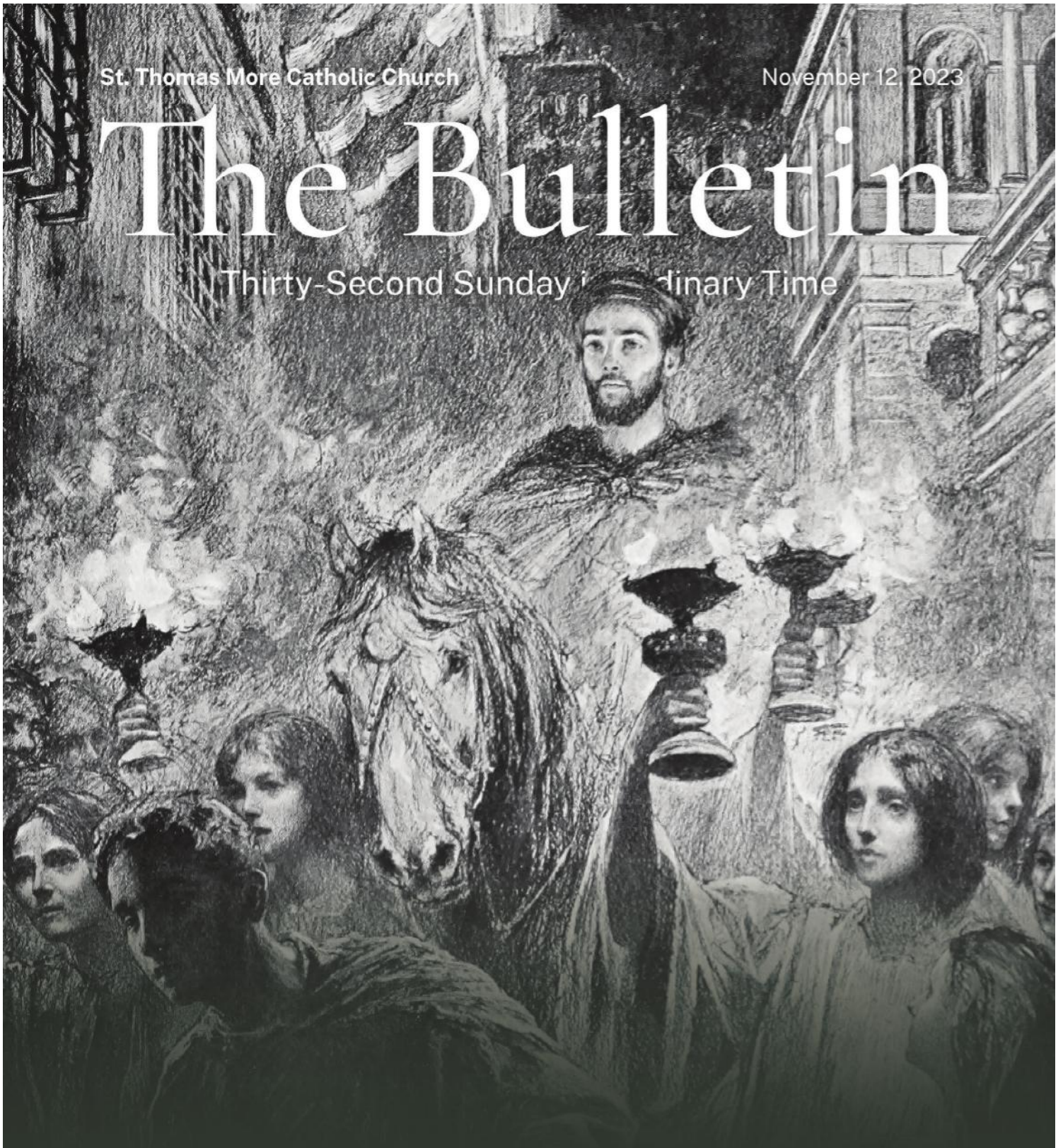


St. Thomas More Catholic Church

November 12, 2023

The Bulletin

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



*Meet Our New
Director of Music*

PAGE 5

Bucket List

PAGE 6

Advent Giving Trees

PAGE 8

Table of Contents

- 2** Parish Staff & Contact Information
- 3** Parish Life
- 5** Worship & Prayer
- 7** Finance & Stewardship
- 7** Adult Faith Formation
- 7** Faith Formation
- 8** Social Outreach & Pastoral Care
- 9** Around the Diocese

Bulletin Deadlines

Submissions for the November 26th edition are due **by 11:59 p.m. on November 12th**. Submissions for the December 3rd edition are due **by 11:59 p.m. on November 23rd**. 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-THURSDAY
9 a.m. - 10 p.m.

FRIDAY
3-10 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 Lupu
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



Michael Hawes
Music
mhawes@stmaustin.org



Karen Lawson
Music
karen@stmaustin.org



Cindy Acosta
Childcare Center
cindy1@stmaustin.org



Debra Lohrstorfer
Office Administrator
debra@stmaustin.org



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

Main Phone (512) 258-1161

Main Fax (512) 258-8812

Address 10205 N FM 620
Austin, TX 78726

Website stmaustin.org

Parish Office Hours

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

PARISH LIFE

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, November 12th

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 6:12-16 | Ps 63 | 1 Thes 4:13-18 or 1 Thes 4:13-14 | Mt 25:1-13

7:30 a.m.	Mass (Church) Intention: Rev. Will Combs & The Brothers of the Beloved Disciple
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
9 a.m.	Mass (Church) Intention: † Military Veterans from St. Thomas More Parish
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: † Ruben & Ismael Quidato Liturgy of the Word for Children available
Noon - 1:15 p.m.	Elementary Faith Formation (Religious Education Building)
5 p.m.	Mass (Church) Intention: † Christa & Julie Weger
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, November 13th

Memorial of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

Wis 1:1-7 | Ps 139 | Lk 17:1-6

8:30 a.m.	Mass (Church) Intention: Sharon Markey
4 - 5:15 p.m.	Elementary Faith Formation (Religious Education Building)
6:30 - 7:45 p.m.	Elementary Faith Formation (Religious Education Building)

Tuesday, November 14th

Wis 2:23-3:39 | Ps 34 | Lk 17:7-10

6:30 - 7:30 a.m.	Men's Scripture Share (Life House)
8:30 a.m.	Mass (Church) Intention: Cesar & Lena Flores
9:30 - 11 a.m.	Adult Study: Walking with Purpose: Opening Your Heart (Parish Activity Center (PAC))
10:30 a.m. - noon	Cancer Support Group (Life House: Back Room)
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Young at Heart (Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)
4 - 5:15 p.m.	Elementary Faith Formation (Religious Education Building)
7 - 8:30 p.m.	Adult Study: Walking with Purpose: Opening Your Heart (Parish Activity Center (PAC))
7 - 8:30 p.m.	Man Up (Life House: Main Room)
7 - 8:30 p.m.	Rosary Prayer Group (Parish Activity Center (PAC): St. Thomas More Room)
7 - 9 p.m.	Life Teen Bible Study (Life House: Back Room)

Wednesday, November 15th

Wis 6:1-11 | Ps 82 | Lk 17:11-19

8:30 a.m.	Mass (Church) Intention: Madjid & Kathryn Zehani & † Clara Paul
9 - 9:30 a.m.	Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation (Church: Confessional & Holy Family Room)
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)
7:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous (Parish Activity Center (PAC): St. Thomas More Room)

Thursday, November 16th

Wis 7:22b-8:1 | Ps 119 | Lk 17:20-25

6 - 7:30 a.m.	Man Up (Parish Activity Center (PAC))
8:30 a.m.	Mass (Church) Intention: † Edward Macko

Friday, November 17th

Memorial of St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

Wis 13:1-9 | Ps 19 | Lk 17:26-37

8:30 a.m.	Mass (Church) Intention: † Michael Passi
9 - 10 a.m.	Library Open

Saturday, November 18th

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 | Ps 128 | 1 Thes 5:1-6 |

Mt 25:14-30 or Mt 25:14-15, 19-21	
3 - 4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation (Church: Confessional & Holy Family Room)
5 p.m.	Mass (Church) Intention: † Margarita Gonzales

Sunday, November 19th

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 | Ps 128 | 1 Thes 5:1-6 | Mt 25:14-30 or Mt 25:14-15, 19-21

7:30 a.m.	Mass (Church) Intention: St. Thomas More Parishioners
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
9 a.m.	Mass (Church) Intention: † Members of the Knights of Columbus #9997 Council
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: † Isabel Reyes Liturgy of the Word for Children available
5 p.m.	Mass (Church) Intention: Markey Family
6 - 8 p.m.	Life Teen (Life House)
6:30 - 8 p.m.	Middle School Faith Formation (Religious 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.

Stewardship of Treasure Report

Weekly

November 4th & 5th Collection:
\$52,188



Amount Needed Weekly:
\$50,000

ABOVE Weekly Budget:
\$2,188

Youth Stewardship:
\$247

All Saints Day:
\$3,141

Monthly

Collected in October:
\$228,192



Amount Needed:
\$250,000

BELOW Monthly Budget:
(-\$21,808)

Youth Stewardship Month to Date:
\$247

Society of St. Vincent de Paul:
\$11,447

Thank You!

Have you seen the new benches and station markers in the outdoor Stations of the Cross? Thank you for your contributions toward these improvements. The next step will be to add trees to replace what we lost in February's freeze.

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 stmaustin.org/give to make a secure and convenient gift online.

A Message from Bishop Vásquez

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This month we close the 75th anniversary of the Diocese of Austin. After a year of celebration, we mark this occasion with a Mass of Thanksgiving on November 18th at 10:15 a.m. at St. William Parish in Round Rock. Join me as I welcome Cardinal DiNardo and my brother bishops along with our priests, deacons, seminarians, religious and you the faithful of our beloved diocese.

This anniversary year was an opportunity for us to remember the past and celebrate the many blessings the Lord has showered upon our diocese and how he has used this local church as an instrument to serve others.

Following Christ, we have cared for, catechized, educated, healed, sanctified and served countless souls. We have served our brothers and sisters, Catholic and non-Catholic, through our ministries and apostolates by feeding, clothing and bringing them the Word of God.

And so, dear brothers and sisters, as we embrace the future, we must always be attentive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit as he leads us. We are comforted knowing that we can turn to our Blessed Mother, under her title of the Immaculate Conception, asking for her to accompany us on our journey.

~ Bishop Joe S. Vásquez

THE Gift Shop

SUNDAYS
8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 14TH
9 - 11:30 a.m.

NOVEMBER 25TH AND 26TH
6 - 6:30 p.m.

The Gift Shop Advent/Christmas celebration begins this weekend!

For new items and Gift Shop hours, you can now follow us on Facebook and Instagram at stmaustin.org/gift-shop.

The Gift Shop is currently open every Sunday in November from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It will also be open Tuesday, November 14th, 9 - 11:30 a.m. as well as after the Saturday and Sunday evening Masses on November 26th and 27th from 6 to 6:30 p.m.

If you would like to join our ministry, please call or text Marlene Miller, Gift Shop manager, at (316) 304-5431 for more information.



Family Celebrations

◀ Joe and Gloria Martinez will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on November 9th. They were married in 1963 at St. Joseph Parish in Stanton. They are proud parents to three children and grandparents to five grandchildren.

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 asanchez@stmaustin.org. 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.

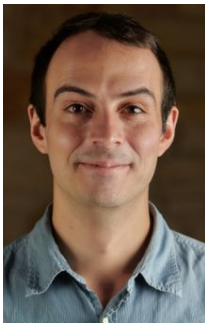
Thank You Ren!

We are so grateful to Ren MacNary for stepping back into parish ministry to help us through the seach for a new director of traditional music. His willingness to share the gifts God has given him with our parish family has been and continues to be a blessing for our community.



Meet Michael Hawes
Director of Traditional Music

Austin based Grammy® nominated singer, trumpeter and pianist, Michael Hawes enjoys a multifaceted career. Equally comfortable in front of a piano, as a member of a choir, or in the trumpet section of a symphony orchestra or brass quintet, his passion lies in collaboration and heartfelt performances of beautiful music. Recent performances have taken him throughout Europe to London, Madrid and Paris, as well as to Seoul, South Korea and Taipei, Taiwan. Michael frequently performs with three time Grammy® winning Crossing Choir, known for the groundbreaking programming and commissioning of new works, as well as Grammy® nominated Clarion Choir, Skylark Vocal Ensemble, Conspirare and others. He was a member of Axiom Brass, an award winning touring brass quintet, known for their adventurous programming and passionate desire to add to the brass quintet art form, and performed and recorded with them, while living in Chicago. Currently receiving his doctorate in musical arts at the University of Texas, in his free time you can find him exploring Austin, and trying new food with his wife, Nini, and son, Felix.



Knights of Columbus Nut Sales

The Knights of Columbus holiday nuts sales will start after all Masses this weekend and will continue next weekend (November 18th and 19th). Starting in November, we are accepting online orders for nut sales products at nuts.stmknight.org. See the website for details on picking up your online order. In December, we resume sales after Masses on the 9th, 10th, 16th and 17th. We accept cash, checks and credit cards. All proceeds from this sale benefit seminarians studying for the priesthood and other worthy charitable causes. The Knights will be selling pecans, almonds, walnuts, cashews, chocolate-covered nuts, candy-coated pretzels and other nut items. Plan now to buy for your needs for holiday cooking, snacks and fun while supplies last!

To the wonderful St. Thomas More community,
I am so looking forward to meeting you all over the coming weeks and months. As we know, music has an incredible power; it can bring us closer to each other and closer to God. I have devoted my life to music, and I can't wait to join voices with you all, and worship together in the STM community. If there is ever anything you need from me, don't hesitate to ask, I truly can't wait to meet you all and get started.
-Michael

WORSHIP & PRAYER

Prayer Requests

Kellie Bergman
Barbara Boland
Ally Bengs
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
Dylan Johnson
Beth Jones
Ramona Kaauamo
Frank Kelly
Jack Klaer
David Kresta
Mary Kubala
Linda Lange

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

On Friday, November 17th, the church will close following the 8:30 a.m. Mass so the facilities team can clean and perform maintenance without disturbing anyone's prayer. The church 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 our physical resources.

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!

NOV
21

7:30 p.m.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Church

Join our Christian brothers and sisters in offering a prayer of thanksgiving. Fr. Keith and Deacon Dan will lead this time of prayer along with clergy from Bethany United Methodist Church, Hope Presbyterian, Peace Lutheran and Unity Church of the Hills. Our Knights of Columbus will host a reception following the service.

Bucket List

By Lynn Grace Wong

Simply put, the bucket list is what we would like to have achieved or done before we “kick the bucket.” In November, our holy mother, the Church, does something wonderful for us. She helps us contemplate the last things, launching things off with All Saints Day on November 1st. Putting before us our brother and sister saints who have already won the pearl of great price. If we take a moment to dive into a bucket list of a saint, what might we find there?

- ✚ To answer God's call (even when full of doubts)
- ✚ To reach places that have not heard the Good News (no matter the dangers across seas and continents)
- ✚ Live each day beside Jesus (prayer and more prayer!)
- ✚ To bring each soul I meet closer to Jesus (even if stuck in bed sick)
- ✚ Be willing to die for the faith (probably unintentionally on their bucket list)

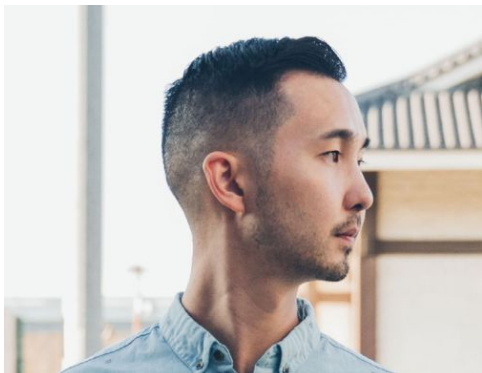
There's nothing wrong with having “win a gold medal for [insert your sport here]” on our bucket list. Or to finally visit the seventh or eighth wonder of the world. But as

Christians, we are asked to aim even higher. And the good news is we don't have to go it alone. Our parish family is here to support us. Our Blessed Mother wants to accompany us on the way to her son. Our brother and sister saints also want to help us get to Heaven. After all, bringing you and me to Christ is on their bucket list.

Some thoughts for prayer and reflection...

- ✚ Do I help my children create goals that will lead them to Heaven? Maybe I can encourage them to read the Bible daily, or to understand the Mass better.
- ✚ Do I take time to assess how well my spiritual life is going? Maybe I can practice doing an examination of conscience every night, or schedule my yearly retreat?
- ✚ As a family, can we create a bucket list that includes ways we can bring Christ to others? Find ways to offer our time, talent and treasure with St. Thomas More Parish and our diocese.

Lynn Grace Wong is a parishioner of St. Thomas More and is a member of the Catholic Writers Guild. She is also a proud mom to five. Connect with Lynn at lynngacewong.wordpress.com



Coming Soon: Parish Advent Mission

December 4th - 6th | 7-8:30 p.m.

Evening Two (12/5): Renewing the Family

No family or marriage is perfect. But so often people stop there without realizing that they're called to build the family and marriage life they've always wanted! In this presentation, speaker, singer and inspirer Paul J. Kim, who has a background in marriage and family therapy, shares both profound truths and game-changing tips for married couples, parents and children alike! Learn more at stmaustin.org/mission.

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

A Stewardship Moment

Jesus' parable of the ten virgins, some prepared, others unprepared, is directed at those who profess to be believers in Christ and await his return. His teaching is not directed to unbelievers. The stewardship issue turns on spiritual preparedness for the Lord's return. Good stewards prepare for Christ's return daily, in their life of prayer, worship and acts of compassion and generosity. A stewardship reflection for the week: **Am I preparing myself for the Lord? Am I open to the Holy Spirit's work within me? Am I ready?**

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

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

From the Catechism this Week

"The duty of Christians to take part in the life of the Church impels them to act as witnesses of the Gospel and of the obligations that flow from it. This witness is a transmission of the faith in words and deeds. Witness is an act of justice that establishes the truth or makes it known."

-CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, 2472-

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: December 14th
9:30-11 a.m. or 7-8:30 p.m.
Life House

We'll explore prayer and how Jesus taught us to pray in the Our Father.

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

FAITH FORMATION

This Week at Edge

Sunday's Edge Night will cover how receiving the Eucharist can change a middle schooler's life. For more information, contact Andrea Cochran at andrea@stmaustin.org.

Middle School Bible Study

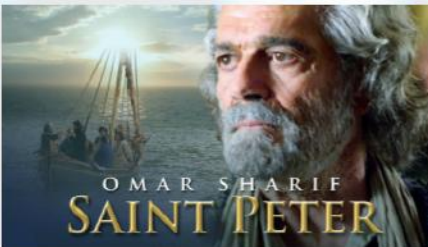
Join us for Wednesday Bible Study/Game Night from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Religious Education Building, Room 105 where we will dive into the readings for the upcoming Sunday and end with a game.

THIS WEEK ON
FORMED

Paul the Apostle | The Bible Collection

The church's greatest enemy became Christ's most prolific messenger. Beautifully shot in the Moroccan desert, this is a sweeping saga of the man who brought the Gospel to the Western world.

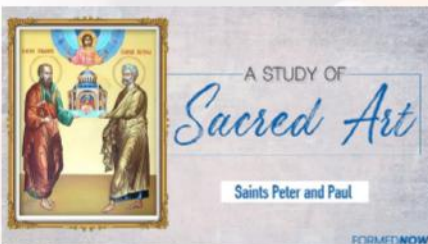
Go to stma.cc/F231112a.



St. Peter

Watch the epic story of the spread of Christianity during the early years of the Church. This film follows the journey of St. Peter through his martyrdom on a cross.

Go to stma.cc/F231112b.



Sts. Peter and Paul

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp to expand your knowledge of sacred art. In this episode on FORMED, they discuss an icon depicting Sts. Peter and Paul.

Go to stma.cc/F231112c.

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

2022-2023 Fiscal Year Parish Annual Report

July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023



Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Our Parish Life in Christ

Social Outreach & Pastoral Care

Our parish gives! We helped our neighbors through many outreach endeavors. Those include the Advent Giving Tree, Blood Drives, Cancer Support Group, Creation Care Team, Drive a Senior NW, Good Samaritan Meal Ministry, Grief & Loss Ministry, Habitat for Humanity, Mobile Loaves & Fishes, Respect Life Ministry, Stephen Ministry, Society of St. Vincent De Paul, and the Social Justice Ministry.

Additionally, through your donations, St. Thomas More donated \$29,000 to outside partner charitable organizations that help build the Kingdom of God!

Preschool

Our preschool enriched the lives of 88 young students ranging from one-and-a-half-year-olds to four-year-olds. The kids not only received a fantastic start to a life of learning, they did so in a Catholic environment. Our preschool is the only Catholic preschool in the area!



Faith Formation

Our faith formation ministries lead our children and adults to Christ and build a deeper knowledge of the teachings of the Catholic Church. Our amazing staff invested in the lives of 1,287 students and adults through the efforts of 194 volunteers.

There were 347 elementary students, 240 middle school students, and 235 high school students. There were 465 adults who participated in studies.



Sacraments

The sacramental life is a cornerstone of any parish. Our parish is no different! Through our clergy, we baptized 64 children, gave First Communion to 96 students, Confirmed 92, prepared 17 couples for marriage and celebrated 13 weddings. We also conducted 30 funerals. Six adults came into full communion with the Church through the RCIA process.



Parish Finances 2022-2023

Income

Offertory Collections (Sundays, Holy Days, Youth, Bldg Fu	\$2,541,342
Fundraising Income - Net	4,379
Interest, Dividends & Royalties	43,234
Fees	2,300
Rental Income (PAC, Life House and Brennan)	14,550
Gifts, Bequest & Other Donations	2,345
Gift Shop - Net	11,378
Preschool Income	353,791
Faith Formation, VBS, & Flower Income	95,500
Encountering Christ Campaign Funds	71,688
Total Income	\$3,140,506

Expense

Clergy, Administration & Faith Formation Salary & Wages	\$1,127,851
Preschool Salary & Wages	322,183
Employee Benefits & Taxes	375,353
Professional Services	152,311
Insurance & Risk Management	107,122
Furniture, Equipment, Supplies & Other Services	245,083
Repairs & Maintenance	195,553
Utilities	116,633
Subsidies & Charitable Contributions	59,542
Diocesan Assessment	256,116
Interest, Taxes, & Administrative Expenses	25,812
Total Expense	\$2,983,560

Net Ordinary Income

Capital expenditures	-\$190,967
Building Fund Donations	\$8,445
Net Income	-\$25,576

Capital Improvement Spending Summary

Preschool Playground Upgrades, RE Building Flooring Project, RE Bathrooms Remodel, Replaced Flooring & Toilets, PAC Audio/Visual & Lighting Improvements, New PAC Stove, Stations of the Cross Prep Work, Fisher House Remodel Carryover, Administration Drainage Improvements, New Cameras and Card Readers for Improved Access and Security, Preschool Exercise Room Flooring, Brennan Kitchen Tile Purchase for Future Replacement.

In Summary

St. Thomas More had a good year! We generated net income which was invested back into the parish for capital improvements. We experienced a decrease in contributions in 2023 which was offset by strong contributions in the last half of 2022. Your continued financial support helps maintain the mission of the Church in and around St. Thomas More Parish.

We are eternally grateful for your contributions which are used to serve our community and lead others to Christ. May God bless you for your generosity!

On behalf of Fr. Keith, Fr. David, Fr. Manickam, our deacons and staff, we are truly humbled to serve you. Our dynamic parish is nothing without YOU. We encourage you to continue your participation in our parish life and deepen your love for Christ and your neighbor.

Thank you!





9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Santa's Workshop

Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium

Middle School Service Project: Middle schoolers will be paired with little kids and enjoy crafts, games, shopping, visiting Santa and more. There's no need to register ahead of time. For more information, contact Andrea Cochran at andrea@stmaustin.org.



SOCIAL OUTREACH & PASTORAL CARE

Catholic Social Teaching

In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us to stay awake and be ready for his return. **Are we prepared for the day Jesus will return? What is the condition of my soul?**

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.

The Trees Are Coming

Our Advent Giving Trees will hold tags ready for picking from November 18th through 26th. Your tremendous generosity is on display every year as you help make Christmas brighter for needy individuals and families in our community. Each tag represents a specific person and gift. **Please remember to attach your tags securely to your unwrapped gifts or gift cards when you return them no later than Sunday, December 3rd.** Thank you for your prayers and generosity for another successful year for this special ministry!

SVdP Thanksgiving Food Drive

Benefitting St. Thomas More's MLF Pantry and the Vincentian Family Center Food Pantry

Through November 19th

It's not too late. Thank you for your generosity. We are truly blessed!

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| ⊕ Canned Items | ⊕ Fruit/Applesauce |
| ⊕ Beans | ⊕ Dry Items |
| ⊕ Chicken/Tuna | ⊕ Cereal/Oatmeal |
| ⊕ Chili/Pasta/Chunky Soup | ⊕ Pasta/Rice |
| ⊕ Peanut Butter/Jelly | ⊕ Mac & Cheese |
| ⊕ Pasta Sauce | ⊕ Instant Mashed Potatoes |
| ⊕ Vegetables | ⊕ Instant Stuffing |

Leadership Needed

The Creation Care Team (CCT) is in need of new leadership. Pope Francis called for everyone to do more immediately to protect God's creation, our common home. Our previous ministry leader, after two years of serving, has moved forward in helping the Laudato Si' Movement in Texas and now only has time to guide others on how to keep the CCT moving forward. Please email creationcareteam@stmaustin.org and say YES to helping St. Thomas More Parish.

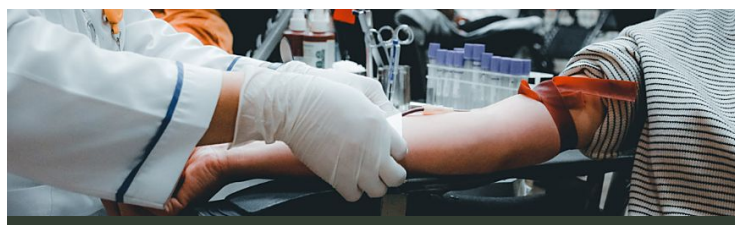


10:30 a.m. - noon

Cancer Support Ministry Meeting

Life House

Find comfort and fellowship as we fight cancer together. We use the guidebook, *Fighting Cancer with the Help of Your Catholic Faith* by Lorene Hanley Duquin (a cancer survivor). All parishioners, patients, caregivers, family and friends are welcome to join us on every second Tuesday of the month. For more information contact karenmoore8@gmail.com.



8 a.m. - noon

Blood Drive

Life House



This Advent, give the gift of life at our next blood drive. To make an appointment visit stma.cc/WRB231202 or scan the QR code with your phone's camera. For questions specific to our drive, contact Steve Isaacson at sisaacson51@gmail.com or (936) 525-9503. If you have eligibility questions, call We Are Blood at (512) 206-1108.

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



AROUND THE DIOCESE



Catholic Charities of Central Texas aims to educate the community in how to be prepared for a disaster and how to respond when it strikes. To learn more about how you can help meet the immediate and long-term needs of families on the road to recovery, or to schedule a preparedness presentation, visit ccctx.org/disaster-response.

Open Position at Annunciation Austin

Annunciation Austin is searching for an assistant director of education. This kindergarten through 12th grade education program is based on a Catholic, classical curriculum with classes held on the St. Thomas More campus. Please scan the QR code with your phone's camera or visit annunciationaustin.org/assistant-director-of-education for more information. To apply, contact president@annunciationaustin.org.



Yard Nativity Scenes

The St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church Knights of Columbus are creating Advent and Christmas yard decorations. Made from durable white PVC sheets, the following items are offered:

- ⊕ Nativity Scene: \$200
- ⊕ Trumpeting Angel: \$95
- ⊕ Three Wise Men: \$180
- ⊕ Shepherd & Sheep: \$80

Visit stma.cc/Ssvdpkoc or scan this QR code with your phone's camera to see pictures and place an order before these items sell out. Orders will be ready for pickup at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church on November 18th, 19th, December 2nd, 3rd, 16th and 17th.



Single Catholic Women, Ages 20-35

Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity invite you to in-person and online discernment events designed for you. Discover your calling and purpose. Visit fscs-calledtobe.org or contact Sr. Julie Ann (920) 323-9632 for more information.

Livestreamed Daily Mass

Daily Mass is livestreamed from the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception (the chapel at the Diocese of Austin's Pastoral Center) at noon on weekdays. Join the livestream at austindiocese.org/watch.

NOV 18 10:30 a.m.
Closing Mass of the 75th Anniversary

St. William Parish, Round Rock

Bishop Vásquez invites you to the Closing Mass of the 75th year of our beloved diocese. He welcomes Cardinal

Daniel DiNardo as the principal presider along with several bishops from across Texas and beyond. Come be part of this celebration together with our priests, seminarians, religious and the faithful to give thanks and to ask for the courage and wisdom to carry forth the mission of Christ here in Central Texas. Please arrive early to secure your place!

DEC 1

through December 3rd

Silent Advent Retreat

Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center, Temple

Give yourself a gift early by preparing for the birth of Our Lord. This silent retreat will include community prayer, reflections, Mass, Adoration and confession and will be led by Fr. Harry Dean and Brian Egan. The costs are \$295 for a private room, \$255 for a shared room and \$150 for commuters. For more information and to register, visit cedarbrake.org or contact Cedarbrake at (254) 780-2436.

DEC 11

through December 15th

Austin Caritas

Austin

Young adults are invited to service opportunities at this five-day mission in Austin organized by the Schoenstatt Movement of Austin and UT students. The mission collaborates with local charities in the city by serving the homeless, visiting the elderly and families in need, and hosting community events. Anyone between the ages of 18 and 24 is welcome to join the mission. To register go to austincaritas.com. To support the mission with a financial donation, go to schoenstatt-austin.us/donate. If you have any questions, please contact austincaritas@schoenstatt.us.

DEC 13

through December 15th

Heart of Jesus Discernment Retreat

Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center, Temple

Attention Men: How is Jesus calling you to follow him? Join Fr. Greg Gerhart, the vocation director of the diocese, for a retreat that will include time for prayer, spiritual conferences on discernment and vocations, and opportunities to speak with priests, seminarians and other men discerning their vocation. The retreat is open to single men who are 18 to 49 years old. Seniors in high school are also invited. The cost of the retreat is \$35. Details are available at stma.cc/AVhj23 or by calling (512) 949-2430.

Ethics & Integrity in Ministry (EIM)

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!*

Through the generous support of these sponsors, *The Bulletin* can be printed at no cost to our parish. When you need services, please consider using these sponsors and let them know you found about them through our bulletin.



Linda Baddour
REALTOR®
Parishioner

C: 512.750.1221
E: linda@bramlettresidential.com



SCAN ME
TO GET A MARKET
UPDATE FOR YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD





Join Our Team!
Body Tech • Detailer • Parts • Customer Service

AutocraftBodywerks.com





North Austin
(737) 238-3752
South Austin
(512) 441-7444
San Marcos
(512) 214-8696

Family Owned
and Operated.
Parishioners at
St. Mary Cathedral.



NORTHWEST IMPORTS
Foreign Car Specialists

www.nwimports.com
service@nwimports.com

512.331.7372

13200 Pond Springs Suite C5
Austin, TX 78729

David Wostarek Owner



EUROPEAN Porsche BMW
Audi Volvo
Volkswagen Mercedes-Benz

ASIAN Honda Hyundai
Lexus Mazda
Subaru Toyota
Infiniti Nissan
Acura

Kathye McGregor
Independent
Beauty
Consultant

843-327-4391

marykay.com/kmcgregor
Shop online with me 24/7



Barry Warmerdam
Parishioner

NOTARY PUBLIC
(559) 908-2361

Serving Cedar Park, Leander
& NW Austin



Annunciation Austin

- K-12 Catholic education at St. Thomas More with classes held Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Faith and family centered education model with school masses and spiritual formation
- An apostolate of Schoenstatt Movement of Austin

www.annunciationaustin.org



Stephanie
Hendrix
sales@SoleilFloors.com

SOLEIL FLOORS

"A Name You Can Stand On"

TILE • CARPET
HARDWOOD
COUNTERTOPS
CUSTOM BLINDS

512.218.0400

www.SoleilFloors.com



Ranger Termite & Pest Control, Inc.

\$50 Off Complete Termite Job
\$20 Off New Quarterly
Pest Control Service

512-249-0326

PAUL T. MORIN, PC

ATTORNEY AT LAW, *Parishioner*
20 Minute Free Initial Consultation
pmorin@austin.rr.com
911 Ranch Rd. 620 N, Ste. 204
512-499-8200

Jenelle Hatch
Luxury Travel Advisor

571.332.2171
journeysbyjenelle.com

Thinking of improving
your home?



Yelkin Garcia
512-586-3424
www.gvremodels.com

Fully Insured

Free Estimates!

Santa Barbara Parishioner

Bathroom and Kitchen Remodel
Drywall • Painting • Flooring
Concrete • Deck • Roofing

Knights of Columbus



**St. Thomas More
Council
#9997**

STMKnights.org

ANNUNCIATION MATERNITY HOME

PREGNANT? NEED HELP? Offering
a new beginning to teens & women
experiencing a crisis pregnancy



HIGH SCHOOL • LIFE SKILLS CLASSES
HOUSING • CHILDCARE • MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

www.TheMaternityHome.org
512-864-7755

Hiring, send resume to: info@thematernityhome.org

**DELUXE
BARBER COLLEGE**

512-719-9999
DeluxeBarberCollege.org

\$6 HAIRCUTS
1212
W. Parmer Ln.
Ste F, Austin

Now
Accepting
DARS
VA BENEFIT
FAFSA

Beck Funeral Home

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1982

- CREMATORY
- FUNERAL SERVICES
- PREARRANGEMENTS

15709 Ranch Road 620, Austin/Round Rock
512-244-3772

1700 E. Whitestone, Cedar Park/Leander
512-259-1610

4765 Priem Lane, Pflugerville/Hutto
512-251-3500

www.beckchapels.com



512-996-9636
8300 N. FM 620

Open Tues - Sun 11a.m. to 9 p.m. for curbside and dine-in

ST. GABRIEL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Offering Pre-K 3 - 8th grade
Learn more at www.sgs-austin.org

RIVER PLACE OB GYN

Dr. John Thoppil

Parishioner
Austin Monthly Top Doctor

512.473.8300

www.riverplaceobg.com



Dr. Rachel Shepherd

6611 River Place Blvd., #202



Darren C Strozewski, P.E. Civil Engineering
Principal/Owner
Parishioner

Designing public traffic, transportation,
drainage, water & wastewater
treatment facilities for cities and counties
throughout Texas.

www.dcs-engineering.com

Austin, Texas

512.614.6171

4M Roofing Company

Repairs and Re-Roofs

Serving Austin & Surrounding Area.
Call or Text Us for a Good Faith Estimate.

- ✓ Insured & Bonded
- ✓ Great Customer Service
- ✓ Insurance Claim Assistance
- ✓ Affordable
- ✓ Honest
- ✓ Integrity

4MRoofing@gmail.com

"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



512-299-8949 / 512-668-3033

4MRoofingtx.com



**MY CLIENTS' INTEREST
ALWAYS COME FIRST!**

*Global Real Estate Advisor Since '78
NW & Canyon Creek Resident Since '88
Parishioner*

MARGARET PARMA

GLOBAL REAL ESTATE ADVISOR

c: 512.632.9519

realtor.margaretparma@gmail.com

margaretparma.kuperrealty.com/testimonials

Kuper Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

★ PERSONALIZED & COMFORTABLE LIFETIME DENTAL CARE



BUTTERCUP
DENTAL

STEVEN STANCEY, DDS
PARISHIONER

SCOTT SMITH, DDS
PARISHIONER

www.buttercupdental.com

901 CYPRESS CREEK RD., STE. 203, CEDAR PARK • 512-335-8121

PROUDLY SERVING CENTRAL TEXAS SINCE 1987



Long Term Care Insurance
Medicare Supplement Insurance

Mickey Batsell, CLU, CASL, Parishioner

Try Our Free Discount Drug Coupon!

Invite Your Friends To Try | <http://ndcpro.com/r/cmc/>

Call for a free consultation

mickeybatsell@mickeybatsell.com • 512.260.0051



River Place Vision Center

Dr. Dennis Smith, Parishioner

Routine & Medical Eye Care
Dry Eye Clinic

512.343.2020

www.RiverPlaceVision.com



Pure
REALTY

Shelly Kelly
& Associates

Real Estate
for
Real Change.

REALTOR®, CRS
Parishioner

(C) 512.567.5955

shelly@shellykelly.com

shellykelly.com

Senior Sitters

512-250-5800
seniorsittersusa.com

PARISHIONER

HEAVENLY CARE

Feel the Heavenly
Difference

**Exceptional
Home Care**

512-432-5503

heavenlycaregivers.com

Alice & Benny
Latino
Parishioners

CARY STREET PARTNERS

7000 North Mopac Expy | Suite 150 | Austin, TX 78731



Javier O. Larrea

Financial Advisor, Director
javier.larrea@carystreetpartners.com

512.275.0813

A HIGHER STANDARD



Dr. Bob
Owner/Parishioner

Excellent Care
at Affordable Prices

BEST VET
336-WOOF

www.bestvetaustin.com

8863 Anderson Mill Rd.
Ste. #105

**Free Exam for
New Customers
or 10% OFF
Services w/Ad**



ANDREW RANALLO
LICENSED MASTER PLUMBER

Parishioner since 1990

512.994.5670

tower@flyboyplumbing.com

flyboyplumbing.com

200 University Blvd Suite 225

#209 Round Rock, TX 78665



**OUR LADY OF THE
ROSARY CEMETERY
& PRAYER GARDENS**

Offering Spaces for
Cremation, Traditional
and Green Burials

For more information, please visit

www.olotr.com

or call **737-444-5234**

FAMILY OF DEALERSHIPS

NYLE MAXWELL



Austin Supercenter
512-219-3634

Taylor Original
512-218-5300

St. William's Parishioner

NyleMaxwell.com



**Ame's
Cleaning**
331-9694

Ame Frezza, Parishioner

info@amescleaningaustin.com

SERVING AUSTIN'S RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL CLEANING NEEDS SINCE 1987

WE DO CARRY COVID-19 CLEANING PRODUCTS

12308 N. Hwy. 620, Austin, TX 78750

www.AmesCleaningAustin.com

