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### **Bulletin Deadlines**

Submissions for the November 5<sup>th</sup> edition are due **by 11:59 p.m. on October 26<sup>th</sup>.** Submissions for the November 12<sup>th</sup> edition are due **by 11:59 p.m. on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.** Email <a href="mailto:asanchez@stmaustin.org">asanchez@stmaustin.org</a> 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

### Clergy



Very Rev. Keith Koehl
Pastor
frkeith@stmaustin.org



**Rev. Manickam Rajamanickam**Parochial Vicar
frmanickam@stmaustin.org



**Rev. David Trahan**Parochial Vicar
frdavid@stmaustin.org



Deacon Dan Lupo deacondan@stmaustin.org



Deacon Tom Mallinger deacontomm@stmaustin.org



Deacon Pat O'Beirne deaconpat@stmaustin.org



Deacon Thomas Suniga deaconthomas@stmaustin.org

### Admin., Liturgical and Pastoral Staff



Danielle White
Accounting
dwhite@stmaustin.org



Lori White
Accounting
lwhite@stmaustin.org



**Patricia de Paz de la Rocha** Administrative Assistant procha@stmaustin.org



Andy DeHart
Business Administrator
andy1@stmaustin.org



Lourdes Alonso
Columbarium
lalonso@stmaustin.org



Adrian Sanchez
Communications
asanchez@stmaustin.org



J.W. Green
Facilities
jw1@stmaustin.org



Pam Otten Liturgy potten@stmaustin.org



**Denise Abele** Marriage & Family Life dabele@stmaustin.org



Julie Olesen Membership jolesen@stmaustin.org



**Ren MacNary**Music
ren.macnary@gmail.com



**Karen Lawson** Music karen@stmaustin.org



Cindy Acosta
Childcare Center
cindy1@stmaustin.org



**Debra Lohrstorfer**Office Administrator
<u>debra@stmaustin.org</u>



Liz Franklin
Reception
efranklin@stmaustin.org



Jennifer Bibbo Social Outreach jbibbo@stmaustin.org

### Faith Formation (512) 258-1944



Jill Goeters
Director
jill1@stmaustin.org



Johanna Isburgh Assistant Director johanna@stmaustin.org



**Casey McMillan** Elementary School Coordinator cmcmillan@stmaustin.org



**Andrea Cochran**Middle School Coordinator
andrea@stmaustin.org



**Logan Mayes** Life Teen Coordinator logan@stmaustin.org



**Dawn Rouen**Adult Faith
drouen@stmaustin.org

### Preschool

(512) 258-1721



Cindy Acosta
Director
cindy1@stmaustin.org



Julie Olesen Assistant Director jolesen@stmaustin.org

### **Council Chairpersons**

Jeremy Brown Pastoral Council **Don Rosenberg** Finance Council

### **Parish Contact Information**

Website ..... stmaustin.org

### Parish Office Hours

MONDAY-FRIDAY

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

Cover: Tribute Money, Pietro della Vecchia, 1655

# This Week at a Glance

### Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 45:1, 4-6 | Ps 96 | 1 Thes 1:1-5b | Mt 22:15-21

Mass (Church) 7:30 a.m.

Intention: † Bertie June Knight

8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Gift Shop Open

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

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

Intention: St. Thomas More Parishioners

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

(Life House)

10:30 - 11:45 a.m. Adult Study: Lectio/Eucharist (Religious

Education Building: Rooms 213-215)

10:45 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † Leo G. Sorell

Liturgy of the Word for Children available

**Elementary Faith Formation (Religious** Noon - 1:15 p.m.

**Education Building)** Mass (Church)

5 p.m. Intention: † Esther Greber

Hospitality Ministry Training (Church) 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. 6:30 - 8 p.m. Life Teen (Parish Activity Center (PAC)) 6:30 - 8 p.m. Middle School Faith Formation (Religious

Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)

### Monday, October 23rd

Memorial of St. John of Capistrano, Priest

Rom 4:20-25 | Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75 | Lk 12:13-21

8:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † Abraham Paul & † Roy Blanchard 9-10 a.m.

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion** 

Training (Church)

4 - 5 p.m. **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion** 

Training (Church)

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

**Education Building)** 

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

**Education Building**)

7 - 8:30 p.m. Book Discussion: Riding the Dragon (Library)

### Tuesday, October 24th

Memorial of St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop

Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21 | Ps 40 | Lk 12:35-38

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

8:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † Moises Robinson & † Malcolm King

9-10 a.m. Hospitality Minister Training (Church) Adult Study: Walking with Purpose: Opening 9:30 - 11 a.m.

Your Heart (Parish Activity Center (PAC)) 4 - 5:15 p.m. **Elementary Faith Formation (Religious** 

Education Building)

Confirmation Orientation (Religious Education 7 - 8 p.m.

**Building: Brennan Auditorium)** 

7 - 8 p.m. Hospitality Minister Training (Church)

7 - 8:30 p.m. Man Up (Life House)

7 - 8:30 p.m. Adult Study: Walking with Purpose: Opening

Your Heart (Parish Activity Center (PAC)) Rosary Prayer Group (Parish Activity Center

7 - 8:30 p.m. (PAC): St. Thomas More Room)

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

### Wednesday, October 25th

Rom 6:12-18 | Ps 124 | Lk 12:39-48

Mass (Church) 8:30 a.m. Intention: † Eric Von Lehmden

9 - 9:30 a.m. Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation (Church:

Confessional & Holy Family Room)

Lector Training (Church) 9-10 a.m. 5:30 - 6 p.m. **Evening Prayer** (Church)

6 - 7 p.m. Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation (Church:

Confessional & Holy Family Room)

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

Building: Room 105)

7-8 p.m. **Confirmation Orientation** (Parish Activity

Center (PAC))

Lector Training (Church) 7 - 8 p.m.

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

(PAC): St. Thomas More Room)

### Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>

Rom 6:19-23 | Ps 1 | Lk 12:49-53

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

8:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † Antoinette Riccio

### Friday, October 27th

Rom 7:18-25a | Ps 119 | Lk 12:54-59

8:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † Charles Allen Beck

9-10 a.m. **Library Open** 

### Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

Ex 22:20-26 | Ps 18 | 1 Thes 1:5c-10 | Mt 22:34-40

Theresians Fall Social & Recruitment 1-3 p.m.

(Life House)

3-4:30 p.m. Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation (Church:

Confessional & Holy Family Room)

5 p.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † Rose Hale & † Lee Wiegand

### Sunday, October 29th

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 22:20-26 | Ps 18 | 1 Thes 1:5c-10 | Mt 22:34-40

7:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: † Jack D. Tiernan 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Gift Shop Open** 

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

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Library Open

Mass (Church) 9 a.m.

Intention: † St. Thomas More Parishioners 10:15 a.m. - noon Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

(Life House)

10:30 - 11:45 a.m. Adult Study: Lectio/Eucharist (Religious

Education Building: Rooms 213-215)

10:45 a.m. Mass (Church)

Intention: St. Thomas More Parishioners Liturgy of the Word for Children available

**Elementary Faith Formation (Religious** Noon - 1:15 p.m.

**Education Building)** 

Mass (Church)

Intention: David Dunn & Mari Payne Life Teen (Parish Activity Center (PAC))

Middle School Faith Formation (Religious 6:30 - 8 p.m. Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)

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 a Mass 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.

5 p.m.

6:30 - 8 p.m.

The Bulletin October 22, 2023

# Stewardship of Treasure Report

Weekly

October 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> Collection: \$41,752

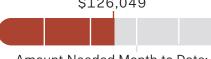
Amount Needed Weekly: \$50,000

BELOW Weekly Budget: \$8,248

Youth Stewardship: \$150.43

### Monthly

Collected Month to Date: \$126,049



Amount Needed Month to Date: \$150,000

BELOW Monthly Budget Pace: (-\$23,951)

Youth Stewardship Month to Date: \$811.81

### Thank You!

Have you ever felt like the Church asks us to "give until it hurts"? In reality, we are invited to joyfully give as a natural response to the love and mercy shown to us by God! Thanks to everyone who submitted a giving pledge card. Your generosity helps our parish thrive!

Thank you for faithfully using the gifts God has generously given you!

If you would like to help us share the Good News with our community, visit <u>stmaustin.org/give</u> to make a secure and convenient gift online.



# Family Celebrations

If you would like to include your family milestones in future editions of *The Bulletin* so your parish community can celebrate with you, please email <a href="mailto:asanchez@stmaustin.org">asanchez@stmaustin.org</a>. Milestones can include the birth of children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, etc., Baptisms, sacramental marriages, wedding anniversaries (in increments of ten or twenty-five years) and graduations.

# A Message from Bishop Vásquez

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As the conflict continues in Israel and Gaza, I ask for your prayers for an end to this warfare. Many innocent lives have been lost, people are being displaced, and there is a sense of fear among these victims.

I ask you to join our Holy Father, Pope Francis, in praying for peace in the Middle East. He reminds us, "... let it be understood that terrorism and war do not lead to any resolutions, but only to the death and suffering of so many innocent people. War is a defeat! Every war is a defeat! Let us pray that there be peace in Israel and in Palestine."

May Our Lady of the Holy Rosary intercede for the people in the Holy Land and bring them comfort and strength during this time of

uncertainty and great pain.

Most Rev. Joe S. Vásquez
 Bishop of Austin

ост 23 7 to 8:30 p.m.

## Read, Reflect, Rejoice! Book Discussion

Library

Spiritual darkness is an awful experience to encounter and go through and yet it is also an unasked-for and unusual opportunity to be graced with radically new ways to relate to ourselves, others and life. The question is will we recognize and take the opportunity, or will we only focus on the suffering and miss the opportunities for radical inner change this spiritual experience offers? Join us for a discussion of *Riding the Dragon* by Robert J. Wicks and his ten lessons

for inner strength in challenging times. Let us know you are coming by registering at <a href="strength:strengt

▲ Dr. Wicks writes about the intersection of spirituality and psychology, and is a well-known speaker, therapist and spiritual guide who has taught at universities and professional schools of psychology, medicine, social work and theology for more than 30 years.



5 - 9 p.m.

### Benefit Dinner

Sheraton Georgetown Hotel and Convention Center

Would you like to have dinner with the bishop of Austin and the founder of 40 Days for Life? Well here's your opportunity! The Central Texas Fellowship of Catholic Men is sponsoring a benefit dinner with Bishop Joe Vásquez and David Beireit. Tickets are \$125 per person and proceeds will be used to

fund the annual Men's Conference and Men's Mass. Please visit <a href="mailto:centexcatholic.com/benefit-dinner">centexcatholic.com/benefit-dinner</a> for tickets and information.



After all morning Masses

# Pancake Breakfast

Parish Activity Center (PAC)

Scout Troop 159 invites you to enjoy a great breakfast and connect with your parish community. The cost is \$5 per person and kids three and under free. The troop

has been active at STM for over 40 years and we are excited to bring back this fun tradition. If you have any questions or are interested in joining the troop, please reach out to our scoutmaster Mike Nunnery at mnunnery357@gmail.com.



### — WORSHIP & PRAYER -

# Prayer Requests

Kellie Bergman

Barbara Boland

John Brun

Ed Burke

Graciela Diaz

Frank DiLorenzo

Katie DiLorenzo

Dodie Domanski

Al Esparza

Jo Falkenstein

Ray & Grace Fisher

Ame Frezza

Judi Gilliam

Trace Gilliam

Brendan Huey Dvlan Johnson

\_ . .

Beth Jones

Ramona Kaauamo

Frank Kelly

David Kresta

Mary Kubala

Linda Lange

Laura Lavergne

Skye Lohraum

Charles McCourt

Jason Mikolajek

Fr. Michael O'Connor

Jim O'Donnell

Barbara Ohradzansky

Trent Overall

JJ Pacelli

Sylvie Pignot

Trent Rinehart

Dennis Robinson

Consuelo Rodriguez Brown

**Dorothy Thompson** 

Andy Turner

Stan Urban

Barbara Wiegand

Jennifer Wiegand

Kerry Wolf

Christopher Younger

Luke Zouzalik

We also pray for the well-being of our fellow parishioners who are homebound or nursing home residents.

# Church Closure

So that our facilities can clean and perform necessary maintenance without disturbing anyone's prayer, the church will close following the 8:30 a.m. Mass. It will reopen at 3 p.m. at which time adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we strive to be good stewards of the physical gifts we have been given.



# October is the Most Holy Rosary Month

Come pray with us on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the St. Thomas More Room of the Parish Activity Center (PAC).

"The Rosary is the storehouse for countless blessings."

-BL. ALAN DE LA ROCHE -

The Bulletin October 22, 2023

# Faith, Love and Hope

### By Lisa Jose

In St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians (see 1 Corinthians 13) he extols faith, hope and love as the three great virtues which mark a life lived in Christ. Here in the letter to the Thessalonians, he elaborates how these three are to be lived out. He starts with the work of faith. Faith is belief; mainly belief in something that cannot be seen with our natural eyes, and yet this inner quality of faith is worked out through obedience to God. If you have faith you abide in him and if you abide in him then you obey his commands (see John 15). So, faith is the seed and the fruit is a life of obedience.

Second is the labor of love. The free translation of labor here is toiling under extremely difficult and strenuous situations. The love here is not the emotion that is very fickle and changes from season to season, but a determination to keep pressing forward and keep one's joy despite circumstances. In the opening lines of his letter to the Thessalonians, Paul demonstrates this very virtue. Paul's preaching of the Gospel in Thessalonica was not well received by the majority of the people. He was so greatly persecuted that he had to flee, but he chose to thank God and share in the joy of those who accepted the Gospel.

Finally, there is enduring in hope. In many places, hope is interchangeably translated as patience. Our generation is so used to instant results that waiting on something is new and alien and often seen as torture. But there is no shortcut to developing endurance. The only way to do that is by enduring what God (actively or permissively) wills to come our way. But hope reminds us that he is a good God and wants only our best. So, let us be reminded during our trials to change our prayers from "why Lord?" to "what Lord?" What is the lesson you want me to learn here?

Lisa believes the Bible is the best self help book and if it isn't practical then it isn't scriptural.

# Liturgical Ministry Training

Ministry training wraps up this week. These are your last opportunities to train to be a minister for this upcoming year. To see the full schedule, pick up a copy in the narthex, visit <a href="mailto:stma.cc/lmts23b">stma.cc/lmts23b</a> or scan this QR code. This week's training includes:

### Hospitality

- \$\text{\text{\$\exiting{\$\text{\$\exitittin}\$}}}}}}}}} \endermanndered}endonered}
- ♣ Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 9-10 a.m. and 4-5 p.m.

#### **Eucharistic Minister**

Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 9-10 a.m., 4-5 p.m. and 6:30-7:30 p.m.

### Lector

 $\oplus$  Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 9-10 a.m. and 7-8 p.m.

"How happy is that guardian angel who accompanies a soul to Holy Mass!"

-ST. JOHN MARIE VIANNEY-



"It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do so without the Holy Mass."

- ST. PIO OF PIETRELCINA -

# Liturgical Ministers' Commissioning

All our new and returning liturgical ministers will be commissioned at the Masses on October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Please attend one of these Masses and be sure to sign in at the table in the back so your name can be sent to the diocese.

### Join our Christmas Choirs

Our Music Ministry is already preparing for Christmas, and we need help! We are really looking for instrumentalists, particularly string players, for the Midnight Mass orchestra. You can find our other needs and a rehearsal schedule at stmaustin.org/music. Contact Ren at ren.macnary@gmail.com to discuss your questions or how you can join!



Trained ministers will be available for ten-minute confidential prayer sessions to help you receive Jesus' healing from life's wounds and burdens. Sign-ups for longer sessions will also be available. Christ will be powerfully present in the exposed Blessed Sacrament and in the Sacrament of Reconciliation offered during this time. Come be healed in the name of Jesus Christ.





### Pope John Paul II

This epic film follows Karol Wojtyla's journey from his youth in Poland through his late days on the Chair of St. Peter.

Go to stma.cc/F231022a.



# Slaves and Kings: The Story of St. Anthony Mary Claret

This film tells the compelling story of one of Spain's most popular preachers and founder of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Go to stma.cc/F231022b.



# Liberating a Continent: John Paul II and the Fall of Communism

Get a new glimpse of history through this film as you learn about John Paul II's intricate role in the collapse of communism.

Go to stma.cc/F231022c.

**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.

# A Stewardship Moment

reading: What belongs to Caesar? What belongs to God? Christian stewards reading: What belongs to Caesar? What belongs to God? Christian stewards recognize that everything they have belongs to God. God created them, and God has claims on every part of their existence. They also realize that the sovereign is an institution whose nature and purpose is to promote the common good and protect the welfare of its citizenry. As long as it accomplishes this mission while treating every single person with deep respect, justice and compassion, it merits the steward's support and cooperation. Christian stewards know what belongs to the Lord, and they are better citizens when they live their lives according to his Gospel.

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

# Catholic Services Appeal

Next weekend is the Catholic Services Appeal (CSA), during which you can support the more than 100 ministries and programs of the Diocese of Austin. This year's theme is Be a Miracle. When people are in desperate situations, they often pray to God for a miracle. The CSA is your opportunity to be someone's miracle. Your gift to the CSA is combined with others to have a greater impact than any single gift could. Please prayerfully consider making a gift so you can be a miracle to those in most need. To learn more and make your gift today, visit <a href="mailto:austindiocese.org/csa/give">austindiocese.org/csa/give</a>.

# Recording of the Asset Protection Workshop Now Available



If you missed the diocesan Office of Stewardship and Development's life planning event on asset protection planning, you're covered! To view the recording of the workshop, visit <a href="stma.cc/Vdoaaap">stma.cc/Vdoaaap</a> or scan the QR code with your phone's camera. The workshop covers how asset protection planning works, why you need it and the preparations you can take to help protect your assets from creditors and those who prey on the finances of innocent family members. Contact Dan Wierzbowski at (512) 949-2496 or <a href="mailto:dan-wierzbowski@austindiocese.org">dan-wierzbowski@austindiocese.org</a> for more information.

- ADULT FAITH FORMATION -



1-3 p.m.

# Seasons of Life: The Coming of Fall

Life House

**All women are welcome!** Join the Theresians for a couple of hours to visit one another, enjoy the treats of the fall season, create with your uniqueness, pray and embrace this season. Please join in helping feed our community: bring one or two of the following non-perishable food items: dried beans, pasta or instant potatoes, rice or stuffing in a box!

### From the Catechism this Week

"Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception.

From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person - among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life. (CDF, Donum vitae I, 1.)

'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you.' (Jer 1:5; cf. Job 10:8-12; Ps 22:10-11.)

'My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately

wrought in the depths of the earth.' (Ps 139:15.)"

- CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, 2270 -

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:** November 9<sup>th</sup>

9:30 - 11 a.m. or 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Life House

We'll explore the guides for love of neighbor that we find in the Ten Commandments (family, respect for life, chastity, social teachings, living in truth, purification and poverty of the heart).

▲ Learn more and sign up at <a href="mailto:stmaustin.org/ciy">stmaustin.org</a> or (512) 258-1944 x235.

#### FAITH FORMATION

# Middle School Bible Study

Join us for Wednesday Bible Study/Game Night from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Religious Education Building, Room 105, where we will dive into the readings for the upcoming Sunday and end with a game.

# This Week at Edge

Sunday's Edge Night will be a presentation from some of our eighth graders on drug awareness in preparation for Red Ribbon Week at school. For more information, contact Andrea Cochran at andrea@stmaustin.org.

# Help Your Children Grow in Friendship with God

Faith Formation/Religious Education classes (kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade) have begun! You still have time to register your child(ren)! Head to <u>stmaustin.org/ff-registration</u> to sign up. We encourage all children to attend weekly and grow in their friendship with Jesus. Children should be registered in Faith Formation classes preferably for two years (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) before receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation

and Holy Communion. Contact Casey McMillan at (512) 258-1944 x221 or <a href="mailto:cmcmillan@stmausitn.org">cmcmillan@stmausitn.org</a> if you have any questions!



through October 29th

# Middle School Edge Retreat

Marble Falls

Don't miss out! This is the perfect chance to get away and enjoy God's creation, hang with friends and have fun. The registration form is available at <a href="mailto:stmaustin.org/ms-retreat">stmaustin.org/ms-retreat</a>. For more information, contact Andrea Cochran at <a href="mailto:andrea@stmaustin.org">andrea@stmaustin.org</a>.



6-8 p.m

# Edge Social Night

Parish Activity Center (PAC)

Music, games and candy. Pizza and concessions will be sold. All middle schoolers are welcome! For more information, contact Andrea Cochran at <a href="mailto:andrea@stmaustin.org">andrea@stmaustin.org</a>.

### - SOCIAL OUTREACH & PASTORAL CARE -

# Join Us for Respect Life Month

Join Catholics nationwide in celebrating Respect Life Month. Learn more at <u>respectlife.org/celebrate</u>. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and

at every point in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life.

### 40 Days for Life

This is a volunteer-based prayer campaign that draws attention to the injustice of abortion. Be a part of

something that is saving women and babies from the tragedy of abortion. Your presence WILL help save lives and convert hearts. If you would like to participate on another day, there are many opportunities to sign up for at centraltexascoalition.com/signup.

### **Diaper Donation Drive**

The Knights of Columbus are collecting the following items for the John Paul II Life Center:

- Diapers (sizes newborn to 6)
- Wipes
- Baby toiletries (lotion, wash, diaper cream)
- Adult Toiletries (body wash, shampoo/ conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes)
- Adult diapers

Items may be placed in the bassinet outside of the church.

### Got Spare Change?

Keep filling those Baby Banks and show your children how important it is to be involved in efforts to help unborn babies, women and families in need by dropping their spare change in the box. Each time you add to your bank, your contribution helps the Walking with Moms in Need initiative, the Gabriel Project, Project Rachel, Sidewalk Ministry, Pro-Life Help Line and much more! You can also donate online at <a href="mailto:stma.cc/give">stma.cc/give</a>. If you still need a Baby Bank, or more information, or to volunteer, please contact Patti Gallen (information is below).

### **Knights of Columbus Silver Rose Mass**

At the 9 a.m. Mass on October 29th, share the message of

our Lady of Guadalupe and promote respect for life. Learn more at: stma.cc/KOCsr

### Resources

To learn more about the 2023 USCCB Respect Life program, please visit <u>usccb.org/prolife</u>. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has a wealth of information and resources. Every life is cherished, chosen and sent.

▲ If you have any questions or need additional assistance please email Patti Gallen, the Respect Life Ministry Leader at <a href="mailto:STMRespectLife@stmaustin.org">STMRespectLife@stmaustin.org</a>.

# Feast Day Celebration

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul celebrated our feast day at St. Albert the Great Parish with Mass and received a special blessing from Fr. Michael J. O'Connor. Thanks again to everyone who donated to the Friends of the Poor walk and helped team We Do More exceed our goal. Your generosity will allow us to help 40 additional families. Alone we can do little, together We Do More!



# Catholic Social Teaching

esus knows that the Pharisees were seeking to entrap him and he does not allow it. Government has a role to play, but God's role is always more central and important. A question that arises from this Gospel is: Do we live in a way that reflects the primacy of God in our lives? Do our lives show God's values regarding sharing our gifts and resources in the world? Do the poor have a place of primacy in our consciousness, as they do for God? What

is one thing we can do this week to let the poor have a privileged place in our life and consciousness?

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.

#### AROUND THE DIOCESE -



Catholic Charities of Central Texas works to eliminate poverty in the community. The financial stability programs help individuals and families avoid homelessness and achieve financial security through case management, education and financial assistance. For more information, call  $(512)\,651-6100$ .

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
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United with the bishop of Austin, St. Thomas More Parish is committed to preventing harm to any of God's people and supporting those who have experienced abuse.

What is EIM? It is the diocesan policy, training and screening process that empowers our community to prevent and respond to abuse. Compliance with EIM policies is required of all clergy, consecrated sisters and brothers, seminarians, employees and adult lay volunteers serving in ministry.

Why is EIM required for all who serve in ministry? 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 parish, neighborhood, families and schools safe.

What is required to be compliant with EIM? To be compliant, one starts by creating an account with virtus.org and attending an initial live training. Then, one

completes the online refresher training and consents to a background check every three years. If you are a victim of sexual abuse and have concerns regarding your attendance at a workshop, please contact the EIM director at (512) 949-2447 to discuss alternative workshop arrangements.

How do I report a concern? If you have information that a person in ministry in this diocese abused a minor, elderly adult or adult with a disability, report the information to your local law enforcement or the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) online at txabusehotline.org or by calling (800) 252-5400.

After reporting to local law enforcement or DFPS, submit the form found at bit.ly/DOAerfB using the instructions at the top of the form. If you prefer to make your report to the diocese by telephone, call (512) 949-2447.

What resources are available for victims of abuse? You can find a list of available care resources at austindiocese.org/healing-abuse-prevention.

Learn more about Ethics and Integrity in Ministry at stmaustin.org/eim.

# Thank you to our generous sponsors!

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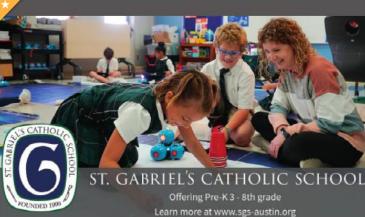
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"And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it" Ps 90:17



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