



St. Thomas More Catholic Church

10205 N. FM 620, Austin, TX 78726 ~ (512) 258-1161 ~ www.stmaustin.org

May 23, 2021 ~ Pentecost Sunday

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Mass Readings and Intentions

Monday, May 24th - Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Gn 3:9-20; Ps 87; Jn 19:25-34

8:30am Communion Service

Tuesday, May 25th - St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church;

St. Gregory VII, Pope; St. Mary Magdalene de 'Pazzi, Virgin

Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50; Mk 10:28-31

8:30am †Helen M. Armitage

†Guillermo Amaly

Wednesday, May 26th - Memorial of St. Philip Neri, Priest

Sir 36:1-17; Ps 79; Mk 10:32-45

8:30am †Maureen O'Connor

Thursday, May 27th - St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

Sir 42:15-25; Ps 33; Mk 10:46-52

8:30am †William Mosholder

†Christopher Dias

Friday, May 28th

Sir 44:1-13; Ps 149; Mk 11:11-26

8:30am Intentions of David Lohrstorfer

Sunday, May 30th - Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

Dt 4:32-40; Ps 33; Rom 8:14-17; Mt 28:16-20

Vigil:

5:00pm †Basil Attal

†Edwin Morris

7:30am Intentions of all St. Thomas More Parishioners

9:00am †Yvonne Ferguson

†Maria Williams

10:45am †Lillian Frerichs

5:00pm †David Hundley

LIVING THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

The gospel reading during Mass on Pentecost day tells us of Jesus' appearance to his apostles in Jerusalem on Easter evening. He enters the locked room in which the disciples had barricaded themselves out of fear and offers them two gifts: his peace and the breath of the Holy Spirit. We heard these same words on the Second Sunday of Easter, but on Pentecost Sunday, we focus on the sharing of the Holy Spirit. With the breath of the Holy Spirit, the disciples are transformed into a new creation; they become sharers in the life of Christ, who has conquered death and darkness, and they are to bear this life to the world through their preaching, healing and forgiving. Throughout the seasons of Lent and Easter, we have been strengthened and fortified by ongoing conversion to the Lord through penance and prayer. Now we, too, are sent forth to live in the world in a different way than we did before. Alive with the breath of the Holy Spirit, we are to use the different gifts and talents we have been given to live out Christ's forgiveness and peace in the world.

Bulletin Deadline

Submissions for the June 6th bulletin are due no later than 12:00pm on Thursday, May 27th. Please submit all requests to Val Olivas at volivas@stmaustin.org.

To Reach a Priest in an Emergency: During Office Hours: (512) 258-1161 or
After Hours: (512) 258-1161, Opt. 1

Prayer Requests:

Tim Anderson
Elizabeth Armes
Emil Balusek
Whitney Brun
Mollie Bustos
Jessica Dapper
Frank DiLorenzo
Katie DiLorenzo
Gail Duffin
Vivian Duffin
Jo Falkenstein
Ame Frezza
Jose Garcia
Marilyn Garcia
Nancy Gilbert
Michael Hanson
Andre Hebert
Lisa Horvath
Kris Kapchinski
Jason Mikolajek
Cindy Molina
Normand Morneau
Virginia Morneau
Ron Muessel
John Nemetz
Pascal Riccio
Kevin Sutherland
Dorothy Thompson
Stan Urban
Bernadette Vogel
Jennifer Wiegand
Kerry Wolf

Please pray for the well-being of our fellow parishioners and nursing home residents.

Prayer for the Sick

Almighty and Everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in You, hear us on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

STEWARDSHIP

May Contributions

Week Ending May 16th

Envelope Collection:	\$ 19,671.51
eGiving Collection:	\$ 15,276.15
eGiving Text Collection:	\$ 50.00
Total Weekly Collections:	\$ 34,997.66

THANK YOU for your continuously **OVERWHELMING** generosity! You are truly a blessing to our parish!

Parish Offertory Opportunities

ONLINE GIVING: Please visit our parish website at: www.stmaustin.org, or you may use the QR code below.

TEXT A DONATION: Simply text your donation amount to 855-892-3931.

DROP BOX or MAIL:

A drop box is located at the parish office, or you may mail donations to:

10205 N FM 620
Austin, TX 78726

QR CODE:



Thank you all so much for your continued faithfulness and dedication to our parish now and always!

A Stewardship Moment in Time ~ Pentecost Sunday

Today we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, the birth of the Church and the beginning of its mission in the world. Pentecost Sunday reminds us that our lives are filled with the Holy Spirit and that God has accomplished creative things in us through this gift. We have been entrusted with this great gift of the Holy Spirit. This great gift empowers us to be bold proclaimers of the Gospel in word and deed. It urges us to speak truth to power. It encourages us to use words and exhortations and even arguments that are meant to heal, show care and compassion and to reconcile. Now is a good time to ask: Are we being good stewards of this gift of the Holy Spirit? What creative things have we done to glorify God's accomplishments in us?

Feast of St. Philip Neri ~ May 26th ~ Stewardship Saint for May



St. Philip was born in 1515 in Florence, Italy during a time of intensive reform and vigorous renewal in the Church. The Council of Trent convened on three occasions during his lifetime. He went to Rome in 1532 where he lived in extreme poverty, but devoted himself to visiting the sick and helping poor children. With his engaging style, he evangelized young Florentines of the banking and merchant class. He arranged informal prayer and discussion groups. In 1548, he established an organization to provide hospitality for pilgrims to Rome and to care for shut-ins. At the urging of his confessor, St. Philip at age 36, was ordained a priest. He soon earned a reputation for being an outstanding confessor and spiritual director; gifted with being able to pierce the pretenses and illusions of others and to help them see the truth about themselves. He received penitents and visitors from all walks of life, from cardinals to the very poor. Many were attracted by the warmth of his personality, his wit, unpretentiousness and cheerfulness. Some of St. Philip's followers became priests and eventually became the Congregation of the Oratory. They are best known in England through their most famous member, Cardinal John Henry Newman. St. Philip and the Oratorians introduced a new style of personal spirituality for the laity, and encouraged them to give public testimony to their faith, put on theatrical productions and compose and play songs with religious themes. He was known as the "apostle of Rome" for evangelizing and reviving a spirit of faith among the city's populace. He is the patron saint of the city of Rome.



ADORATION

Monday - Friday
from 9:00am - 10:00pm

To sign up for Adoration,
please visit stm.weadorehim.com



CONFESSION

Wednesday
from 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Saturday
from 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Pentecost Sunday in the Catholic Church



Pentecost Sunday is one of the most ancient feasts of the Church, celebrated early enough to be mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles (20:16) and St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (16:8). It supplants the Jewish feast of Pentecost, which took place 50 days after the Passover and which celebrated the sealing of the Old Covenant on Mount Sinai. For Christians, it is the 50th day after Easter. On Pentecost Sunday, when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, they were granted the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Those gifts helped them to fulfill their mission to preach the Gospel to all nations. For us, too, those gifts-granted when we are infused with sanctifying grace, the life of God in our souls-help us to live a Christian life. After Christ's Ascension into Heaven, the Apostles knew that He had promised to send His Spirit, but they didn't know exactly what that would mean. Granted the gifts of the Spirit at Pentecost, however, they were emboldened to speak the Good News to all men. On that first Pentecost Sunday, over 3,000 people were converted and baptized. The example of the Apostles shows that the gifts of the Holy Spirit lead to the fruits of the Holy Spirit-works that we can only perform through the assistance of the Holy Spirit. Between Ascension Thursday and Pentecost Sunday, the Apostles and the Blessed Virgin Mary spent nine days in prayer, waiting for the fulfillment of Christ's promise to send His Spirit. This was the origin of the novena, that became one of the most popular forms of Christian intercessory prayer, asking God for something. From the earliest days of the Church, the period between Ascension and Pentecost has been celebrated by praying the Novena to the Holy Ghost, asking God the Father to send His Spirit and to grant us the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit.

A Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit



Holy Spirit, divine Consoler, I adore You as my true God, with God the Father and God the Son. I adore You and unite myself to the adoration You receive from the angels and saints. I give You my heart and I offer my ardent thanksgiving for all the grace which You never cease to bestow on me. O Giver of all supernatural gifts, who filled the soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with such immense favors, I beg You to visit me with Your grace and Your love and to grant me the **gift of holy fear**, so that it may act on me as a check to prevent me from falling back into my past sins, for which I beg pardon. Grant me the **gift of piety**, so that I may serve You for the future with increased fervor, follow with more promptness Your holy inspirations, and observe your divine precepts with greater fidelity. Grant me the **gift of knowledge**, so that I may know the things of God and, enlightened by Your holy teaching, may walk, without

deviation, in the path of eternal salvation. Grant me the **gift of fortitude**, so that I may overcome courageously all the assaults of the devil, and all the dangers of this world which threaten the salvation of my soul. Grant me the **gift of counsel**, so that I may choose what is more conducive to my spiritual advancement and may discover the wiles and snares of the tempter. Grant me the **gift of understanding**, so that I may apprehend the divine mysteries and by contemplation of heavenly things detach my thoughts and affections from the vain things of this miserable world. Grant me the **gift of wisdom**, so that I may rightly direct all my actions, referring them to God as my last end; so that, having loved Him and served Him in this life, I may have the happiness of possessing Him eternally in the next. Amen.

Parish COVID-19 Safety Protocols

We have been excitedly welcoming additional parishioners back to in-person worship over the past few weeks! We have made some adjustments here at St. Thomas More recently:

- ⇒ We have removed all the ropes in between the pews which means that every pew is now open at all Masses. However, we do ask you to keep the social distancing requirements from your fellow parishioners within the pews.
- ⇒ We still require masks to be worn throughout the Liturgy and ask that you still make use of the sanitizing stations as you enter and leave the church.
- ⇒ We have also returned to our pre-COVID stations for the distribution of Holy Communion.

As a reminder, if you are experiencing any of the symptoms for COVID-19, please stay home until you feel better.



Eucharistic Minister to the Homebound Training
Friday, May 28th at 10:00am in the Life House

We are offering a training session for Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound. All Ministers must be current on EIM compliance certification to serve in this ministry.



Each day during May, we will pray a decade of the Rosary after daily Mass.



Mary Brings Us to the Heart of her Son

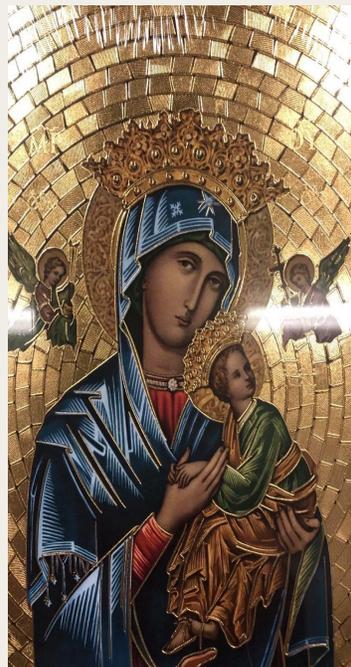
Jesus so loved his mother that his last thoughts on the Cross were of her. He gave her to us as our own mother and wants us to honor her. "Since Mary is rightly to be regarded as the way by which we are led to Christ, the person who encounters Mary cannot help but encounter Christ likewise." (Mense Maio, Blessed Pope Paul VI)

For her "yes." Without fully understanding what God intended, she unhesitatingly agreed to become his mother. Her "yes" made it possible for God to become human and be crucified for our salvation. Following her example means saying "yes" to whatever God asks.

For her sacrifice. Wouldn't you be forever grateful to someone who gave up her child so that you and your loved ones might live? Mary loved her amazing child and she experienced unspeakable heartache as he was sacrificed for us. Praying the Rosary regularly reminds us of the life of Jesus and the desire of his Mother to bring us close to his heart.

St. Thomas More Gift Shop ~ Hours: Sundays, 8:30am - 1:00pm

The month of May calls for devotion to Mary and all mothers. "...Mary, the Mother of Jesus, is a symbol and a role model for all, of sacrifice, of humility and immense love; we pray to God through Mary for humanity, dreams, desires and hopes..." Visit the Gift Shop through May 30th to obtain **15% off of items related to Mary and Mothers!** We look forward to seeing you!



Mother

O LORD, Bestow Your Infinite Grace And Blessing Upon Your Servant.

May Almighty God Grant You Continual Wisdom, Loving Kindness, And The Strength To Keep Us Together As A Happy Family.

May All Your Days Be Filled With Love and Joy, HAPPINESS And PEACE, Be HIS Strength In Your Arm And His Love In Your Soul.

May God Defend You From All Harm And Shower His Blessing Upon You Now And For Evermore

FAITH FORMATION

Director: Chris Scroggin

512-258-1944 x222

cscroggin@stmaustin.org



Vacation Bible School ~ July 12th - 16th, 2021!

Embark on an epic quest as we present **Treasured: Discovering You're Priceless to God**. We will journey through hidden ruins, ancient caves and dense jungles to help kids discover God's greatest treasure isn't diamonds, gems or gold, it's them! Join us virtually from the comfort of your own home! To register, please visit stmaustin.org/vacation-bible-school.

Cap and Gown Celebration of Mass

Thank you to all of those who were in attendance on Sunday, May 16th at the Cap and Gown Mass. It was a true joy to see you and to share in this awesome time for you. May you continue to stay rooted in your faith and know that we are so very proud of you all! - Logan Mayes



Congratulations, Class of 2021!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Director: Dawn Rouen

512-258-1944 x235

dawn@stmaustin.org

Have YOU
Thought About
BECOMING
CATHOLIC?

Are you searching for:

- ✝ A deeper relationship with God?
- ✝ A greater awareness of how God is at work in your life?

To receive an introduction to the Catholic faith, check out RCIA! Contact Dawn at (512) 258-1944, ext. 235 to learn more.



SOCIAL OUTREACH

Director: Jennifer Bibbo

512-258-1161, x256

jbibbo@stmaustin.org

Catholic Social Teaching ~ Pentecost Sunday

The Easter flame opens up this day to Pentecostal fire as we celebrate the sending of the Spirit who makes us God's new creation. There is no return to business as usual, through the action of the Holy Spirit we stand now, as Jesus did, proclaiming in word and deed the saving love of God and the coming of God's reign. Today is not the end of a season, but a celebration of the mission for which we were baptized. Let our alleluias continue to ring as we continue this great mission given us by God!

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

If you or someone you know is struggling with the loss of a loved one, please prayerfully consider attending (or inviting them to attend) the St. Thomas More Grief and Loss Support Group. This is a Catholic, eight-week guided and collaborative support group. Our goal is to find God the Divine Healer in our suffering and together seek His healing.

What: Grief and Loss Support Group

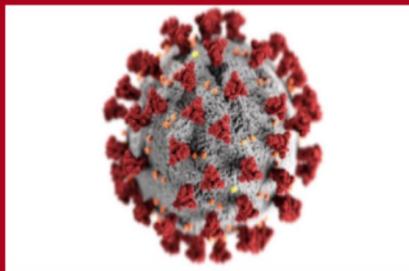
When: Monday's June 7th - July 26th

Time: 9:30am - 11:30am

To register, please visit stmaustin.org/pastoral-care.

For any questions, please contact Jennifer Bibbo at (512) 258-1161, ext. 256 or jbibbo@stmaustin.org.

COVID-19 Vaccine for Homebound Parishioners



Our church has been contacted by the University of Texas Health Mobile Vaccine Clinic offering to vaccinate our homebound parishioners. If you have a friend or family member who can benefit from this service, please visit the link below to register.

REGISTER HERE: <http://bit.ly/2RqELvD>

How it Works:

UT Health is utilizing their remaining doses at the end of each day. They are sending out two of their volunteers to travel to homes and administer vaccines. One of the volunteers will contact the homebound individual to make the same-day appointment around lunch time. The actual appointment for the vaccine will likely be between 7:00pm and 9:30pm that evening.

Currently, St. Thomas More is offering this service for our homebound parishioners only. After these individuals have been vaccinated, we will then begin to offer this same service to other individuals living within our church boundaries.

Additionally, if you are in the 1A, 1B, 1C, caregiver, teacher or 65+ classes of individuals who need assistance receiving a vaccine, please reach out to Jennifer Bibbo for scheduling assistance at jbibbo@stmaustin.org or (512) 258-1161, ext. 256.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

High School Retreat for Young Men



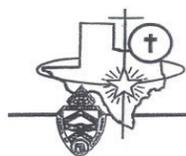
Quo Vadis is a weekend away with the Lord and with other young men who love Him. Join our Vocation Director, Fr. Greg Gerhart, seminarians of the diocese, and other high schoolers for a fun retreat as they seek to

know their calling as Christian men. **Retreat runs from June 25th - 27th** and is open to young men who will be in high school during the 2021-2022 academic year. The cost is \$35. To learn more and register, please visit qv.godiscalling.me.



DCCW Convention

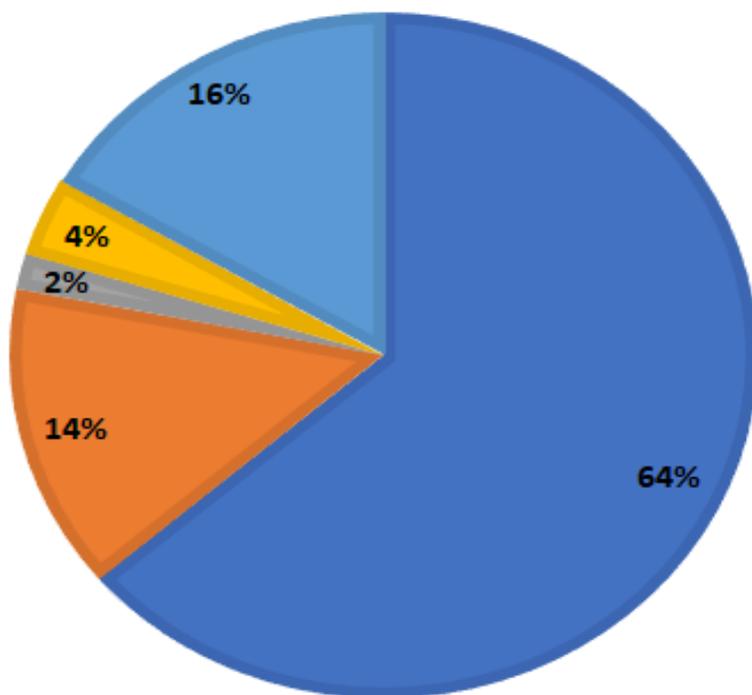
The Austin Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (Austin DCCW) **will host their annual convention June 28th - 29th** in the Parish Hall of St. Luke Parish in Temple. The theme is "Joyfully Caring for God's Creation," and the convention will feature guest speakers discussing timely topics. Bishop Joe Vásquez will celebrate Mass on June 28th at 4:00 pm at St. Luke Parish, afterwards the convention banquet will be held at 6:00 pm. For more information, contact Liz Ellis at (325) 248-4095 or planoellis@aol.com.



DCCW is the voice of Catholic Women speaking through spirituality, service and leadership. Join us!

JAN-MARCH 2021: TOTAL \$35,776.89

■ Housing ■ Utilities ■ Food ■ Other ■ Plus 1



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

St. Thomas More Quarterly Contributions

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is grateful for your generous support! With your donations, we have been able to support our neighbors in need during these difficult times. Christ has no hands and feet but yours.

From a grateful recipient of funds:

"A few years ago, your church assisted me with my stay at InTouch Inn near 183 and Spicewood Springs. I was given \$300.00 toward my hotel stay and \$60.00 in an HEB gift card. I became homeless after I left an abusive marriage. I have no family or friends here in Austin. I am from Illinois. I have never forgotten the kindness you showed me. I will always pay it forward by helping others in need as well. You saved my life when I really needed the help. Thank you so very much!"



Cedarbrake
Catholic Retreat Center

The **Summer Silent Retreat** will be offered June 4th - 9th at Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Temple. Join us for two to five nights. Each day, there will be one morning talk by Franciscan Father Albert Haase, daily Mass, an afternoon devotion and the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and sacred silence. Cost varies based on the number of nights attending.

Catholic Charities of Central Texas ~ Utilities and Financial Stability Assistance



CCCT is partnering with St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Round Rock to provide assistance with Atmos or Reliant Energy bills. Additional assistance may be available based on zip code. For help, please visit St. John Vianney on June 4th or 18th or on June 11th from 9:30am - noon. Please bring a current utility bill and a photo ID.

CCCT also works to eliminate poverty in our community. They offer financial stability services to help prevent homelessness and achieve financial security through case management, education and emergency financial assistance.

For additional information, please visit ccctx.org.

Employment Opportunities at the Diocese of Austin



Associate Director of Planned Giving: This position holds primary responsibility for all planned giving programs, donor relations and manages various projects across multiple programs determined by the Office of Stewardship and Development and the Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Austin.

Assistant Case Manager (Bilingual): This position in the Canonical and Tribunal Department is responsible for assisting the activities and services of the Tribunal Office in processing and monitoring annulment cases from beginning stages to conclusion.

If you are interested in either position,
please visit www.austindiocese.org/employment-diocese-of-austin.

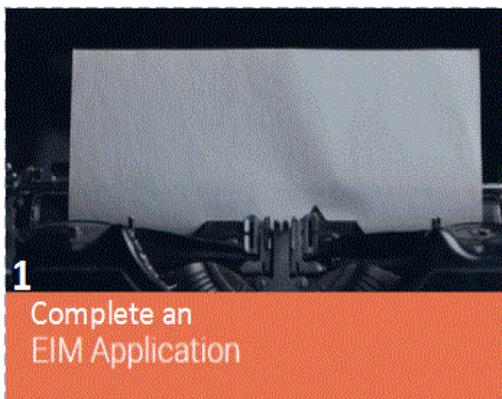
Ethics & Integrity in Ministry (EIM)

Keeping current with EIM training is required for all who serve in ministry at STM. We are a no tolerance parish.

What is Ethics & Integrity in Ministry (EIM)? EIM is a diocesan training and screening process focused on helping our community prevent and respond to abuse. It includes required workshops and background checks for all who work or volunteer in ministry as well as policies for reporting abuse.

Why is EIM required for all who serve in ministry at St. Thomas More? We have a shared commitment to ensuring our parish is a safe place for everyone, especially children and vulnerable adults. The more people who are aware of abuse warning signs the more effective we can be in keeping our communities safe (parish, neighborhood, family, schools). With this in mind, our parish community is committed to following the Diocese of Austin's Ethics and Integrity in Ministry (EIM) policies.

Follow these 3 steps to stay current with EIM:



Complete an
EIM Application



Attend an
EIM Workshop



Renew your
EIM Workshop every 3 years

Visit www.stmaustin.org/eim to get started or log in to eappsdb.com/austin to check on when your EIM Compliance certification expires.

Effective January 1, 2021, the Online EIM Training Course will fulfill the EIM Compliance requirement only for applicants who have an existing EIM account **and** have previously attended an in-person EIM Workshop. Additionally, new and existing applicants who have **never** attended an EIM Workshop in person, must attend an in-person EIM Workshop to fulfill their initial EIM Compliance requirement.

If you are a new or existing applicant who has submitted an EIM application and need to attend an in-person EIM Workshop, please contact our EIM site administrator for Workshop information. Danielle White at dwhite@stmaustin.org or (512) 258-1161.

STM Staff Contacts

Parish Office Hours: Mondays through Thursdays, 9am-12pm and 1pm-5pm
 Fridays, 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm

Main Phone (512) 258-1161			Fax (512) 258-8812		
Pastor	Very Rev. Michael J. O'Connor	frmichael@stmaustin.org	Office Administrator	Debra Lohrstorfer	debra@stmaustin.org
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Anthony Xavier Velpula	franthony@stmaustin.org	Reception	Liz Franklin	efranklin@stmaustin.org
Deacon	Mike Gesch	deaonmike@stmaustin.org	Social Outreach	Jennifer Bibbo	jbibbo@stmaustin.org
Deacon	Dan Lupo	deaondan@stmaustin.org	STM Gift Shop	Rosalie Killian	giftshop@stmaustin.org
Deacon	Tom Mallinger	deacontomm@stmaustin.org	Faith Formation Staff: 512-258-1944		
Deacon	Pat O'Beirne	deaconpat@stmaustin.org	Director	Chris Scroggin	cscroggin@stmaustin.org
Deacon	Pete A. Schwab	deaconpete@stmaustin.org	Asst. Director	Johanna Isburgh	johanna@stmaustin.org
Deacon	Thomas Suniga	deaconthomas@stmaustin.org	Elementary School	Jill Goeters	jill1@stmaustin.org
Accounting	Lori White	lwhite@stmaustin.org	Middle School	Andrea Cochran	andrea@stmaustin.org
Bridal Coordinator	Terry Wilkes	terry@stmaustin.org	Life Teen	Logan Mayes	logan@stmaustin.org
Business Administrator	Andy DeHart	andy1@stmaustin.org	Adult Faith	Dawn Rouen	drouen@stmaustin.org
Communications	Val Olivias	volivas@stmaustin.org	Preschool Staff: 512-258-1721		
Facilities	J.W. Green	jw1@stmaustin.org	Director	Cindy Acosta	cindy1@stmaustin.org
Liturgy	Jennifer Fangman	jfangman@stmaustin.org	Asst. Director	Julie Olesen	jolesen@stmaustin.org
Marriage & Family Life	Denise Abele	dabele@stmaustin.org	Parish Council Chairpersons:		
Membership	Danielle White	dwhite@stmaustin.org	Finance	Ione Voor	954-325-2327
Music	Ren MacNary	ren@stmaustin.org	Pastoral Council	Jim Lonergan	512-940-0924
	Karen Lawson	karen@stmaustin.org	Stewardship	Dan Price	512-970-5710
Nursery	Cindy Acosta	cindy1@stmaustin.org			

STM CARES	Caregiver for a person with dementia?	Struggling with bills?	Want to talk about a difficult time?	Need help with meals?
	New Adventures Respite Group	Society of St. Vincent de Paul		Good Samaritan
	Chantelle Morris	STM Offices	Stephen Ministry	Meal Ministry
	(512) 771-1899	(512) 258-1161	Eileen (512) 507-9563	(480) 788-6325
In need of healing prayer?	Mercy of God Prayer Center (formerly, Chelsea House)		Theresa Stephens (512) 834-6401	

Thank you to these advertisers that support our bulletin!