

This Week on the Lenten Journey

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Bulletin Deadlines

Submissions for the March 19th edition are due by 11:59 p.m. on March 9th. Submissions for the March 26th edition are due by 11:59 p.m. on March 16th. Email asanchez@stmaustin.org for instructions on submitting content for *The Bulletin*.



To Reach a Priest in an Emergency DURING OFFICE HOURS: (512) 258-1161

AFTER HOURS: (512) 258-1161, Opt. 1



Adoration Schedule

MONDAY-FRIDAY 9 a.m.-10 p.m.

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

Parish Staff & Contact Information

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Jeremy Brown
Pastoral Council

Don Rosenberg Finance Council

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 Address
 10205 N FM 620

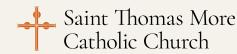
 Austin, TX 78726

Website stmaustin.org

Parish Office Hours

MONDAY-FRIDAY

9 a.m. - 12 noon and 1 - 5 p.m.



The Bulletin March 5, 2023

PARISH LIFE -

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, March 5th

Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 12:1-4a | Ps 33 | 2 Tm 1:8b-10 | Mt 17:1-9

7:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † Thomas & Lorraine Letcher

Coffee & Donuts (Family Center) 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Gift Shop Open -see page 4 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Library Open

Mass (Church) 9 a.m.

Intention: † Eileen Sullivan O'Grady

10:15 a.m. - 12 noon Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (Life House)

10:30 - 11:45 a.m. Adult Study: The Story of Salvation

(Religious Education Building: 213)

10:45 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † Victor Linan Liturgy of the Word for Children and

Childcare available

Elementary Faith Formation (Religious 12 noon - 1:15 p.m.

Education Building)

First Communion Parent Meeting (Religious 12 noon - 1:15 p.m.

Education Building: Brennan Auditorium) - see

page 8

5 p.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † David Gorski 6:30 - 8 p.m. Life Teen (Parish Activity Center)

6:30 - 8 p.m. Middle School Faith Formation (Religious

Education Building: Brennan Auditorium) - see

Monday, March 6th

Dn 9:4b-10 | Ps 79 | Lk 6:36-38

8:30 a.m. Mass (Church) Intention: † Howard Jones

4 - 5:15 p.m. Elementary Faith Formation (Religious

Education Building)

First Communion Parent Meeting (Religious 4 - 5:15 p.m.

Education Building: Brennan Auditorium) -see

page 8

Elementary Faith Formation (Religious 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.

Education Building)

6:30 - 7:45 p.m. First Communion Parent Meeting (Religious

Education Building: Brennan Auditorium) -see

7 - 8:30 p.m. Lenten Lectio Divina (Life House: Back Room)

-see page 4

Prayer & Life Workshop (Religious Education 7-9 p.m.

Building: 213)

Tuesday, March 7th

Memorial of Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

Is 1:10. 16-20 | Ps 50 | Mt 23:1-12

6:30 - 7:30 a.m. Men's Scripture Share (Life House)

8:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † Thomas J. Flynn & † Francis J. Mijares 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Young at Heart (Religious Education Building:

Brennan Auditorium)

Elementary Faith Formation (Religious 4 - 5:15 p.m.

Education Building)

First Communion Parent Meeting (Religious 4 - 5:15 p.m.

Education Building: Brennan Auditorium) - see

Pastoral Advisory Council (Pastoral Offices 6:30 - 8 p.m. Building: St. Joseph Conference Room)

7 - 8:30 p.m. Man Up (Life House: Main Room) Rosary Prayer Group (Parish Activity Center: 7 - 8:30 p.m.

St. Thomas More Room)

Life Teen Bible Study (Life House: Back Room) 7 - 9 p.m.

Wednesday, March 8th

St. John of God, religious

Jer 18:18-20 | Ps 31 | Mt 20:17-28

Mass (Church) 8:30 a.m.

Intention: † Don Barton 9 - 9:30 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation

(Church: Confessional)

9:30 - 11 a.m. Adult Study: Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary *Mission* (Religious Education Building: 213-215)

Sacrament of Reconciliation 6 - 7 p.m. (Church: Confessional)

Middle School Bible Study (Religious Education 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Building: 207) -see page 8

7 - 8:30 p.m. Adult Study: Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary

> Mission (Religious Education Building: 213-215) Confirmation Classes (Religious Education

Building: Brennan Auditorium)

Alcoholics Anonymous (Parish Activity Center: 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

St. Thomas More Room)

Thursday, March 9th

7 - 9 p.m.

St. Frances of Rome, religious

Jer 17:5-10 | Ps 1 | Lk 16:19-31

6 - 7:30 a.m. Man Up (Parish Activity Center)

8:30 a.m. Mass (Church) Intention: † Ruth Beranek

9:30 - 11 a.m. Adult Study: The Catechism in a Year

(Life House) -see page 7

Adult Study: The Catechism in a Year 7 - 8:30 p.m.

(Life House) -see page 7

Friday, March 10th

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a | Ps 105 |

Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

8:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † Diana Wise

9-10 a.m. Library Open

12 noon - 1 p.m. Stations of the Cross (Church) -see page 4

Healing Prayer (Church) -see page 4 1 p.m.

5-8 p.m. KoC Fish Fry (Parish Activity Center) -see page 4

Stations of the Cross (Church) -see page 4 6-7 p.m. 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Catholic Single Parents (Religious Education

Building: Family Center)

Saturday, March 11th

Ex 17:3-7 | Ps 95 | Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 | Jn 4:5-42

Theresians Day of Prayer (Life House) - see 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

page 5

3-4:30 p.m. **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

(Church: Confessional) Mass (Church)

5 p.m. Intention: Vera Family

Sunday, March 12th

Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 17:3-7 | Ps 95 | Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 | Jn 4:5-42

7:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: St. Thomas More Parishioners

8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Coffee & Donuts (Family Center) 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Gift Shop Open -see page 4

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Library Open 9 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † Marie Reale

10:15 a.m. - 12 noon Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (Life House)

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SUNDAY, MARCH 12TH (CONTINUED) 10:45 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: † Moises Robinson Liturgy of the Word for Children and

Childcare available

5 p.m.

Mass (Church) Intention: † Juan Vasquez

Due to the bulletin production schedule, this Week at a Glance does not reflect changes made to the church calendar within the last five days. Visit reservations.stmaustin.org to see the most up-to-date calendar.

If you would like Masses said in memory of loved ones or for the intentions of an individual or family, please contact the Parish Office at (512) 258-1161. Each family can request up to four Masses per year.





7-8:30 p.m.

Lectio for Lent

Life House or on Zoom

Let us gather to pray Lectio Divina - Divine Reading - to discern God's message revealed in a Scripture passage. No previous experience with Lectio Divina is necessary, just have a Bible handy (NABRE or RSV-CE translations ideally). Please email Deacon Dan to receive the Zoom link: deacondanlupo@yahoo.com or deacondan@stmaustin.org.



12 noon and 6 p.m.

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross are a meditation on Jesus' passion and death on the cross that blends sacred art, prayers and reflections.



10 Healing Prayer

Trained healing prayer ministers will be available after noon Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent. Please consider asking the Lord for healing from life's emotional, spiritual and physical traumas and tragedies. The Divine Healer awaits!



5-8 p.m.

Lenten Fish Fry

Parish Activity Center

Support parish youth programs. Dinner consists of fried catfish, french fries, coleslaw, hush puppies and a beverage (tea or lemonade). There is also a cheese pizza roll option. Each adult plate costs \$15, while child plates are \$10. Pre-paid meals may be ordered at stmknights.org/fishfry, which provides a receipt by email. The ticket can be redeemed on any Friday until March 31st. Simply provide us with a name on the order and we'll take care of the rest, regardless of whether you pick up or dine in. Please join us in the Parish Activity Center (PAC) or come through our drive-thru service to pick up your meals! All proceeds raised support our Life Teen program.

Lenten Donation Drive

Throughout Lent, please join us in supporting Hill Country Community Ministries (HCCM) and HopeAustin by donating the following items:

- HCCM: personal care items (shampoo, bar soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, toilet paper, etc.)
- HopeAustin: individual servings of pasta (mac and cheese, Chef Boyardee, etc.)

Donations may be dropped off in the barrels either in front of the church or inside the Religious Education building in front of Brennen Auditorium.

HCCM represents a coalition of churches that provides food, clothing and other assistance in an atmosphere of neighbor helping neighbor for people in crisis and those living in poverty in southwest Williamson and northwest Travis counties. Please visit hccm.org to learn more.

HopeAustin helps ensure the brightest future for our children by providing meals to students who lose their subsidized meals over the weekend. Please visit Hope4Austin.org for more information.

The donation drive will run through Easter weekend, April 9th. Thank you for your generous support.



11 a.m.

Young at Heart Potluck lunch Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium

We will be entertained by the "Boot Scootin' Line Dancers." Wear your favorite western outfit and bring your favorite potluck food.

New to Young at Heart? Contact Dawn at (512) 258-1944 x235 or dawn@stmaustin.org for more information. Join us!



8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Day of Reflection for Women Life House



Ladies, are you in need of a "pause" during this season of Lent to reconnect with God and your calling? Come join women from around the diocese as we move from "Darkness into Light." A day of artistic imagery, reflection, music and prayer. Registration is required. Contact Kav Schneider (530)249-2819. at

Breakfast and lunch will be included with the program. A donation of \$20 is requested to cover costs. Bring a cross that means something to you. It can be any size.

Presented by local chapters of Theresians International: women in support of women, reaching out with Gospel values.



WORSHIP AND PRAYER -



Prayer Requests

Ken Anderson Ame Frezza Sr. Carolyn Pelzel Judi Gilliam Kellie Bergman William Ricks Barbara Boland Trace Gilliam Consuelo Rodriguez Brown John Brun Dylan Johnson **Dorothy Thompson** Ed Burke **Beth Jones Andy Turner** Graciela Diaz Frank Kelly Clifford Uher Mary Kubala Frank DiLorenzo Bernadette Vogel Katie DiLorenzo Linda Lange Jennifer Wiegand Dodie Domanski Jason Mikolajek Kerry Wolf Al Esparza Fr. Michael O'Connor Christopher Younger Jo Falkenstein Barbara Ohradzansky Luke Zouzalik Barbara Foxwell Trent Overall

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

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The Story of St. Perpetua

Watch this inspiring animated movie about the life of St. Perpetua. Born from a noble Roman family, she converts to Christianity despite a new decree prohibiting new conversions in the Roman Empire. Go to stma.cc/F230305a.



The Passion of St. Perpetua with Mike Aquilina

Join Mike Aquilina in this informing and inspiring documentary that tells the true account of the courageous martyr, St. Perpetua, and her companions

Go to stma.cc/F230305b.



Living Lent as a Family (Part 1 of 4)

Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Augustine Institute Graduate School Professor Dr. Sehorn and his wife, Sarah Sehorn, to discuss liturgical living during Lent. Go to stma.cc/F230305c.

New to FORMED? Visit <u>formed.org/signup</u> and search for *St. Thomas More Austin.* Fill in your information and you can access great Catholic content for all ages.



Penance Services in our Area

This Lenten season is an opportunity to better understand the reality that sin does violence to our relationship with God. Thankfully, that relationship can be mended or reconciled through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. While we will continue to offer the sacrament at our normal times, the following penance services (special times when a multitude of priests will be available to offer the sacrament) have been scheduled in our area:

- March 16th at 7 p.m. at St. Margaret Mary Parish, Cedar Park
- March 21st at 7 p.m. at St. Theresa Parish, Austin
- March 22nd at 7 p.m. at St. Louis Parish, Austin
- March 23rd at 7 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Austin
- 4 March 27th at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. at St. Thomas More Parish, Austin
- March 30th at 7 p.m. at St. Albert the Great Parish, Austin

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP -

Contributions

Week Ending	 February 26 th
Envelope:	\$ 17,853.21
eGiving Online:	\$ 20,093.10
Weekly Total:	\$ 37,946.31
Weekly Goal:	\$ 48,200.00
Above/(Below) Weekly Goal:	\$ (10,253.69)

Ash Wednesday: \$4,172.00 World and Home Missions:

\$4,340.41



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A Stewardship Moment

In today's second reading, Timothy is issued a strong directive: "Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God." For the early Christians this could mean torture and execution. For most Christians today, enduring hardship for the Gospel might include accepting ridicule or mockery, or the suggestion that we lack sophistication. Nevertheless, in his letters, St. Paul is adamant that we should not be ashamed of being followers of Christ. Good stewards are not ashamed of their allegiance to Christ. They do not hide their faith. Reflect on this question: Are you willing to speak about following Christ Jesus no matter who your listeners happen to be?

This reflection is courtesy of the International Catholic Stewardship Council. Learn more about stewardship and the council at catholicstewardship.com.

Encountering Christ Campaign (ECC) Update

The ECC is a capital and endowment campaign to raise \$85,000,000 in gifts and pledges for local parish needs while strengthening ministries, Catholic education and faith formation, supporting our clergy and enhancing growth across the diocese. Our parish goal was to achieve \$3,525,000 in donations. Of every contribution made toward this campaign, 30% of your donation returns directly to our parish making it possible to make improvements and updates on an ongoing basis. As of November 30th, the contributions received back to our parish total \$366,715.95! Thank you so much for your support of this campaign.

"God makes all His own the soul that is wholly given to Him."

-ST. PHILIP NERI -

ADULT FAITH FORMATION -

From the Catechism this Week

"The unique and altogether singular event of the Incarnation of the Son of God does not mean that Jesus Christ is part God and part man, nor does it imply that he is the result of a confused mixture of the divine and the human. He became truly man while remaining truly God. Jesus Christ is true God and true man. During the first centuries, the Church had to defend and clarify this truth of faith against the heresies that falsified it."

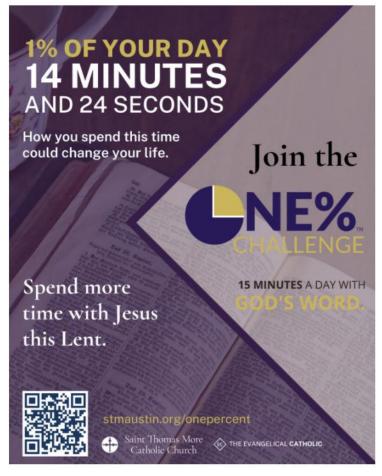
-CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, 424 -

If you have ever wanted to understand what it means to be Catholic and allow those truths to shape your life, *The Catechism in a Year* podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz is for you! Start listening anytime and walk it with your parish community in monthly gatherings.

Next Gathering: March 9^{th} , 9:30-11 a.m. or 7-8:30 p.m. in the Life House.

We'll explore God as Creator, God's creation (heaven, earth and us), the fall, Jesus and the Incarnation.

▲ Learn more and sign up at <u>stmaustin.org/ciy</u> or contact Dawn at <u>dawn@stmaustin.org</u> or (512) 258-1944 x235.



"Obedience is a short cut to perfection."

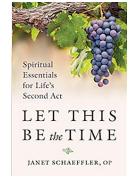
-ST. PHILIP NERI -



"The name of Jesus,
pronounced with reverence
and affection,
has the kind of power
to soften the heart."

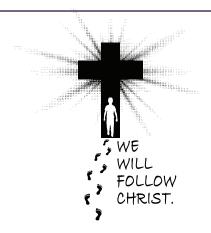
-ST. PHILIP NERI -

Join us to discuss Let This Be the Time, Spiritual Essentials for Life's Second Act by Janet Schaeffler, OP. We are all on the journey of aging and the joys and challenges of getting older give us a wonderful opportunity to keep growing emotionally and spiritually. Schaeffler explores twelve increasingly important needs of aging. The first three are to live a life of meaning and purpose, to joyfully pursue love and relationships and to ask and explore



questions. To learn more, pick up a copy of the book and join us. Register at stmaustin.org/book-discussions. You are welcome to join the conversation even if you haven't read the book! Books are available for purchase in the Gift Shop.

FAITH FORMATION .



First Holy Communion Meeting

There will be a mandatory First Holy Communion meeting for parents and guardians March 5th-7th during your child(ren)'s Faith Formation class time.

Tonight at Edge Night March 5th

At Sunday's Edge night, we will cover the positive and negative aspects of social media as well as the importance of face-to-face interaction.

SOCIAL OUTREACH AND PASTORAL CARE

Catholic Social Teaching

This week we move from temptation in the desert to transfiguration and glory. Early in our Lenten journey, we are given a hint of the resurrection. But first, we must recognize the truth of St. Paul – that all of us are called to bear our share of hardship for the Gospel. Perhaps the mountain we must climb with Christ is one of sharing our time or ourselves with others. Perhaps we are called to greater simplicity of life and generous sharing of our material possessions. Each of us is called to die to self to live for Christ. What death must we die to share in Christ's glory?

This reflection is courtesy of the Diocese of Austin. You can find more inspiring content and learn about the work of the diocese at austindiocese.org.



Perseverance to Succeed

Raúl and Lilian have faced many challenges while trying to provide for their family and pursue their dreams in Guatemala. With support from Catholic Relief Services, they have been able to overcome these obstacles and grow their business while helping their community along the way. In what ways are you being challenged to serve others this Lent? Visit stmaustin.org/crs-rice-bowl to learn more.

In need of healing prayer? Mercy of God Prayer Center Theresa Stephens (512) 814-6470 **Struggling with bills?**Society of St. Vincent de Paul STM Offices
(512) 258-1161

Want to talk about a difficult time? Stephen Ministry Eileen (512) 507-9563 **Need help with meals?**Good Samaritan
Meal Ministry
(480) 788-6325

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The Green Spot

Tip of the Week: As spring approaches and the weather warms, get in touch with nature and the rebirth that is occurring. Go for a walk, sit in a garden, listen to the birds, look for buds on a tree or flowers sprouting from the earth.

"By learning to see and appreciate beauty, we learn to reject self-interested pragmatism."

-LAUDATO SI'. 215-



and 15th, 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

40 Days for Life – Central Texas Coalition for Life

Planned Parenthood, 9041 Research Blvd., Austin

Please consider praying for a greater respect for life in front of a woman's clinic. We need prayer warriors! Since March 15th is the Wednesday during Spring Break, consider bringing your children to pray with you. It's never too early to start teaching about respect for life! You can sign up for an

hour-long slot at stma.cc/SUG4023b. We hope you consider giving an hour of your time to stand in solidarity and pray for the mothers and unborn babies who are struggling during this time of need. "Everyone deserves a birthday!"



6:45-8:30 p.m.

Ramadan Iftar Dinner

Our Social Justice Ministry invites the parish community to participate in this interfaith dinner. Ramadan is the holiest month in the Islamic calendar and it coincides with the Catholic Lenten season. The tentative schedule of the evening will look like:

- 6:45 p.m.: Gathering
- 7 p.m.: Introduction
- 7:15 p.m.: Dialogue Institute presentation
- 7:40 p.m.: Self-service dinner buffet available
- Sunset: Dinner

So we have enough food. please **RSVP** at: stmaustin.org/iftar-dinner.

AROUND THE DIOCESE -



Catholic Charities of Central Texas is honored to serve veterans, active-duty service personnel and their immediate families. Case management and more resources are available through the St. Michael's Veterans Services Program to help veteran and military families thrive. Learn more by calling (512) 651-6100 or visit ccctx.org/st-michaels-veteran-services.

through March 8th at 7 p.m.

A Journey to Joy St. Theresa Catholic Church, Austin

Hollywood is coming to Austin this Lent. This three-night mission will be packed with humor and drama as an Emmynominated Hollywood actor brings to life stories from Scripture. More information and the means to RSVP can be found by scanning the QR code with





11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Assembly of Catholic Professionals Lunch

your phone's camera or visiting bit.ly/STCCSlm23.

Hyatt Regency, Austin

Join in the relaunch of this wonderful program at the first quarterly luncheon this year! Bishop Joe S. Vásquez will share experiences and discuss relevant topics and challenges facing today's lay Catholics. Attendees enjoy the benefits of fellowship, networking and formation with a particular focus on identity as lay believers and community leaders. You can find more information, including how to register at austindiocese.org/acp.

The Assembly of Catholic Professionals (ACP) is a network of professional men and women coming together in an atmosphere of fellowship and faith.

camp beyond me!

Catholic Service Camp for Grades 1-8

The goal of Camp Beyond Me is to help kids to see Christ in the less fortunate, and to be Him in the World. Campers will participate in a variety of service activities to help them to truly see and understand the needs of others.

For more information about our camp and available staff & volunteer positions, please go to www.campbeyondme.org

Camp Registration Opens on March 1st!

The Father's Heart: Young Adult Silent Retreat

Eagle's Wings Retreat Center, Burnet

This five-day retreat into the silence of prayer, reflection and rest is the perfect opportunity for young adults to leave behind the noise and chaos to hear the heartbeat of God. Based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, this retreat will include teaching on prayer and discernment of spirits, followed by three days of silence with individual spiritual direction and daily conferences. The cost for the retreat is \$250 for professionals and \$175 for students.

missionaries and faculty/staff of Catholic parishes and schools. Space is limited, so register early. For more information, visit austindiocese.org/tfh.



through March 19th

Silent Lenten Retreat

Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center, Temple

Come and listen to God inviting you into the desert of silence. Fr. Harry Dean and Brian Egan will each give a reflection. Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be part of this silent retreat. The cost is \$280 for a private room and \$230 for a shared room. Please register at cedarbrake.org or call (254) 780-2436.

Ethics & Integrity in Ministry (EIM)

Keeping current with EIM training is required for all who serve in ministry at STM.

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.

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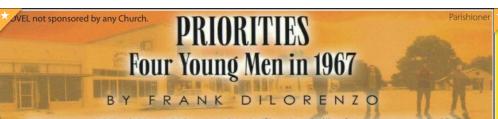
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