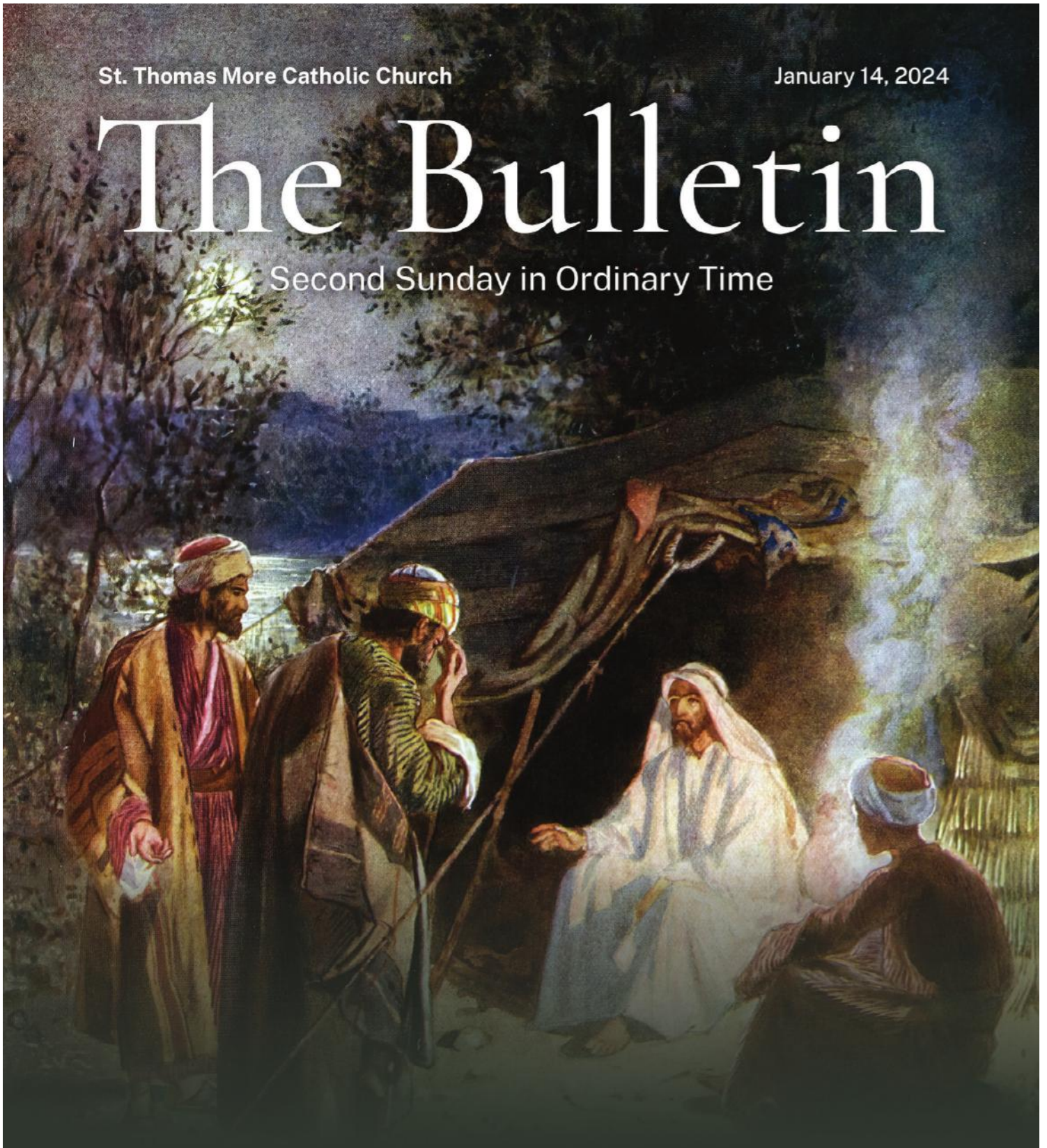


St. Thomas More Catholic Church

January 14, 2024

The Bulletin

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



*A Letter from
Bishop Vásquez*

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Bulletin Deadlines

Submissions for the January 28th edition are due **by 11:59 p.m. on January 18th**. Submissions for the February 4th edition are due **by 11:59 p.m. on January 25th**. 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

Parish Contact Information

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Main Fax (512) 258-8812

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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, January 14th

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 | Ps 40 | 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 | Jn 1:35-42

7:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: Laurie O'Beirne

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

Coffee & Donuts (Religious Education Building: Family Center)8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
9 a.m.**Gift Shop Open****Mass** (Church)

Intention: St. Thomas More Parishioners

10:45 a.m.

Mass (Church)Intention: Adrian & Veronica De La Cruz
Liturgy of the Word for Children available

Noon - 1:15 p.m.

Elementary Faith Formation (Religious Education Building)

5 p.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: David Dunn & Mari Payne

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Hospitality Minister Training (Church)

6:30 - 9 p.m.

Life Teen (Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)

6:30 - 9 p.m.

Middle School Faith Formation: Game Night (Parish Activity Center (PAC))Monday, January 15th

1 Sm 15:16-23 | Ps 50 | Mk 2:18-22

8:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: Linda Reily & Sue Johnson

4 - 5:15 p.m.

Elementary Faith Formation (Religious Education Building)

6:30 - 7:45 p.m.

Elementary Faith Formation (Religious Education Building)Tuesday, January 16th

1 Sm 16:1-13 | Ps 89 | Mk 2:23-28

8:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: Rebecca Plaza & † Rodolfo Ato

9:30 - 10 a.m.

Linen Care Training (Pastoral Offices Building: St. Joseph Conference Room)

9:30 - 11 a.m.

Adult Study: Walking with Purpose (Parish Activity Center (PAC))

4 - 5 p.m.

Elementary Faith Formation (Religious Education Building)

7 - 8:30 p.m.

Adult Study: Walking with Purpose (Parish Activity Center (PAC))

7 - 8:30 p.m.

Man Up (Life House: Main Room)

7 - 9 p.m.

Life Teen Bible Study (Life House: Back Room)Wednesday, January 17th

Memorial of St. Anthony, Abbot

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 | Ps 144 | Mk 3:1-6

8:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: Patti Gallen

9 - 9:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation (Church: Confessional & Holy Family Room)

10 - 11:30 a.m.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to the Homebound Training (Parish Activity Center (PAC): St. Thomas More Room)

5:30 - 6 p.m.

6 - 7 p.m.

6:30 - 8 p.m.

7 - 8:30 p.m.

7 - 9 p.m.

7 - 9 p.m.

7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Evening Prayer (Chapel)**Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation** (Church: Confessional & Holy Family Room)**Middle School Bible Study** (Religious Education Building: Room 105)**Adult Study: Jesus of Nazareth** (Religious Education Building: Room 213)**Confirmation Class** (Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)**Men's Club** (Religious Education Building: Family Center)**Alcoholics Anonymous** (Parish Activity Center (PAC): St. Thomas More Room)Thursday, January 18th

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 | Ps 56 | Mk 3:7-12

6 - 7:30 a.m.

8:30 a.m.

Man Up (Parish Activity Center (PAC))**Mass** (Church)

Intention: † Howard Salge

9:30 - 11 a.m.

Bereavement Ministry Kick Off (Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)Friday, January 19th

1 Sm 24:3-21 | Ps 57 | Mk 3:13-19

8:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: † Alexander O'Brien &

† Manuel Quijas Lopez

Saturday, January 20th

Jon 3:1-5, 10 | Ps 25 | 1 Cor 7:29-31 | Mk 1:14-20

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

3:45 - 4:40 p.m.

Believe Family Retreat (STM Campus)**Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation** (Church: Confessional & Holy Family Room)

5 p.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: Mary Beth Kees & † Wilson Pompilli

Sunday, January 21st

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jon 3:1-5, 10 | Ps 25 | 1 Cor 7:29-31 | Mk 1:14-20

7:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: Laura Nye

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

Coffee & Donuts (Religious Education Building: Family Center)

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

9 a.m.

Gift Shop Open**Mass** (Church)

Intention: † John Moran

10:30 - 11:45 a.m.

Adult Bible Study: Metanoia (Religious Education Building: Rooms 213 - 215)

10:45 a.m.

Mass (Church)Intention: St. Thomas More Parishioners
Liturgy of the Word for Children available

Noon - 1:15 p.m.

Elementary Faith Formation (Religious Education Building)

Noon - 1:15 p.m.

First Reconciliation Parent Meeting (Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)

5 p.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: Debbie Hausmann

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)

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

January 1st - 7th Collection:
\$59,738



Amount Needed Weekly:
\$50,000

ABOVE Weekly Budget:
\$9,738

Youth Stewardship:
\$173

Feast of the Holy Family
\$5,104

Retired Clergy
\$8,730

Month to Date

Collected in January:
\$59,738



Amount Needed to Date:
\$50,000

ABOVE Monthly Pace:
\$9,738

Youth Stewardship Month to Date:
\$173

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
December Collections:
\$15,374

Did You Know?

Our operational spending is at 93% of the budget through November 30, 2023. That equates to roughly \$100K in savings!

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 Letter from Bishop Vásquez

January 14, 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Greetings in our Lord, Jesus Christ!

On January 20th-21st, I have asked our parish priests to participate in our third annual, Called by Name Sunday. From all eternity, God has known each one of us by name and has a particular calling for us to follow. Called by Name Sunday is about listening and responding to God's call.

Next Sunday's readings center on the theme of vocation, and I have asked our priests to share their own vocation story during the homily. As you listen to the Word of God proclaimed at Mass and reflect upon the vocation story shared by your priest, please consider the following:

1. For those of you discerning your life's vocation, be open to God's call to the priesthood or religious life. God's calling is a beautiful gift – be courageous and open to his call! Jesus came that we might have life

and have it to the full – do not be afraid. If God is calling you to the priesthood or religious life, then nothing less will satisfy.

2. Please think of the men and women you know and believe might have a calling to the priesthood or religious life. While God is the one who calls, he often uses our voices. Please help us reach out to these individuals and come next weekend prepared to share their name(s) and contact information so that a letter of encouragement can be sent to them.

Brothers and sisters, with God's blessing and your help, we can make Called by Name Sunday a great success. May all of us listen to God's call and follow where he leads. Be assured of my prayers for you as we continue to build a culture of vocations in our diocese.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Joe S. Vásquez
Bishop of Austin



Christmas Flowers

As we look back at this year's Christmas season, we're grateful for all those who helped make the celebrations beautiful. In a special way, we're grateful for all those who donated funds for our Christmas flowers. You can see all those for whom the flowers were purchased in memory or on behalf of at stmaustin.org/christmas-flowers.

Man Up

Man Up is starting up again on Thursday, January 11th

(morning group) and Tuesday the 16th (evening group). Get more information at the tables after Mass on January 6th & 7th or visit stmaustin.org/man-up.

Are you looking for:

- ✚ A simple way to connect with other guys and grow spiritually?
- ✚ An opportunity to learn, discuss and grow in your faith?
- ✚ For ways to unlock your God-given potential?



THE Gift Shop

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

The Gift Shop is currently open every Sunday in January from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It will also be open from 6 - 6:30 p.m. on January 13th and 14th.

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

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

**JAN
27**

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Pillars of Marriage with Brad Wilcox

Parish Activity Center (PAC)

Brad Wilcox, renowned marriage expert and Director of the National Marriage Project at the University of Virginia, will share his wisdom and insights on the pillars of a successful marriage. Drawing on the latest in social science and ancient wisdom, Brad will unpack a fundamental truth: family life matters more for happiness than work or money. Whether you're considering getting married or have been married for years, this event is for you! Snacks and drinks will be provided. Attendees are invited to bring an appetizer, dessert, or wine to share. Register at stma.cc/EBpom. For more information, contact Denise Abele at dabele@stmaustin.org.

WORSHIP & PRAYER

Prayer Requests

Kellie Bergman

Barbara Boland

Ally Bengs

John Brun

Ed Burke

Samuel Chirafis

Graciela Diaz

Frank DiLorenzo

Katie DiLorenzo

Dodie Domanski

Al Esparza

Jo Falkenstein

Ray & Grace Fisher

Ame Frezza

Dave Galvin

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

Luke Merchant

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.

Vocations Cross

The Parish Vocations Cross will start traveling next Sunday, January 21st! The Vocations Cross is available to travel from home to home for one-week intervals. During that week, the host family will be asked to make a special effort to pray together with an emphasis on an increase in vocations to the priesthood, religious life and marriage, as well as for a clear understanding of the vocation to which Christ is calling each family member. A binder of prayers will accompany the cross. Sign up online at stma.cc/pvc.

Preparation for Total Consecration

In Fatima, Our Lady said, "My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God." Please join thousands of faithful throughout the Diocese of Austin for 33 days of preparation prayer for Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary. The prayers begin on February 20th and are done privately using the preparation book. Please visit TexasToJesusThroughMary.org by January 18th to receive your FREE copy of the de Montfort preparation prayer book. Your book will be mailed to you.

Start the New Year off with a New Ministry

As you consider exploring your gifts and calling for 2024, maybe you'd like to "resolve" to join a new ministry in our parish. Maybe you missed the recent trainings and need to be refreshed. Whatever your reason, you are invited to attend!

Prayerfully consider continuing or beginning one of the following ministries:

- ✦ Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (at Mass)
- ✦ Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to the Sick and Homebound
- ✦ Altar Server
- ✦ Linen Care Ministry
- ✦ Bereavement Meal Ministry

Bring Christ to the Homebound

Attention all active parishioners. We are in great need of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Homebound. Many of our fellow parishioners are no longer able to come to Mass but long to receive the Eucharist. Please consider if you are being called to this ministry. You may choose to serve just occasionally, once a month, or every week. This beautiful ministry can fit into your schedule. We have many upcoming training courses in January. Please see the training schedule on page six for details.

JAN 16 9:30 - 11 a.m.
Linen Care Ministry Training
Pastoral Offices Building: St. Joseph Conference Room

Do you ever wonder what happens to all the "laundry" of the church? Put your washer/dryer and a little spare time at home to work by joining a small group of dedicated linen care ministers who keep our linens so very fresh. Join us to learn more information.

Ministry Trainings 2024

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Mass* Church

Tuesday, January 9th | 6 - 7 p.m.

Wednesday, January 10th | 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. and 7 - 8 p.m.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Homebound*

Parish Activity Center (PAC): St. Thomas More Room

Thursday, January 11th | 10 - 11:30 a.m. and 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 17th | 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 23rd | 1:30 - 3 p.m.

Hospitality Minister Training Church

Sunday, January 14th | noon - 1 p.m. and 6:30 - 7 p.m.

Altar Server Training Church

Friday, January 12th | 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Linen Care Ministry

Pastoral Offices Building: St. Joseph Conference Room

Tuesday, January 16th | 9:30 - 11 a.m.

Bereavement Meal Ministry

Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium

Thursday, January 18th | 9:30 - 11 a.m.

*COMMISSIONING MASSES
 JANUARY 27TH & 28TH

JAN 18 9:30 - 11 a.m.
Bereavement Meal Refresh
Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium

Our parish is widely known for the beautiful meals we provide bereaved families after a funeral in our church. If you'd like to join a team of people who care for these families, join us in this "refresh the ministry" kick-off. Whether or not you've been part of this ministry in the past, come learn how we're doing it now. Let's revisit how we can best serve parishioners suffering from the loss of a loved one.

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

A Stewardship Moment

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks two of John the Baptist's followers who now want to follow him, "What are you looking for?" That is, of course, a very practical question. **It is a very good question for us to ask ourselves as we begin this new year: What is it that I seek? What is it that I really want in following Jesus? How do I wish to live so that Christ will know that I have an authentic desire to be his disciples?** This is a stewardship question. By our

very human nature, we are on a spiritual quest and we have many choices. Do you choose to truly be a follower of Jesus Christ? If so, what changes will you make in your life that will draw you closer to the Lamb of God.

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



2023 Tax Contribution Statements

New this year, tax contribution statements will be available for download from our website. Those who do not already have a Ministry Platform account should have received an email last week on how to create one. If you have an existing Ministry Platform account, please make sure you can log in. Tax statements will be available for download beginning January 22nd. Instructions on how to create an account and download tax statements will also be included in next week's bulletin. Please contact Julie Olesen with any questions at jolesen@stmaustin.org or (512) 258-1721.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Jesus of Nazareth: Guided Book Discussion

Wednesdays, January 17th-February 28th,
7-8:30 p.m., Religious Education Building:
Room 213

Pope Benedict XVI wrote *Jesus of Nazareth* as his "personal search 'for the face of the Lord.'" Join him in encountering Jesus through a discussion of this rich book with Frank O'Connell and Fr. David as your guides.

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

Metanoia: A Journey with Jesus into Conversion

Sundays, January 21st-April 14th,
10:30-11:45 a.m., Religious Education Building:
Room 213

Jesus' words are an invitation to metanoia (change/conversion). In this 11-week series with Fr. Dave Pivonka, explore areas of life where conversion is so often necessary and get inspired to embrace the new life Jesus is constantly inviting you to.

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

JAN
16

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

What Does the Sacrament of Penance Have to do with my Friendship with Christ?

Parish Activity Center (PAC)

Walking with Purpose

This Bible study for women will take you on an exciting journey closer to the heart of God, help you form a personal

relationship with Christ, and help you find answers to life's biggest questions through the context of the Catholic faith. Join us as we explore the core questions we need to wrestle with if we want to experience all that God has for us. Our spring season runs from January 9th to April 23rd. Learn more at stmaustin.org/www.

FEB
26

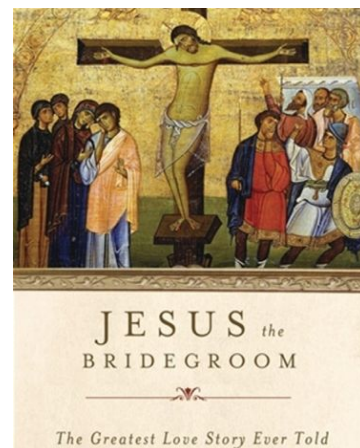
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Read, Reflect, Rejoice!

Religious Education Building: Library

Jesus the Bridegroom by Brant Pitre

The apostle Paul teaches that Christ is the "Bridegroom," and the Church is the "bride." But what does this really mean? And what would ever possess Paul to compare the death of Christ to the love of a husband for his wife? Is that how you would have described it? How could a first-century Jew like Paul, who knew how brutal Roman crucifixions were, have ever compared the execution of Jesus to a wedding? Pitre shows the key to unlocking this mystery can be found by going back to Jewish Scripture and tradition and seeing the entire history of salvation, from Mount Sinai to Mount Calvary, as a divine love story between Creator and creature, between God and Israel, between Christ and his bride—a story that comes to its climax on the wood of a Roman cross. Let us know you'll be joining us for the discussion by registering at stmaustin.org/book-discussions. You are welcome to the conversation even if you have not read the book! Books are available for purchase in the gift shop.



ADULT FAITH *Spring 2024*

Metanoia

Sundays starting January 21st
10:30 - 11:45 a.m. / Room 213

Explore areas of life where conversion is so often necessary and get inspired to embrace new life in this 11-week series with Fr. Dave Pivonka.



Presence

Thursdays starting February 22nd
9:30 - 11 a.m. or 7 - 8:30 p.m. / Life House

Explore the beauty of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, from its origins in Scripture to its profound role in our lives in this four-week series.



Jesus of Nazareth

Wednesdays starting January 17th
7 - 8:30 p.m. / Room 213

Pope Benedict XVI wrote this book as his "personal search" for the face of the Lord." Encounter Jesus with him in a six-week discussion of this rich book.



Diving Deeper

First Monday of each month
9:15 - 10:15 a.m. / Brennan Auditorium

Join Fr. David after daily Mass for informal conversations about your faith questions.



Opening Your Heart

Tuesdays starting January 9th
9:30 - 11 a.m. or 7 - 8:30 p.m. / Parish Activity Center (PAC)

Join women in finding answers to life's biggest questions in the riches of the Catholic faith.



Man Up

Tuesdays starting January 16th
7 - 8:30 p.m. / Life House or
Thursdays starting January 11th
6 - 7:30 a.m. / Parish Activity Center (PAC)

Connect with other guys and grow in faith.



Book Discussions

7 - 8:30 p.m. / Library

Monday, February 26th
Jesus the Bridegroom
by Brant Pitre

Monday, April 15th
Life of the Beloved
by Henri Nouwen



Have you thought about becoming Catholic?

Connect with community, find help exploring your questions, and prepare for the Sacraments of Initiation in RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)



Young at Heart

2nd Tuesday each month
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. / Brennan Auditorium

Join fellow parishioners, ages 55 plus, for fellowship, food and fun each month!



Available any time, any where

FORMED



Inspiring Catholic movies, studies, talks and ebooks for all ages available to you for free online.

**Learn more
or sign up:**



stmaustin.org/adult-faith



dawn@stmaustin.org



(512) 258-1944 x235



Catholic Social Teaching

In the Gospel today, John the Baptist points out Jesus as the “Lamb of God,” who lived and accepted even death to save us from sin. Although we live in uncertain times, we are called to live in union with the one who ransomed us by his own death out of love for us. We will indeed face what he faced – suffering, fear and death – but like him, we are promised a share in his risen life and glory. **How can you share your hope this week? How can you break through fear and anxiety in your life or the lives of those around you because of your faith in Jesus?**

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 Green Spot

“[A]ll life is interrelated ... Whatever affects one, directly affects all indirectly.” (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., 1967) “[A] true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.” (Laudato Si’ 49) With every action you take, think about who you may be harming or whether your action helps anyone.

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

On January 22nd, the Church in the United States observes the annual Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. This day is set aside to pray for the legal protection of human life and to do penance for the violations to human dignity through abortion. We are called to observe this day through prayer and penance. Find more information at respectlife.org/january-22.

How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year, rather than pack it away with the ornaments?

Each year, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Her open heart and courageous “yes” to God show us how to live year-round – with hearts open to the Lord, following where he leads. We are called to place our trust in him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like our Blessed Mother welcomed Jesus, we are called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance.

One way to live out the message of Christmas and follow

Our Lady’s example is to join 9 Days for Life, a novena for the protection of human life, taking place Tuesday, January 16th through Wednesday, January 24th. Each day’s intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Join today at 9daysforlife.com!

Sanctity of Human Life Month

On January 21st, we will recognize Sanctity of Human Life Sunday (SoHLS). SoHLS is a day for Americans to focus on the value of every human life. It is celebrated every year on the Sunday closest to the anniversary of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decisions Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton, which legalized abortion in every state for any reason through all nine months of pregnancy. President Ronald Reagan issued a proclamation creating the first National Sanctity of Human Life Day in January 1984. We invite you to remember the loss of more than 57 million unborn children since 1973 and help LifePlan celebrate the precious gift of life for all.

Grief & Loss Support Group

**Mondays, February 5th - March 25th
9:30 – 11 a.m.**

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

JAN 27

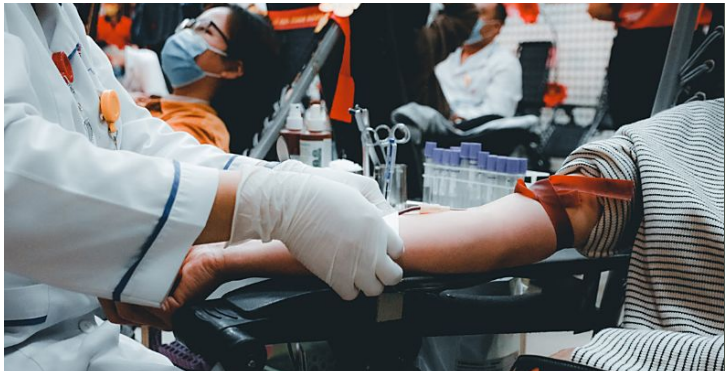
March and Rally for Life

St. Louis Catholic Church, Austin

Following Mass at St Louis Catholic Church, join us downtown for the Texas Rally for Life. St Thomas More Parish will be organizing a group for the Mass for Life and carpooling to the capitol. We will join the Diocese of Austin at the parking garages on Trinity St., north of 12th St., and walk south on Trinity to the new meeting location at 13th and Brazos to march to the capitol. Please contact Patti Gallen at (512) 415-6218 if you are interested in attending. Find more information at texasrallyforlife.org.

- 9 a.m.
- Rosary of Mercy and Healing (before the liturgy begins)
- 10 a.m.
- Mass of Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life
- 1 - 4 p.m.
- Texas Rally for Life: A March around the capitol and a rally with pro-life speakers, including Bishop Joe Vásquez

In need of healing prayer? Mercy of God Prayer Center Deacon Rob Reyna (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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FEB
3

8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Blood Drive

Life House



Start off the year right by giving the gift of life at our next blood drive. To make an appointment, visit stma.cc/bd2401 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.

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.

Project Stephen

Men: Are you being called to serve as a deacon? Project Stephen provides an opportunity to actively engage men who are discerning their call to a deeper relationship with God through service as a deacon. This is a time of prayer and reflection, and an opportunity to discuss one's call with others. Hear a witness from a deacon, his sense of call and life of service, and learn about the qualities, characteristics, charisms and aspects of the diaconate and of formation. The next Project Stephen meetings will be:

- ✦ January 18th, 7 to 9 p.m. at the Diocese of Austin Pastoral Center in Austin
- ✦ January 21st, 1 to 3 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Marble Falls
- ✦ February 18th, 3 to 5 p.m. at St. Joseph in Bryan with 5:30 p.m. Mass to follow.

Please visit the Diocese of Austin's Project Stephen webpage at austindiocese.org/projectstephen for more information. One can register by email at diaconateformation@austindiocese.org or call the Diaconate Formation Office at (512) 949-2459.

Pastoral Gathering with the Deaf Apostolate

Cultural Ministries, in consultation with Life, Marriage and Family, cordially invites Catholics of every culture to participate in opportunities for sacramental healing and fellowship among the Deaf Apostolate as we commemorate the memorial of St. Francis de Sales, the "Gentleman Saint."

January 23rd: Reconciliation, Penance and Holy Hour at St. Ignatius Martyr Parish in Austin at 6 p.m.

January 24th: Celebration of the Eucharist, "Living in the Spirit as Deaf Catholics" at St. Mary Cathedral at 6 p.m.

JAN
12

8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Parent Information Session

St. Dominic Savio Catholic High School, Austin

St. Dominic Savio Catholic High School is a co-education college preparatory school that offers an extensive curriculum to satisfy a variety of academic and extra-curricular interests. Prospective parents are invited to attend one of their information sessions to learn more about the school, enjoy a student-led tour of the beautiful campus and hear about the admission process. To register for a session and other visiting opportunities go to saviochs.org/admission or contact Holly Bologna, director of admissions, at (512) 388-8846 x5504.

FEB
10

6 - 9:30 p.m.

Gala Fundraiser

St. Thomas More Catholic Church: Parish Activity Center (PAC)

Celebrate 20 years of Annunciation Austin deep in the heart of Texas! This will be a fantastic adults' evening of BBQ, drinks and dessert, dancing and a silent auction of one-of-a-kind items. Visit bit.ly/AAfg23 for more information and to purchase tickets. See y'all there!



SCAN ME

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.

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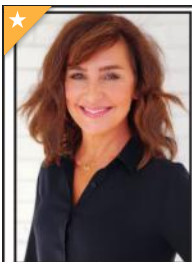
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