Jan. 8, 2017

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 Kleinguel, 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

Liturgical & Sacraments

Weekend Masses
First Saturday (Pro-Life Mass): ....
Saturday Vigil: ................. 5:30 PM
Sunday: ............ 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 AM
En Español .................. 1:00 PM
Life Teen: ................. 5:30 PM
Nursery at 9:00, 11:00 & 1:00 Spanish Mass

Weekday Masses
Monday: ......................... 8:30 AM
Tuesday: ........ 8:30 AM & 7:00 PM
Wednesday: ... 8:30 AM & 10:00 AM
Thursday: ......... 6:30 AM & 8:30 AM
Friday: ......................... 8:30 AM

Sacrament of Penance
Tuesday:
Church 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

January 8, 2017
The Epiphany of the Lord

They opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:11
**TODAY’S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

**Psalm** — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

**Second Reading** — The Gentiles are co-heirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

**Gospel** — Magi from the east arrive looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).


**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10; Mt 3:13-17

**Tuesday:** Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28 or Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28

**Wednesday:** Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39

**Thursday:** Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45

**Friday:** Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12

**Saturday:** Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

**Sunday:** Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week

**Monday:** The Baptism of the Lord

**Tuesday:** First Week in Ordinary Time begins

**Friday:** St. Hilary

**Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary

**THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM**

The unfolding of the story of the Incarnation continues today as the Church celebrates the Epiphany. The tale of the magi from the East is one of the most fascinating in all of scripture. It has much to teach us about what we can come to expect, even in circumstances that may seem insignificant or small. Bethlehem was a tiny town, what we might refer to today as a town without even one stop light. Yet it is over this seemingly insignificant place that the guiding star stops in its own search for the place where the Savior would be born. Too often we fail to recognize the fact that the star of Bethlehem comes to rest in our everyday lives, where we can experience God’s presence, manifested in ever new ways. Epiphany calls us to shake off our stupor and recognize the One who comes to save us.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon./Jan. 9</th>
<th>Fri./Jan. 13</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM  †Fernando Cuadra</td>
<td>8:30 AM  †Kristine Kirsch</td>
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<td>8:30 AM  †Kevin Briones</td>
<td>5:30 PM  †Mary Lipinski</td>
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<td>7:00 PM  †Justino Belmar</td>
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<td>8:30 AM  †Helen Brownell</td>
<td>7:00 AM  †Jack Throop</td>
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<td>10:00 AM  †Warren Kerrigan</td>
<td>9:00 AM  †Jerry Seams</td>
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<td>6:30 AM  †Indiana Pereira</td>
<td>11:00 AM  †Earl Ashby</td>
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<td>8:30 AM  †Jose &amp; Guadalupe Rodriguez</td>
<td>1:00 PM  †Carlos Paez Vejar</td>
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<td>5:30 PM  †Tim Darcy</td>
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† PLEASE REMEMBER THE RECENTLY DECEASED AND THEIR FAMILIES IN YOUR PRAYERS †

Mary Moore
C. Louis Chol (father of Betsy Duplechain)
Carol Sacca (mother of Jan Fish)
Olivia Tristan
Stanley Drake
Consuelo Clark
Harold Louis Yepsen (father of Gary Yepsen)
Roland Toedt (son of Estella Salomon)
Michael J. Henry, Jr.
Frances Stefanucci (mother of Fran Simister)
Margaret Locher


Military: Please pray for our active military as seen on the wreath in the Narthex. To add a loved one call: Jodi at 281-358-6637 or email jodis@stmartha.com

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.
To the parish family of St. Martha,

We continue to celebrate the birth of the Savior today through this feast of the Epiphany. In all of Sacred Scripture there are not many accounts that manifest a deeper insight into human nature than the story of the Magi who set out to find the Christ child. These wise men represent all of humanity in its restless search for God. As human beings we have never been content with our own limitations and incompleteness. The myths and legends of most of the great cultures of the world describe this great human quest. However, in those cultures or religions other than the Judeo-Christian one, the stories are told of heroes who manage to leave behind the company of ordinary human beings and enter the company of immortals. In such cultures the Incarnation, the sacred story of the divine Word taking on human flesh, finds no place. The story of the Magi, the story of Epiphany, differs radically from all other stories about the search for God. These wise men from the East ---- wealthy and respected leaders of their time with every human resource at their disposal --- were not able to find God until they allowed themselves to enter the most ordinary human circumstances with openness and trust. And what was that human setting where they discovered the divine? The Gospel of Matthew describes it as “the place where the child was” --- a manger where animals gathered, a peasant girl who had given birth, a defenseless child, and a very confused husband.

With the journey of the Magi, humanity’s search for God took on a totally new direction. No longer would human beings need to escape their human limitations in order to discover the limitless and all-holy God. Revelation instructs us to search for our God in the very human needs and cares that make up our daily lives. The face of God is no further away than the face of the nearest person in our lives. The birth of the Savior and the discovery by the Magi tell us that “the darkness that covers the people and the thick clouds that cover the earth” (Isaiah) have been completely removed. Because of Jesus Christ each of us is revealed as we really are in the plan of our God: a divine creation, made in the image and likeness of the Creator, an immortal creature called to live forever with God. Humanity itself is the instrument that God has chosen for his Epiphany, the manifestation of his divine presence. Thus, we who are disciples of Jesus Christ have a very special role to play in God’s plan of salvation. By the faithful witness of our lives and the generous sharing of the human talents bestowed upon us by the Creator, we make manifest the loving presence of God to the world. We do not run away from human limitations, trials, and challenges. Rather we enter more deeply into the human situation in order to discover the presence of God. That presence is named Jesus, the Christ of God, and this divine reality is made present for us by the Church when we gather to celebrate the Sacraments, especially Sunday Eucharist.

Fr. Chester Borski

ORDINATION TO THE PERMANENT DEACONATE
Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017

Mr. Gary Yepsen will be ordained a Permanent Deacon at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Houston. We offer our sincere prayers of thanksgiving and congratulations to him. Dcn. Gary will celebrate his first Masses at St. Martha’s on Sunday, Jan. 15, 2017 at 11 AM and 5:30 PM. All are welcome to attend.

MAXIMILIAN
SAINT OF AUSCHWITZ

Maximilian: Saint of Auschwitz, the moving, live production performed by Leonardo Defilippis of Saint Luke Productions, will be presented at St. Martha Catholic Church in Porter

Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 7:30 PM following the 7:00 PM Mass

Experience firsthand the story of this heroic priest, Fr. Maximilian Kolbe, who courageously fought the forces of evil, and offered his life for a family man in the concentration camp of Auschwitz during World War II. The program is filled with all the elements of professional theater, runs 90 minutes, and is suitable for ages 10 and up. Admission will be a free-will offering. For additional information, contact St. Martha Faith Formation Office at 281-713-8968 or visit www.stmartha.com.

Watch the gripping trailer & learn more at www.StMaxDrama.com
**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

**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. January Dates: 10, 17, 24, and 31

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

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**Are You Interested in Looking Into the Catholic Church or Completing your Sacraments?**

The RCIA could be your answer!

RCIA is a process for adults: unbaptized and those baptized in another Christian faith

- Who wish to know more about the Catholic faith
- For Catholics who need to complete their sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation

Our Inquirer groups begin in February, June and October. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Charles or Lisa Ferguson at the RCIA office via email at: rcia@stmartha.com or call 281-713-8972 x258.

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.”

Revelation 3:20

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**St. Martha Catholic Church**

**Marriage Enrichment series**

**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– 9 PM, Tuesday evenings

**Six Sessions:** Jan. 24, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, Feb. 14, Feb. 21, and Feb. 28

**For:** Married or engaged couples

**To register:** Send an e-mail to franp@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 franp@stmartha.com or 281-358-6637

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**Pope Francis’ Letter**

**Amoris Laetitia, Joy of Love**

Come explore the teachings of Pope Francis on marriage and family in an interactive format

**Jan. 28, 2017 11 AM—4:30 PM**

Lunch is Included

Suggested Donation—$15 per couple

**RSVP:**

kingwoodteamsofourlady@gmail.com or Michelle at 281-361-4201

*Sponsored by Teams of Our Lady*

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**ST. MARTHA’S GRIEF PROGRAM**

Classes are held on Tuesday evenings from 7-9 PM in Rm. 3 at the Woodland Hills Campus (through Mar. 7). To sign up or for more information, call Laurie at 281-360-2714, or e-mail lauriecardella@outlook.com.
CATHOLIC SINGLES

Join us! NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES, A MINISTRY FOR SINGLES AGES 40 and older, gathers on Wednesday, Jan. 11, to talk/eat/drink at 7 PM at Spring Creek BBQ, 5613 East FM 1960 in Atascocita. For more info, contact Elizabeth Schields (281-441-2552 or elizabeths2@peoplepc.com) or Peggy Bryoles (281-359-4560 or peggybmom4@gmail.com) or subscribe to us on Flocknote at either St. Martha’s or St. Mary Magdalene’s website.

St. Martha Women’s ACTS Retreat
Feb. 9-12, 2017

Registration for the February Women’s (English) ACTS Retreat is open until we reach the maximum number. Registration forms can be picked up at the church office. The ACTS retreat is a three day/three 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.

St. Martha Rosary Guild
Urgent!

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. Our Guild will begin regular Wednesday meetings in January 2017, which will be the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month and every second Sunday of each month.

January Meetings at St Martha Woodland Hill Campus:
2nd Sunday, Jan. 8, Room 2, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM
2nd & 4th Wednesday, Jan. 11 and 25, 11:30 AM-3:00 PM

Please contact Gilda Womack, Coordinator at 281-989-4241 or gawomack@hotmail.com for more information, membership, rosary supplies, and rosary orders.
Website: www.MarianiteRosaryGuild.org
Storefront: www.MarianiteRosaryGuild.etsy.com

Come to “Enchanting” Santa Fe!

Come and experience a five day glorious ascent in Gregorian Chant, learning and singing the eternal song of the Church’s liturgical prayer, 2,000 years of faith in liturgical song of the Mass and psalms. St. Basil’s School of Gregorian Chant of the University of St. Thomas invites you to the 8th Winter Chant Conference, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Dates are Feb. 20 – 24, 2017. Cost includes lodging, meals, and conference tuition. For all info and to register visit our website: www.chantschool.org or call Lowell Davis at 281-855-2358.

Hurting? Healing after abortion

Project Rachel

A new group will be starting on January 25th.
Project Rachel is the confidential and compassionate outreach to women who have had an abortion or been involved in an abortion. Its purpose is to foster reconciliation and healing between the parent and Christ, His Church, the child, and all other significant relationships.
Questions? Contact Bonnie Develle, 713-435-9215, or bdevelle@comcast.net.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend
February 17 – 19

FOR THE NEW YEAR! If you don’t exercise or watch your diet, you can’t stay fit and trim. What are you doing to keep your marriage in good shape? 2017 is a good year to try an incredible Marriage Enrichment? Register early! Valentines weekend fills fast! Find out more or sign up at: www.houstonme.org or call (713) 482-1791

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 5-week session starts Tuesday, Jan. 17, 7-8:30 PM. 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
• 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 or Vicki Rück, vickiruck@suddenlink.net, 713-927-8815
St. Martha School Scoops

Start training now if you want to beat Father Richard in the 12th Annual Steps for Students! The event will take place at 8 a.m. on February 18, 2017, at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart (1111 St. Joseph Pkwy, Houston, TX 77002).

It is a FUN community-building event that also raises funds for the school through team registrations and donations made to team members. Twelve dollars of each registration goes directly to St. Martha Catholic School.

You can register for the St. Martha Catholic School team by going to http://steps4students.racepartner.com/Fundraising16/StMarthaSchool. Registration is $15 per person until February 1, 2017.

If you have any questions, please contact Cortney Waguespack at waguespackc@stmarthacs.org.

St. Martha Catholic School is a fully accredited school for students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. We are committed and blessed to offer:

♦ A curriculum that builds strong academic skills, Catholic values and moral character in a safe, secure, and caring environment.
♦ Weekly Mass and periodic reconciliation throughout the school year.
♦ The involvement of our parish priests in many of our school activities.
♦ Monthly service opportunities to help instill a heart for service in our students.
♦ Extracurricular activities including School Mass Choir, Drama Club, Chess Team and Club, Bravo Band, Spanish Club, Rosary Guild, National Jr. BETA Club, Yearbook Club, and Student Ambassadors. Our athletic program includes the sports of cross country, soccer, basketball, baseball, track, volleyball and girls’ softball.

Visit our school website at www.stmarthacs.org for more information or contact Registrar Jodie Richter at 281-358-5523.

The Mission of St. Martha Catholic School is to provide a quality education sharing in the total Catholic formation of each person by developing mind, heart and spirit.

Collegian Moms Prayer Group:
The Collegian Moms Prayer Group will meet on Monday, Jan. 9, from 7—8 PM in the Adult Education Meeting Room 1 of the Family Life Center at the Woodland Hills Campus. All moms with children preparing for college, currently enrolled in college, or recently graduated from college are cordially invited. Questions? E-mail Gloria Gâmez at mornglor@yahoo.com

Vocations Corner

Chalice for Vocations: Please join the JOHNSON 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.

Holy Hour of Adoration for Vocations Exposition & Benediction

- 2nd Tuesday – 7:30 - 8:30 PM (Jan. 10th will be held in the Woodland Hills Chapel)
- 2nd Friday - 9:00 - 10:00 AM

Sponsored by Serra Club Northeast of Houston
Serra Club Northeast of Houston Invites You To Their Monthly Dinner and Meeting Monday, January 23, 2017 6:30 PM Social, 7—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 per person.

Membership is open to all Catholics. Monsignor Borski, Club Chaplain, will open the meeting in prayer.

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.

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.

Feb. 1 – Mar. 29, 2017  
Wednesday Evenings – 7:00 to 8:30 PM
St. Martha Parish Office Conference Room (Next to the Church)

For information and registration, please contact: Vicki Ruck, 713-927-8815, vickiruck@suddenlink.net

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

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTICADORATION
“Could you not watch one hour with Me?”
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 of us, 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:

- Monday: 1-2 AM / 11-12 Noon / 1-2 PM / 5-6 PM
- Tuesday: 2-3 AM
- Wednesday: 1-2 AM
- Thursday: 1-2 AM / 2-3 AM
- Friday: 11 Am-Noon / 6-7 PM
- Saturday AM: 1-2 AM / 3-4 AM / 9-10 AM
- Saturday PM: 1-2 PM / 2-3 PM / 7-8 PM / 8-9 PM
- Sunday: 1-2 PM / 3-4 PM / 11 PM - MIDNIGHT

If you are interested in participating in this ministry or would like more information, please contact: Carmen Ogando at 832-767-8826 or at carmenogando@yahoo.com.

If you need a substitute, please call one of our division leaders:

- Robyn Laumbach for Midnight to 6AM - (281-360-7897)
- Karen Ehlig for 6AM to Noon - (281-361-7127)
- Annunciata Hopkins for Noon to 6PM - (281-360-1258)
- Beth Beckham for 6PM to Midnight - (281-435-1439)

Knights of Columbus FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP
BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 9 - 14

JUST SHOW UP AND HAVE FUN
Drinks, Snacks, and Awards

Contact: Mark Roseland Phone:713-419-2532 E-mail: markaroseland@gmail.com

Date of Competition: Saturday, January 21, 2017

Location: St. Martha Activity Center Registration Time: 1:00 to 1:30 PM

Sponsored by: St. Martha Knights of Columbus Council # 12320

Please note: Bring a copy of your birth certificate.

Age as of January 1, 2017. 9 - 14 years old are eligible
STEWARDSHIP—A WAY OF LIFE
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 October, we had 1,208 hours logged with our regular committed adorers. In addition to this, we had approximately 348 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.

2016 Parish Festival Results
The Parish Festival and Fall Market was a smashing success! God blessed us with stellar weather and the Holy Spirit orchestrated an outstanding day of Fellowship and Community Building for our Parish Community! The financial results for the Festival are as follows:

- Total Gross Proceeds from Festival: $95,480
- Total Activity Area Expenses: $(27,250)
- Total Net Proceeds for Activity Areas before Ministry Distribution: $68,229
- Total Other Expenses: $(34,476)
- Net Proceeds for Festival before Ministry Distributions: $33,754
- Total Distribution to Ministries: $23,255
- Net Proceeds to Capital Campaign: $10,499

“Mercy” Wants You on the 2017 Planning Committee!
Did you enjoy the 2016 Parish Festival? Wouldn’t it be fun to help plan the 2017 Parish Festival? If you are interested in helping on the 2017 Parish Festival Planning Committee, please contact Tom Gallagher at 713-364-9780 or smparishfestival@gmail.com. Mark your calendars for the 2017 Festival on Saturday, September 30, 2017! Join us in planning an even better Parish Festival in 2017! Planning meetings will commence soon after Easter 2017!

Praying that God blesses everyone with a Very Happy, Healthy, Prosperous and Holy Spirit Filled 2017!
ONE OF THE BEST KEPT SECRETS AT ST. MARTHA

Did you know that you have a “Second Family” just waiting for the opportunity to share an hour or two visiting in your home, to help with simple errands, deliver a meal or to offer a ride to an appointment? If you didn’t, that’s no surprise to us! For eleven years the Second Family Ministry has been one of the best kept secrets in our parish. And now we are spreading the word about what a great ministry this is! You might consider discovering the joy of letting someone into your life by offering to help out just a little bit. Or, you might like to join the Second Family Care Team and reach out to another member of the congregation who would benefit from your “bite sized commitment”. As always, the blessings flow both ways, and we learn that through simple tasks relationships are built and lives are changed.

Please help spread the word. We are asking that you be the eyes and ears and perhaps even the hands and feet of this wonderful ministry. Tell your friends, be alert to special needs and phone if you know someone that would benefit from having a Second Family, or if you would like to have a Care Team. And, finally, prayerfully consider joining this ministry and see what a difference a few hours a month can mean to someone who is home alone, can no longer drive, is caring for a loved one or is isolated and a bit lonely. To learn more about the vision and the work of your Second Family Care Team at St. Martha phone Martha Busch 281-728-7159 or email stmartha2ndfamily@gmail.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!

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.

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.
Para la familia de la parroquia de Santa Marta,
Continuamos celebrando el nacimiento del Salvador hoy, a través de esta fiesta de la Epifanía. En toda la Sagrada Escritura no hay muchos relatos que manifiesten una comprensión más profunda de la naturaleza humana que la historia de los Magos que se dispusieron a encontrar al niño Cristo. Estos hombres sabios representan a toda la humanidad en su incesante búsqueda de Dios. Como seres humanos nunca nos hemos conformado con nuestras propias limitaciones ni defectos. Los mitos y leyendas de la mayoría de las grandes culturas del mundo describen esta gran búsqueda humana. Sin embargo, en esas culturas o religiones distintas de la judeo-cristiana, las historias se cuentan de héroes que logran dejar atrás la compañía de seres humanos ordinarios y entrar en la compañía de inmortales. En tales culturas la Encarnación, la historia sagrada de la Palabra divina que toma la carne humana, no encuentra lugar. La historia de los Reyes Magos, la historia de Epifanía, difiere radicalmente de todas las otras historias sobre la búsqueda de Dios. Estos hombres sabios de Oriente --- ricos y respetados líderes de su tiempo con todos los recursos humanos a su disposición --- no fueron capaces de encontrar a Dios hasta que se permitieron entrar en las circunstancias humanas más comunes con apertura y confianza. ¿Y cuál era ese lugar humano donde descubrieron lo divino niño? El Evangelio de Mateo lo describe como “el lugar donde estaba el niño” -- un pesebre donde se reunían los animales, una campesina que había dado a luz, un niño indefenso y un marido muy confundido.

Con el viaje de los Magos, la búsqueda de la humanidad por Dios, tomó una dirección totalmente nueva. Los seres humanos ya no tendrían que escupir de sus limitaciones humanas para descubrir al Dios ilimitado y santo. El Apocalipsis nos instruye a buscar a nuestro Dios en las necesidades y cuidados humanos que componen nuestra vida cotidiana. La cara de Dios no está más lejos que la cara de la persona más cercana en nuestras vidas. El nacimiento del Salvador y el descubrimiento por los Magos nos dice que “las tinieblas que cubren al pueblo y las espesas nubes que cubren la tierra” (Isaías) han sido completamente eliminadas. Por causa de Jesucristo cada uno de nosotros se revela como realmente somos en el plan de nuestro Dios: una creación divina, hecha a imagen y semejanza del Creador, una criatura inmortal llamada a vivir para siempre con Dios. La humanidad misma es el instrumento que Dios ha escogido para su Epifanía, la manifestación de su presencia divina. Por lo tanto, nosotros, los discípulos de Jesucristo, tenemos un papel muy especial que desempeñar en el plan de salvación de Dios. Por el testimonio fiel de nuestras vidas y el generoso compartir de los talentos humanos que el Creador nos ha otorgado, manifestamos la presencia amorosa de Dios en el mundo. No huimos de las limitaciones, pruebas y desafíos humanos. Más bien entramos más profundamente en la situación humana para descubrir la presencia de Dios. Esa presencia se llama Jesús, el Cristo de Dios, y esta realidad divina la hace presente para nosotros la Iglesia cuando nos reunimos para celebrar los Sacramentos, especialmente la Eucaristía dominical.

Fr. Chester Borski
ADORACIÓN EUCARÍSTICA PERPETUA

“¿No pudiste velar conmigo ni siquiera una hora?”

Nuestra parroquia es grandemente bendecida de contar con Adoración Eucarística Perpetua en nuestra capilla de adoración veinticuatro horas al día. Jesús mora en el Santísimo Sacramento debido a su amor infinito por cada uno de nosotros, Él siempre espera pacientemente a que estemos ante su presencia y le acompañemos.

En la lista a continuación están las horas más necesitados de adoradores en este momento.

Te invitamos a que participes en este hermoso ministerio. Siéntete libre de venir y adorar a nuestro Señor Jesucristo de acuerdo a tu tiempo y disponibilidad, independientemente de si hay o no otros adoradores presentes en oración. Jesús siempre nos espera con gozo anticipado.

Se necesitan Adoradores, Co-adoradores y substitutos en las siguientes horas:

- **Lunes:** 1-2 AM / 11AM-NOON / PM 1-2 / 5-6 PM
- **Martes:** 2-3 AM
- **Miércoles:** 1-2 AM
- **Jueves:** 1-2 AM / 11 AM - Noon / PM 6-7
- **Viernes:** 1-2 AM / 3-4 AM / 9-10 AM
- **Sábado AM:** 1-2 AM / 3-4 AM / 9-10 AM
- **Sábado PM:** 1-2 / 2-3 PM / PM 7-8 / 8-9 PM
- **Domingo:** 1-2 PM / 3-4 PM / 11 PM - MIDNIGHT

Si usted está interesado en participar en este ministerio o desea obtener más información, por favor contactar a Carmen Ogando, 832-767-8826, carmenogando@yahoo.com, Coordinadora
COMMUNITY LIFE MINISTRIES

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY LIFE—Francine Puglia, 281-713-8954

ACTS RETREAT—Willie Chesnut , ACSTCore@STMarta-ACTS.org

ANNULMENTS—Francine Puglia, 281-713-8954

CARING KIDS—Karen Ruxer, 281-354-8677, or Marian Brown, 281-630-4820

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS—Sherry Hundi, yellowrose716@live.com

CENTERING PRAYER—Greg LaCour, glacour@stmartha.com

COLUMBIAN SQUIRES—Mark Roseland, 713-419-2532

COUPLES FOR CHRIST—MaryLou & Ramon De La Cruz, 832-327-1072

DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP—Vicki Ruck, vickiruck@stmarthelnk.net

FAMILIA—Karen Ehlig, 281-361-7127

FUNERALS—Indiana Francis, 281-358-6637

GRIEF SUPPORT—Laura Cardella, 281-360-2714

HISPANIC MINISTRIES—Ana Luisa Rodriguez, 281-358-1959 x269

HOMEBOUND ERRAND COMMITTEE—Gretta Verhalten, 832-767-8926

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—Tom Gallagher, 713-364-9780

LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS—Jodi Schod, 281-713-8954

MARRIAGE PREP. INFORMATION—To Register call 281-358-6637

MARIA'S QUILTERS—Michelle Lowe, 713-358-1959 x241

MOM'S COLLEGIAN PRAYER GROUP—Laura Cardella, 713-364-9780

MOTHER'S DAY OUT—Bill Phillips, 281-358-1959 x213

MOTHER'S DAY OUT TRANSPORT—Barry Robichaux, Barry.Robichaux@us.ibm.com

MOTHER'S DAY OUT—Carol Bateman, 281-359-1976 or Applegate, 281-361-2913

NORTHWEST CATHOLIC SINGLES—Tony Lasalle, 646-489-1554

OUTREACH MINISTRIES CONT.

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS FOOD DRIVE—Marie Burke, 281-361-3650

ST. JOSEPH HELPERS—Bill Beck, 281-360-7023

ST. MARTHA BETWEEN JOBS AND BEYOND—Bob Simpson, 713-410-2844

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—281-358-6636

SECOND FAMILY MINISTRY—Martha Busch, 281-728-7159

SOCIAL JUSTICE—Gary Yepsen, 832-803-4377

ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL PK3-8th—Tina Lewis, 281-358-5523

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT—Conrey Waguespack, 281-358-5523 x326

REGISTRAR—Jodie Richter, 281-358-5523 x314

MINISTRIOS EN ESPAÑOL

COORDINADORA DE CATECISMO PARA JOVENES Y SACRAMENTOS—Ana Maria Gibson, 281-358-1959 x269

COCO CORO DE ADULTOS—Luis Valle, 832-620-1888

GRUPO DE ORACIÓN—Carmen Ogando, 832-767-8926

HOSPITALIDAD—Gustavo Zapata, 832-247-9955

LECTORES—Cristina Gabas, 281-796-9084

LEGIÓN DE MARÍA—Veronica Reyes, 281-728-9843

MARTA GORETTI NETWORK EN ESPAÑOL—Patricia Lopez, 281-389-1210

MATRIMONIOS Y SAGRADA FAMILIA—Janett o Ruben Manosalva, 281-706-5068

MINISTROS EXTRAORDINARIOS DE LA EUCARISTÍA—Juan Russo, 954-439-1127

MONAGUILLOS—Pastor Pastora, 832-514-5741 o 832-633-0145

RICA—Jaime Gomez, 281-973-1857

VOCACIONES EN CÁLIZ DE VOCACIONES—Tony Lasalle, 646-489-1554

For the weekend of Dec. 24 & 25 your gifts of treasure resulted in:

- Weekly Budget: $17,034
- Sunday Collection: $28,792
- Faith Direct-Offertory: $37,475
- Holy Day-Immaculate Conc.: $897
- Holy Day-Christmas: $60,589
- Over/(Under): $56,719

Year To Date: 2016 DSF Goal: $305,000

Special collections:
- Capital Campaign $158,559
- Martha’s Kitchen: $8,982
- Retirement for Religious: $3,127
- Christmas Flowers: $622

Current Loan Debt: $10,852,906

STEWARDSHIP of Time, Talent and Treasure

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES—Olga Nájar, 281-713-8966

CANCARE—Roger Schuelle, 281-358-8060

CRIMINAL JUSTICE MINISTRY—Jaime S. Gomez, 713-973-1857

E-MAIL PRAYER WARRIORS—Donna Rueby, dmruerey@earthlink.net

H.A.A.M.—Alejandra Gutierrez, 832-860-4860

HOSPITAL MINISTRY—Sarah Clark, 281-361-8832

MARTA'S KITCHEN—Sr. Maria Elena, 713-224-2622

MOTHER TERESA MINISTRY—Paola Lam 832-284-1891

PRO-LIFE (GABRIEL PROJECT)—713-225-5826

PROJECT RALPH—Bonnie Develle, 713-435-9215

OUTREACH MINISTRIES CONT.

Stamp the Cross Food Drive—Marie Burke, 281-361-3650

ST. JOSEPH HELPERS—Bill Beck, 281-360-7023

ST. MARTHA BETWEEN JOBS AND BEYOND—Bob Simpson, 713-410-2844

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—281-358-6636

SECOND FAMILY MINISTRY—Martha Busch, 281-728-7159

SOCIAL JUSTICE—Gary Yepsen, 832-803-4377

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DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT—Conrey Waguespack, 281-358-5523 x326

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