juan el Bautista predicó a un pueblo que se había vuelto perezoso en su vida espiritual y cómo con la realidad del pecado. Estaban muy seguros de sí mismos hasta el punto de ser justos. En muchas maneras, Juan habló a una era muy parecida a la nuestra. ¡No nos gusta oír a los profetas hablarnos sobre el pecado, especialmente sobre nuestros pecados! Preferiríamos explicar el fracaso humano y el mal en términos de presiones sociales, trastornos psicológicos e influencias culturales. Sin embargo, el pecado es una realidad concreta producida por nuestras elecciones personales. Si hay pecado en el mundo, es así porque personas como tú y yo nos hemos permitido someternos a la presencia de la santidad de Dios y hemos elegido vivir de una manera egoísta. Debemos escuchar la urgencia del llamado, de Juan el Bautista, a purificar nuestras vidas y recuperar el sentido de la santidad de Dios. Debemos escuchemos, como por primera vez, este llamado profético de Juan el Bautista dirigido a nuestros corazones: "Arrepentíos, porque el Reino de los cielos está cerca".

Fr. Chester Borski

Reliquias sagradas de los Santos: Tesoros de la Iglesia

La parroquia de Santa Marta presentará una enseñanza y una exposición de reliquias sagradas el 6 de diciembre del 2016 a las 7:35 PM (al terminar la misa de 7:00 PM).

El Padre Carlos Martins de los Compañeros de Cristo estará aquí con su ministerio especial para enseñarnos acerca de estos santos objetos. Él nos traerá más de 150 reliquias, algunas de 2000 años de edad. Entre los tesoros estarán las reliquias de Santa María Goretti, Santa Teresa de Lisieux ("la florecita"), San Francisco de Asís, San Antonio de Padua, Santo Tomas de Aquino y Santa Faustina Kowalska. Además, estará presente un pedazo del velo de Nuestra Señora y una de las piezas más grandes que quedan de la Verdadera Cruz en el mundo. Aquellos que asistan podrán examinar y venerar cada reliquia. En la historia de la Iglesia muchos milagros y curaciones han ocurrido en presencia de reliquias y muchos han sido sanados a través de este ministerio. Por favor no pierda esta oportunidad. Lo exhortamos a traer sus artículos de devoción (rosarios, estampas, etc.) y fotos de sus amigos y familiares enfermos que usted podrá ponerlos en contacto con los relicarios como un medio de intercesión. Para información adicional acerca de estas reliquias visite: http://www.treasuresofthechurch.com
**Ministerio Hispano**

**LEGION DE MARIA:**
Les invitamos a que formen parte de este ministerio que se lleva acabo todos los viernes a las 7:00 pm. En el salón #2 de la iglesia antigua que está ubicada en el 3702 Woodland Hills Drive en Kingwood.

**Almuerzo de Jóvenes de Corazón – Se Solicitan Donaciones**
El almuerzo Navideño de Jóvenes de Corazón se llevará a cabo el miércoles 14 de diciembre. Como en años anteriores, estamos solicitando su generosidad en donar regalos que serán repartidos al azar a nuestros invitados de la tercera edad (hombres y mujeres). ¡Hemos tenido un promedio de 100 a 125 personas cada año y el almuerzo Navideño es siempre el más concurrido! Este año estamos solicitando donaciones de tarjetas de regalo (con un valor que no exceda de $10) de Walgreen, CVS, Kroger, Wal-Mart, HEB, Target, de restaurante o de cine. Las donaciones pueden ser entregadas en la oficina principal cerca de la iglesia de lunes a viernes de 9 am a 4 pm o se pueden poner en un sobre en la canasta de recolección, marcando claramente “YAH Luncheon Donation” en dicho sobre. ¡Todas las donaciones son muy apreciadas! Si tiene alguna pregunta, no dude en enviar un correo electrónico a Carol Bateman a carolb625@gmail.com. ¡Gracias por la generosidad!

**Proyecto Raquel**

**Cada año durante el tiempo de Adviento** nuestra parroquia hace un esfuerzo especial para compartir nuestras bendiciones con otras parroquias de la archidiócesis de Galveston-Houston. A través de nuestro intercambio anual de (Sharing Sunday) Compartiendo Nuestras Bendiciones podemos ayudar a las parroquias a distribuir comida y regalos a familias necesitadas.

*Estaremos colectando las donaciones durante las misas del fin de semana del Sábado Diciembre 10 y Domingo Diciembre 11.*

Todas las donaciones son necesarias para los niños, adultos y ancianos. Por favor envuelva y etiquete estas donaciones con la edad y el sexo para quien va dirigido (por ejemplo, el niño entre 10 y 12 años). También puede donar Alimentos no Precederos, (latas de comida, cajas), pero estos no necesitan estar envueltos. Por favor considere hacer esta donación y hagan un plan familiar para ayudar a otras familias menos afortunadas. Permitamos que todas estas personas recibirán un regalo esta navidad y vean el rostro de Cristo en todas sus donaciones, haciendo comunidad para su gloria.

Si usted necesita más información o tiene preguntas por favor envié un correo electrónico a Gelly Estess gellymar@suddenlink.net.

**Legión de María:**
Les invitamos a que formen parte de este ministerio que se lleva acabo todos los viernes a las 7:00 pm. En el salón #2 de la iglesia antigua que está ubicada en el 3702 Woodland Hills Drive en Kingwood.
### STEWARDSHIP of Time, Talent and Treasure

#### ADMINISTRATIVE MIN.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BUSINESS MANAGER</td>
<td>Theresa Miller, 281-713-8957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACILITY MANAGER</td>
<td>Steve Teets, 281-358-6637x254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE</td>
<td>Wayne Theis, <a href="mailto:wayne.theis@suddenlink.net">wayne.theis@suddenlink.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARTHA’S GARDENERS</td>
<td>Lourdes Fernandez, 281-358-6637x262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. MARTHA’S OFFICE ANGELS</td>
<td>Dr. Marcy Kissman, 281-358-8060</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### COMMUNITY LIFE MINISTRIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MINISTRY</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY LIFE</td>
<td>Francine Puglia, 281-713-8954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACTS RETREAT</td>
<td>Willie Chesnut, <a href="mailto:ACTSCore@StMartha-ACTS.org">ACTSCore@StMartha-ACTS.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNUNLIUMS</td>
<td>Francine Puglia, 281-713-8954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARING COOKS</td>
<td>Karen Rector, 281-358-8857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS</td>
<td>Sherry Hundli, <a href="mailto:yellowrose716@live.com">yellowrose716@live.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENTERING PRAYER</td>
<td>Greg LaCour, <a href="mailto:gplacour@gmail.com">gplacour@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLUMBIAN SQUIRES</td>
<td>Mark Roseland, 281-358-1959x269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUPLES FOR CHRIST</td>
<td>Mary Lou &amp; Ramon De La Cruz, 832-827-1072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP</td>
<td>Vicki Ruck, <a href="mailto:vickiruck@suddenlink.net">vickiruck@suddenlink.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMILIA</td>
<td>Karen Ehlig, 281-358-7127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FUNERALS</td>
<td>Indiana Francis, 281-358-6637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRIEF SUPPORT</td>
<td>Laura Cardella, 281-360-2714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HISPANIC MINISTRIES</td>
<td>Ana Luisa Rodriguez, 281-358-1959x269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOMEBOUND ERRAND COMMITTEE</td>
<td>Gretz Verhalen, 832-264-7755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS</td>
<td>Tom Gallagher, 713-364-9780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS</td>
<td>Jodi Schod, 281-713-8965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRIAGE PREP. INFORMATION</td>
<td>To Register call 281-358-6637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARTHA’S QUILTERS</td>
<td>Monica’s Hope, 713-822-1286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOTHER’S DAY OUT</td>
<td>Patty Jackson, 281-358-1959x250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING</td>
<td>Marion and Chris Dickson, 713-516-7097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWCOMERS/WELCOMING/HOSPITALITY</td>
<td>Kristene Hergenrother, 281-713-8961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES</td>
<td>Peggy Broyles, 281-358-4560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECEPTION VOLUNTEERS</td>
<td>Barb Setser, 281-358-4129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAPTISM</td>
<td>Angela Wemyss, 281-361-9720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CATHOLIC ADULTS OF ST. MARTHA</td>
<td>Beth Bynum, 281-361-6117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMUNION TO THE SICK</td>
<td>Hospitality: Kathy Gearhart, 281-713-2154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITURGY</td>
<td>Jennifer Farace, 281-361-5414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMUNICATIONS</td>
<td>Sammy Murphy, 713-865-6946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITURGY COORDINATOR FOR LIFETIME FUND</td>
<td>Joy Ehrman, 281-358-1959x251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALTAR SERVANTS</td>
<td>Jennifer Farace, 281-361-5414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRIAGE PREP</td>
<td>Michelle Lowe, 713-293-2077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAPTISM</td>
<td>Nursing Home &amp; Homebound: Kathy Gearhart, 281-713-2154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CATHOLIC COMMUNITY FOR THE SICK</td>
<td>Angela Wemyss, 281-361-9720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST</td>
<td>Pamela Rockwell, 281-358-1959x250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LECTIONARIES</td>
<td>Richard Lowell, 281-989-1097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRIA’S ALTAR GUILD &amp; DESIGNERS</td>
<td>Mariel Parra, <a href="mailto:marielp@stmartha.com">marielp@stmartha.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION</td>
<td>Robyn Laumbach, 281-360-7897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SACRISTANIS</td>
<td>Art Volkmann, 281-361-6117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUND BOARD MINISTRY</td>
<td>Bill Phillips, 713-419-9277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TECHNOLOGY MINISTRY TEAM</td>
<td>Luis Valley, 281-982-9955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USHERS</td>
<td>Marci Roley, 281-358-1959x251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOCATIONS &amp; CÁLIZ DE VOCACIONS</td>
<td>Tony Lasalle, 832-489-1554</td>
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#### FAITH FORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MINISTRY</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BREAKFAST &amp; BIBLE STUDY</td>
<td>Carla Lewton, 281-358-1959x213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORNERSTONE BIBLE STUDY</td>
<td>Pam Rockwell, 281-358-1959x230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCIA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:RCIA@stmartha.com">RCIA@stmartha.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YASM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:YASM@stmartha.com">YASM@stmartha.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENTARY SCHOOL &amp; VBS</td>
<td>Patty Jost, 281-713-8965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDDLE SCHOOL COORDINATOR (EDGE)</td>
<td>Lisa Hartsgate, 281-358-1959x241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIGH SCHOOL COORDINATOR (LIFE TEEN)</td>
<td>Laura Gallardo, 281-358-1959x252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITURGICAL MINISTRIES</td>
<td>CONTACT: Mariel Parra, <a href="mailto:marielp@stmartha.com">marielp@stmartha.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIRECTOR OF LITURGY</td>
<td>Mariel Parra, <a href="mailto:marielp@stmartha.com">marielp@stmartha.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC</td>
<td>Daniel Knaggs, <a href="mailto:danielk@stmartha.com">danielk@stmartha.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITURGY COORDINATOR FOR LIFETIME FUND</td>
<td>Joy Ehrman, 281-358-1959x251</td>
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<tr>
<td>VOCATIONS &amp; CÁLIZ DE VOCACIONS</td>
<td>Tony Lasalle, 832-489-1554</td>
</tr>
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#### OUTREACH MINISTRIES CONT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MINISTRY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS FOOD DRIVE</td>
<td>Marie Burk, 281-361-3650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. JOSEPH HELPERS</td>
<td>Bill Beck, 281-360-7023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. MARTHA BETWEEN JOBS AND BEYOND</td>
<td>Bob Simpson, 713-410-2944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. VINCENT DE PAUL</td>
<td>281-358-6636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECOND FAMILY MINISTRY</td>
<td>Martha Busch, 281-728-7159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL JUSTICE</td>
<td>Gary Yepsen, 832-803-4377</td>
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#### MINISTRIOS EN ESPAÑOL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COORDINADORA DE CATECISMO PARA JOVENES Y SACRAMENTOS</td>
<td>Pastor Patricia Lopez, 281-389-1210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATRIMONIOS Y SAGRADA FAMILIA</td>
<td>Janett o Rubén Manosalva, 281-706-5068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINISTROS EXTRAORDINARIOS DE LA EUCARISTIA</td>
<td>Juan Russo, 954-439-1127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONAGUILLOS</td>
<td>Pastor Pastora, 832-514-5741 o 832-633-0145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARIAS GORETTI NETWORK EN ESPAÑOL</td>
<td>Patricia Lopez, 281-389-1210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAVECIONES Y CÁLIZ DE VOCACIONES</td>
<td>Tony Lasalle, 832-489-1554</td>
</tr>
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</table>

For the weekend of Nov. 26 & 27 your gifts of treasure resulted in:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Budget</td>
<td>$71,034</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Collection</td>
<td>$43,137</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faith Direct-Offertory</td>
<td>$38,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Day-All Saints Day</td>
<td>$727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over/(Under)</td>
<td>$10,943</td>
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Year To Date:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Budget</td>
<td>$1,562,748</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Collection</td>
<td>$1,541,769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over/(Under)</td>
<td>$(20,979)</td>
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Special collections:

<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital Campaign</td>
<td>$36,259</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martha’s Kitchen</td>
<td>$7,597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaign for Human Dev.</td>
<td>$1,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired Priest Collection</td>
<td>$260</td>
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</tbody>
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2016 DSF Goal: $305,000

DSF Payments to Date: $316,889

Current Loan Debt: $11,030,636