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

Liturgy & Sacraments

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

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

Sacrament of Penance
Tuesday:
Church 10 AM - 12 PM
Saturday:
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.

Funerals
Call the Parish Office for more information, 281-358-6637.

4301 Woodridge Parkway, Porter, TX 77365
281-358-6637 • fax 281-358-7973 • www.stmartha.com

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

From the cloud came a voice:
“This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.”
Mark 9:7
Today's Readings

First Reading — The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith (Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18).

Psalm — I walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116).

Second Reading — God did not spare his own Son (Romans 8:31b-34).

Gospel — This is my beloved Son (Mark 9:2-10).


Readings for the Week

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8-9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12, Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]; Ps 19:8-11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25
Alternate readings (Year A): Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Second Sunday of Lent; Penitential Rite for Candidates for Full Communion
Friday: Abstinence; First Friday; World Day of Prayer
Saturday: St. Katharine Drexel; First Saturday

Mass Intentions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon./Feb. 26</th>
<th>Sat./Mar. 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM †Pat Montague</td>
<td>8:30 AM †Pro-life Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>†Ray Parrotta</td>
<td>5:30 PM †George Calongne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>†Barbara Reich</td>
<td>†Zeno &amp; Mildred Cox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>†Margarita Eliaz</td>
<td>†Samir Wakim</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tues./Feb. 27</th>
<th>Sun./Mar. 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM †Lilia Ahat</td>
<td>7 AM †Edward &amp; Valerie Symanski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 AM †Anastacia Martinez, Elizabeth Vinca</td>
<td>†Raul Diaz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>†Samir Wakim</td>
<td>†Penny Stark</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wed./Feb 28</th>
<th>Thurs./Mar. 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM †Conceita Valentini, Victor Ordonez</td>
<td>11 AM †Lou Cataline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>†Stephen Bush</td>
<td>†Margarita Eliaz</td>
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<tr>
<td>†Clara &amp; Bill Johnson</td>
<td>†Norma Jean Ross</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fri./Mar. 2</th>
<th>Fri./Mar. 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM †Javier Aguilar, †Mildred Russotto</td>
<td>1 PM For the Parish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 PM</td>
<td>5:30 PM †Michael Flanagan</td>
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<tr>
<td>†Anastasia Martinez, Elizabeth Vinca</td>
<td>†Carmen Soliz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: During the school year, the 8:30 AM School Mass takes place in the Activity Center (Faith Formation Campus). NEXT SCHOOL MASS: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

2018 Annual Lenten Fish Fry

Kingwood Council #12320 Knights of Columbus

Friday Nights Feb 16th, 23rd, Mar 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd Serving from 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. LOCATION Family Life Center

Adult’s Dinner $10.00 Child’s Dinner $3.00

Adult Dinner Inc: Cajun Fried Catfish and/or Baked Lemon Dill Salmon, Colelaw, Green Beans, Fries and Hushpuppies.
Children’s Dinner Includes: Fish Sticks, Velveta Shells and Cheese, Fries and Hushpuppies Drinks: Iced Tea, Lemon aide, and Coffee

Stations of the Cross will be held at 7:30 PM in the church every Friday during Lent.

Communal Penance Service

Thursday, March 8th St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Humble 6:30 pm

Fast. Pray. Give up your Envelopes! We invite you to help St. Martha save money by giving up your offertory envelopes this Lent! Enrolling with Faith Direct will provide St. Martha with consistent support and simplify your giving without the wasteful envelopes. Join us in giving up envelopes this Lenten season! Sign up today by going to our website at www.stmartha.com and scrolling down to the Electronic Giving Faith Direct icon or visiting www.faithdirect.net our church code is TX497. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!
In Our Prayers

Please remember the recently deceased and their families in your prayers:
Emma R. Palma
Carmeling P. Crisologo
George Williams (son of Christopher and Jerrye Williams)
Thomas Peter Birney
Jerome Ferreri
George Mucha

Please remember the sick and their families in your prayers:

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.

Military Wreath: Please pray for our active military as seen on the wreath in the Narthex. To add a loved contact Jodi at 281-358-6637, ext. 201, or jodis@stmartha.com.

To the parish family of St. Martha,
The Gospel for the 2nd Sunday of Lent describes the event known as the Transfiguration: “Jesus took Peter, James, and John … up a high mountain … and he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white” (Mark 9:2). Occasionally we have similar occurrences in our lives and we have come to call them “mountain top experiences.” While we do not experience the presence of God as dramatically as did these three apostles, such special moments help us see through all of the complexity and mystery of life. For perhaps only a brief moment we truly see the purpose behind all we are asked to do or endure in life. Such moments are a kind of revelation of God’s plan for us. Sometimes soldiers describe such experiences while in battle, frequently women have such moments at the birth of a child, others at the unexpected healing of a failed relationship, etc. Through reflection on these moments, we come to realize that life is so much more than what it seems to be. There is at work in our lives a tremendous power, a power that is capable of transforming us and recreating our world. This power that we sense has a presence far beyond our ability to directly experience but which nonetheless is so intimately bound up with the smallest and most tender details in our lives. It is God’s creative power at work in us and it has been poured upon us through the Holy Spirit at our baptism. Certainly for the three apostles who witnessed the Transfiguration, this was a moment of divine revelation. They were allowed to see beyond their immediate experience and come into the presence of God. They came away from the moment changed men.

The first reading from the Book of Genesis describes another such event. At a particular moment in his life, Abraham experienced his relationship with God in such a way that he felt he was being asked to sacrifice his only son. It wasn’t until God intervened that he realized that he was not being asked to satisfy God’s anger or jealousy, but he was being called to prefigure God’s plan for all of humanity. Abraham was being asked to risk all and take the first step of trusting completely in God’s promise that God would provide for humanity’s future. In fact God would later send his only Son to be the sacrificial victim for our sins. Thus, it happens for each of us. There is a great deal more going on in the depths of our life experience than we can fathom or understand. All of life has been charged with an infinite value and this is true because God has claimed us as his children at Baptism. We do not always sense that God is a companion on our life’s journey but we are blessed with some moments that give us a glimpse of his divine presence. Lent is a special time for us to reflect on our experience and learn to abandon ourselves to God’s providence.

Fr. Chester Borski

Fr. Borski’s 50th Anniversary Rosaries and Prayer Cards
We still have some of the single decade rosaries handmade by the St. Martha Rosary Guild and the "Priest's Prayer" prayer cards (English/Spanish) selected by Fr. Borski available for you all to have and use. There are two baskets with both items at the Ministry Kiosk in the Narthex of the Church. Please help yourself - and use them to keep Fr. Borski, Fr. Richard and Fr. Michael, all Priests, Seminarians, and those considering vocations in your prayers!

From the Pastor
Adult Organizations and Opportunities

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

The RCIA is 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.
We will have a new Inquirer group beginning soon!
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.

Revelation 3:20
“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.”

Martha's Kitchen-
Message from Sr. Maria Elena

Dear Clergy, Parishioners, and Volunteers of Martha’s Kitchen,
It is with a grateful heart that I thank all of you for your prayers, flowers, cards and continued good wishes for my recovery during my recent illness.
Thank you to Monsignor Borski and all of the clergy for your prayers and infinite support during this time. The volunteers of Martha’s Kitchen have been very diligent in their focus to carry on each day to prepare for those who come to us each weekday for a meal. Sister Julie has been there each day to complete the tasks for running Martha’s Kitchen smoothly. Thank you, Sister Julie, for your dedication. Thank you, parishioners, for your continued loyalty and financial support to Martha’s Kitchen – we could not exist without you!
May God Bless You,
Sister Maria Elena Lopez, MCDP

St. Martha Women’s ACTS Retreat
March 22-25, 2018

Registration for the March Women’s English ACTS Retreat has begun. The ACTS retreat is a three day/three night 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-served basis and must include a non-refundable deposit of $50. The cost of the retreat is $190 but do not let the financial considerations prevent you from attending the retreat. Please prayerfully consider attending this exciting retreat!! If you have any questions, you can contact the retreat Director, Melanie McTaggart at 832-675-0694 or mmctaggart@hartenergy.com.
Registration forms available on-line at www.smcsactsw22.com

Young at Heart Luncheon - Rodeo Round-Up

Young at Heart-ers - Yeehaw - it's Rodeo time! Grab your Stetson, dust off your boots, lasso up a good time and come celebrate the Rodeo with your fellow Young at Heart-ers.
Join us for fellowship, bingo and lunch at St. Martha's Family Life Center on Wednesday, Feb. 28. Bingo begins at 11 AM, followed by lunch and fellowship that ends at 2 PM. If you are new to our community or have never been, try us out. Bring a friend with you and join the fun! We meet on the second, fourth and fifth Wednesday of each month.
If transportation is needed, contact Domenica Seitz at 713-899-1016. If you have any questions, please call Nancy Karpinski, 713-594-4430.

St. Martha Women's Retreat at Holy Name Passionist Retreat Center: Feb. 23-25, 2018

Start the New Year with a relaxing and prayerful Retreat Weekend.
Retreat Theme: Ave Crux, Spes Unica, meaning, "Hail to the Cross, Our Only Hope." Harmonious with the mission of the Passionists, the theme of the Cross is central to an authentic spiritual journey of any Catholic. Is the Cross our only hope?
Join us to probe this question, as we look deeper into the relationship of Jesus, His Cross, and our redemption. For more information contact Jan Rodine at 713-416-0680 or to register, please visit the website www.holynameretreatcenter.com

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

ST. MARTHA’S GRIEF SUPPORT PROGRAM
St. Martha’s grief support program welcomes all who are experiencing grief of a loved one to join us for the currently meeting grief support group on Tuesdays, from 7-9 PM at the Woodland Hills campus in Room 2. These sessions will continue through Tuesday, March 13. If you have questions please call Laurie at 281-360-2714, or e-mail LaurieCardella@outlook.com.

ST. MARTHA’S GRIEF SUPPORT PROGRAM
Think there isn’t anyone pulling for your marriage? Think again.

Marriage is a challenge. Whether a couple is newlywed, raising a family, or “empty nesting”, the call to grow together in love is ever present. Often couples find they are living in a social climate where forces and stresses are at work that can undermine both their marriage and their faith. All over the world, couples have found a way to meet their desire for growth in love and faith through the Teams of Our Lady (TOOL) movement.

A team is a group of five to seven couples that have decided to join together to find support in their efforts to lead Gospel lives. The team meets once a month, in each other’s homes, for a simple meal and in a spirit of friendship share their experiences of the previous month. After dinner, the mood shifts to the more obviously spiritual as the team reflects on scripture and prays. Finally, they discuss study material on married life and faith. The team meeting is truly a unique gathering – lively and enjoyable, yet structured and meaningful. If you would like to join such a group, plan on attending a 45 minute Information Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 25, at 3:30 PM in Room 2 at the Woodland Hills Campus. Contact Drew Verret at teamsofourladykw@gmail.com for more information and to reserve a spot.

Adult Organizations and Opportunities

St. Martha’s Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group invites you to “Go Deeper” during this Lenten season. Please join us for a half-day retreat on March 3rd from 1 – 6 PM followed by prayer and Mass at the Woodland Hills Campus Chapel. Registration in the Narthex. Fee - $10/person. Further questions, contact Nancy at dezotti@aol.com.

Join us! NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES, A MINISTRY FOR SINGLES AGES 40 and older, gathers on Wednesday, Feb. 28, to eat/drink/talk at 7 PM at Panera Bread at 25665 Hwy. 59 North (near Northpark Drive) in Kingwood. On Sunday, March 4, join us for 10:30 AM Mass at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Mont Belvieu, Texas, being held at W. L. Wismer Distribution Company site, 13827 I-10 East in Baytown; meal afterwards at Antonio’s Italian Restaurant, 2727 Baker Road in Baytown. Contact Kathy Remkes at 281-389-3262 (cell) about carpool(s). 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 on either St. Martha’s or St. Mary Magdalene’s website.

Save the Date!
St. Martha Catholic School’s largest fundraiser, Casino Night, will be held on Saturday, April 21, on the school campus. If you would like to donate a product and/or service for the event auction, please contact Jennifer Licona at liconaj@stmarthacs.org. Donations are much needed and generally tax-deductible. More details to come!

Monica's Hope: Prayerful Support for Parents of Troubled Children
Notice!!! Due to conflict with Parish Mission, Monica’s Hope will NOT meet in March. We encourage all to participate in our mission opportunity.

Gulf Coast Catholic Men’s Conference
The 3rd Annual Gulf Coast Catholic Men’s Conference will be held on Saturday - March 10th from 8 AM to 4 PM at the Sylvan Beach Pavilion at 1 Sylvan Beach Drive in La Porte, 77571. Cost is $40 through March 5th and $45 from March 6th until the conference. Religious and Clergy are free. The cost includes Continental Breakfast and Lunch. Speaker topics include building community – lessons from Hurricane Harvey, spiritual warfare, addictions, and the importance of men’s ministries. For more details and to purchase tickets go to www.gc-cmc.org.
**Adult Opportunities**

**Project Rachel**

Project Rachel is the confidential and compassionate outreach to women who have had an abortion or been involved in an abortion. Its purpose is to foster reconciliation and healing between the parent and Christ, His Church, the child, and all other significant relationships. Questions? Call 713-741-8728.

**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.

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**Vocations Corner**

Throughout family life, let your children know how much Jesus and Our Blessed Mother love them, and how they have suffered and sacrificed for us so that your family will be joined with the Holy Family in Heaven someday. Share how Jesus loved us so much that even while He faced the upcoming torment of His Passion and death, He generously and unselfishly instituted the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood in order to provide us with His grace and protection, and guide us to salvation after His death and Resurrection. Let your children know that without Priests, Sisters and Brothers, Jesus would not be able to draw souls to Him as He so desires. 

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**CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS:**

Please join the GARDNER 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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**Pro-Life Corner**

Co-sponsored by the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and the Houston Coalition for Life

*Will you not watch one hour with me? Matthew 26:40*

- Each day in the United States, 4,000 children are aborted. During 40 Days for Life, from Feb. 14 - March 25, you have an opportunity to pray and fast with other Christians around the world for an end to abortion.
- When you stand and peacefully pray at an abortion site, you remind those entering the facility that God is present, and you are a sign of hope and help to them. Through the grace of God, hearts are changed and lives are saved.
- Churches in Houston will take a day to pray outside Planned Parenthood of the Gulf Coast, which is the largest abortion facility in the western hemisphere. St Martha’s day is
  
  ⇒ Wednesday, Feb 28th from 6:30am—6:30pm (Sign up for one or more hours.)
  ⇒ Planned Parenthood, 4600 Gulf Freeway, Houston. Please carpool and park on the street.

Contact peggyangelino@yahoo.com/ 832-233-0401. If you can drive others or if you need a ride, please contact Peggy.

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**St. Martha Rosary Guild**

Enjoy an afternoon of fun, fellowship and making rosaries. We can teach you how to make a rosary and you can make rosaries at our regular meetings or/and you make them at home.

*Beginning on March 11, 2018 we will teach our first class on How to Pray the Rosary. For children, teens and adults. All are welcome. Contact Flora at 281-650-6834 (fkattijaari@gmail.com) for more info and to RSVP.*

*Limited seating*.

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**February Schedule: Meeting Room 2, Woodland Hill Campus fourth Wednesday from 11:30 AM -3 PM**

Please contact Gilda Womack, at 281-989-4241 or gawomack@hotmail.com for more information, membership, rosary supplies, and rosary requests.

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**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.

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**The Spirit of Divine Mercy Ministry**

The Spirit of Divine Mercy Ministry would like to invite you to their annual *Lenten Divine Mercy Conference “Rays of Enlightenment”* at Christ Redeemer Catholic Church on March 3. Theme this year: *I was ill and you cared for me - Matt. 25:35-36*

Dr. Ronald Sobeks, is the Main Speaker – an Oncologist from the Cleveland Clinic. He is the Author of “Divine Mercy Triumph Over Cancer”. There is No Charge but Reservations are required and seating is limited!

Registration is now open so register at as soon as possible at CTRCC.COM/RAYS-RSVP
Calling moms of all ages!

St Martha's Moms Group
Motherhood Fellowship Nights from 7-8:30 p.m.
March 20: Lenten reflection
April 17: Dr. Brooke Jemelka of Caritas Women’s Care will be speaking

Be sure to join our Facebook group: St. Martha’s Moms (Kingwood, Tx). For more information email Katie at stmarthasmoms@gmail.com. We look forward to meeting you.

SAVE THE DATE
VBS 2018
JUNE 11-15th
REGISTRATION BEGINS APRIL 3RD

CASE for Kids City Connections awarded St. Martha Catholic School (SMCS) with a generous grant this school year to fund the new Science Olympiad Project Team after-school program.

Science Olympiad teaches everyday science concepts through problem solving, critical thinking and practical applications. Launched at SMCS in October, the program is modeled after Science Olympiad and enables students to develop and build projects as a team in order to learn cooperative learning strategies and a high commitment to excellence.

CASE for Kids (The Center for After-School, Summer, and Expanded Learning) is a division of Harris County Department of Education, and its mission is to strengthen, support, and sustain after-school programs and out-of-school activities. CASE for Kids City Connections is an initiative funded by the City of Houston to support nonprofit organizations in each city council district that address the need for youth services outside the school day.

St. Martha Catholic School is the proud CASE grant awardee for City Council District E, lead by Council Member Dave Martin. Almost 20 students have already benefited from the Science Olympiad Project Team and the school will host a showcase on Thursday, April 26, to demonstrate a variety of science concepts and activities.

TOMORROW
Monday, Feb. 26
[6:30-8 PM]

Bring ALL of your friends to the FLC for FREE pizza, prayer, and a whole night of FUN!

EDGE FLOCKNOTE

For messages on Edge updates and event details, subscribe to our Flocknote list at the Edge page on the St. Martha website, or e-mail to:
Lisa Hartsfield at: lisah@stmartha.com

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St. Martha Lenten Mission with Fr. Eugene Hensell

*Discovering the Human Face of God in the Gospel of Mark*

**What:** Discovering the Human Face of God in the Gospel of Mark  
**When:** March 5-7, 7-8 PM  
**Where:** Church  
**Who:** Fr. Eugene Hensell, OSB (Ph.D.)

Did you know that the Sunday Gospel readings for this liturgical year are regularly selections from the Gospel of Saint Mark? Come hear about this fascinating Gospel by an internationally renowned scripture scholar, Fr. Eugene Hensell. His topic will be “Discovering the Human Face of God in the Gospel of Mark.”

Father Hensell is an Associate Professor of Scripture, St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. He is an experienced and engaging presenter who has taught scripture to international audiences of priests and students of theology as well as to countless groups of lay people in parish missions and retreats.

Father Eugene Hensell, OSB, is a Benedictine monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey. In addition to parish work, campus ministry and college teaching, Father Eugene also served from 1982-96 as vice rector of Saint Meinrad College and then president-rector of both the College and the School of Theology.

Since 1997, Fr. Eugene has been engaged in fulltime retreat work, conducting biblical retreats and workshops for priests, religious, and laity throughout the country and in several foreign countries. He brings to this work over 30 years of teaching experience, as well as a strong sense of the Church's pastoral needs. With his wide contacts among clergy, religious and laity, Fr. Eugene brings to his students a deep and sympathetic understanding of the challenges facing many facets of life in the contemporary Church.

Fr. Eugene is an active member of the Catholic Biblical Association, The Society of Biblical Literature, and The American Academy of Religion. He is the past president of The American Benedictine Academy. He has also recently been appointed to the advisory board of the *Journal, Review for Religious.*

For the past 20 years, Fr. Eugene has been a contributing writer for Weekday and Sunday Homily Hints, a service published by St. Anthony Messenger Press. He regularly contributes book reviews to The Catholic Biblical Quarterly, The Review of Biblical Literature, Cistercian Studies and other scholarly journals. He also is an associate editor for *The American Benedictine Review.*

**Fr. Hensell’s Mission Schedule:**
- March 3-4: Preaching at the following Masses  
  Saturday 5:30 PM, Sunday 7 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM and 5:30 PM
- March 5-7: Mission talk starting at 7 PM in the Church  
  Please note: The Tuesday, March 6 Mass will be moved to 6:15 PM

**A Request from our Bishops: Congressional Call-In Campaign**

Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, USCCB President; Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, USCCB Vice President; and Bishop Joe S. Vásquez of Austin, Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Migration have asked the faithful to participate in the Call-in Day to Congress on **Monday, Feb. 26!** Your advocacy is critical to help the nearly 1.8 million Dreamers, young people who were brought into the United States by their parents as children. They may face deportation as soon as March 6, unless Congress reaches a bi-partisan deal to protect them. Please follow these easy steps to help:

1. Call 855-589-5698 to reach the Capitol switchboard, and press 1 to connect to your Senators. Once you are connected to each Senator’s office, please ask the person on the phone to deliver this simple message:
   
   “I urge you to support a bipartisan, common-sense, and humane solution for Dreamers:
   
   - Protect Dreamers from deportation and provide them with a path to citizenship.
   - Reject proposals that undermine family immigration or protections for unaccompanied children.
   - As a Catholic, I know that families are not “chains,” but a blessing to be protected.
   - Act now to protect Dreamers, our immigrant brothers and sisters.”

2. Call 855-589-5698 a second time to reach the Capitol switchboard again, and press 2 to connect to your Representative. Once you are connected to the Representative’s office, please ask the person on the phone to deliver the same message as above.

After completing your call, please go to http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org to learn more about Dreamers and find other ways to voice your support.

**ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS FOOD DRIVE** - This weekend, Feb. 24 & 25, we will be collecting donations of non-perishable food and personal care items. Donations will benefit St. John of the Cross Food Pantry in New Caney. Thank you for your continued generosity by contributing non-perishable grocery items to help those in need. (*Please place your Food Donation in the Rotunda before Mass. There will be a sign in the Narthex directing everyone to the Rotunda and a sign in the Rotunda showing where to place the food.*)
Dear brothers and sisters, once again we are entering into the grace-filled season of Lent; a season overflowing with possibilities for growth and greater freedom in Christ. In his 2018 Lenten Message, the Holy Father Pope Francis recently reminded us that “Lent summons us, and enables us, to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life.” This beautiful summons to return to the Lord can sometimes get drowned out by approaching Lent as a time where I’m simply supposed to give something up, only to resume that something when Easter arrives. But if Lent is a summons to “even now return to me with your whole heart,” (Joel 2:12) as the 1st Reading of Ash Wednesday proclaims, then giving something up (although not at all bad) is only one part of the equation.

When the Lord invites us to return to Him with our whole heart, he is talking about our love. This invitation is only necessary because in our weakness, we sometimes turn our hearts away from him. Pope Francis uses Matthew 24:12 as a lens for us this Lent; Our Lord Jesus said “because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold.” It is a grace for us to recognize the times in which our love grows lukewarm or cold. Again, “Lent summons us, and enables us, to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly.” The Holy Father adds that “if, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew.”

St. Martha’s music ministry will focus on this summons to rekindle our love throughout the season of Lent in a number of our musical selections. We invite you to pay special attention to the words of hymns and meditation pieces, allowing these prayerful words to become your prayer with us. For example, we will sing “Again we keep this solemn fast, a gift of faith from ages past; this Lent which binds us lovingly to faith and hope and charity.” And in another hymn we sing “What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?” In this way, we recognize the great love in the heart of God. The choir will sing some powerful and moving pieces such as God So Loved the World by John Stainer, and the prayer O Lord, Increase My Faith in which we pray “strengthen me and confirm me in Thy true faith; endue me with wisdom, charity, and patience.” In Lord We Beseech Thee our sung prayer includes “Lighten the darkness of our hearts by our Lord Jesus Christ.”

These are just a few examples of how the music in our liturgies will enrich our prayer during this wonderful season. And for those (in good company) who are giving things up for Lent such as sweets, Jesu Dulcis Memoria by Tomas Luis de Victoria may serve as a special prayer throughout the season: “The sweet thought of Jesus gives true joy to the heart, and more than honey and all things sweet is the sweetness of His presence.” By removing things from our lives that keep us from turning back to God, we will be able to truly encounter the joy and sweetness of His presence. We know that Our Lord Jesus is truly present in the Holy Mass. We pray that these musical offerings will remind all of us to be truly present to Him! As family members in Christ, let’s open our hearts to the concrete ways in which the Lord invites us to “begin loving anew.” We remain united in prayer, ministry, and worship!

Your brother in Christ,
Daniel Knaggs

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**PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**OPEN HOURS— SATURDAY 1-2 AM, 7-8 PM**

SECOND ADORERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING HOURS:

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

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 your division leaders:

- Robyn Laumbach: Midnight to 6 AM (713-851-8768)
- Karen Ehlig: 6 AM to Noon (281-361-7127)
- Annunciata Hopkins: Noon to 6 PM (281-360-1258)
- Beth Beckham: 6 PM to Midnight (281-435-1439)

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**Galveston Harbor Tour &
the Strand Historic District Tour—**

**Tuesday, April 17,
8 AM - 5:30 PM**

Cost of each Tour: $35 per person*

Must be 50+ years old to attend.

Limited number of seats!

The tour bus will depart from Building 3 on the St. Martha Faith Formation Campus at 8 AM.

*Please note that meals are not included in the tour price.

Please register and pay for the tours at the Parish office between 9 AM—4 PM, Monday-Friday. For more information, please contact Annunciata Hopkins at 281-360-1258 or 713-665-9583.
A la familia parroquial de Santa Marta,
El Evangelio para el segundo domingo de Cuaresma describe el evento conocido como la Transfiguración: "Jesús tomó a Pedro, Santiago y Juan ... en una montaña alta ... y se transfiguró delante de ellos, y sus vestidos se tornaron deslumbrantes" (Marcos 9: 2). Ocasionalmente tenemos acontecimientos similares en nuestras vidas y hemos llegado a llamarlos "experiencias de montaña". Si bien no experimentamos la presencia de Dios tan dramáticamente como lo hicieron estos tres apóstoles, esos momentos especiales nos ayudan a ver a través de toda la complejidad y misterio de la vida, quizás solo por un breve momento realmente vemos el propósito detrás de todo lo que se nos pide que hagamos o perduremos en la vida. Tales momentos son una especie de revelación del plan de Dios para nosotros. A veces los soldados describen tales experiencias durante la batalla, con frecuencia las mujeres tienen esos momentos en el nacimiento de un niño, otros en la curación inesperada de una relación fallida, etc. Al reflexionar sobre estos momentos, nos damos cuenta de que la vida es mucho más que lo que parece ser. Hay un trabajo en nuestras vidas con un gran poder, un poder que es capaz de transformarnos y recrear nuestro mundo. Este poder que sentimos tiene una presencia más allá de nuestra capacidad de experimentar directamente, pero que sin embargo está tan íntimamente ligada a los detalles más pequeños y tiernos de nuestras vidas. Es el poder creativo de Dios que obra en nosotros y ha sido derramado sobre nosotros a través del Espíritu Santo en nuestro bautismo. Ciertamente, para los tres apóstoles que fueron testigos de la Transfiguración, este fue un momento de revelación divina. Se les permitió ver más allá de su experiencia inmediata y entrar en la presencia de Dios. Salieron del momento, como hombres cambiados.

La primera lectura del Libro del Génesis describe otro evento similar. En un momento particular de su vida, Abraham experimentó su relación con Dios de tal manera que sintió que le pedía que sacrificara a su único hijo. No fue hasta que Dios intervino, que se dio cuenta de que no le pedían que satisficiera la ira o los celos de Dios, sino que lo llamaban a prefigurar el plan de Dios para toda la humanidad. Se le pidió a Abraham que arriesgara todo y diera el primer paso para confiar completamente en la promesa de Dios, de que Dios proveería para el futuro de la humanidad. De hecho, Dios más tarde enviaría a su único Hijo para ser la víctima de sacrificio por nuestros pecados. Por lo tanto, sucede para cada uno de nosotros. En las profundidades de nuestra experiencia de vida, hay mucho más de lo que podemos comprender o comprender. Toda la vida ha sido cargada con un valor infinito y esto es cierto porque Dios nos ha reclamado como sus hijos en el Bautismo. No siempre sentimos que Dios es un compañero en el camino de nuestra vida, pero somos bendecidos con algunos momentos que nos permiten vislumbrar su presencia divina. La Cuaresma es un momento especial para que reflexionemos sobre nuestra experiencia y aprendamos a abandonarnos a la providencia de Dios.

Fr. Chester Borski
ADORACIÓN EUCARÍSTICA PERPETUA
HORAS DISPONIBLES PARA ADORADORES:
SABADOS 1-2 AM , 7-8 PM

HORAS DISPONIBLES PARA CO-ADORADORES Y SUBSTITUTOS:
Lunes: 1-2 AM / 3-4 AM / 5-6 AM / 5-6 PM
Martes: 2-3 AM/ 3-4 AM / MEDIA NOCHE - 1 AM
Miércoles: 12-1 AM / 1-2 AM / 3-4 AM / 3-4 AM / 10-11 AM / 5-6 PM / 11PM - MEDIANOCHE
Viernes: 12-1 am / 1-2 AM/ 7-8 AM
Viernes: 7-8 PM / 11 AM – MEDIO DIA / 1-2 AM
Sábado AM: 10-11 AM
Sábado PM: 1-2 PM / 2-3 PM / 3-4 PM / 10-11 PM
Domingo: 1-2 AM / 2-3 AM / 10-11 AM
Si usted está interesado en participar en este ministerio o desea obtener más información, por favor póngase en contacto con Carmen Ogando.

¿No harás una hora de vigilia conmigo?
Mateo 26:40
Del 14 de febrero hasta el 25 de marzo de 2018
Yo quiero alentar a miembros de nuestra Iglesia local a que participen en este importantísimo evento nacional.” Daniel Cardinal DiNardo Arzobispo de Galveston-Houston Presidente de la Conferencia del episcopado norteamericano (USCCB)

- ¡Apúntate Hoy! Ayuda a la parroquia de St. Martha Catholic Church a llenar las horas entre 6:30 de la mañana hasta las 6:30 de la tarde, 28 de febrero
- Planned Parenthood abortion center– 4600 Gulf Freeway
- Para participar en los 40 Días Para la Vida, llame a Carmenogando@yahoo.com, Coordinadora

INVITAMOS A TODAS LAS:
QUINCEÁNERAS
Y A TODAS LAS JÓVENES EN HIGH SCHOOL INTERESADAS EN PARTICIPAR EN:
- EL RETIRO PARA QUINCEAÑERAS
SÁBADO ABRIL 14 YOUTH CENTER CAMPUS WOODLAND HILLS
- LA MISA DE QUINCEAÑERAS
SÁBADO ABRIL 28 IGLESIA DE ST. MARTHA @3PM
El costo del retiro y la Misa es de $50 por participante. Si eres quinceañera, es necesario acudir al retiro para participar en la Misa. Se invita a cualquier joven interesada que esté inscrita en High School a participar en el Retiro.

PARA MAYOR INFORMACION:
YAZMIN LAGO, 281-713-2032,
YAZ_LAGO@MSN.COM

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PARA MAYOR INFORMACION:
YAZMIN LAGO, 281-713-2032,
YAZ_LAGO@MSN.COM

Legión de María—
Somos una organización apostólica de laicos en la iglesia Católica, aprobada por los últimos tres Papas y endorsada por el Concilio Vaticano II.
Realizamos reuniones semanales en donde se reza el Santo Rosario, se asignan trabajos legionarios y se estudian temas informativos para hacer más eficaz el apostolado. Nuestros trabajos consisten en evangelizar y santificar hombres mediante visitas a: familias, cárceles, toques de puertas, llevando a la Virgen peregrina a los hogares, entre otras actividades recomendadas por la parroquia.
Les invitamos a que conozcan más y formen parte de este hermoso ministerio que se reúne todos los viernes a las 7PM. En el salón #2 de la antigua iglesia Sta. Martha en el 3702 Woodland Hills Dr. Para más información pueden contactar a estos números 281-728-9843 Verónica Reyes ó 859-250-3687 Mildred Garcia
Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure

**ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES**

**BUSINESS MANAGER**—Molly Kleinguetl, 281-358-6637 x208
**FACILITY MANAGER**—Steve Teets, 281-358-6637 x254
**FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**—Charlie Goudy, 713-203-2101
**MARTHA’S GARDENERS**—Wayne Theis, wayne.theis@suddenlink.net
**ST. MARTHA’S OFFICE ANGELS**—Lourdes Fernandez, 281-358-6637 x262

**COMMUNITY LIFE MINISTRIES**

**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY LIFE**—Francine Puglia, 281-713-8954
**ACTS RETREAT**—Willie Chesnut, ACTSCore@StMartha-ACTS.org
**ANNULMENTS**—Francine Puglia, 281-713-8954
**CAREGIVERS**—Karen Rexer, 281-358-8857, or Marian Brown, 281-630-4820
**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS**—Greta Verhalen, verhaleng@stmarthacs.org
**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**—Art Voltmann, 281-361-6117
**CONFIRMATION**—281-358-1959
**CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**—Evelyn De La Cruz, 281-728-9843
**ACTSCore@StMartha-ACTS.org**
**REGISTRAR**—Jodie Richter, 281-358-5523 x314

**OUTREACH MINISTRIES CONT.**

**ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS FOOD DRIVE**—Marty Curtis, themartycurtis@gmail.com
**ST. JOSEPH HELPERS**—Bill Beck, 281-360-7023
**ST. MARTHA BETWEEN JOBS AND BEYOND**—Terry Stierman, Terry.stierman@conviventia.org
**ST. VIRGIN DE PAUL**—281-358-6636
**SECOND FAMILY MINISTRY**—Sharon Vonorees, 281-900-4768
**SOCIAL JUSTICE**—GaryYepsen, 832-803-4377

**ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

**PRINCIPAL PK3-8th**—Jessica Munsch, 281-358-5523
**DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT**—Jennifer Licena, 281-358-5523 x328
**REGISTRAR**—Jodie Richter, 281-358-5523 x314

**MINISTERIOS EN ESPAÑOL**

**AMISF**—Alejandra Gutierrez, 832-860-4860
**VOCACIONES Y CÁLIZ DE VOCACIONES**—Pastor Pastora, 713-775-9213

**FOR THE WEEKEND OF FEB. 17 & 18 YOUR GIFTS OF TREASURE RESULTED IN:**

| Weekly Budget | $2,545,727 |
| Sunday Collection | $37,792 |
| Over/(Under) | $(38,944) |
| Year To Date: | $2,608,990 |
| Weekly Budget | $3,254,727 |
| Sunday Collection | $(63,263) |
| Over/(Under) | $305,000 |
| Payments to Date | 1828 DSF Goal | $68,509 |

Current Loan Debt: **$9,310,436**