Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.

Luke 3:16
Welcome

We are delighted to welcome each and every one who has come to worship with us today. Whether you’re a longtime parishioner, a newcomer, or just visiting, know that our desire is to extend God’s loving presence to all.

If you would like to register, you can download the registration form from our website, www.stmartha.com, or find a copy in the narthex on the Welcome Kiosk.

Dear Parish Family,

This weekend we celebrate “Gaudete” Sunday which is a Latin word meaning “Rejoice.” To commemorate this day, we light the rose color candle on the Advent wreath and we hear the words of St. Paul in the readings telling us to rejoice always. This is a day of joy because our Savor is on his way! This hopefully reminds us that Christ is the reason for our upcoming celebrations because we are full of joy because our Savior is getting ready to be born! We pray that our hearts are filled with joy at our Lord’s coming, and we ask God to help us always be aware of his love in our lives. There is no other place in the universe where we can find the joy that Jesus can bring us. May our hearts be filled with this joy as we approach the celebration of Christmas!!!

God bless,
Fr. TJ

Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon./Dec. 17
8:30 AM ♠ Lilia Ahat
♠ Penny Stark
♠ Ann Lidgus

Tues./Dec. 18
8:30 AM Raul Contreras
♠ Jerome Rucka
♠ Andrew & Mary Rampulla
7 PM ♠

Wed./Dec. 19
8:30 AM George William
♠ Cathy Sedlak
♠ Sgt. Bill Meeuwsen
10 AM Noelle Olivia Benefino
Ann Miller
♠ Al Angelino

Thurs./Dec. 20
6:30 AM David Puglia
Andres Martinez
♠ Edith Curet

Fri./Dec. 21
8:30 AM Rick Francis
Jo & Gary Evans
♠ Patrick Lobo

Sat./Dec. 22
5:30 PM ♠ Joe Azzollini
♠ Jose Eliazo
♠ Barbara H. Harran

Sun./Dec. 23
7 AM ♠ Theodore Bella
9 AM ♠ Michael Lucey
♠ Cathy Sedlak
♠ Robert LaRoy Beamon
11 AM ♠ Leona Berken
♠ Ann Lidgus
♠ Robert Perkins
1 PM For the Parish
5:30 PM ♠ Leola Faust
♠ Marian Obert

PLEASE NOTE: The 8:30 AM School Mass takes place in the Activity Center (FF Campus).

NEXT SCHOOL MASS: WED., DEC. 19.
Stewardship of Treasure

**REMINDER:** Contributions to St. Martha for 2018 must be received by Dec. 31 or postmarked by Dec. 31 to be included in your 2018 contributions.

**For the weekend of Dec. 8 & 9**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Budget</th>
<th>$ 93,302</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Collection</td>
<td>$ 51,512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immaculate Conception</td>
<td>$ 7,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Day-Christmas</td>
<td>$ 125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over/(Under)</td>
<td>($33,919)</td>
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**Year To Date:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Budget</th>
<th>$ 2,239,248</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Collection</td>
<td>$ 1,686,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over/(Under)</td>
<td>($552,987)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Special collections:**

- Capital Campaign: $ 6,749
- Martha’s Kitchen: $ 10,218
- Christmas Flowers: $ 1,118

**2018 DSF Goal:** $ 305,000

**Payments to Date:** $ 347,642

**Current Loan Debt:** $ 8,490,187

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**Please remember the recently deceased and their families in your prayers:**

Joan Evans  
Genevieve Marie Irwin (mother of Beth Chapman)  
Jenny Alvarado Curet  
Danielle Fiorini

**Please remember the sick and their families in your prayers:**


**Christmas Giving:**

While making your Christmas list this year, please consider a special gift to St. Martha’s debt reduction. At all Masses this Christmas, there will be a second collection to aid in the reduction of the principal owed on our beautiful new church. All gifts will be greatly appreciated.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

Dec. 24 (Vigil): 4 PM, 6 PM, 8 PM (Spanish), and Midnight  
Dec. 25: 9 AM, 11 AM

Dec. 31 (Vigil): 5:30 PM, 7:30 PM (Spanish)  
Jan. 1: 9 AM, 11 AM

† The Parish Office closes at noon on Friday, Dec. 21, and will reopen on Thursday, Dec. 27, at 9 AM  
† The Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday, Jan. 1, and will reopen on Wednesday, Jan. 2, at 9 AM

**CHRISTMAS GIVING:**

While making your Christmas list this year, please consider a special gift to St. Martha’s debt reduction. At all Masses this Christmas, there will be a second collection to aid in the reduction of the principal owed on our beautiful new church. All gifts will be greatly appreciated.

**Military Wreath:**

Please pray for our active military as seen on the wreath in the Narthex. To add a loved one contact Jodi at 281-358-6637 to let us know.
**Merry Christmas - Young at Heart-ers!**

We would like to wish all of our Young at Heart friends a very Merry Christmas and all God’s Blessings in the New Year.

We loved having you with us this past year and look forward to seeing you again in 2019.

There will NOT be a luncheon on December 19 or 26. Check the bulletin for our first luncheon in January 2019.

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**Family and friends of L.G.B.T. Catholics** – Are invited to gather for prayer, discussion and fellowship. Our focus is on building bridges and staying close to the Church. For information on the monthly gathering, please contact Francine at franp@stmartha.com.

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**Marriage and A New Way to Love**

Marriage is sacred, exciting, and fun, but it can also be boring, challenging, and just okay at times. A NEW WAY TO LOVE is a six week marriage enrichment series on living God’s purpose for your marriage. Learn simple yet powerful tools to communicate more effectively and feel more connected to your spouse. Whether you are engaged to be married, married six months or 60 years, this series provides an opportunity to deepen your relationship and grow in holiness. It will start Tuesday, Jan. 15, at 7 PM in the Family Life Center (Woodland Hills). It is a great gift to give your spouse. Childcare may be requested with your registration. To cover the cost of each participant manual, $30 per couple will be collected at the first session. The dates are: Jan. 15 through Feb. 26, skipping the week of Feb. 12.

Registration is required. For questions or registration, email Francine at franp@stmartha.com.

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The Life after Loss support group will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2019. The group meets in Room 6 of the Family Life Center from 7-9 PM. All who are experiencing the death of a loved one are welcome to join us. Please call Linda, 713-471-3543, or e-mail linda.sarman@suddenlink.net for more information and to sign up.

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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, Jan. 7, at 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 kczubik@mac.com.

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**ST. MARTHA SUNDAY NURSERY**

Sundays- 9 AM, 11 AM and 1 PM

Open every Sunday, with the exception of Thanksgiving weekend,

Christmas, New Year’s Day and Easter.

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**Director of Community Life:** Francine Puglia, (281)358-6637 Ext. 200, franp@stmartha.com

For a complete list of Community Life Ministries please turn to page 14 of this bulletin.
NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES
Join NORTHEAST CATHOLIC SINGLES, A MINISTRY FOR SINGLES AGES 40 and older, to talk/drink/eat at 7 PM on Wednesday, Dec. 19, at Tin Roof BBQ, 18918 Town Center Blvd. in Atascocita. For more information, 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 St. Martha’s website.

CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS:
Please join SR. MARILLAC AND SR. JANE in prayer this week as they host the Chalice and pray for Vocations. Interested? Please contact Karen Ehlig at 281-813-3285 or by e-mail at karenehlig@gmail.com to schedule a week.

Divorced. Catholic. Now What?
Navigating Your Life After Divorce.
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 a practicing Catholic.

Jan. 7 – Mar. 7, 7-8:30 PM
St. Martha Parish Office Conference Room
(Next to the Church)
For information and registration, please contact:
Vicki Rück: 713-927-8815 or vickiruck@suddenlink.net
* Cost: $15 for the book but don’t let cost be a deterrent please!

Vocations Corner

IN TALKING WITH YOUR CHILDREN, have you neglected to raise the call to Church ministry? The process of answering God’s call begins in childhood. Throughout adolescence and into adulthood, the attitudes assumed in childhood begin to influence the course of one’s life. A vocation or a talent will not grow to fruition unless it is nurtured in childhood and adolescence by a parent.

CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS:
Please join SR. MARILLAC AND SR. JANE in prayer this week as they host the Chalice and pray for Vocations. Interested? Please contact Karen Ehlig at 281-813-3285 or by e-mail at karenehlig@gmail.com to schedule a week.

Knights of Columbus
Council 12320
Kingwood, TX

The protection of life is a sustained prayer intention of the Church, and in particular of the Knights of Columbus. The St. Martha parish and Knights of Columbus remain firmly committed to defending the right to life of every human being – from the moment of conception to natural death. To commemorate and bolster this important cause, St. Martha - Knights of Columbus council is promoting nine days of sustained prayer, to build up a culture of life in our parishes, homes and wider community. Please join us in prayer, the novena prayer cards will be available Saturday, Jan. 12 (Vigil Mass) and Sunday, Jan. 13 (Mass services) in the narthex.

Community Life Ministries
Director of Faith Formation: Carla Lewton, (281)358-1959 Ext. 213, carlal@stmartha.com
For a complete list of Faith Formation ministries please turn to page 14 of this bulletin.

SHINE Catholic Work Camp for High School Students – Save the Date!
June 10-15, 2019, McAllen, TX
Cost: $375

SHINE stands for Serving Him In the Needy and Elderly. The vision of the SHINE staff is to empower teens to live out their baptismal call to serve those in need.

SHINE 2019 is accepting students entering 9th grade in 2019 through entering 12th grade in 2019.
Registration will be a lottery system this year. Families can submit paperwork and deposit to Faith Formation office during the following dates: Monday, Jan. 28, 2019 – Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019.
Registration Paperwork will be available on www.stmartha.com and in the Faith Formation Office starting Jan. 8. Additional information is available at www.stmartha.com/shine
If you have any questions, contact Mike Lahey at mikel@stmartha.com or Larry Berkovsky at zekeberk@outlook.com. Visit shinecatholicmissions.com for more information about Shine Catholic Missions.

BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY
Please join us for Breakfast & Bible Study on Tuesday Mornings, from 9:30 –10:45 AM in Room 2 on the Faith Formation campus. We will be reading, studying and sharing on the Sunday Scriptures (led by Carla Lewton). You do not have to register for this free study. All are welcome!

Please email youngadults@stmartha.com for more information
Website: stmartha.com/y asm
Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/YASM/
Mailing list: new.flocknote.com/stmartha/YASMYoungAdults
Matt Cooke: (281) 299-675

Attention Young Adults: Café Catholica-North 2019
Café Catholica is expanding with a new series hosted in four parishes on the North side of Houston. Café Catholica North, “Be Bold, Be Authentic, Belong” is a dinner-lecture series open to young adults (ages 18-39) featuring dynamic speakers, prayer, dinner, and socializing. Each night will include confession at 5:15 pm, Mass at 6:00 pm, Dinner at 6:45 pm, and Talk at 7:30 pm. Come for all or part of the evening! No charge to attend but donations are accepted. For more information contact the Office of Young Adult and Campus Ministry at 713-741-8778, yasm@archgh.org, or www.archgh.org/cafe catholica.

Please join our email list or Facebook page. We often have last minute events that are not published here!
PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

“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.

OPEN HOURS:
- Tuesday 4-5 PM
- Saturday 7-8 PM & 9-10 PM

SECOND ADORERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING HOURS:
- Monday: 1-2 AM, 3-4 AM, 5-6 AM, 11-NOON, 7-8 PM
- Tuesday: 2-3 AM, 3-4 AM, 7-8 AM, MIDNIGHT-1 AM
- Wednesday: 2-3 AM, 4-5 AM, 4-5 PM, 7-8 PM, 8-9 PM, 11 PM - MIDNIGHT
- Thursday: 12-1 AM, 1-2 AM, 2-3 AM, 3-4 AM, 8-9 AM, 1-2 PM, 4-5 PM, 7-8 PM, 9-10 PM, 10-11 PM
- Friday: 2-3 AM, 6-7 AM, 4-5 PM, 12 - 1 PM, 6-7 PM, 8-9 PM, 10-11 PM
- Saturday AM: 1-2 AM, 5-6 AM, 9-10 AM, 10-11 AM, 11 AM – NOON
- Saturday PM: 2-3 PM, 3-4 PM, 4-5 PM, 7-8 PM, 9-10 PM, 10-11 PM
- Sunday: 1-2 AM, 2-3 AM, 3-4 AM, 8-9 AM, 10-11 AM, 11 AM - NOON, 2-3 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 your division leaders:
- Robyn Laumbach for Midnight - 6 AM (713-851-8768)
- Karen Ehlig for 6 AM - Noon (281-813-3285)
- Annunciata Hopkins for Noon - 6 PM (281-360-1258)
- Beth Beckham for 6 PM - Midnight (281-435-1439)

Charismatic Prayer Meeting

Please come join us in prayer, praise, thanksgiving, song and supplication. Come and gain a closer knowledge of and union with the Holy Spirit, Jesus’ gift to us at the first Pentecost. (Acts 2:1-21) It is our great desire to give God glory and to develop a personal relationship with Jesus. We invite you to be one with us and to partake of His gifts.

Time: Fridays 7-8 PM and Saturdays 9-10 AM.
Place: Faith Formation Campus, 3702 Woodland Hills Drive at the Small Chapel.

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.

HORAS DISPONIBLES PARA ADORADORES
- MARTES 4-5 PM, 7-8 PM
- SABADO 7-8 PM, 9-10 PM

HORAS DISPONIBLES PARA CO-ADORADORES Y SUBSTITUTOS
- Lunes: 1-2 AM, 3-4 AM, 5-6 AM, 11 AM - MEDIODIA, 7-8 PM
- Martes: 2-3 AM, 4-5 AM, 4-5 PM, 7-8 PM, 8-9 PM, 11 PM - MEDIODIA
- Miércoles: 2-3 AM, 4-5 AM, 4-5 PM, 7-8 PM, 8-9 PM, 11 PM - MEDIODIA
- Jueves: 1-2 AM, 1-2 AM, 2-3 AM, 3-4 AM, 8-9 AM, 9-10 PM, 10-11 PM
- Viernes: 2-3 AM, 4-5 AM, 4-5 PM, 12 - 1 PM, 6-7 PM, 8-9 PM, 10-11 PM
- Sábado AM: 1-2 AM, 5-6 AM, 9-10 AM, 10-11 AM, 11 AM – NOON
- Sábado PM: 2-3 PM, 3-4 PM, 4-5 PM, 7-8 PM, 9-10 PM, 10-11 PM
- Domingo: 1-2 AM, 2-3 AM, 3-4 AM, 8-9 AM, 10-11 AM, 11 AM - MEDIODIA, 2-3 PM, 11 PM - MEDIODIA

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
Merry Christmas

Martha’s Kitchen sends warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas and blessed New Year. We will be closed on Friday, Dec. 21, and reopen on Monday, Jan. 7.

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

Meetings every Friday from 9:15 AM to noon in Room 2 on St. Martha’s Faith Formation campus-3702 Woodland Hills Drive
St. Martha’s Between Jobs and Beyond ministry helps those who are looking for a new and more satisfying job.

- We can help with resume writing, interview preparation and networking.
- We also can help you get your head in the right place, spiritually and emotionally, which is critical for effective job seeking.
- We encourage a spirit of service to others. When we help others, we feel better.

Questions? E-mail stmarthabetweenjobs@gmail.com or call Bob Simpson at 713-410-2844.

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.

The CRIMINAL JUSTICE MINISTRY is looking for JAIL VOLUNTEERS to share their Catholic faith at Lychner State Jail and Houston Processing Center (ICE); both units are located in the Humble area.
Volunteers will need to have Virtus training, be practicing Catholics, and take a training at the correspondent unit. We have services on Wednesdays and Fridays from 6:30-8:30 PM. Bilingual (English-Spanish) applicants are a plus.
Please contact jaimesalvadorgomez@gmail.com or call 281-973-1857.

To learn more about the CanCare ministry contact Debbie Mikan, at 832-723-3459, or dmikan@outlook.com
SHARING SUNDAY IS THIS WEEKEND: 
DECEMBER 15-16

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. We appreciate any gift card donations or donation by check. Please make your check payable to St. Martha Catholic Church and indicate in the memo line that it is for Sharing Sunday. WE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING CASH DONATIONS THIS YEAR. 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, gellymar@suddenlink.net.

St. Martha’s 2nd Family Ministry consists of a group of volunteers who provide personal presence and assistance to make life better for the weak and vulnerable and for those who serve them. Through simple acts of kindness, team members enable care “partners” to retain their independence and self-esteem while offering primary caregivers respite from the demands of caring for a loved one. If you or someone you know could benefit from 2nd Family Ministry, please contact Sharon Voorhes at StMartha2ndfamily@gmail.com.

This ministry is also looking for additional volunteers. Please join us at our next meeting, Jan. 8, 7 PM at the Woodland Hills Campus, Room 5.

Maria Goretti Network (MGN) - Support Group for Survivors of Abuse
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.

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS FOOD DRIVE
On the weekend of Dec. 29 & 30, 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.)

Social Services and Outreach Ministries
St. Martha Catholic School

JOB OPENING
St. Martha’s Catholic School is hiring for a full-time middle school Literature teacher position, beginning January 2019. Interested candidates should email the principal, Jessica Munscher at munscherj@stmarthacs.org.

St. Martha Catholic School provides an excellent Catholic education by developing mind, heart, and spirit as we share in community to form witnesses who transform the world.

Stay Connected

St. Martha Communication
If you have not subscribed to our Flocknote Network, downloaded our Parish App, or “Liked” us on Facebook, we ask that you do it today!! These communication tools have been a huge help in keeping parishioners informed throughout the year. And don’t forget to visit our parish website: www.stmartha.com

For Flocknote click on the little sheep icon in the top right-hand corner of our parish website, and a registration form will come up in a new window. Enter your first and last name, your email and a password of your own choosing (you'll use this password in the future to access Flocknote). The full registration form comes up next. The minimum information required is your first and last name, phone number, your email and postal addresses.

For Facebook click on the Facebook icon in the top right-hand corner of our parish website. St. Martha Facebook will come up and you can click “like” (please make sure you are logged into your personal Facebook account when clicking “like.”

For Parish App download our app today at myparishapp.com or search your phone’s app store for myparish or text APP TO 88202. Remember to choose St. Martha Catholic Church for your parish.

Questions? Contact Jodi at 281-358-6637, ext. 201.

St. Martha's Men's Retreat at Holy Name Passionist Retreat Center
Jan. 4-6, 2019
Start the New Year with a relaxing and prayerful Retreat Weekend
Retreat Theme
At the Name of Jesus: A Holy Name Retreat
Those close to the Passionists know that the Founder, St. Paul of the Cross, enjoined his vowed religious to recite the following passage every time they gather for Communal prayer:
“At the Name of Jesus every knee must bend in the heavens, on earth and under the earth and every tongue proclaim, to the glory of God the Father, that Jesus Christ is Lord”
For more information contact Bruce Farmer at 832-656-1393 or to register, please visit the website: www.holynameretreatcenter.com

St. John Paul II Foundation

SAVE THE DATE
February 23, 2019
Join us for an exciting opportunity to strengthen your marriage and family!
The St. John Paul II Foundation will host a marriage enrichment workshop at the St. Martha FLC (Woodland Hills Campus) from 8:15am - 11:30am
All couples of St. Martha’s are invited to come together for fellowship and to hear from inspiring speakers that will help you to THRIVE in your marriage, not just survive!
Contact Marty Matulia at martin@forlifeandfamily.org
Gathering in the Upper Room: An Interlude with God
Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 5-6, Gathering in the Upper Room: An Interlude with God is a retreat for single women ages 18 and older who are interested in religious life. What a nice way to spend a weekend – input on discernment, private prayer and reflection, sharing with other women and Sisters, plus Mass and lunch together. Deadline to register is Dec. 28. Free Event. Retreat begins Saturday evening and ends on Sunday afternoon. For more information, call the Vocations Office at 713-652-8239.

Alzheimer's Choir
The Alzheimer's Choir, Together in Song, is now recruiting men and women to join their choir. Currently they are working on their Christmas Program. Along with the traditional Christmas songs, they will be singing Handel’s Messiah and The Holly and the Ivy. They meet at Chapelwood United Methodist Church located at 11140 Greenbay St., Houston, Texas 77024. Their rehearsals are every Tuesday morning, 10 AM-12 PM. Please park in the back parking lot, and once inside the church go to the second floor. For more information you can contact Jennifer at 920-265-8683.

InSight Retreat for Young Women in High School
Jan. 19, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
InSight is an opportunity for high school girls to visit a convent, interact with Sisters from several congregations who serve in our Archdiocese, pray together, build friendships, learn about religious life, share lunch, and ask questions. The day will be held at the Home of Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi (22730 Lain Road, Spring, TX 77379) and will end with a 4 p.m. Vigil Mass (families are welcome to attend Mass). No cost to attend, donations are accepted.
For more information, call the Vocations Office at 713-652-8239 or visit www.houstonvocations.com/insight

Charis Ignatian Spirituality Retreat for Young Adults
Charis is an Ignatian Spirituality Retreat for Young Adults in their 20s and 30s. This year's theme is "What Next? Finding Answers with Faith." Charis retreat provides an opportunity to connect with others experiencing big shifts in life, encounter God who is present in the midst of uncertainty, and grow in your understanding of how faith anchors us in times of transition. Held at Cameron Retreat Center (2403 Holcombe Blvd, Houston, TX 77021); begins at 9 a.m. on Feb. 9 and ends at 3 p.m. on Feb. 10, 2019. Cost is $60 per person and includes lodging and food. Registration is available online at www.archgh.org/yacm. Spaces are limited; registration deadline is Feb. 1. For more info, contact the Office for Young Adult and Campus Ministry at yaam@archgh.org or 713-741-8778.

Rachel's Vineyard
A weekend retreat for women and men suffering after abortion.
JANUARY 4-6, 2019
Rachel's Vineyard is a Catholic, Scripture-based retreat that combines prayer, reflection, counseling and sacramental Reconciliation.
All inquiries and registrations are strictly confidential
For more information and to register, call or email:

Julie Fritsch
Office of Pro-Life Activities
jfritsch@archgh.org
(713)741-8728

Cindy Renaudo
RV Houston, Inc.
cindy@rvhouston.org
(713)825-0649

In Collaboration with:
RV Houston, Inc.
LETRAS DE HOY

Primera lectura -- ¡Canta! ¡Da gritos de júbilo! ¡Gózate y regocijate! El Señor tu Dios está entre ustedes y es un poderoso salvador (Sofonías 3:14-18a).
Salmo -- El Señor es mi Dios y salvador (Isaías 12).
Segunda lectura -- ¡Alégrese! El Señor está cerca. Presenten sus peticiones a Dios (Filipenses 4:4-7).
Evangelio -- Juan dice a sus oyentes que compartan sus posesiones con los necesitados (Lucas 3:10-18).

¡REGOCÍJATE!

El día de hoy se le ha llamado tradicionalmente Domingo Gaudete o de la Alegría. El nombre latino se deriva de la petición de Pedro en la segunda lectura de alégrese siempre en el Señor, y del texto de la Misa en latín en el que está basada esta lectura. La ironía y paradoja de esta alegría cristiana se manifiesta en el hecho que Pablo escribió esas palabras en la prisión. Pero desde allí podía ver el progreso de la obra de Dios.
¿Nos parece obvio a nosotros? Sentimos que este no es un tiempo para la alegría cuando hay tanto sufrimiento e inmoralidad. Es interesante, entonces, que la primera lectura sea del profeta Sofonías, que está casi exclusivamente preocupado con sombrías visiones del Día del Juicio. Hoy la Iglesia selecciona la única parte optimista de Sofonías, donde el profeta es tocado por el espíritu del gozo.
Esta es, se nos asegura en todas partes, la temporada de la alegría. Recuperemos ese espíritu de alegría en nuestra vida y que se refleje en los que no tienen ese gozo.

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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, cárcel, 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 504-228-6694 Mildred Garcia
SHARING SUNDAY – DICIEMBRE 15 Y 16
COMPARTIENDO SUS BENDICIONES
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 programa anual de regalos (Sharing Sunday)

Compartiendo Nuestras Bendiciones, de esta manera ayudamos a las parroquias a distribuir comida y regalos a familias necesitadas.

Estaremos recibiendo estas donaciones durante las misas del fin de semana del Sábado y Domingo, Diciembre 15 y 16. Todas las donaciones son necesarias para los niños, adultos y ancianos. Por favor envuelva y etiquete sus donaciones con la edad y el sexo para quien va dirigido (por ejemplo, niño 10 y 12 años).

También puede donar alimentos no perecederos, (latas de comida, cajas), que no necesitan estar envueltos. Agradecemos cualquier donación de tarjetas de regalos o donaciones a través de cheques, si usted desea donar dinero, necesita hacer un cheque y especificar en el mismo que será para Sharing Sunday.

NO ESTAREMOS ACEPTANDO DONATIVOS EN EFECTIVO. Por favor considere hacer esta donación y hagan un plan familiar para ayudar a otras familias menos afortunadas. ¡Dios bendiga su gran corazón, seamos instrumentos de amor para que todos aquellos que recibirán un regalo esta navidad vean el rostro de Cristo en sus donaciones, haciendo comunidad para su gloria!

Si necesita más información o tiene preguntas, favor de enviar un correo electrónico a Gelly Estess gellymar@suddenlink.net.

MARIA GORETTI
NETWORK ESPANOL PARA TODA VICTIMA DE ABUSO
MGN es Un grupo de apoyo formado por personas que han vivido cualquier tipo de abuso en algún momento de su vida y que están buscando sanación y perdón. Para mayor información llamar al teléfono 281-389-1210 o enviar un e-mail a mariagorettiespanol@gmail.com. Allí le darán más información sobre el lugar y hora de las reuniones y contestaremos sus preguntas.
ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES

BUSINESS MANAGER—Molly Kleinguetl, 281-358-6637 x208
FACILITY MANAGER—Steve Teets, 281-358-6637 x254
FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE—Charlie Garland, 713-203-2101
ST. MARTHA’S OFFICE ANGELS—Lourdes Fernandez, 281-358-6637 x262

COMMUNITY LIFE MINISTRIES

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY LIFE—Francis J. Hix, 713-711-9954
ACTS RETREAT—Willie Chesnut, ACTSCore@StMartha-ACTS.org
ANNUNLMENTS—Francine Puglia, 281-713-8954
CARING COOKS—Karen Raxor, 281-354-8857, or Marian Brown, 281-630-4820
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OF THE AMERICAS—Diana VanHorn, dianavanhorn@hotmail.com
CENTERING PRAYER—Dr. Susan Davy, susandavy@gmail.com
COLUMBIAN SQUIRES—Mark Roseland, 713-419-2532
DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP—Vicki Ruck, vickiruck@suddenlink.net
FAMILIA—Abby Youngblood, 281-799-0849
GRIEF SUPPORT—Laura Cardella, 281-360-2714
HOMEBOUND ERRAND COMMITTEE—Greta Verhalen, 832-264-7755
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—John Stanton, 281-630-6728
MARRIAGE PREP. INFORMATION—To Register call 281-358-6637
MARTHA’S QUILTERS—Helaine Parks, 713-824-7730 or Sally Wasserman, salmwwass@aol.com
MEALS FOR MOMS—meals4momministry@gmail.com
MOM’S COLLEGIAN PRAYER GROUP—Gloria Gamez, mormgrl@yahoo.com
MONICA’S HOPE—Paul & Marcia Aegerter, 281-812-1288
MOTHER’S DAY OUT—Patty Jackson, 281-358-1959x250
NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING—Marion and Chris Dickson, 713-516-7097
NEWCOMERS/WELCOMING/HOSPITALITY—Kristene Hergenrother, 281-713-8961
NORTH EAST CATHOLIC SINGLES—Peggy Broyles, 281-358-4560
RECEPTION VOLUNTEERS—Barb Seltser, 281-358-4129
ROSARY GUILD—Gilda Wowack, 281-989-4241
SCOUTING: Cub Scouts—Dan Pradel, dan2@turbineengine.com
Boy Scouts—Mike Bennett, mikebennett1876@gmail.com
SPIRITUAL DIRECTION—Www.stmartha.com, Click on Ministries, Community Life, Spiritual Direction
SUNDAY NURSERY—Patty Jackson, 281-358-1959x250
TEAMS OF OUR LADY—Jeff & Denise Standley, jds_standley@hotmail.com
Bill & Tammy Deblay Stiltsman, tammyspikerman@gmail.com
VOCATIONS COMMITTEE—Phil & Diane Applegate, 281-361-2913
YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON—Carol Bateman, 281-359-1976 or Nancy Karpinski, 713-594-4430
YOUNG AT HEART LUNCH TRANSPORT—Domenica Seitz, 713-899-1016

FAITH FORMATION

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION—Carla Lewton, 281-358-1959 x213
CORNERSTONE BIBLE STUDY—Pam Rockwell, 281-358-1959 x230
RCIA—RCIA@stmartha.com
YASM (Young Adults of St. Martha)—youngadults@stmartha.com
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL & VBS—Patty Jost, 281-358-1959
CATHECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD—Diane Applegate, 281-361-2913
CONFIRMATION—Salisha Miller 281-358-1959 x 251
MIDDLE SCHOOL COORDINATOR (EDGE)—Lisa Hartsfield, 281-358-1959 x241
HIGH SCHOOL COORDINATOR (LIFE TEEN)—Mike Lahey, 281-358-1959 x252

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

DIRECTOR OF LITURGY—Mariel Parra, marielp@stmartha.com
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC—Dr. Daniel Knaggs, danielk@stmartha.com
ALTAR SERVERS—Jennifer Farace, jfarace4@gmail.com
BAPTISM—281-713-8960
CANTORS—281-358-6637
CHILDREN’S ADORATION—Kristen Johnson, 281-713-2518
CHILDREN’S CHORÉ—281-358-6637
CHILDREN’S LITURGY—Jacyln Dement, stmarthacomm@gmail.com
COMMUNION TO THE SICK—Hospital Visit: Gene Goll, 281-726-0956
Nursing Home & Homebound: Kathy Gearhart, 402-290-3711
Hispanic Communion to the Sick: Amelia Murphy, 713-865-6946
DIVINE MERCY MINISTRY—Gloria Molinyawe, gmolinyawe@gmail.com
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST—Pam Rockwell, 281-358-1959, X230
LECTORS—Richard Lowell, 281-989-1097
MARTHA’S ALTAR GUILD & DESIGNERS—Mariel Parra, marielp@stmartha.com
PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION—Carmen Ogando, 832-767-8826
POWERSOURCE MINISTRY TEAM—Rowan Lundahl, rowanj2@gmail.com
QUINCEAÑERAS—Yazmin Lago, 281-713-2032
SACRISTANS—Art Voltmann, 281-361-6117
SOUND BOARD MINISTRY—David Boyd, david.t.boyd@gmail.com
UNBOUND MINISTRY—Rosmary Cotte, rosmarcy@stmartha.com
USHERS—Barry Robichaux, Barry.Robichaux@us.ibm.com

SOCIAL SERVICES

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES—Olga Najar, 281-713-8966
AMSS—Flor Jasso, 832-335-8475
CANCARE—Debbie Mikan, 832-723-3459, dmikan@outlook.com
CRIMINAL JUSTICE MINISTRY—Jaime S. Gomez, 281-973-1857
E-MAIL PRAYER WARRIORS—Donna Rubey, dmrueby@emailink.net
H.A.A.M.—Marty Curtis, themartycurtis@gmail.com
HOSPITAL MINISTRY—Sheila Yepsen, 281-782-4078
INTERNATIONAL MISSION TRIPS—Terry Stierman, terry.stierman@conviventia.org

SOCIAL SERVICES CONT.

MARIA GORETTI NETWORK—Shannon Deitz, 713-775-9213
MARTHA’S KITCHEN—Sr. Maria Elena, 713-224-2522
MOTHER TERESA MINISTRY—Paola Lam 832-284-1891
PRO-LIFE (GABRIEL PROJECT)—713-225-9626
PROJECT RACHEL—713-741-8728
ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS FOOD DRIVE—Marty Curtis, themartycurtis@gmail.com
ST. JOSEPH HELPERS—Bill Beck, 281-360-7028
ST. MARTHA BETWEEN JOBS AND BEYOND—Bob Simpson, 713-410-2844
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—281-358-6636
SECOND FAMILY MINISTRY—Sharon Voehrer, 281-900-4768
SOCIAL JUSTICE—Gary Yepsen, 832-803-4377

ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL PK3-8th—Jessica Munschker, 281-358-5523
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT—Mary Hays, 281-358-5523 x326
REGISTRAR—Jodie Richter, 281-358-5523 x314

MINISTERIOS EN ESPAÑOL

COORDINADORA DE CATECISMO PARA JOVENES Y SACRAMENTOS—Ana Maria Gibson, 281-358-1959 x269
CÓCORO DE ALMA—Luis Valle, 832-620-1888
GRUPO DE ORACIÓN—Carmen Ogando, 832-767-8826
HOSPITALIDAD—Gustavo Zapata, 832-247-9955
LECTORES—Cristina Gabas, 281-796-9084
LEGIÓN DE MARÍA—Verónica Reyes, 281-722-9843
MAREA GORETTI NETWORK EN ESPAÑOL—Patricia Lopez, 281-389-1210
MINISTROS EXTRAORDINARIOS DE LA EUCARISTÍA—Raul Legoretta, 713-545-6705
MONAGULLOS—Pastor Pastora, 832-514-5741 or 832-633-0145
RICA—Jaime Gomez, 281-973-1857
VOCACIONES Y CÁLIZ DE VOCACIONES—Tony Lasalle, 646-489-1554

BULLETIN DEADLINES

NORMAL DEADLINE: Friday, 9 AM, one week prior to publication.
(Based on space availability and ministry leader approval)

SPECIAL DEADLINES FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER:
♦ The deadline to submit information for the Dec. 30 Bulletin is 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 18.
♦ The deadline to submit information for the Jan. 6 Bulletin is 9 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 20.

Submit announcements by:
E-mail: jodis@stmartha.com;
Drop off at the parish office; or Fax to 281-358-7973.
Welcome to Sts. Martha, Mary & Lazarus, Friends of Jesus Catholic Church
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Church and Parish Office
4301 Woodridge Parkway, Porter, TX 77365
281-358-6637 • fax 281-358-7973 • www.stmartha.com
Office hours
Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 4 PM

Faith Formation Campus
3702 Woodland Hills Drive, Kingwood, TX 77339
281-358-1959 • fax 281-312-0172
www.stmartha.com/faith-formation
Office hours
Monday-Friday: 9 AM - 4 PM

St. Martha Catholic School
2411 Oak Shores Drive, Kingwood, TX 77339
281-358-5523 • fax 281-358-5526
www.stmarthacs.org
Office hours
Monday - Thursday: 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Friday: 7:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Pastor: Rev. T.J. Dolce
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Jonathan Moré
Deacons: Mr. Jon Barfield, Mr. Tony Cardella, Mr. Bob MacFarlane, Mr. Al O’Brien, Mr. Guy T. Puglia, Mr. John Schuster, and Mr. Gary Yepsen

Liturgy & Sacraments

Weekend Masses
First Saturday (Pro-Life Mass): 8:30 AM
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM
Sunday: 7 AM, 9 AM, & 11 AM
En Español: 1 PM
Contemporary: 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 6:15 - 7 PM
Saturday:
Church 10 AM - 12 PM
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 Indiana Francis at the Parish Office to register, 281-713-8960

Marriage
Preparation at least six months before the wedding. Register to attend an information meeting by calling 281-358-6637.

Funerals
Call Indiana Francis at the Parish Office for more information, 281-713-8960.