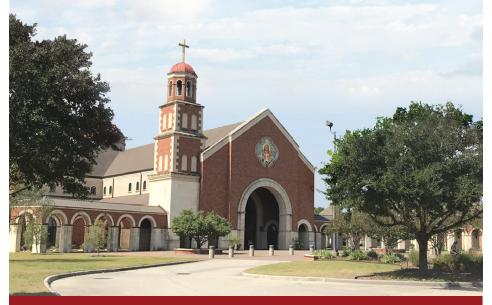


ST. MARTHA

CATHOLIC CHURCH



2023-24 STEWARDSHIP GUIDE BOOK

4301 Woodridge Pkwy. | Porter, TX 77365

St. Martha Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

4301 Woodridge Parkway, Porter, TX 77365 www.stmartha.com

Baptized into Christ Jesus, we worship as one and reach out to all.



Letter from the Pastor

Dear parishioners of Sts. Martha, Mary, Lazarus, Friends of Jesus parish,

We are so incredibly blessed at our vibrant parish because we have so many ministries and different ways we can get involved in our faith. There is so much we have in our parish to share the message of Jesus with our parish and surrounding area. For those of you who are involved in the ministries on the following pages, thank you so much for being the hands and feet of Jesus to serve others. If you are not yet involved in a ministry at St. Martha's, I'd encourage you to prayerfully read this handbook seeking ways you can share your gifts with the parish or the community. We all have been given gifts by God to share and we have lots of ways to share those gifts at our parish. Thanks again for being a parishioner of our wonderful parish and thanks for shining your light for the world to see the love of God!

God bless, Fr. T.J.

Carta del Pastor

Estimados feligreses de la parroquia de los Santos Marta, María y Lázaro, Amigos de Jesús,

Somos tan increíblemente bendecidos en nuestra vibrante parroquia porque tenemos gran variedad de ministerios y diferentes formas en las que podemos involucrarnos en nuestra fe. Tenemos mucho que compartir con nuestra parroquia y nuestros alrededores del mensaje de Jesús. Para aquellos de ustedes que están involucrados en los ministerios mencionados en las siguientes páginas, muchas gracias por ser las manos y los pies de Jesús para servir a los demás. Si aún no están involucrados en un ministerio en Santa Marta, los animo a que lean en oración esta publicación y busquen formas en las que puedan compartir sus dones con la parroquia o la comunidad. Dios nos ha dado a todos dones para compartir y tenemos muchas maneras de hacer esto en nuestra parroquia. iGracias nuevamente por ser feligreses de nuestra maravillosa parroquia y gracias por hacer brillar su luz para que el mundo vea el amor de Dios!

Dios los bendiga, Padre TJ

St. Martha's Catholic Church 2023-24 Family Stewardship Covenant Covenant between God and

(Write your name(s) here)

Whereas I acknowledge that God is the origin of life, the giver of freedom and the source of all that I have and I am and ever will be.

Whereas I acknowledge that God has uniquely given me: myself, my body, my intellect, my talents, my material goods, and the time to use these gifts to extend His kingdom.

In response to and acceptance of God's many and varied gifts I recognize and am grateful to God. Prayerfully remembering that God calls me to keep my life in balance, I respond by committing to nurture and share these gifts in the following manner:

Го	God	l:
----	-----	----

- O Create a time for individual prayer.
- O Regularly read the Bible.
- O Create an environment and commit to meditating daily for ____ (fill in a number) minutes.
- O Other:

To Family:

- O Spend undistracted time with one member of the family regularly.
- O Reserve time for weekly family conversation.
- O Create time for prayer as a family.
- O Give time to those taking care of a family member.
- Help those who help others (for example, those carring for persons with long term illnesses or disabilities)
- O Use time in the making of an extended family.
- O Enliven time by creating good, nourishing memories for the younger family members (create family traditions.)
- O Have at least ___ (fill in number) family meals each week.
- O Other:

To Community:

- O Visit the sick and the elderly in person and by phone.
- O Work to improve the safety of the community.
- O Respond to cries for human need and misery.
- Work to protect the environment of the community.
- O Work to improve the quality of life for disabled persons.
- O Respond to the plight of the homeless.
- O Work to remove discrimination, prejudice, racism, and sexism (starting with yourself).
- O Respond to the presence of the hungry in the community.
- O Visit and assist the grief-stricken.
- O Visit a homebound individual once a month.
- O Visit and stay with an individual needing constant care in order to give the primary caregiver a respite.

Continued on back



St. Martha Catholic Church Stewardship Guide Book

0	Commit to support the charities of your choice by donating% of your income.
	Other:
o St. Mar	rtha's:
0	Pray for the parishioners in the bulletin "Pray For" list.
0	Pray for the pastor.
	Pray for the staff.
371 12-1	Pray for the ministries.
and the second	Pray for the finances.
	Commit to at least one activity at the parish,
	Join at least one new ministry over the next year.
	Commit to financially support your parish by donating% of your income.
	Commit to financially support the Capital Campaign by donating% of your income.
\circ	Other:
o Cotholi	c Church:
	Resolve to become one in mind and heart with Pope Francis.
	Fast for the success of Pope Francis' work.
	Sacrifice for the growth of the Church in the Third World.
	Pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life.
	Reserve time for Eucharistic Adoration.
	Resolve to become one in mind and heart with Cardinal DiNardo.
	Fast for the success of Cardinal DiNardo's work.
	Sacrifice for the growth of the Church in our archdiocese.
	Pray for peace throughout the world.
	Pray for the men and women who are working to protect us here, at home and abroad.
	Devote time to causes and activities that increase respect for life.
	Commit to financially support DSF and other Archdiocesan special collections by donating
	% of your income.
0	Other:
	ALL MOST AND
	p this list close at hand to help you remember the commitment made between you and God.
dditional	copies of this covenant are available in the Parish Office and on the Welcome Kiosk in the Narther
	Touched by the love of Jesus we embrace and encourage community
	through the sharing of gifts and talents.
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St. Martha is a Stewardship Parish

What is a Stewardship Parish? Very simply, a parish full of good stewards - people who actively use their time, talent and treasure to build the Kingdom of God.

Deepest Reasons for Stewardship

Gratitude - A good steward is grateful. When we are filled with a deep sense of gratitude, we are most willing to share our gifts to build the Church. The good steward recognizes that everything is a "gift" and has a desire to pass along these gifts to others.

Priority - A good steward makes God the first priority in everything - family, finances, friendships, and use of time - everything. Stewardship is about making first things first.

Love - Christ loved us and poured out his life for us and calls us to that same kind of love. A good steward shares out of love - love for God, for the Church, and for our parish.

Hallmarks of A Good Steward

Good Stewards of Time...

- Make Mass your top priority on Sunday
- Schedule time for daily prayer
- Pray together with family and loved ones

Good Stewards of Talent...

- Re-commit yourself to your current parish ministries
- Pray about which new ministry to join
- Train your children to serve in the Church

Good Stewards of Treasure...

- Strive to give 4 percent to weekly offertory, 4 percent to the Capital Campaign, and 2 percent to the archdiocese and other charities
- Commit to a specific gift each week or month
- Use offertory envelopes or Faith Direct

All of these elements are equally important. Without financial resources, we would have no church to worship in... Without prayer, our church would be spiritually empty... Without personal involvement in ministry, we could not bring the Good News to others.

A Stewardship Prayer

Jesus, I give my whole life to you.

I thank you for creating me, dying for me, and rising for me.

Please give me a spirit of service and love so I can pour out myself
for others as you did for me.

In gratitude, I offer myself to you, asking for the grace
to keep you first in my heart.

Help me to use everything you have given me to serve you,
my parish, and all those around me.

Amen.

St. Martha Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston 4301 Woodridge Parkway, Porter, TX 77365 www.stmartha.com

Pastor: Rev. T.J. Dolce
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Ralph Roberts
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Zachary Muldrow
Deacons: Mr. Tony Cardella, Mr. William Lasalle,
Mr. Bob MacFarlane, Mr. Ruben Manosalva,
Mr. Miguel Perez, Mr. Guy T. Puglia, Mr. Doug Reed,
Mr. Carlin Walters, and Mr. Gary Yepsen

Parish Office

4301 Woodridge Parkway, Porter, TX 77365 281-358-6637 Fax 281-358-7973 Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Faith Formation Office

3702 Woodland Hills Drive, Kingwood, TX 77339 281-358-1959 Fax 281-312-0172 Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Catholic School

2411 Oak Shores Drive, Kingwood, TX 77339 281-358-5523 Fax 281-358-5526

Parish Mission Statement

We, the community of Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus, Friends of Jesus Catholic Parish, are committed to our baptismal covenant with Jesus Christ. This covenant is manifested in our worship, evangelization, education, stewardship, service and our commitment to live as a community of faith. We center our parish life on Christ, Scripture and the celebration of the Sacraments in joyous worship and prayerful reflection of His love and mercy. We come together as a community of faith, in a spirit of hospitality and loving care, to serve one another in times of need and to share in the joys and struggles of everyday life in Christ. We provide all members of our diverse community the opportunity for spiritual growth through faith formation and the sharing of the richness of our Catholic tradition. We, as stewards of God's gifts, share generously of our time, talent and treasure within our community and extend that care to others in fulfilling the mission of the Church in the world.

Liturgy & Sacraments

Weekend Masses	
First Saturday (Pro-Life Mass)	8:30 a.m.
Saturday Vigil	
Sunday	
En Español	
Contemporary	
	F
Weekday Masses	
Monday	
Tuesday	8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday .8:30 a.m. (8:15 a.m. during the s	school year) & 10:00 a.m.
Thursday	6:30 a.m. & 8:30 a.m.
Friday	
Sacrament of Penance	
Tuesday	Church 6:15.7:00 p.m.
Saturday	Church 10:00 11:45 a m
	Ghurch 4:30-5:20 p.m.
Perpetual Adoration	
Church Adoration Chapel	24 hrs.
(For hours between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.)	
Jane Doherty at 409-656-5345)	
Holy Family Chapel	8:00 a.m8:00 p.m.
Woodland Hills Chapel	
•	o too piiii.
Anointing of the Sick	
Please call for a priest if you are seriously ill a	it home, about to enter

the hospital, or if someone is close to death.



Giving back is my way of saying "Thank you."

Christine Zenker, Agent

3090 Northpark Drive Kingwood, Texas 77339 Bus: 281-360-5900 christine.zenker.a5mv@statefarm.com

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Baptism

Call the Parish Office to register for the class and ceremony, 281-358-6637.

Marriage

Preparation begins at least six months before the wedding. Register to attend an information meeting by filling out the Marriage Intake Form at www.stmartha.com/Matrimony. You may also contact Mrs. Cristal Olveda (Cristalo@stmartha.com) or Dcn. Gary Yepsen (Dcn.Gary@stmartha.com).

Holy Days of Obligation

(Catholics are obliged, as on Sunday, to attend Mass on these days unless they fall on a Monday or Saturday. Exceptions do not include Christmas or Mary's Immaculate Conception)

Holy Mary, Mother of God - January 1 The Assumption of Mary into Heaven - August 15 All Saints Day - November 1 Mary's Immaculate Conception - December 8 Christmas - December 25

NOTE: Mass schedule will be posted in the bulletin and the parish website before each Holy Day.

Guidelines for Lenten Observance

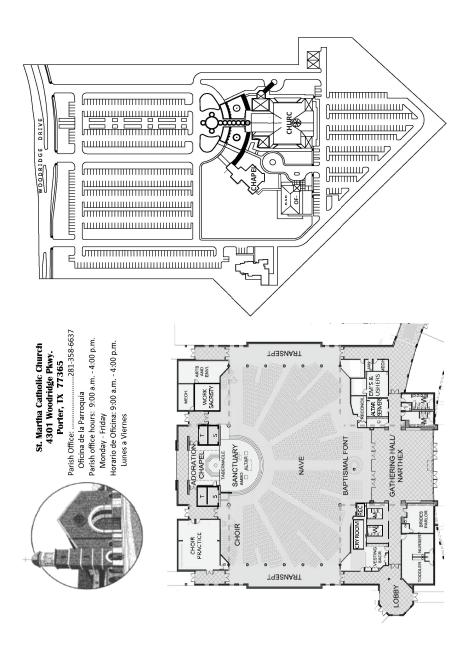
Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence.

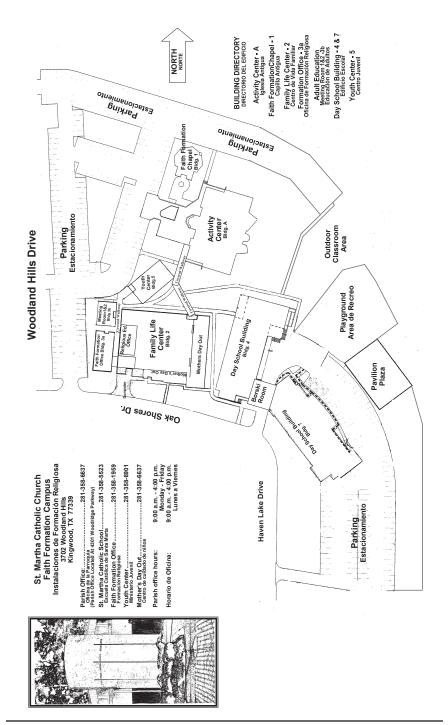
Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

Fasting binds all persons who have completed their 18th birthday through those who have completed their 59th year, unless prevented by poor health. On days of fast, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals sufficient to maintain strength may be taken according to one's own needs. Eating between meals is not allowed although fluids may be taken.

Abstinence binds all persons who have completed their 14th birthday, unless prevented by poor health. On days of abstinence during Lent, the consumption of meat of mammals or fowl is not allowed.

Lent is a penitential season and as such religious practice such as daily Mass, reception of the Sacrament of Penance, the devotion of the Stations of the Cross, works of charity and justice, and acts of self-denial are highly encouraged.







Kathleen Sison

Life Insurance Agent Living Benefits Specialist

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Volunteers

Volunteers must complete the Safe Environment Program and background check to volunteer or work in the parish, school, or any church-related organization. Please read the Safe Environment Policy.



Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Office of Child and Youth Protection

SAFE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

The Archdiocese strives to implement policies, procedures, and training that may help protect the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults who are enrolled in our parish schools, religious education classes, and other programs. Priests, deacons, clergy, employees, and volunteers are called at all times to engage in Christ-Centered and professional behavior. The background screening and Safe Environment training of all priests, deacons, clergy, employees, volunteers, groups, movements, and organizations is a requirement of the Archdiocese and assists in upholding our Safe Environment Policies.

Abuse of children is immoral and reprehensible and will not be tolerated by the Archdiocese. The law requires that anyone who has cause to believe that a child's physical or mental health or welfare has been or may be adversely affected by abuse or neglect must report his or her suspicions to the Texas Department of Human Services or a local state law enforcement agency. When Archdiocesan personnel are involved in child abuse, the Archdiocese's ability to carry out its mission is undermined.

All Archdiocesan personnel must comply with applicable laws regarding incidents of actual or suspected child abuse including abuse involving child on child conduct.

Failure to report suspected physical or mental abuse or neglect of a child in Texas is a crime punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

PERMISSION TO MAKE A REPORT IS NOT REQUIRED OR EXPECTED. ERR ON THE SIDE OF MAKING A GOOD FAITH REPORT RATHER THAN FAILING TO DO SO. Use the following link to access the Office of Child and Youth Protection reporting requirements: www.archgh.org/ocyp

Education is a key element of the Safe Environment program. All clergy, employees, contracted school personnel, volunteers, members of groups, movements, and organizations over the age of 18, who work, volunteer or participate in any capacity are required to complete the Archdiocesan Safe Environment Training and a criminal background check before they may begin employment, volunteer, or participate with ministries, groups, movements, and organizations. In addition, the mandatory renewal training must be completed every 5 years and a new background check submitted before the 5 year expiration of prior training. The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston Safe Environment compliance training and renewal training is a condition of employment and for volunteer ministry in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

To register for this Safe Environment Training and background check, you must be 18 yrs. of age, https://GalvestonHouston.CMGConnect.org. For any questions or further assistance, please contact Parish Safe Environment Coordinators Ana Rodriguez or Michelle Campisi at safeenvironment@stmartha.com or telephone Ana Rodriguez at 281-358-1959

ext. 269 (Spanish speaking) and Michelle Campisi at 281-358-1959 ext. 214.

Voluntarios

Debe completar el Programa de Ambiente Seguro y la verificación de antecedentes para ser voluntario o trabajar en la parroquia, escuela o cualquier organización relacionada con la iglesia. Lea la Política del Ambiente Seguro.

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Office of Child and Youth Protection

POLÍTICA DE UN AMBIENTE SEGURO

La Arquidiócesis se esfuerza por implementar políticas, procedimientos y formación que puedan ayudar a proteger la seguridad de los niños, jóvenes y adultos vulnerables que se han inscrito en nuestras escuelas parroquiales, clases de educación religiosa y otros programas. Los sacerdotes, diáconos, clero, empleados y voluntarios han sido llamados a actuar de forma profesional y con el comportamiento centrado en Cristo. La investigación de los antecedentes y la formación para un ambiente seguro de todos los sacerdotes, diáconos, clero, empleados y voluntarios es un requisito de la Arquidiócesis y ayuda a respaldar nuestras Políticas para lograr un Ambiente Seguro.

El abuso de los niños es inmoral y censurable y la Arquidiócesis no lo tolerará. La ley requiere que cualquiera que tenga causas para creer que la salud física o mental de un niño o su bienestar se va a ver afectado negativamente por el abuso o la negligencia debe reportar sus sospechas al Departamento de Servicios Humanos de Texas (*Texas Department of Human Services*) o a la agencia local de orden público. Cuando el personal de la Arquidiócesis se ve involucrado en el abuso de menores, la capacidad de la Arquidiócesis para llevar a cabo su misión queda socavada.

Todo el personal arquidiocesano debe cumplir con las leyes que aplican a los incidentes de abuso de menores ya sea real o sospecha; esto incluye el abuso de un menor hacia otro.

El no reportar las sospechas de abuso o negligencia física o mental de un menor en Texas es un delito que se castiga con una multa, prisión o ambos.

NO ES NECESARIO TENER AUTORIZACIÓN PARA HACER UN REPORTE NI SE ESPERA QUE LA TENGA. ES PREFERIBLE ERRAR AL HACER UN REPORTE DE BUENA FE QUE NO HACERLO. Utilice el enlace siguiente para obtener acceso a los requisitos de la *Office of Child and Youth Protection* (Oficina de Protección de Niños y Jóvenes) en: www.archgb.org/ocvp

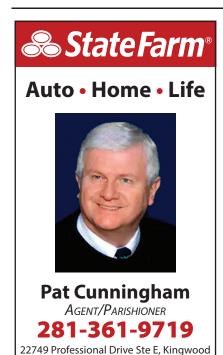
La formación es un elemento clave del programa de Ambiente Seguro. Se le exige a todo el clero, a los empleados, al personal escolar contratado y a los voluntarios mayores de 18 años, que trabajen en cualquier capacidad con los niños, los ancianos, y los adultos con necesidades especiales o alrededor de ellos que completen la Formación de la Arquidiócesis para un Ambiente Seguro. También es un requisito presentar los antecedentes penales y que sean analizados antes de que puedan comenzar a trabajar o actuar como voluntarios en las escuelas, o con ministerios, grupos, movimientos u organizaciones. Además, es obligatorio renovar la formación cada 5 años y presentar antecedentes penales actualizados. El curso de formación para un Ambiente Seguro de la Arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston y el curso de renovación son condiciones includibles para ser empleado o para actuar como voluntario en un ministerio de la Arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston.

Para inscribirse al entrenamiento de ambiente seguro y verificación de antecedentes, solamente a partir de los 18 años edad por https://GalvestonHouston.CMGConnect.org

Para más información, favor de comunicarse con la Coordinadora de Ambiente Seguro de nuestra Parroquia Ana Rodriguez al 281-358-1959 ext. 269 o por correo electrónico a safeenvironment@stmartha.com.

St. Martha Catholic School 2023-2024

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Listing of Ministries St. Martha Catholic School

St. Martha Catholic School is dually accredited by the Texas Catholic Conference of Bishop's Education Department and Cognia for students in Pre-kindergarten through Grade 8. Our mission is to provide an excellent Catholic education by developing mind, heart, and spirit as we share in community to form witnesses who transform the world. Our curriculum builds strong academic skills that are rooted in our Catholic values and intrinsically develop moral character in a safe, secure, and caring environment. Our students attend weekly Mass, celebrate reconciliation, and are blessed to have the involvement of our parish priests in daily school activities. We offer extracurricular activities to nurture our students' growth in spirituality, academics, leadership, athletics, and the fine arts. We welcome parishioners to join us for our major school community events; Crusader Open, Trunk or Treat, Christmas Program, Steps for Students, and our Spring Gala! We also welcome all parishioners to participate in volunteer opportunities with our PTO and our School Advisory Council. In addition, we continuously hire substitutes and provide all training necessary if you feel called to work with students!

For more information, please visit our school website at www.stmarthacs.org, call the school office at 281-358-5523, or email Mr. Chris Dickson at principal@stmarthacs.org.

Administrative and Parish Life Ministries

ACTS Retreat

ACTS is a three-day weekend retreat developed to deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ, renew ourselves spiritually, give new meaning to our prayer life and Sunday Liturgy, and build lasting friendships with members of our parish community. The ACTS retreat focuses on Adoration, Community, Theology, and Service. The retreat is presented by parishioners of St. Martha. It is a unique opportunity to grow in our relationship with God and with others. The retreat begins Thursday evening and ends Sunday with a return Mass at St. Martha, followed by a fellowship reception. Round trip transportation is provided from St. Martha.

For information on ACTS Retreat and dates, please visit www.stmarthaactsretreats.com or e-mail: Michael Kennedy, mlkennedy100@gmail.com

Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts

The St. Martha Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts participate in healthy youth activities that promote leadership, physical and emotional well-being, learning, achievement, and friendship in a Christian environment. *Cub Scouts: Anthony Love, AnthonyRLoveCPA@gmail.com*

Boy Scouts: Mike Bennett, mikebennett1876@gmail.com

Building and Planning Committee

This committee is a consultative group which works with the pastor and outside professionals to implement planning, scheduling and contracting strategies necessary for the successful completion of various building and maintenance-related projects.

Members: Fr. T.J. Dolce, Craig Alexander (Chairman), Molly Kleinguetl, John Sedlak, Steve Teets, and Wayne Theis

Caring Cooks

The Caring Cooks prepare and deliver meals to those in need of help during difficult times.

Marian Brown, 281-630-4820 Sue Wong, 281-513-2903

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas is one of the oldest and largest organizations of Catholic women in the Americas. They donate to charities, administer scholarship programs, and strive "to be helping hands where there is pain, poverty, sorrow or sickness."

The CDA motto is "Unity and Charity." Catholic Daughters women enjoy each other's company at meetings and work hard for their parishes and communities. All Catholic women age 18 or older are invited to attend monthly meetings on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Diana VanHorn, dianavanhorn@hotmail.com

Cursillo

Cursillo begins with a unique three-day retreat experience designed to bring people into an intimate relationship with Jesus or strengthen an already existing relationship. By focusing on the fundamentals of Christianity and Catholicism, Cursillo helps people discover and fulfill their personal vocations and bring the Gospel to their environments. The Cursillo offers a method of ongoing conversion which includes Spiritual Direction, Group Reunion and Ultreya. For more information on Cursillo and for a schedule of English, Spanish and Vietnamese weekends, go to www.cursillo.org/houston. *Carol Bateman*, 832-527-3205, carolb625@gmail.com

Facility Maintenance Volunteers

Volunteers maintain and beautify our parish campus by working in organized groups on specific projects such as landscaping, parish cleanup days, and interior/exterior painting.

Steve Teets, 281-358-6637, Ext. 254, stevet@stmartha.com

Finance Council

The council is a consultative body providing advice and recommendations to the pastor concerning the stewardship of the parish's fiscal and temporal resources, including conducting long range financial planning to support the mission of the parish.

Members: Fr. T.J. Dolce, Alan Raymond (Chairman), Jim Carlson, Dan McCarthy, Eric Self, Dcn. Gary Yepsen, and Molly Kleinguetl (nonvoting)

Financial Planning Committee

Difficulty with finances can distract us to the point where we are losing our peace of mind and have distractions from deepening our spiritual life. This group of financial professionals provides financial planning services for parishioners who would like to review and organize their financial structure. This could include debt counseling, budgeting, basic investment advice, estate planning and charitable giving. This can include trust strategies that create income for your family, gifts of securities, life insurance and testamentary (in your will) gifts. Periodically, we may offer topic-focused seminars to provide consulting at a group level. *Charlie Garland*, 713-203-2101, charles.garland@lpl.com

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization, working for the mutual benefit of society. Our mission and activities focus on charity. We are dedicated to promoting and conducting charitable, religious, educational and social welfare works, rendering aid and assistance to the sick and needy in our community.

Meetings are held in the FLC on the first and third Monday of every month beginning at 7:00 p.m.

For more information, visit www.kofc12320.org

Interested in joining the Knights, fill out the application at www.kofc.org/joinus *Terrell Nelson, Grand Knight, Terrell.k.nelson@gmail.com, 832-312-3326*

Martha's Ouilters

Martha's Quilters gives handmade quilts and afghans which have been blessed to the ill members of our parish community as a comforting reminder of God's love and presence in their time of need. We pray every week for all the people who have received our quilts.

Meetings are held every Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Room 3 of the Family Life Center on Woodland Hills Drive. Anyone who sews and would like to use their talent and time to comfort the sick is welcome to visit us on a Wednesday.

For information call Kathy Napientek, 785-766-6206, or e-mail Sally Wasserman, salmwass@aol.com

Meals 4 Mom

Our ministry offers the following services:

Prayer Support - If you choose, a member of the ministry will contact you to offer prayer support throughout your pregnancy.

Meal Support - Our ministry will organize 3 meals to be delivered to your home, ready to eat. Meals will begin one week after you let us know baby has arrived and will be delivered Monday-Friday on days designated by you. We use www.takethemameal.com and will notify ministry members of any allergies or food aversions your family has. If you have additional family and friends to add to the meal support, we can accommodate them too.

Please contact us at meals4momministry@gmail.com

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Suzanne Noonan Murphy Realtor/Interior Decorator 281-610-7308

suzanne@noonanmurphyteam.com



Associates Northeast

Mother's Day Out

St. Martha Catholic Church Mother's Day Out (MDO) is a parish ministry, dedicated to the social, spiritual, and intellectual development of the youngest children. MDO incorporates STREAM (science, technology, religion, engineering, art, math) concepts into our play-based, developmentally appropriate curriculum and activities every day. On any given day in a classroom, you might see group discussions, building structures with wooden blocks, Legos or magnetic blocks, dramatic play, cooking (applesauce...yum), and of course painting, praying, reading, and singing. There is also time to physically move each day, whether through movement to music, gardening, taking a nature walk while collecting items to create projects, or running and playing outside. Most importantly though, we play; and we passionately believe that play is the foundation for a lifetime of learning! MDO is open to enrolled children on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. The monthly tuition is \$175 per child September through May.

For more information, please call 281-358-1959.

Pastoral Council

Council Members are discerned for a term of three years. The Pastoral Council helps develop the Parish Strategic Plan by providing timely updates and offering advice to the pastor on other parish matters. The Council meets on the third Monday of each month for the eleven-month period August-June.

Members: Fr. T.J. Dolce, Gabriel Bitolas, Brian Hebert, Ingrid Hodges, Bill Jardin, Lauren Karl, Michelle Modrick, Alberto Nunez, Melia Reed, MaryAnn Saunders, John Sedlak, Gustavo Zepata and Mark Zessin

St. Martha's Garden Committee

Our goal is to make the Church and the Faith Formation campuses beautiful and welcoming.

Each person or group is given a designated area to maintain. *If you are interested, please contact Cheryl Gardner at cheryl-gardner@sbcglobal.net or 210-249-8414.*

St. Martha's Office Angels

Volunteers are always welcome to help on special projects or answer phones at the Parish Office and Faith Formation Office. *Maria Saldana*, 281-358-6637, Ext. 262, marias@stmartha.com

St. Martha Rosary Guild

The Rosary Guild is always accepting new members and we welcome all that desire to join. Our goal is to come together as a group to make rosaries, enjoy fellowship and join in prayer. We make about 1,500 rosaries a month and they are distributed locally to other churches, hospitals, organizations and causes as well as internationally to the Armed Forces, foreign missions and ministries around the world. The Rosary Guild seeks to bring people closer to Jesus though the devotion of the rosary. Membership is free and we only ask that you help us make rosaries to meet our monthly need. Members are welcome to make rosaries at our meetings or you can make them at home. If you make them at home, rosaries can be dropped off at our meetings and you can pick up more bead supplies. Meeting dates and times are in the Sunday Bulletin. Students can earn confirmation hours making rosaries at our meetings. Students can contact us to schedule their hours. For more information about our guild, membership, or the next meeting date and time, please contact the Rosary Guild Coordinator, Gilda Womack at 281-989-4241 gawomack@hotmail.com

School Advisory Council

The School Advisory Council provides the opportunity for members of the school and parish to support the mission of Catholic education at St. Martha's Catholic School. The council members serve as advisors to the pastor and principal to provide leadership to the wider school community. Members: Matthew Logan, Suzie Johnston, Bart Farrell, Sean Julien, Chris Spara, Chuck Rodine, Brittany Kocian, Dana White, & John Wakefield Ex Officio Members: T.J. Dolce (Pastor), Chris Dickson (Principal)

Senior Citizens Luncheon (Young at Heart)

Senior parishioners (55+) gather the second Wednesdays of each month to play bingo and share a meal. Bingo begins at 11:00 a.m., followed by lunch and fellowship that ends at 1:00 p.m. Volunteers help set up, arrange the food dishes, and clean up afterwards.

Carol Bateman, 832 527-3205, carolb625@gmail.com

Nancy Karpinski, 713-594-4430, jerseycruiser@gmail.com

Senior Citizen Luncheon Transportation

Volunteers pick up seniors to bring them to the luncheon which takes place the second Wednesdays of each month. They are picked up between 10:00 and 10:30 a.m. to arrive at the luncheon before 11:00 a.m. They are then picked up at about 1:00 p.m. and returned to their homes when it is over. Each volunteer drives approximately once per month. More regular drivers and substitute drivers are needed.

Domenica Seitz, 713-899-1016, ddseitz@gmail.com

Sharing is Caring Campaign Committee

This committee works with the pastor in creating various strategies to effectively fund all aspects of our Capital Building Projects. The committee chair is Alan Raymond. Volunteers may contact Alan Raymond, 281-358-9562, amraymond@suddenlink.net.

Teams of Our Lady

All over the world, married couples have found a way to grow in love and faith through the Teams of Our Lady movement. A Team is a group of five to seven couples who join together to find support in their efforts to lead Gospel lives. The Team meets once a month for a simple meal, prayer, and study. The meeting is lively and enjoyable, yet structured and meaningful. Mark & Teresa Roseland, markaroseland@gmail.com
Bill and Theresa Jardine, billgjardine@gmail.com
Contacto en español: Ines Munoz, 281-358-5278

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Bible Study Classes

Our parish offers several Bible study classes throughout the year. We hold studies based on the "Great Adventure Bible Series" with Jeff Cavins, the "Biblical Walk" studies with Dr. Ted Sri, and many other awesome Catholic Bible studies. To see our current Bible study classes, go to https://stmartha.com/bible-study. Upcoming studies will also appear in the Sunday bulletin when we are about to start. You can always contact Tom for more information.

Tom Kasza, 281-713-8968, thomask@stmartha.com

Catholics Returning Home

Catholics Returning Home is a program for those who grew up Catholic but have been away from the Church, possibly because they were hurt by those in the Church, disagreed with some of the Church's teaching, or simply slipped out of the habit of going to Mass every week. Whatever category you may belong to, this program is for you. Catholics Returning Home is run by people who experienced the same struggles and came back to the Church. Participants meet once a week for six weeks, and we hold the program twice each year. If you would like more information, or if you are interested in joining us, please contact CJ or Tom. CJ Johnson, 281-743-5478, cheryl.johnson2064@gmail.com Tom Kasza, 281-713-8968, thomask@stmartha.com

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Divine Mercy Cenacle

We meet in a small group two Tuesday evenings each month (as listed in the bulletin) to have fellowship, to sing and pray, and to deepen our Catholic faith and knowledge of the Divine Mercy message. We share our struggles and joys in applying these tenets to life in the family and workplace. To guide our studies, we use the Cenacle Formation Manual of the Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy, St Faustina's Diary, The Bible, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. We will prayerfully discern appropriate works of mercy to perform in our community, approximately every month.

First meeting in the fall will be Sept. 5, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 2. Please join us!!

Fall meetings: 9/19 Rm 2, 10/3 Rm 3, 10/17 Rm 3, 11/7 Rm 3, 12/5 Rm 3, 12/19 Rm 3

Marilyn Davis at mjdaviseng@aol.com

Living Stones Small Group Ministry

Open to all adults desiring to grow in faith in Jesus Christ and seeking community and friendship! Living Stones small groups provide a warm, welcoming environment in which 6 to 12 adults gather in member's homes to pray, reflect on God's Word, and share life together while growing closer in relationship with Jesus and each other. Small groups for men, women, young adults, and couples meet each fall and Lent for six to eight weeks. Many groups choose to continue meeting periodically in friendship and prayer the remainder of the year to support and encourage each other in our walk with Christ. If you desire to join a small group or have questions, please contact the *Faith Formation Office*, 281-358-1959.

Living Stones Young Adult Community

This is a community for single young adults at Saint Martha. We host a Bible study every week. We also meet once a month for group outings and events. If you are age 18-29 and have graduated from high school, please contact us to learn more. Join us for faith-based discussions, friendship, food, fun, and group activities. For details on time and location, send us an email at the address below.

SaintMarthaLS@gmail.com

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

The RCIA is a process for adults from other faith communities who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith and for Catholics who want to complete their sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. Gatherings are held every Thursday evening from 6:15-9:00 p.m. We begin with a meal and fellowship followed by Scripture readings, instruction and questions and answers. Discernment is done throughout the journey in order to recognize God's call for each individual. *Charles and Lisa Ferguson, RCIA@stmartha.com*

Contacto en español: Francisco Villanueva, 281-840-3292

RCIA Team and Sponsor

The RCIA Team and sponsors are composed of faithful Catholics who generously wish to share their faith journey with others. They assist in the process by providing hospitality and support to those going through the process. They live their Baptismal promise by witnessing the love of God to others. Training is provided for both the team and the sponsors. Charles and Lisa Ferguson, RCIA@stmartha.com Contacto en español: Francisco Villanueva, 281-840-3292

St. Martha's Moms Group

All moms of the parish are welcome to join our group for fellowship and support. Meet other Catholic women who are striving to live out their vocations as mothers. Activities include once-a-month Friday morning meetings with childcare, moms' night outs, family socials, park dates, and more. Please see our Facebook page: St. Martha's Moms *Kingwood* for more information. You can also email questions to stmarthasmoms@gmail.com or contact *Abbie Philipp*, 832-443-0204.

The Cana Experience (formerly "Familia")

The Cana Experience is a formation program for mothers. Our small groups meet twice per month to study the Bible, the Catechism, and the writings of St. John Paul II and other saints. The program explores the following topics: Who am I as a Woman?, Who am I as a Wife and Mother?, Who am I as a Child of God?, and Who am I as a Disciple for Christ? Our groups at St. Martha's will meet September 2023 through May 2024, twice per month. Morning and evening groups are available, and childcare is provided for the morning groups. Cana also offers a group each spring studying "The Temperament God Gave You." *Elizabeth Sewell, stmarthascana@gmail.com*

Tuesday Breakfast & Bible Study

Come join our Faith Formation Director and fellow parishioners as we study the readings for the upcoming Sunday Mass. A simple breakfast and coffee will be provided. Meetings are held every Tuesday from 9:30 a.m.- 11:00 a.m. in Meeting Room 2 on the Faith Formation Campus. No registration or fee is required. Feel free to show up any week you are able. Contact Tom if you have any questions. *Tom Kasza*, 281-713-8968, thomask@stmartha.com

YAStM - Young Adults of St. Martha (Ages 18-35)

We want to rejuvenate our young adult ministry at Saint Martha. We would like to offer events for young adults, including prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, talks on the Catholic Faith, Socials, and more. Young adults age 18 to 35, single and married, are welcome to participate. If you are a young adult and are interested in participating or helping with these events, please contact Tom Kasza, the Director of Faith Formation. *Tom Kasza*, 281-713-8968, thomask@stmartha.com

Children and Youth Faith Formation

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Children 3 to 5 years old engage in an innovative form of learning that combines music, prayer, and hands-on learning. They gather in an "atrium" with a model altar, miniature sacred vessels, real candles and altar linens, and other materials. A variety of hands-on activities, many revolving around events in Jesus' life, serve as a type of prayer. The result is a formative experience that develops the child's whole person. Registration will open in August 2022 and be announced in the bulletin. *Amy Bridwell, bridwellamy@gmail.com*

Elementary Catechesis (Grades PreK-5)

Our Elementary Catechesis Program helps children grow in their knowledge and love of God and their Catholic faith, as well as prepare them to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion. Volunteers are needed to serve as catechists, classroom helpers, assist with special projects and more.

Michelle Campisi, 281-358-1959, Ext. 214, michellec@stmartha.com Oficina de Catecismo en Español, 281-358-1959 Ext. 269; anarodz@stmartha.com (Las eunions son los Lunes de 5:30 a 7:00 p.m. durante el año escolar)

Middle School Youth Ministry (Grades 6-8)

Middle School Youth Ministry serves adolescents in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade, and it is designed to meet the spiritual, emotional, and social needs of the youth through meaningful experiences. Youth gather for food, fun, and fellowship, as well as to discuss various topics of the faith. Also, throughout the year, there are various service projects, spiritual retreats, and community events to bring the youth closer to God and deepen their Catholic faith. Adult Volunteers are needed to serve as facilitators, chaperones, and assist with special projects and events to lead our middle school youth closer to Christ. *Leah Monroe, 281-358-1959, Ext. 249, leahm@stmartha.com*

High School Youth Ministry (Life Teen and Confirmation) Adult Volunteers

All parents and adults are called to be the primary faith formation people in the lives of youth. Life Teen adult volunteers help serve the young church by being mentors, facilitators, food preparers, and positive Catholic role models. We need many adult volunteers to raise the next generation of believers, so please prayerfully consider dedicating a portion of your time to answering God's call. Luisa Elena Parra, 281-713-8969, luisap@stmartha.com



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High School Youth Ministry (Life Teen and Confirmation)

Life Teen is a high school youth ministry experience created for late adolescents in ninth through twelfth grade. Life Teen is an international Catholic movement that serves the Church by providing resources and faith experiences that help lead teens closer to Christ. This is accomplished through a vibrant Eucharistic spirituality and by creating opportunities for teens to grow in their faith. Teens participate in the 5:00 p.m. Sunday Mass and afterwards attend a special teen-oriented Life Night that provides fellowship and catechetical teaching. They also gather in the Youth Center on Wednesdays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for music, games, sports, and many other unique activities.

Luisa Elena Parra, 281-713-8969, luisap@stmartha.com

RCIA: Adapted for Children and Youth

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults: Adapted for Children and Youth is a process intended for young people (ages 8-17) from other faith communities who wish to know more about the Catholic faith and for families who have children who need to be baptized or complete their sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. Volunteer teachers are needed. Registration will take place at the same time as Faith Formation Catechesis. Tom Kasza, 281-358-1959, Ext. 213, thomask@stmartha.com

Vacation Bible School Helpers

During one week in June, students, kindergarten through eighth grade, enjoy a week of learning about God and the Bible in a fun-filled atmosphere. Many volunteers are needed to make VBS the best it can be! Teenagers may volunteer to get service hours. All volunteers 18 years old or older must be Safe Environment trained.

Michelle Campisi, 281-358-1959, Ext. 214, michellec@stmartha.com

Liturgy and Spirituality Ministries

Altar Servers/Monaguillos

Boys and girls in fifth grade through twelfth grade serve the entire congregation by assisting the priest at Mass. Training is held in the fall, and every server must be recertified each year. Schedules are sent out two months in advance.

Acenith Claassen, acenith71@gmail.com

Baptism Team/Bautismos

Volunteers are needed to assist at the Rite of Baptism and the preparation class, which are both held the second Saturday of the month. Rosmary Cotte, 281-358-6637, Ext. 246, rosmaryc@stmartha.com

Cantors

A lay minister who is responsible for singing the Propers of the Mass (antiphons and psalm) as well as leading the congregation in the hymns and Ordinary of the Mass (Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, Agnus Dei). The ability to read music, sing on pitch, and produce a pleasing tone to inspire others to sing along is required. Cantors are needed for the Saturday 5:30 p.m., Sunday 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. Masses, and holy days of obligation. Cantors are expected to look over the music at home and attend a 30-min preparation rehearsal before the Mass they are scheduled to sing. Cantors sing about 1-2 times a month depending on roster availability. For more information, email: Matthew Mondragon, matthewm@stmartha.com

Centering Prayer Group

Join us from 8:15-9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings as we read and discuss books and other writings by those who appreciate spending time in silence, listening for God's "still, small voice." Since COVID began, we have been meeting on Zoom, which, while not as intimate as meeting in person, has let us gather with group members who have moved away. For those new to Centering Prayer, welcome, encouragement and information on formal introductory programs are available. *JoAnn Quinn, 804-651-4528*

Children's Adoration Hour

Every Tuesday, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. children with their parents spend time with Christ, offering their prayer intentions, praying a decade of the rosary, and singing together. No sign-ups are required and all ages are welcome. We meet all year long in the Woodland Hills Chapel. Bring your children before Christ in the Blessed Sacrament and see their love for Jesus and His Blessed Mother grow through the graces they receive. *Kristen Johnson*, 281-713-2518, *Kristen_alley@yahoo.com*

Children's Liturgy

Come and see what we are learning in Children's Liturgy! Every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. your children are discovering their faith. Preschool to 5th graders explore the Gospel, get a deeper understanding of the Mass, and learn how to listen to His voice. Visit a class one Sunday and sign up if you think this is for you! We need more adult and teen volunteers in the Preschool to 2nd grade classes, to guide children through the activities and crafts that accompany the lesson plan. Get involved - let God open your heart to the graces He is pouring over the children of St. Martha. *Mary Anne Sokol, maryannesokol@gmail.com*

Church Decoration

This group decorates the interior of the church according to the liturgical season and feast day. Additional help is needed at Christmas and during Holy Week and Easter. If you are creative, dabble in art, or like climbing ladders, you are who we are looking for.

Mariel Parra, 281-358-6637, Ext. 280, marielp@stmartha.com

Communion to the Sick

Trained Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick bring the healing presence of Christ to Catholic patients at HCA-Kingwood (formerly Kingwood Medical Center) and parishioners unable to worship with us at Mass due to health issues and/or advanced age. Preparation requires completion of EMHC and EMHC to Sick training sessions and, in the case of hospital ministers, completion of the HCA volunteer vetting process.

Gene Goll (HCA visits): 281-728-0956, goll5@earthlink.net

Gene Goll (HCA visits): 281-728-0956, goll5@earthlink.net Kathy Gearhart (homebound and nursing home visits): 402-290-3711, kathleen0471@gmail.com

Contemporary Band

St. Martha Contemporary Band, Music Ministry, is dedicated to providing quality music for quality liturgies that draw people closer to Christ! For more information, email: Chad Williams, chadfwilliams@yahoo.com

Cor Mariae Schola Cantorum (Young Adults)

This ensemble consists of young adults (minimum high school) interested in studying the deep and rich musical tradition of the Catholic Church. All members will inherit a knowledge of Gregorian chant literacy, basic vocal pedagogy, ecclesiastical Latin pronunciation, general Roman Catholic liturgy, Catholic renaissance music literature. The CMSC meets in the Holy Family Chapel every Sunday from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. This ensemble serves for some First Friday Adorations and seasonal devotions. For more information, email: Matthew Mondragon, matthewm@stmartha.com

Coro de Adultos en Español

Este Coro canta en la Misa en Español los domingos a la 1:00 p.m. Para más información por favor contactar a Luis Valle, 832-620-1888, lvalle@newcaneyisd.org

Divine Mercy Ministry

The Divine Mercy Ministry meets every Sunday at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel on the Woodland Hills Campus to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. All are welcome. *Gloria Molinyawe, gmolinyawe@gmail.com*

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion/Ministros Extraordinarios de la Eucaristia

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion have the special call and responsibility of assisting the priest and deacon with the distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ at weekend Masses, daily Masses, weddings and funerals. A training session is required to become an Extraordinary Minister. For training contact: Alex & Cristina Herrera, alex.cristina1228@gmail.com Contacto en español: Raul Legorreta, 832-875-8384, raullegorreta@hotmail.com

Funeral Cantors

A lay minister who is responsible for providing the music at funerals. The ability to read music, sing on pitch, and produce a pleasing tone to inspire others to sing along is required. Funerals take place during the weekday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Because the music literature for funerals is very concise, cantors will find very little preparation is needed in advance. For more information, email: Barb Tilson, barbtilson@comcast.net







Funeral Ministry

The Funeral Ministry is made up of Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Lectors, and Altar Servers. This ministry provides comfort for the families through ministering to them at the funeral. When the arrangements are made at the Church office, we determine which ministers are needed for the Funeral liturgy and contact those on a rotating list of available ministers. *Indiana Francis*, 281-358-6637, Ext. 255, indianaf@stmartha.com

Green Thumb Ministry

If you love plants, we need you! Once a week commitment to pamper our church plants.

Zuri Jackson, 281-733-7571, zurijackson@msn.com

Lectors/Lectores

Lectors proclaim the Word of God during the Liturgy of the Word, after having carefully reviewed the Scripture passage they are to read. Each lector undergoes training and is provided with a Lector's workbook. *Bill Simister, 713-927-9697, wfsimi@gmail.com Contacto en español: Monica Wilhelm, 404-406-9510*

Martha's Altar Guild

Members of the Altar Guild care for the altar linens used in the Eucharistic celebration. Purificators and towels are washed and ironed every week, taking about two hours. Altar cloths require special handling and regular cleaning. *Brenda Benigno, bbenigno4@embarqmail.com*

Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers/Ujieres)

Ministers of Hospitality are friendly people who create a welcoming environment by greeting people as they enter the church for Mass. They ensure that the liturgy flows smoothly by assisting people with seating, directing the Communion procession, and wishing everyone a good day at the conclusion of the liturgy.

Barry Robichaux, 281-330-0374, Barry.Robichaux@us.ibm.com Contacto en español: Gustavo Zapata, 832-247-9955, mhospitalidad@stmartha.co

Newcomer/Welcome/Hospitality Ministry

The parish welcomes many new families every year. Making sure each and every one is made to feel invited and welcomed into our community requires a lot of careful planning and organization. Volunteers make a special effort to welcome new parishioners by calling them, sending letters, and assisting with our "Hospitality Weekends." Volunteers strive to make meaningful connections between newcomers and their fellow parishioners. Our goal is to create a warm and hospitable community where all feel welcome.

Kristene Hergenrother, 281-358-6637, Ext. 256, kristeneh@stmartha.com

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

St. Martha's parish is committed to remaining in the presence of our Eucharistic Lord at all times. Jesus dwells in the Blessed Sacrament because of His infinite love for each one of us, and He is always present there in the Blessed Sacrament patiently waiting for us to come and spend time with Him. Since it began, this powerful form of prayer has changed many lives and greatly enriched our parish family. At least two parishioners are needed in the adoration chapel for every hour. Jane Doherty, Txdotjane@aol.com

PowerPoint Ministry

Volunteers (High school and adults) who are responsible for advancing the PowerPoint slides during Masses. Computer skills are a plus, but attentive skills are the making of a good PowerPoint operator. Without these volunteers, the congregation will be unable to sing the hymns and Ordinary of the Mass. We need volunteers at all Masses, but most desperately for the Sunday 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Masses. For more information, email: Matthew Mondragon, matthewm@stmartha.com

Sacristans/Sacristanes

Sacristans prepare the worship space for liturgies by arranging the liturgical vessels and linens and ensuring that they are properly put away. MaryLou Purello, marylou0038@icloud.com
Contacto en español: Raul Legorreta, 832-875-8384, raullegorreta@hotmail.com

St. Cecilia Chamber Orchestra

Volunteers (High school and adults) who add splendor to the celebration of the Mass by playing their instruments. Instrumentalists are most often called to play on major feast days and throughout the Christmas/Easter season. For the most part, there are no rehearsals, and volunteers are expected to prepare their music on their own time. Currently, this group is only open to orchestral instruments: All strings (Violin - Double Bass), woodwinds (minus saxophone), and brass. At this time, we are not looking for any pianists, guitarists, or percussionists. For more information, email: Matthew Mondragon, matthewm@stmartha.com

St. Gabriel Pueri Cantorum (Grades 3-8)

The Pueri Cantorum (Latin for "Children's Choir") is responsible for leading the music at the 9:00 a.m. Mass around once/twice a month (September - May). Children participating in this ensemble are taught about their faith, the liturgy we participate in every Sunday, and the history of the Catholic Church through music. Your children will learn basic vocal technique, the repertoire of Catholic hymnody, and introductory Gregorian chant reading proficiency. Parents wishing to instill a love for the Mass into their children should ask their child about their interest in joining this choir. Rehearsals are on Thursdays at the St. Martha Catholic School from 4:30-5:30 p.m. For more information, email: Matthew Mondragon, matthewm@stmartha.com

St. Michael Schola Cantorum

An ensemble consisting of adults with extensive vocal/music backgrounds responsible for special feast days. Admittance to this ensemble is permitted after a successful audition with the Director of Music. The audition will tests the singer's ability to: sight-read, blend, match pitch, tune, and adjust to musical instruction. Because of the fast-paced nature of the ensemble, the SMSC is able to prepare high-level polyphonic motets/anthems in a matter of a few rehearsals throughout the year. Rehearsals are on Wednesday nights from 8:45 - 9:30 p.m. from September-May/June. For more information, email: Matthew Mondragon, matthewm@stmartha.com

St. Raphael Chorus

A vocal ensemble comprised of men and women who lead the music at the 11:00 a.m. Mass and major feast days throughout the year (September-June). This group mainly explores the rich musical traditions of the church from early Gregorian chant to the standard SATB music found in every hymnal. In addition to this music, the group also takes time preparing masterful sacred works in beautiful polyphonic settings. For this reason, it is important that members have strong commitments to rehearsal attendance. It is highly encouraged that interested members have music-reading skills and time to prepare their parts at home. Those who cannot read music may participate but put in extra work at home to come fully prepared. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. For more information, email: Matthew Mondragon, matthewm@stmartha.com

Spiritual Direction

Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them" (Matthew 18:20).

Spiritual direction is companionship given to an individual which enables that individual to pay attention to the presence and action of God in his or her life and to respond and grow in intimacy with God. The individual is helped not so much to understand the relationship between him/herself and God, but to engage in it. You are welcome to contact:

Coordinator: Linda Sarman, linda.sarman@suddenlink.net

You are also welcome to contact:

Paula Amsler, paula_amsler@msn.com
Laurie Cardella, LaurieCardella@outlook.com
Deacon Tony Cardella, Tony.Cardella@outlook.com
Rosmary Cotte (bilingual), rosmaryc@stmartha.com
Mary Impelman, impelman@entouch.net
Francine Puglia, francine.puglia@gmail.com
Peggy Rittenhouse, peggyr@kingwoodcable.com
Pat Timpanaro, patimpanaro@embargmail.com

Sunday Nursery

Our young children, play in a safe, loving environment during the 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and the 1:00 p.m. Spanish Mass. We gladly welcome adult volunteers who have completed Safe Environment training. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, *please contact Patty Jackson at 281-358-1959*

UNBOUND Ministry

UNBOUND is a safe, loving, and effective model of prayer ministry. As children of a loving God, we are created to live in relationship with Him. Sin broke this relationship and separated us from God. Sin also opens the door for lies and bondage to enter our life, causing problems like fear, anxiety, hopelessness, and shame. The Good News is that Jesus brought salvation and liberation by dying for our sins and setting us free from this bondage. Unbound helps us respond to the good news of the gospel and apply truth to our lives.

Rosmary Cotte, 281-358-6637, Ext. 246, rosmaryc@stmartha.com

UNBOUND es un modelo de oración seguro, amoroso y eficaz . Como hijos de un Dios amoroso, fuimos creados para vivir en relación con Él. El pecado rompió esta relación y nos separó de Dios. El pecado también abre la puerta para que la mentira y la esclavitud entren en nuestra vida, causando problemas como miedo, ansiedad, desesperanza y vergüenza. La buena noticia es que Jesús trajo salvación y liberación al morir por nuestros pecados y librarnos de esta esclavitud.

Unbound nos ayuda a responder a la buena nueva del evangelio y a vivir en la verdad.

Rosmary Cotte, 281-358-6637, Ext. 246, rosmaryc@stmartha.com

Vocations Committee

The Vocations Committee fosters and affirms vocations to the priesthood and religious life. They do this through prayer, education, awareness and affirmation activities. They support and promote various events that young people can attend to learn more about religious vocations and also give creative ways that parents and teachers can use to teach children about vocations.

Phil and Diane Applegate, 281-361-2913, dapple62@yahoo.com Chalice for Vocations

Amy Kennedy, 518-698-2062, amykennedy1976@gmail.com Contacto en español: Carlos Barbosa, cbarbosa@cranecpe.com

Marriage Ministries

Annulments or Declaration of Nullity

If you are divorced, we invite you to explore the possibility of a declaration of nullity for your marriage. *Please contact Dcn. Gary Yepsen, 281-358-6637, Ext. 200 or at Dcn.Gary@stmartha.com*

Natural Family Planning Classes (NFP)

Our parish offers classes taught by certified instructors who teach various natural methods for family planning. For couples in marriage preparation, please sign up for the marriage prep NFP introductory session at melissabuchan.com/NFP. Classes are held every other month. For FEMM method of natural family planning or for inquiries on charting for women's health, contact Jess Lahey, 254-371-5140. For Neo Fertility cycle charting support for family planning and infertility assessment contact Melissa Buchan at melissabuchan.com or support@virtusfertilitycare.com. For additional options please see the Archdiocesan website for N.F.P., www.archgh.org. Click on Offices and Ministries, Family Life Ministries, then Natural Family Planning.

Separated and Divorced Support

St. Martha parish offers a 9-week program for divorced and separated Catholic men and women. This program offers much needed support and assists with the healing process.

Paula Amsler, paula_amsler@msn.com

Sponsor Couple Program

Marriage preparation begins when an engaged couple meets with a priest or deacon. Included in the preparation process is a Sponsor Couple Program called "For Better and Forever." A sponsor couple meets with the engaged couple to share their experience while at the same time helping the engaged couple communicate on important aspects of their present and future relationship. The Sponsor Couple gives the engaged couple the opportunity to reflect on their relationship in a structured manner and integrate the experience. *To volunteer as a sponsor couple contact Nora Twohy, Stmarthas.sponsorcouples@gmail.com*

Wedding Rehearsal Coordinator

If you would like to help assist at wedding rehearsals and ceremonies, please contact Liz Himanga, 281-360-5707.

Outreach Ministries

AMSIF

We are an association that promotes the education and integral formation of the women. AMSIF trains and promotes personal development, reinforces self-esteem and promotes the culture of women participants, so that they have the necessary tools to transform their reality and later share them with the members of their family and community. *Lissette Iraheta*, 281-745-8779, *lissette.iraheta.tx@gmail.com*

AMSIF

Somos una asociación que promueve la educación y la formación integral de la mujer. AMSIF, promueve el desarrollo personal, refuerza la autoestima y promueve la cultura entre las mujeres que participan en el ministerio, de manera que tengan las herramientas necesarias para transformar su realidad y luego compartirlas con los miembros de su familia y de su comunidad.

Si usted desea participar en el ministerio, por favor contactar a Lissette Iraheta, 281-745-8779, lissette.iraheta.tx@gmail.com

CanCare

You are not meant to endure cancer alone - cancer is hard, but it doesn't have to be lonely.

CanCare is a mighty community of survivors who lift up and inspire cancer patients and caregivers through one-on-one support, empathy, and hope. Our 600+ trained volunteers have survived cancer, and they want to help you do the same for yourself – or a loved one! Whether you need encouragement or want to give it, CanCare is the place for you. Support is available over the phone, via text, email and in person – one time or on an ongoing basis. Survivors of more than 75 different types of cancer are the heartbeat of the organization, providing hope, friendship and hospital visitations for those facing cancer. Please mention CanCare when contacting Debbie Mikan, 832-723-3459, dmikan@outlook.com or contact CanCare directly at 888-461-0028, Cancare.org.

CanCare

No deben sufrir de Cáncer solos – Cancer es difícil pero no están solos. CanCare es una comunidad enorme de sobrevivientes quienes levantan e inspiran a pacientes y cuidadores de Cáncer por medio de apoyo uno-a-uno, empatía y esperanza.

Nuestros 700+ voluntarios entrenados que han sobrevivido Cáncer y ellos quieren ayudarte a hacer lo mismo por ti - o un ser amado! Ya sea que tú necesites ánimo o quieras darlo, CanCare es el lugar para ti. Apoyo está disponible a través de el teléfono, vía texto, email o en persona - una vez o en forma continua. Sobrevivientes de más de 75 tipos diferentes de Cáncer son el latido del corazón de la organización, proporcionando esperanza, amistad y visitaciones a hospital para aquellos enfrentando Cáncer. Si así lo necesitas, puedes contactarme: Maria Anzures-Constantino al 832-665-3596, lanzures@yahoo.com o contacta directamente CanCare al 713-461-0028 y 888-461-0028, cancare.org

E-mail Prayer Warriors

Prayer warriors pray for the intentions of those in need of prayer. *Donna Rueby, dmrueby@outlook.com*

Family and friends of L.G.B.T. Catholics

Gather each month for prayer, discussion and fellowship. Our focus is on building bridges and staying close to the Church. For information, please contact Francine at Francine.puglia@gmail.com

Gabriel Project/Pro Life

The Gabriel Project is a parish-based crisis pregnancy intervention within the Catholic Church. We provide spiritual and emotional support and the items that a mother needs to bring her baby home. Two Gabriel Angels are assigned to meet with our moms at the church to mentor them throughout their pregnancy and give them unconditional love and understanding. We organize one fundraiser a year which is the Baby-Bottle-Boomerang. Please join our ministry. (Gabriel Project) 713-225-5826

(Pro Life) Paula Amsler, 713-806-2641, paula_amsler@msn.com

Proyecto Gabriel/Pro Vida

El Proyecto Gabriel es un ministerio parroquial para ayudar a mujeres embarazadas que están pasando por momentos de dificultad. Las ayudamos con apoyo espiritual, emocional y material, dándoles las cosas que el bebe pueda necesitar cuando llegue a su casa. Dos ángeles del Proyecto Gabriel son asignadas como mentoras de la mamá durante el embarazo para darle amor y comprensión incondicional. Los fondos que nos ayudan a lograr esto, los obtenemos por medio de la campaña llamada "Baby-bottle-Boomerang," que se lleva a cabo una vez al año.

Si usted se siente llamada a participar en este ministerio, favor de contactar a: (*Proyecto Gabriel*) 713-225-5826

(Pro Vida) Paula Amsler, 713-806-264, paula_amsler@msn.com

Grief Support-Life After Loss

Life After Loss is a 9 Week support group offered throughout the year. Trained facilitators compassionately walk with you, offering emotional and spiritual support by listening, encouraging, and presenting educational DVD's. *Contact Laurie, 281-360-2714, lauriecardella@outlook.com.*

Grupo de Duelo

El grupo de Consolación Duelo, Esperanza y Vida de St. Martha, ofrece un programa de apoyo y acompañamiento llamado: "El Nuevo Dia, Un Camino de Dolor Hacia La Sanación", para las personas que están sufriendo o han sufrido la pérdida de un ser querido, o cualquier otra perdida. Nuestro programa, es ofrecido en un período de 9 semanas con sesiones de 2 horas y se basa en la premisa de que, compartiendo pensamientos, sentimientos, y experiencias con personas que pasan por la misma situación, es la mejor ayuda para enfrentar el dolor causado por la muerte de un ser querido. Es una oportunidad de caminar con otros que han pasado por la misma experiencia de duelo y avanzar juntos por el camino de dolor hacia la sanación. Para más información y para registrarse en el siguiente grupo a iniciar, favor de comunicarse con Luis y Alicia Martinez al 281-878-9501 (Ilamada o texto), o por e-mail: alicia.martinez1095@gmail.com

Hospital Ministry- Pastoral Visitors

The Hospital Ministry Team of St. Martha provides Pastoral Care to Catholic Patients. To be a member of this incredible team one must be in good standing with the Church and take a class offered by the Catholic Chaplain Corps of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. The class "Empathetic Listening and the Pastoral Presence" provides the Visitor with the tools to help the patients or family members find God in their story. Our program provides mentorship, fellowship, and continuing education for growth. At present, our team is providing services to Memorial Hermann Northeast.

Please call with any questions! *Sheila Yepsen*, 281-782-4078

Humble Area Assistance Ministries (HAAM)

HAAM's Interdenominational Social Service Agency assists families and individuals experiencing a temporary crisis with a wide variety of services in the Humble, Kingwood, Atascocita, Huffman, Porter, and New Caney communities. Services include a food pantry, utility assistance, prescriptions, eyeglasses, clothing, General Education Diploma and English as Second Language classes, a job bank, school supplies, a holiday basket program, rent/mortgage, and referrals to other service agencies. Volunteers can help in many ways; bilingual volunteers are especially needed. Syvon Wetherold, syvonw@stmartha.com

International Mission Trips

Saint Martha began leading international mission trips to Colombia in 2016 with two trips, a summer trip to Cartagena and a Fall trip to Bogota. Our teams work with local school and parish partners in impoverished communities to support their programs in Ministry, Education, Family Strengthening, Income Generation, and Humanitarian Assistance. Bring hope, bring your heart, and help children and families build a sustainable way of living. Join us for a life-transforming experience. If you are interested in joining a trip or volunteering to help organize team

trips and activities, please contact us at terry.stierman@conviventia.org

Kolbe Prison Ministry

The Kolbe Prison Ministry was founded in 2009 in the Texas Hill Country as an offshoot of ACTS Mission. The purpose is to fulfill Jesus' command to visit those in prison. Men from St. Martha began participating in the ministry with other parishes in 2017 and began our own parish ministry in 2019. The ministry leads three-day retreats in two prison units in Huntsville, Texas. In addition, we have men who regularly visit our brothers to continue bringing the love of Christ to them.

The Kolbe Prison Ministry is named for St. Maximilian Kolbe, who was a Polish priest who gave up his life in Auschwitz to save the life of another prisoner. He is the patron saint of prisoners, drug addicts, families, and the pro-life movement.

Participation is open to any man in the parish who has been on an ACTS retreat. If you would like more information, please contact the St. Martha Kolbe core team:

Kevin McKee, ksmckeetx@gmail.com

Legión de María

La Legión de María es un grupo de oración en español. Las reuniones semanales de oración son los miércoles de 7:00 a 8:30 p.m. en el salón Reception Parlor. La Legion de María es un instrumento poderoso de Evangelizacion de la parroquia mediante sus visitas a casas de familia para entronizar al Sagrado Corazón de Jesús y el Inmaculado Corazón de María. Leticia Medellin, Medellin.leticia@yahoo.com

Maria Goretti Network

Maria Goretti Network es un grupo de apoyo para todo sobreviviente de abuso (Hombre o Mujer) que busca sanación dentro de un ministerio basado en el amor de Cristo. Sobrevivientes ayudando a otros en camino a la sanación. No es un grupo de consejería. *Patricia Lopez 281-389-1210, mariagorettiespanol@gmail.com*.

Martha's Kitchen

Martha's Kitchen is dedicated to Christ's call to love one another and to actively fulfill the basic physical and spiritual needs of those who need our help. For 31 years, every Monday through Friday, parishioners have helped to staff a soup kitchen in downtown Houston, providing a hot meal for the hungry. Parishioners are needed to prepare, serve the meals, and help clean up. *Sr. Carmen, 713-224-2522*

Monica's Hope

Monica's Hope is a prayerful support group for parents of seriously troubled children facilitated by parents. 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, mother of St. Augustine, you can pray for your child and find peace. The meetings are the first Monday of each month 7:30-9:00 p.m. in Room 3 on St. Martha's Woodland Hills Campus, 3702 Woodland Hills Drive. If you have questions, call Paul and Marcia Aegerter at 281-467-4043, e-mail marciaaeg@aol.com or Kathy Czubik at 713-213-7173, e-mail kczubik@mac.com

Mother Teresa Ministry

The Mother Teresa ministry has as its focus the needs of the immigrant family in our midst. Its main emphasis is to help the broken families of undocumented immigrants who have been affected by the detention and forced repatriation of one of their members. They provide spiritual and counseling services through personal visits to those who have been detained in the centers of detention. They also make visits and provide material help to the spouses and children left behind. In addition to spiritual and counseling services, this ministry would endeavor to provide legal, psychological and other required assistance to improve the condition of both the detainees and their families.

Paola Lam, 832-284-1891, airbunny25@hotmail.com

Ministerio de Madre Teresa

El Ministerio de la Madre Teresa, tiene como su enfoque las necesidades de la familia inmigrante en nuestro medio. Su principal interés es ayudar a las familias separadas de los indocumentados que han sido afectados por la detención y/o repatriación forzosa de uno de sus miembros. Proporcionan servicios de consejería espiritual y mediante visitas personales a quienes han sido detenidos en los centros de detención. Proporcionan material para ayudar a los cónyuges e hijos. Además de los servicios de consejería espiritual, este Ministerio procurará proporcionar asistencia jurídica, psicológica y de otra indole para mejorar la condición de las personas detenidas y sus familiares. *Paola Lam*, 832-284-1891, airbunny25@hotmail.com

Niño Jesús

"Niño Jesús" is an outreach group of St. Martha that every Christmas send a message of kindness and love to families that live under precarious conditions in the woods of New Caney off of Roman Forest Blvd. (about a mile or so from the Carmelite Monastery). A message that goes beyond attending to some of their material needs to let them know that they are not alone, despite their abject poverty. The outreach activities of "Niño Jesús" started back in December of 2012, motivated by the example and lead from Deacon Alfredo and his wife, Irene, when we helped 10 families with 24 children in need, We have progressed since, and just this past Christmas we were able to reach over 300 children and their families.

We will continue this labor, which we truly believe is a call from God to serve his people. And we will do it every year with more love and compassionated heart. And we will continue praying to our Blessed Mother Virgin Mary to help and guide us with this effort. Syvon Wetherold, syvonw@stmartha.com

Niño Jesús

"Niño Jesús" es un ministerio de Santa Marta que cada Navidad, lleva un mensaje de bondad y amor a las familias que viven en condiciones precarias en los bosques de New Caney, específicamente en la subdivisión de Román Forest. (Alrededor de una milla del Monasterio Carmelita). Un mensaje que va más allá de asistir a algunas de sus necesidades materiales, esto es solidaridad con ellos. y que así se den cuenta de que no están solos, a pesar de sus necesidades. Este ministerio del "Niño Jesús" comenzó en diciembre de 2012, motivados por el ejemplo y aplomo del diácono Alfredo y su esposa, Irene, cuando asistimos a 10 familias necesitaban con 24 niños, desde entonces hemos progresado y esta pasada Navidad pudimos donar juguetes, comida, ropa y otros menesteres a más de 300 niños y niñas y sus familias. Seguiremos con este trabajo, lo que realmente creemos es una llamada de Dios a servir a su pueblo. Y lo haremos cada año con más amor y compasión de corazón con los menos afortunados. iContinuemos rezando a nuestra madre santísima, la Virgen María para ayudarnos y guiarnos en este hermoso ministerio!

Si usted desea participar en este ministerio, favor de contactar a: Syvon Wetherold, syvonw@stmartha.com

Northeast Catholic Singles

Northeast Catholic Singles is a ministry for single adults ages 40 and up. They offer singles who find themselves ready to move on after the loss of a spouse (through death or divorce), and those who have never married, opportunities for making friends, for fellowship, for encouragement, and for fun with others who share their faith.

Peggy Broyles, 281-359-4560, peggybmom4@gmail.com

Project Rachel

Project Rachel is a confidential ministry of compassion, healing, and reconciliation for women who have suffered physically, psychologically, and spiritually from an abortion. We serve women who have recently aborted a child or women who have suffered with post-abortive issues for many years. We offer a safe place to be reconciled to God, to their lost children, to themselves, and to the Church. We name the lost child, memorialize him, and do many other healing exercises so mothers experience the unconditional love of God in a new way. The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston sponsors this program, and it is available locally at an off-site location. Sessions are available in spring and fall. 713-741-8728

St. John of the Cross Food Drive

The St. John of the Cross Food Drive takes place on the fourth weekend of each month. Nonperishable food items are collected after each Mass and benefit St. John of the Cross Food Pantry in New Caney. *Maria Anzures, lanzures@yahoo.com*

St. Joseph Helpers

The St. Joseph Helpers are volunteer men and women - including high school youth - who provide a wide range of home repairs and other labor-related services for those in need. This work includes helping parishioners but extends to others in the greater Houston area through cooperation with other organizations such as the Rebuilding - Together Houston group. *David Everett, 713-806-1552*

St. Margaret of Costello's Special Needs Ministry

St. Margaret of Costello's Special Needs Ministry meets on the first Monday of the month at 8:00 p.m. at the Faith Formation Campus for the families of people with special needs. The group will not only serve as a support group, but also serve as a conduit for information, tend to the catechetical needs of our special needs population, and, ultimately, build and operate a group home for the special needs population focusing on families that can no longer take care of their child. The meeting will highlight speakers who are subject matter experts on caring for people with special needs. *Patrick Bloomer*, 832-445-9357, pbloomer549@gmail.com

St. Martha Between Jobs and Beyond

St. Martha Between Jobs and Beyond seeks to provide help to those who are unemployed or underemployed in our parish and the surrounding area by first assisting with the tasks of finding a job (resume writing, interview preparation, and networking). Second, we help people stay motivated throughout the job search through prayer, our support group, and one-on-one coaching. We also encourage those who are seeking a new job to adopt a spirit of service. We meet every Friday in Room 2 on the Faith Formation Campus. The meetings start at 8:45 a.m. with an opening prayer, followed by an education session on a job search topic such as resume writing, then support activities through one-on-one coaching or our group discussion called the Journey Forward. We finish with a networking discussion and are usually done before noon.

We encourage every working parishioner, as well as those who have come through this ministry, to participate by praying for the job seekers as well as providing networking contacts and job leads for the job seekers. If a parishioner is interested in participating as a volunteer, contact Bob Simpson. Bob Simpson, 713-410-2844, robert.glenn.simpson@gmail.com

St. Michael's Warriors

This ministry focuses on working through the challenges presented to Veterans, First Responders, and their families. It is they who sometimes bear the burden in negotiating the effects of tragic life events, stress, and anxiety or simply the obstacles faced when transitioning from a life of service to the nation and our communities. For more information, please contact Deacon Guy at guy.puglia@gmail.com.

St. Vincent de Paul Society - St. Martha Conference

The St. Martha Conference of St. Vincent de Paul Society works to assist people and families within our community and surrounding areas of Humble, New Caney, and Porter. We are funded by donations from our parishioners and other interested individuals. When a family or an individual needs assistance in paying rent, utilities, or other necessities because of loss of income, medical expenses, or other expenses, we arrange for an appointment at our office or a home visit. We help to meet immediate financial needs and work with the family to improve their situation. Office visits are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Faith Formation Campus.

281-358-6636, svdp@stmartha.com

Second Family Ministry

This ministry is made up of parish volunteers who are called to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Each care team member offers service to families who are caregivers to the elderly or disabled who in turn become our care partners. Through our outreach to the community, we become their 2nd Family. The care team members offer personal presence and practical assistance to make life better for the weak and vulnerable as well as respite opportunities that lift the burden of care for caregivers. stmartha2ndfamily@gmail.com

Sharing Sunday

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. If you need more information, please call the parish office at 281-358-6637.