



# ST. ANGELA MERICI CATHOLIC CHURCH

February 22, 2026 | First Sunday of Lent



## First Sunday of Lent

## Welcome to St. Angela Merici

“St. Angela Merici Catholic Church in Missouri City, TX is a diverse community, united in the Mission of Christ through the Eucharist, proclamation of the Gospel, and service to the people of God.”

### OUR PEOPLE

#### Pastor

Rev. John Cahoon | [frcahoon@stamericigh.com](mailto:frcahoon@stamericigh.com)

#### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Joy Thomas | [frjoy@stamericigh.com](mailto:frjoy@stamericigh.com)

#### Deacons

Deacon Jim Wright | [deaconjim.w@gmail.com](mailto:deaconjim.w@gmail.com)

Deacon Mathew Abraham | [dcnmathewabraham@gmail.com](mailto:dcnmathewabraham@gmail.com)

#### Business Manager

Crystal Iscovitz | [businessmgr@stamericigh.com](mailto:businessmgr@stamericigh.com)

#### Co-Directors of Music

Matthew & Josh Sarmiento | [music@stamericigh.com](mailto:music@stamericigh.com)

#### Director of Adult Faith Formation

Claudia Sereno | [adultff@stamericigh.com](mailto:adultff@stamericigh.com)

#### Adult Faith Formation Admin

Blessy Ziola | [affassistant@stamericigh.com](mailto:affassistant@stamericigh.com)

#### Liturgy Coordinator

Pius Leung | [liturgy@stamericigh.com](mailto:liturgy@stamericigh.com)

#### Liturgy Assistant

Fe Blalack | [litassistant@stamericigh.com](mailto:litassistant@stamericigh.com)

Alena Abraham | [litassistant2@stamericigh.com](mailto:litassistant2@stamericigh.com)

#### Coordinator of Elementary Catechesis

Claire Gregory | [elemfaith@stamericigh.com](mailto:elemfaith@stamericigh.com)

#### Faith Formation Admin.

Stacy Pavlik | [effassistant@stamericigh.com](mailto:effassistant@stamericigh.com)

#### Director of Youth Ministry

Merrie Guerra | [youthministry@stamericigh.com](mailto:youthministry@stamericigh.com)

#### Middle School Faith Formation Coordinator

Melanie Lubrano | [EdgeFaith@stamericigh.com](mailto:EdgeFaith@stamericigh.com)



#### Director of Mother's Day Out

Meredith Canny | [stangelaangels@stamericigh.com](mailto:stangelaangels@stamericigh.com)

#### Mother's Day Out Admin.

Heidi Wendell | [mdoassistant@stamericigh.com](mailto:mdoassistant@stamericigh.com)

#### Recording Secretary

Mary Brown | [parishsecretary@stamericigh.com](mailto:parishsecretary@stamericigh.com)

#### Receptionist

Linda Cruz | [parishoffice@stamericigh.com](mailto:parishoffice@stamericigh.com)

#### Bookkeeper

Darla Goolsby | [bookkeeper@stamericigh.com](mailto:bookkeeper@stamericigh.com)

#### Ministry Scheduler

Colin Kiernan | [ministryscheduler@stamericigh.com](mailto:ministryscheduler@stamericigh.com)

#### Communications Coordinator

Tressy Garcia | [communications@stamericigh.com](mailto:communications@stamericigh.com)

#### Facilities Coordinator

Omar Mata | [facilities@stamericigh.com](mailto:facilities@stamericigh.com)

#### Coordinator of Volunteers

Tracy Ardoin | [volunteer@stamericigh.com](mailto:volunteer@stamericigh.com)

## CONTACT ST. ANGELA MERICI

### MAILING ADDRESS

6140 Hwy. 6 PMB 99, Missouri City, Texas 77459

### PHONE & FAX

281-778-0400 | 281-715-5646

### EMAIL

[parishoffice@stamericigh.com](mailto:parishoffice@stamericigh.com)

### WEBSITE

[stamericigh.com](http://stamericigh.com)

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday | 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Heather Reichert | [parishcouncil@stamericigh.com](mailto:parishcouncil@stamericigh.com)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

[facebook.com/stamericigh](https://www.facebook.com/stamericigh)

[youtube.com/@StAngelaMericiCatholicChurchTX](https://www.youtube.com/@StAngelaMericiCatholicChurchTX)

## CONNECT WITH US

<https://StAngela.flocknote.com>

## BULLETIN SUBMISSION

Bulletin announcements must be print ready and submitted to Tressy Garcia, our bulletin editor at [communications@stamericigh.com](mailto:communications@stamericigh.com) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday (9 days) before the Sunday of intended publication.

# Weekly Prayer and Readings

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### FIRST READING

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life. (Gn 2:7)

### PSALM

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. (Ps 51)

### SECOND READING

For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous. (Rom 5:19)

### GOSPEL

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights. (Mt 4:1-2)

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, 2026

**Sunday** | 1st Sunday of Lent

**Monday** | St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

**Tuesday** |

**Wednesday** |

**Thursday** |

**Friday** | St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

**Saturday** |

**Next Sunday** | 2nd Sunday of Lent

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, 2026

### Sunday

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

### Monday

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46

### Tuesday

Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15

### Wednesday

Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32

### Thursday

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

### Friday

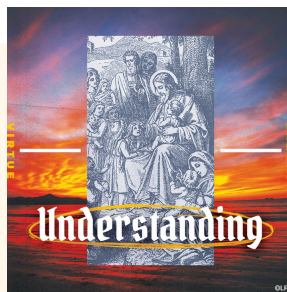
Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26

### Saturday

Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

### Next Sunday

Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9



## VIRTUES, EXPLAINED

### Understanding

“I believe, in order to understand,” said St. Augustine. “And I understand, the better to believe.” The virtue of understanding, which is a gift conferred by the Holy Spirit, shows us that there is no such thing as “blind faith.” Faith, by its very nature, seeks to better understand the object of that faith.

It is important to know that understanding is a process — the Holy Spirit is always willing to give a gift over and over again! “The same Holy Spirit constantly perfects faith by his gifts, so that Revelation may be more and more profoundly understood,” we read in Dei verbum, the dogmatic constitution on divine revelation.

Understanding is the “food” of faith. We must constantly ask the Holy Spirit for greater and more profound understanding, for though understanding proceeds from faith, it in turn nourishes that faith. “A more penetrating knowledge will in turn call forth a greater faith, increasingly set afire by love,” says the Catechism (CCC 158).

## DEVOTIONS, EXPLAINED

### Fasting

The practice of fasting predates Christianity. The Old Testament is full of examples of righteous men and women mortifying their flesh for the purpose of making atonement or simply to grow closer to God. Jesus himself fasted for forty days and forty nights in preparation for the beginning of his public ministry, and we see his disciples following his example in the Acts of the Apostles.

Fasting continues to be an important part of Christian devotional life today. Many people feel the practice of fasting enhances their prayer and helps them fulfill St. Paul’s advice to “put to death the deeds of the body” (Romans 8:13) to grow in the Spirit. Most Catholics will associate fasting with the liturgical season of Lent, which begins and ends with obligatory fasting for all members of the Latin Catholic Church between ages 18 and 59.

# Let us Pray

## JOIN US

### IN SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS

#### Weekday Mass

Mon-Wed 9:00 a.m.  
Thurs 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
Fri-Sat 9:00 a.m.

#### Rosary

Fri Following 9:00 a.m. Mass  
Sat Before 9:00 a.m. Mass

#### Weekend Mass

Sat 5:00 p.m.  
Sun 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m.

#### Reconciliation

Thurs 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  
Fri 9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Sat 4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.  
Other By Appointment

#### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mon 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Thurs 9:45 a.m. - Friday 9:00 a.m.  
(Except during Thursday 7:00 p.m. Mass)

#### Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Fri 8:45 a.m.

### IN REMEMBRANCE/PRAYERS

Please stop by the Parish Office to schedule a Mass for a loved one or those dearly departed. You are also able to honor someone by funding the Flowers in the Sanctuary. The cost of each arrangement is \$115, please visit the office to reserve a weekend.

## MASS INTENTIONS AND PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

### PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL: FEB 21 - MAR 1

† Deceased

#### Saturday, February 21

09:00am Varghese Thomas  
05:00pm † Ed Tarrant

#### Sunday, February 22

08:00am † William Huebner  
10:00am † Mary LeJeune Lemoine  
12:00pm Glenn & Linda Buckingham  
05:00pm People of the Parish

#### Monday, February 23

09:00am † All Souls in Purgatory

#### Tuesday, February 24

09:00am † Mariamma Joseph Marrot

#### Wednesday, February 25

09:00am Mazuviewcheril Family

#### Thursday, February 26

09:00am † Joseph Chacko  
07:00pm † Juana Cedeño, † Jim McIntyre, † LaVerne Wendel,  
† Deceased Rodrigues Family

#### Friday, February 27

09:00am † Esperanza & † Joe Zamora

#### Saturday, February 28

09:00am Stephanie Mathew  
05:00pm Charles and Ann Koo

#### Sunday, March 1

08:00am † Abraham Valuchira  
10:00am † Renee Lyons  
12:00pm † Maria Elena & Luis Garcia  
05:00pm People of the Parish

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THEM

### OUR SICK

Veronika De La Mata	Cindy Corbett
Zelie Murray	Monica Ruiz
Joey Myers	Glenn Peter Wiltz
Gary Bentz	Rose Foucher
Kit Messa	Dorothy Petru
Toni Weber	Marguerite Haas
Mary Maurico	Joe Messina
Guadalupe Nazareno	Solange Gijon
Rosendo Morales	Sally Bentz

### OUR DECEASED

Robert Craig	Renee Lyons
William Martin	Mike Veino
Edwin Borgman	Alma Lechnar

### OUR MILITARY

PFC Jonathon Rivas, US Army	Melina Thompson, US Coast Guard
Major Jose Carrejo, Army Reserve	GSM2 Surface Warfare DePlata
Spec. Nicholas Watts	Lt. Tyson Stickler, US Navy
USN Air Corps Robert Mangan	Juan P. Muniz II, US Navy
Col. James Romero, US Army	SGT Nathan J. Hoelker, US Army
Col. Jonathan Esparza, US Air Force	Capt. Samantha L. Guerrero,
BU3 Matthew Roche	USMC Artillery Division
Sailor Denzel Buzon, US Navy	CPL Andrew Molina, US Army
PVT Jonathan Villasenor, US Army	Cadet David Terrones, USMA
Garrison Phillips, US Army	

# Happening this week

## EVENTS SCHEDULE

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- 01:00am Children's Liturgy of the Word
- 01:00pm Jr. Legion of Mary Meeting
- 02:30pm SAM Filipino Ministry Meeting
- 06:15pm LifeTeen & BEYOND Sessions

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- 04:15pm Elementary Faith Formation Session A
- 05:00pm Legion of Mary Meeting
- 06:00pm Women's ACTS Retreat Team Mtg
- 06:00pm Elementary Faith Formation Session B
- 07:00pm Lectio Divina via Zoom
- 07:00pm Lenten Parish Mission

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 09:00am Mother's Day Out
- 04:15pm Elementary Faith Formation Session C
- 06:00pm Elementary Faith Formation Session D
- 06:00pm Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 07:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 07:00pm Lenten Parish Mission

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- 09:00am Mother's Day Out
- 06:30pm EDGE Session
- 06:30pm SVDP Meeting
- 07:00pm Lenten Parish Mission

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- 06:15am That Man is You (TMIY) Session
- 12:00pm Capital Campaign Reception
- 05:30pm First Eucharistic Workshop
- 06:30pm ACTS Women's Leadership Meeting
- 06:30pm KC Officer's Meeting
- 07:00pm Capital Campaign Reception

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

- 06:00am Men's Scripture Reflection
- 07:00pm Soup & Stations
- 06:00pm St. Monica's Guild Gathering

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

- 09:00am St. Monica's Guild Gathering
- 02:30pm Becoming Catholic OCIA Session
- 05:00pm Breaking Open the Word Session

## PRACTICING CATHOLIC

### Into the Desert

When we first got married, I wanted to know everything my husband was thinking, exactly when he was thinking it.

Thirteen years later, I still want to know it all. But I want to know it after he's had a snack. I think he still wants to know what I'm thinking, too. But he wants to know it after I've had 10 minutes without hearing the word, "Mommy!"

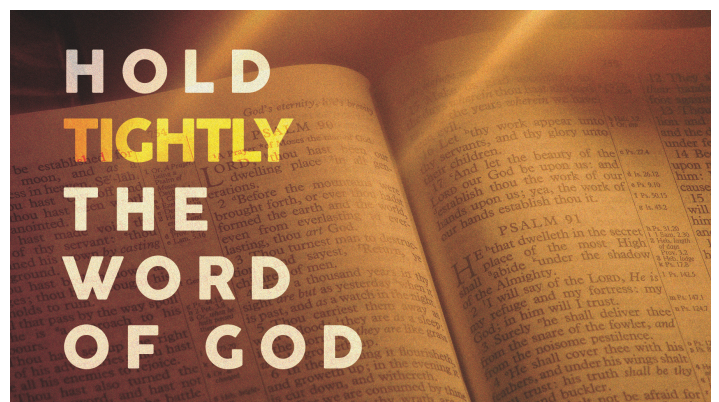
Life has taught us, you see, that it's hard to be a good person, a nice person, a gentle person, when your body doesn't feel good or nice or gentle. When you're hungry. When you're exhausted. When you're anxious. It's not impossible, of course. It's just ... hard.

We're entering a penitential season, a time in which we purposefully deprive ourselves in certain ways. During Lent, we intentionally enter into the desert of physical hunger and weakness. Why, in preparation for Easter and in an effort to spiritually purify ourselves, do we go to this place where it's so hard to be good? Why do we go to the desert?

Because Christ has shown us that the desert is where decisions are made. There are many reasons why the Word became flesh to accomplish God's plan for our salvation. But I think one of the most important reasons must have been that God wanted to show us that He knows, intimately, how easily the devil exploits our physical experience of this world. We see it in today's Gospel: Jesus, hungry and weary. Jesus, taunted and tempted.

We see him. We recognize him. We are him. And we hear his voice, even though it trembles with fatigue: "Get away, Satan!" Today, we enter the desert. Because the desert is where decisions are made.

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman



# Spiritual Journey



## SACRAMENT INFORMATION



### Baptism

To baptize your child at our parish, you must be a registered parishioner or live within our boundaries. For children older than age seven or Adults seeking Baptism, please contact the Parish office for information about the RCIA process.

### Holy Matrimony

Engaged couples should contact the Parish office nine to twelve months prior to the anticipated wedding date to begin the marriage preparation process at St Angela Merici. One member of the engaged couple needs to be a Baptized Catholic.

### Anointing of the Sick/Homebound

Any parishioner who is scheduled for surgery is encouraged to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, prior to hospitalization. We will hold an anointing of the sick every other month on the second Saturday during the 9AM mass. Parishioners who are seriously ill, and the elderly may also be anointed. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

### First Communion/First Reconciliation

Students preparing for their First Reconciliation and First Eucharist, at a minimum, must have regularly attended Catholic Faith Formation classes the year prior to their sacrament year (this could be through a parish Faith Formation program or Catholic school) and be at least seven years of age.

### Confirmation

Confirmation at St. Angela Merici must have at least one year prior preparation in Life Teen, Faith Formation or Catholic school and then complete a year of immediate preparation before receiving the sacrament and be at least in tenth grade.

To learn more about any of the Sacraments at St. Angela Merici please scan the QR code or call the Parish Office at 281-778-0400.

## SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

St. Angela Merici has experienced Spiritual Directors to accompany you (in English and in Spanish) as you more deeply explore your questions about a relationship with God and others. Here are some gifts of spiritual direction:

- Notice and savor your experiences of God.
- Grow in relationship with God, self, others, and creation.
- Deepen your freedom to live a more authentic life.
- Integrate spirituality into your daily life.
- Find understanding, encouragement, and affirmation.
- Celebrate joys and share losses.

To meet with a spiritual director or to obtain more information contact Maria Kotsonis: mariakotsonis7@gmail.com or call 832-612-6905.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

#### Matthew 4:1-11

In my second-to-last year of seminary, I woke up one September morning to devastating news: two beloved classmates had died in a car crash. I was overwhelmed with grief and anger like I had never known. I entered therapy for the first time and had intense conversations with my spiritual director. For months I felt lost in a spiritual wilderness. But something unexpected happened: I encountered Christ there. The fear and sorrow didn't destroy me. In fact, that spiritual desert was a time of intense growth in faith.

Today's Gospel begins: "Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil" (Matthew 4:1). The word "led" denotes a gentle, humble submission to the Spirit. Jesus does not send himself into this desolate place where wild beasts roam and Satan tempts. Who wants to be around roaming, wild beasts? The Church Fathers saw them as symbols of our inner chaos: fears, temptations, wounds. The Spirit leads us there, sometimes against our wishes. But those same Fathers also saw that this deserted place is also where angels ministered to Jesus, amidst his great trial and temptation.

Lenten Challenge: This Lent and throughout life's struggles, the Spirit leads you and me into the wilderness. Name one "desert" into which the Spirit has led you: perhaps grief, fear, silence, change, disappointment. Ask for the grace to go there willingly. The beasts may be real, but they will not harm you. There, the angels are waiting to minister to the Christ living in you, who always goes where the Spirit leads.

— **Father John Muir**

## Elementary Faith Formation



### ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION

Class/Lesson this week will be covering Vocations. First Sacrament Families – Our last Parent and child workshop will be this Thursday. Contact the office if you have any questions or concerns. Youth and Family Soup and Stations - Mother's Day Out, Elementary Faith, Edge, and Lifeteen will be hosting Soup and Stations on Friday, March 13th. See your email to sign up to bring items, clean up, or have your child be a reader. Elementary Faith Formation Calendar for 2025-2026 can be found on the website using the QR code here.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLOW)

Led by two adults, CLOW invites children grades K-2 to gather every Sunday during the 10am Mass for the Liturgy of the Word readings on a child's developmental level. The children are invited to join the Faith Sharers after the Gloria and process reverently to the St. Angela Merici room in the back of church. They are then led back into the church and return to their parents for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. No registration is needed for the children.



## Youth Ministry



### EDGE/LIFETEEN

We are looking forward to our spring retreats, St. Angela Merici Middle School Retreat, Sat, March 7th and St. Angela Merici Life Teen Retreat, Sat, April 11th .

### CONFIRMATION

Mark your calendars!! Our Confirmation students will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, June 27th .

### SUMMER SAVE THE DATE

Middle School Day Camp will be held July 7-10. This 4-day camp is open to incoming 6th graders to outgoing 8th graders. More info to come. Steubenville Retreat. This year our youth will be headed to the Youth Conference in Dallas June 19-21. This retreat is for incoming 9th graders to outgoing 12th graders.



## Mother's Day Out



### AROUND MDO

Go Texan Day is right around the corner, and we're excited to celebrate with fun activities and festive attire. This month's religious focus is on praying throughout the year and understanding why prayer matters in our daily lives. The children are also beginning to learn and practice The Lord's Prayer.

### NOW HIRING SUBSTITUTES

MDO is currently hiring Substitute Teachers to support our classrooms as needed. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Meredith Canny at 281-778-0400 for more information.

### PRE-SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP

Summer Camp registration is coming soon! Here are the Summer Camp 2026 dates: Land Camp: June 16-18; Sky Camp: June 23-25 Sea Camp: June 30-July 2 Get ready for an exciting summer of adventure and learning.





# LENT

at

## ST. ANGELA MERICI CATHOLIC CHURCH



Sunday, February 22, 2026 | First Sunday of Lent | [Matthew 4:1-11](#)

Friends, today's Gospel tells of the Lord's temptation in the desert. After forty days of fasting in the desert (evocative of Israel's forty years of wandering in the desert), Jesus meets the devil, who proceeds to lure the Messiah onto the path of sin. Jesus' sacrifice will entail his coming to battle sin at close quarters, his willingness, therefore, to be drawn by its power, to come under its sway.

Satan first tempts him with sensual pleasure: "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." One of the most elemental forms of spiritual dysfunction is to make the satisfaction of sensual desire the center of one's life. Jesus responds: "One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God."

Jesus enters, through psychological and spiritual identification, into the condition of the person lured by this sin, but then he manages to withstand the temptation and in fact to twist this perversion back to rectitude.

Bishop Robert Barron



## *Lenten Happenings in our Parish*

- **Soup & Stations:** Every Friday during Lent. Join us for a simple soup Dinner at 6PM, followed by Stations of the cross at 7PM.
- **Lenten Parish Mission:** February 23,24,25. Join us for three powerful evenings with Mark and Katie Hartfiel as they guide us on a meaningful Lenten journey: "From the Desert to the Cross: A Battle Plan for Your Lenten Journey."
- **Lenten Day of Reflection:** Saturday, March 14 from 9AM to 3PM. the Knights of Columbus invite men and women of the parish for a Lenten Day of Reflection. We will attend 9AM Mass followed by sessions of videos and small group discussion in the PLC. Theme: "Forty Days More" Jonah's Call to Repentance and God's Mercy Today. Lunch will be provided so registration is required.
- **Lenten Penance Service:** Monday, March 23 from 7:00-9:00PM. There will be several priests available to hear confession.

# Parish and Community Life



## LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION

As we approach Holy Week, the Knights of Columbus invite men and women of the parish to join us on Saturday, March 14 for a Lenten Day of Reflection. We will begin by attending the 9AM mass. This will be followed by sessions of instructive videos and small group discussion in the PLC. Theme: "Forty Days More" Jonah's Call to Repentance and God's Mercy Today. Please scan the QR code here for details! Lunch will be provided so registration is required. For any questions, please email [fjacobs9269@gmail.com](mailto:fjacobs9269@gmail.com)



## LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

Join us on Monday, March 23 from 7:00-9:00PM for a Lenten Penance Service. Communal celebration shows more clearly the ecclesial nature of penance. Several priests will be available to hear individual confessions and reconcile the penitents.



## ST. MONICA'S GUILD

Do You Want to Help Bring Your Loved Ones Back to the Church? Join us for the St. Monica's Guild Foundational Gathering — a powerful time of prayer, fellowship, and mission. St. Monica's Guild is a ministry dedicated to interceding for our loved ones and inviting them back to the fullness of faith in the Church. This inspiring gathering will introduce the Guild's mission and vision, explore the power of intercessory prayer, and show how the Holy Spirit equips us to serve. Scan QR code here for info.

Friday, February 27 | 6:00–9:00 PM

Sat, February 28 | 9:00 AM–6:00 PM

Location: PLC



## PARISH LENTEN MISSION

Join us for our Parish Lenten Mission next week!

February 23, 24 & 25, 2026; 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Join us for three powerful evenings with Mark and Katie Hartfiel as they guide us on a meaningful Lenten journey: "From the Desert to the Cross: A Battle Plan for Your Lenten Journey." Through reflection, inspiration, and practical faith tools, this mission will help prepare our hearts for Easter. Scan the QR code to learn more about the three-day mission, explore how the theme will unfold, and meet our mission speakers. Come, be renewed, and walk the journey together this Lent!



## FORTY CANS FOR LENT

The Knights of Columbus will be conducting their annual 40 Cans for Lent food drive. All parishioners are asked to donate 40 non-perishable food items as part of their charitable outreach. It's as easy as 7 items per week. Donations can be placed in the collection bin located in the narthex. All items will be sent to local food pantries. Thanks to your generosity we were able to donate over 1,500 pounds of food last year. Let's try and exceed that amount and go for 2,000 pounds this year. If you need more information please contact Truitt Raun ([truitt.raun@gmail.com](mailto:truitt.raun@gmail.com)).



## SOUP AND STATIONS

Join us for soup and stations every Friday during Lent. Join us for a simple soup Dinner at 6PM, followed by Stations of the Cross at 7PM. This event is graciously hosted by our Faith Formation teams.



# Parish and Community Life



## MIDDLE SCHOOL DAY RETREAT

Prepare for a Heavenly Getaway! You are invited to a special day retreat where we will focus on our "Destination Heaven" with time for joyful play, heartfelt service and meaningful prayer. The retreat begins at 10:00AM in the PLC and concludes at 7:00PM in the church. The \$50 cost includes lunch, snacks, and a T-shirt. Registration closes on Friday, February 20, 2026. Scan here for more information and to register today, spots will be limited!



## WOMEN'S ACTS RETREAT

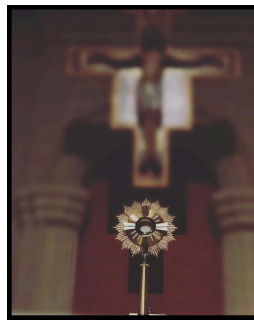
We invite you to join us on this year's Women's ACTS Retreat! The ACTS retreat meets ladies where they are in their spiritual journey and invites them to experience God in a manner that is both personal and communal. Retreatants leave evening of Thursday, May 7 and return on Sunday, May 10 for the 12:00PM Mass. The cost is \$280 for a private room and includes all meals, activities, and transportation. You must be at least 21 years of age to attend. Registration will be on a first come first-serve basis, with a waiting list thereafter. Questions: Please contact Michelle Espinosa at samactswomen@gmail.com. If you are unable to pay all or part of the fee, arrangements can be made. Register using the QR code here.



## ATTEND ADORATION

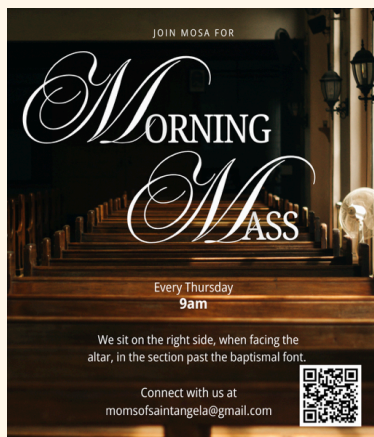
Have you visited the Blessed Sacrament in the New Year? Have you thought about worshipping Jesus Christ outside of Mass? This is a time to pray and be in the presence of Christ. The consecrated Eucharist is displayed in a monstrance on the altar. You are invited to come and go and spend as much time as you like. Everyone is welcome to spend time with our Lord. Please note our weekly adoration schedule below:

- Monday: 4:00pm - 9:00pm
- Thursday: 9:45am - 11:59pm
- Friday: 12:00am - 6:00am (by appt);
- Friday: 6:00am-8:45am



## MOMS OF ST. ANGELA

Come join us this Thursday for 9am Mass followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet. We would love for homeschooling families and moms with young children to join us! After the Chaplet, we will meet at a park for a play date.



## SAM SENIOR'S FIRE SAFETY MEETING

The SAM Seniors of St. Angela Merici Parish were pleased to welcome Lt. Satterwhite of the Missouri City Fire Department on February 5th, the first Thursday of the month when SAM Seniors hold their regular meetings, for an engaging and highly practical presentation on Fire Safety. Special thanks to Lt. Satterwhite for his clear, engaging, and approachable delivery, and for equipping our parish community with knowledge that promotes safety, preparedness, and peace of mind.



# Parish and Community Life

A huge THANK YOU goes out to all of our generous sponsors. We could not pull off the Gumbo Cookoff and Carnival without your support from the Youth Ministry Team.

## THANK YOU!



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## WHISPERS OF WISDOM

These 40 days of Lent seem intimidating, especially hearing about the Fall of Man in today’s first reading (Gn 3:1-7). Adam and Eve were eventually banished from the Garden of Eden so how are we supposed to feel if we’re all implicated in this sin based on their disobedience (CCC 402)? Will banishment come if we don’t clean up our act come Easter? Never fear, Paul’s letter to the Romans provides hope to succeed, knowing the doors towards salvation and redemption are always open.

Yes, sin reigned from Adam to Moses, even for those who weren’t at fault, but the gift left by Jesus counteracts the transgressions left by man including its consequences (Rom 5:14-15). Paul is saying, out with old and in with the new as Jesus opens a window after Adam and Eve shut the door for us. The Lenten season isn’t exile or a jail sentence, it’s a spiritual reminder for us to remain vigilant.

Even though our baptism erased original sin, the consequences for nature, weakened and inclined to evil, persists in us and summons us for spiritual battle (CCC 405). This leads us to today’s gospel reading where Jesus fixes the mistake made in Eden (Mt 4:10-11), leaving us an example to follow during these 40 days (Mt 4:2). Jesus’ death and resurrection lays the foundation since He’s the bridge between us and God. If you still feel unworthy, I encourage each and every one of you to focus on how God will work His redemption through your faults and shortcomings this season.

Take Cheri Norris for example, she earned a trip to prison after entertaining addictions to drugs and alcohol. After finding God, becoming sober, and serving her time, she founded Cornbread Hustle, a successful employment agency specializing in finding employment for those who have served their time from incarceration and addiction recovery. Then there’s Frank Abagnale, Jr. who was convicted of check forgery and bank fraud for an amount in excess of \$2.5 million across 26 states. After imprisonment, he turned the corner and became a security consultant so he can leverage his expertise to advise the FBI and banks on preventing forgery, fraud, and embezzlement. And don’t forget the “Christian hater” turned missionary named St. Paul, eventually spreading Christianity after his time-out (temporary blindness).

These examples show that there is no such thing as a bad situation since all roads lead to God’s greater purpose and glory. As we enter this Lenten season, pray and ask God to transform your heart into a living testimony of His Redemption. And don’t worry about being an unworthy sinner because I’m looking forward to hearing about your redemption journey come Easter with hopes of writing about it for this space sometime soon.

**Joseph Mathai Olickan, Jr.**  
**St. Angela Merici Acolyte**

## Parish and Community Life

### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us for a Lectio on Peter (March–May 2026). From impulsive fisherman to the rock of the Church, discover the remarkable transformation of St. Peter. Join Dr. Tim Gray for an engaging study drawing on Scripture, history, art, and Church teaching. If Christ could work through Peter, there's hope for us all. Scan the QR code to learn more, register, and view the full list of session topics.

Tuesdays sessions, 2 options

In person: 10:00 AM–12:00PM

Virtual: 6:30–8:00 PM.



### NOW HIRING

We are seeking a part-time Elementary Faith Formation Assistant to support our faith formation classes and sacramental preparation programs, including First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

Position Details:

- Approximately 20–25 hours per week
- Hours: Monday and Tuesday 3:00p - 7:45p for classes during school time, flexible hours otherwise, 4 Saturday mornings a year
- Proficiency in data entry, Microsoft Word, and Excel required

Please submit resume by scanning the QR code here. For any questions, please email Crystal Iscovitz: [businessmgr@stamericigh.com](mailto:businessmgr@stamericigh.com).



### SPIRITUALITY BOOK CLUB

St. Angela's Readings in Spirituality Book Club has chosen Jesus Wept by Bruce Marchiano for its Lenten selection. The book is a reflection on two words from the Gospel of St. John--"Jesus wept" and what this experience conveys to us about God's experience of and response to human tragedy.

The Book Club will meet on Wed. March 11th at 7PM in the Parish Office Conference Room to discuss the book. All are welcome. If you have any questions, contact Kevin Corbett at [kcorbett01@yahoo.com](mailto:kcorbett01@yahoo.com).



### SAM SENIORS MINISTRY MEETING

All parishioners over the age of 55 are welcome to attend the SAM Seniors meeting on Thursday, March 5th from 10am to 12pm in the SAM room, which is inside the Church. We had a great meeting in February on Fire Safety. We always host a Potluck so please bring a dish if you like. New guests do not need to bring anything, except your appetite!

We will have a representative from 'Gratia Plena'. Gratia Plena is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that offers mental and spiritual health services to people suffering from mental illness, addictions, and marriage and family problems, and the spiritual distress that commonly results from these struggles, delivered in a way that is faithful to the teachings, values, and traditions of the Catholic Church. The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston canonically approved Gratia Plena as a Private Association of the Christian Faithful for the archdiocese. If you have any questions, please call Christine Stephenson - 281-380-4801.

### NEW PARISHIONERS

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# Parish and Community Life



## PUSHPAY

Thank you so much for your ongoing generosity and support of St. Angela Merici. We have transitioned to a new and improved online giving platform called Pushpay, and we need your help in moving your recurring gift over to the new system. The good news is—it only takes a few minutes to make the switch. Use the QR code here for help in setting up your Pushpay donation. For any issues, please call the Parish office at 281-778-0400.



## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Lent is a call to “give alms for the poor.” Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell. Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor.

Join us for our upcoming meeting: Wednesday, February 25 at 6:30PM in the SAM room. If you would like to learn more about volunteering, please contact Maggie Woods: [stamsvdp@gmail.com](mailto:stamsvdp@gmail.com).



If you or someone you know is in need, please call the SAM SVDP Help Line: 281-710-2002.

## SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE

The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston requires compliance 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. To report suspected abuse of a minor (person under 18 yrs old by an unknown perpetrator, member of the clergy or by an employee or volunteer of the Archdiocese, please immediately contact Child Protective Services (CPS) of the TX Department of Family and Protective Services 800.252.5400 and the local police Department. Please also contact Diane Vines, Victims' Assistance Coordinator: [vac@archgh.org](mailto:vac@archgh.org) or 713-654-5799 (confidential voicemail).



## DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND

The Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) is an annual effort of our local Church that provides essential support for 64 ministries that serve those in need in our Archdiocese. The broad areas of ministry that receive DSF support include: Catholic education of children and adults; pastoral ministries for the sick, the poor and the incarcerated; the formation and education of church leadership; and social service programs such as San José Clinic, St. Dominic Village and Catholic Charities. Please use the QR code to donate today to this special cause.

## FORMED

St. Angela Merici has subscribed to a dynamic new online platform called FORMED. Every parishioner has 24/7 access to the best Catholic content on any device, including your computer, smartphone, and TV with internet access. Content is also available to download for use without the internet. Registering for FORMED is easier than ever, just scan the QR code here and then select your parish and register with your name and email address.



## PARISH EMAIL SCAM

Recently, there has been an increase in reports of fraudulent email solicitations for financial support and meeting requests. These scams are coming from email accounts or text messages identifying as Archdiocesan priests or Parish staff. As a reminder, priests/churches would never make such appeals to our parish community. We advise you to please notify the church office immediately if you receive any unfamiliar donation requests or emails. You can also report spam to the Federal Trade Commission by forwarding the spam email directly to [reportphishing@apwg.org](mailto:reportphishing@apwg.org)

# Donations

## CHARITY IS PRICELESS

### FEBRUARY 15TH COLLECTIONS

Sixth Sunday Ordinary Time	\$14,321
Registered Parishioners	2320

### MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

January Monthly Budget	\$115,208
January Offertory	\$59,109
January Online Giving	\$74,933
Total Contributions	\$134,042
OVER/UNDER January	\$18,834
OVER/UNDER Fiscal YTD	\$23,024

### DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND (DSF)

2026 DSF Goal	\$95,675
Amount Received	\$7,422

## WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE

### ONLINE

[stamericigh.com/contribute-to-our-parish](http://stamericigh.com/contribute-to-our-parish)

### PUSHPAY

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### FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

Monica Agostinelli | [stangelafundraising@gmail.com](mailto:stangelafundraising@gmail.com)

## UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION DATES

St. Vincent de Paul - Local - 3/8

Catholic Relief Services Collection (formerly ABOA) - 3/15

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN RECEPTIONS

Everyone should have received an invitation to attend a reception for the Our Faith, Our Future Capital Campaign. Receptions are informational meetings that give you the opportunity to learn about the campaign and how you can get involved. They are also a great time to gather and to meet some of your fellow parishioners. These receptions last about an hour and light refreshments are served for the evening ones and a light lunch at the one's at noon. To RSVP please call the parish office at 281-778-0400, email [campaign@stamericigh.com](mailto:campaign@stamericigh.com). We look forward to seeing you there!



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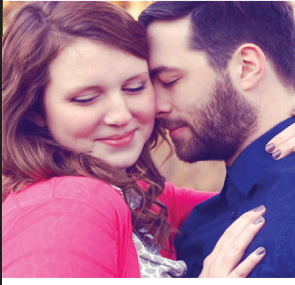
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