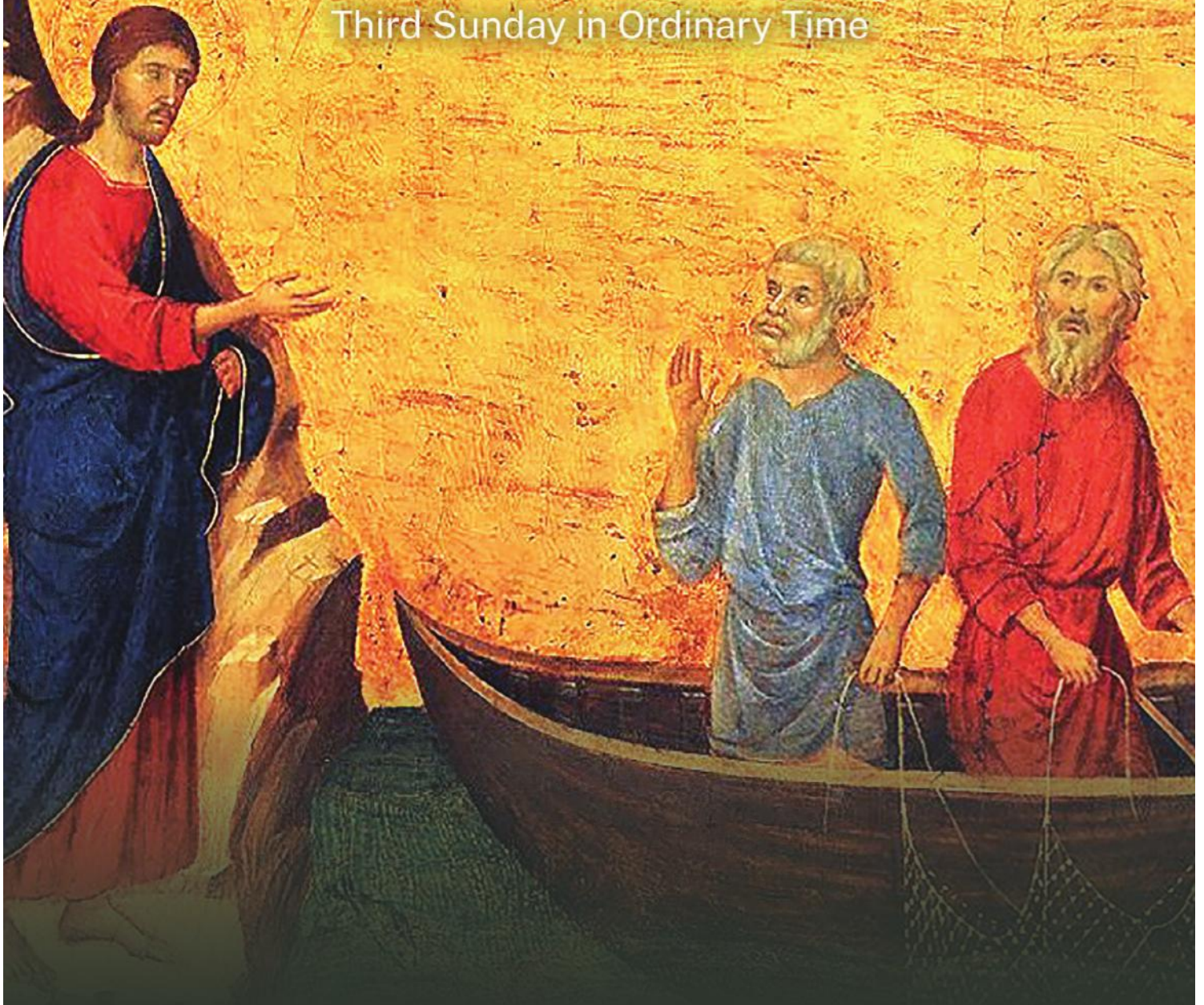


St. Thomas More Catholic Church

January 21, 2024

The Bulletin

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



Pillars of Marriage

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for Life*

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Bulletin Deadlines

Content for the February 4th edition is due **by 11:59 p.m. on January 25th**. Content for the February 11th edition is due **by 11:59 p.m. on February 1st**. 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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frkeith@stmaustin.org



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Parochial Vicar
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Rev. David Trahan
Parochial Vicar
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Deacon Tom Mallinger
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Deacon Pat O'Beirne
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Deacon Thomas Suniga
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Jeremy Brown
Pastoral Council

Don Rosenberg
Finance Council

Parish Contact Information

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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, 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.** **Gift Shop Open**
- 9 a.m.** **Mass** (Church)
Intention: † John Moran
- 10 a.m. - noon** **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** (Life House)
- 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)

Monday, January 22nd

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

2 Sm 5:1-7, 10 | Ps 89 | Mk 3:22-30

- 8:30 a.m.** **Mass** (Church)
Intention: † Proxy Adair
- 4 - 5:15 p.m.** **Elementary Faith Formation** (Religious Education Building)
- 4 - 5:15 p.m.** **First Reconciliation Parent Meeting** (Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)
- 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.** **Elementary Faith Formation** (Religious Education Building)
- 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.** **First Reconciliation Parent Meeting** (Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)

Tuesday, January 23rd

Memorial of St. Vincent, Deacon & Martyr &

St. Marianne Cope, Virgin

2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19 | Ps 24 | Mk 3:31-35

- 8:30 a.m.** **Mass** (Church)
Intention: † Thomas Mione
- 9:30 - 11 a.m.** **Adult Study: Walking with Purpose** (Religious Education Building: Room 213)
- 1:30 - 3 p.m.** **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to the Homebound Training** (Parish Activity Center (PAC): St. Thomas More Room)
- 4 - 5:15 p.m.** **Elementary Faith Formation** (Religious Education Building)
- 4 - 5:15 p.m.** **First Reconciliation Parent Meeting** (Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)
- 7 - 8:30 p.m.** **Adult Study: Walking with Purpose** (Religious Education Building: Room 213)
- 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, January 24th

Memorial of St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

2 Sm 7:4-17 | Ps 89 | Mk 4:1-20

- 8:30 a.m.** **Mass** (Church)
Intention: † Howard Salge & † Jose A. Gonzalez
- 9 - 9:30 a.m.** **Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation** (Church: Confessional & Holy Family Room)
- 5:30 - 6 p.m.** **Evening Prayer** (Chapel)
- 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 - 8:30 p.m.** **Adult Study: Jesus of Nazareth** (Religious Education Building: Room 213)
- 7 - 9 p.m.** **Confirmation Class** (Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)
- 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.** **Alcoholics Anonymous** (Parish Activity Center (PAC): St. Thomas More Room)

Thursday, January 25th

Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle

Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22 | Ps 117 | Mk 16:15-18

- 6 - 7:30 a.m.** **Man Up** (Parish Activity Center (PAC))
- 8:30 a.m.** **Mass** (Church)
Intention: Jessica Nunnery

Friday, January 26th

Memorial of Sts. Timothy & Titus, Bishops

2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5 | Ps 96 | Mk 4:26-34

- 8:30 a.m.** **Mass** (Church)
Intention: Mary Dampman

Saturday, January 27th

Dt 18:15-20 | Ps 95 | 1 Cor 7:32-35 | Mk 1:21-28

- 3:45 - 4:40 p.m.** **Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation** (Church: Confessional & Holy Family Room)
- 5 p.m.** **Mass** (Church)
Intention: † Moises Robinson & † Richard Fleisshacker
- 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.** **Pillars of Marriage with Brad Wilcox** (Parish Activity Center (PAC))

Sunday, January 28th

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 18:15-20 | Ps 95 | 1 Cor 7:32-35 | Mk 1:21-28

- 7:30 a.m.** **Mass** (Church)
Intention: Molly Cloran
- 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** **Coffee & Donuts** (Religious Education Building: Family Center)
- 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** **Gift Shop Open**
- 9 a.m.** **Mass** (Church)
Intention: St. Thomas More Parishioners
- 10 a.m. - noon** **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** (Life House)
- 10:30 - 11:45 a.m.** **Adult Bible Study: Metanoia** (Religious Education Building: Rooms 213-215)
- 10:45 a.m.** **Mass** (Church)
Intention: † Antonio & Beatrice Mendez
Liturgy of the Word for Children available
- Noon - 1:15 p.m.** **Elementary Faith Formation** (Religious Education Building)
- 5 p.m.** **Mass** (Church)
Intention: † Howard Salge
- 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* (on the previous page) 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 8th - 14th Collection:

\$50,504

Amount Needed Weekly:

\$50,000

ABOVE Weekly Budget:

\$504

Youth Stewardship:

\$88

Month to Date

Collected in January:

\$116,900

Amount Needed to Date:

\$50,000

ABOVE Monthly Pace:

\$16,900

Youth Stewardship Month to Date:

\$261

Year to Date

Collected since July 1, 2023:

\$1,444,604

Amount Needed to Date:

\$1,450,000

BELOW Yearly Pace:

\$5,396

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.

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.

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.

Called By Name

SUNDAY

DOMINGO

Del Llamado

Do you know someone who may be called to the priesthood or religious life?



¿Conoces a alguien en quien podría ser llamado al sacerdocio o a la vida religiosa?

21 January - Enero 2024
www.austinvocations.com

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.

FEB
3

6-10:30 p.m.

Valentine's Dance

Parish Activity Center (PAC)

Join us for a "Valentine's in Verona" Valentine's dance, sponsored by the L.O.V.E. Marriage Ministry! World Marriage Day emphasizes the beauty of marriage and honors husbands and wives for their faithfulness and sacrifices. In anticipation of World Marriage Day, we invite all couples to celebrate marriage with dinner and dancing in the Parish Activity Center! Tickets are \$50 per person and include a Tuscano's dinner, beverages and a live band! Buy your tickets at stma.cc/vd24.

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.

FEB
2

after the 8:30 a.m. Mass

Blessing of Throats

Church

Maybe you're feeling a little "blah" and need some physical and spiritual comfort. Maybe you suffered through a throat or respiratory illness recently and could use a little healing. Maybe something you're saying or not saying needs a little spiritual help. Let's come to invoke the help of St. Blaise who was known to heal people from both physical and spiritual illness—especially those illnesses of the throat. Join us for this Blessing of Throats on the feast of St. Blaise.

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.

*"All the good works in the world
are not equal to the Holy Sacrifice
of the Mass because they are the works
of men; but the Mass is the work of God.
Martyrdom is nothing in comparison,
for it is but the sacrifice of man to God; but
the Mass is the sacrifice of God for man."*

-ST. JOHN VIANNEY-

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

My Year with Jesus

By Lynn Grace Wong

Echoes of Christmas seem to linger, with a sprinkling of homes still decked out in holiday lights and a carol or two escaping from the lips of the littlest ones. And though the call of the New Year wants us to hit the ground running, a part of us longs to visit Jesus once again in the manger and experience his joy and peace. The good news is that we can!

With our eyes on Jesus, we can create our own SMART* goals.

S – This year, my family and I can choose and get to know a **Saint**. And when times get tough, I can call upon my special saint to pray for me and my family.

M – The fastest way to Jesus is through his mother's heart. This year, I will pray more with **Mary**. I can reignite my love for the Rosary, maybe praying a decade with my spouse, or pause at noon for the Angelus. Our family motto could be: To Jesus through Mary!

A – I will remind myself of the presence of the **Angels**, especially my guardian angel. I can ask the angels to guide and guard my family and help us find Christ in our work and study. And in a special way, I can ask the angels present at each Mass to teach me to adore God better.

R – Rest, Retreat and Recollect. I will look at our family calendar and consider blocking out times in the year to dive deeper into the Faith through a retreat or recollection. And daily, I can pause during the day to redirect my heart to God.

T – This year, I will draw closer to the **Trinity**. I will stop and appreciate the blessings of God the Father every day, reminding myself that I am a child of God. Once a week, I can sign up to spend an hour with Jesus in adoration. To fill myself with the light of the Holy Spirit, I can read and reflect on the daily Gospel.

And just like those lingering lights and carols, we will be for others echoes of Christmas, bringing Christ into the ordinary. It will take a dash of creativity and courage on our part to stay the course, and with help from our parish family and God's grace, 2024 will be for each of us, "My year with Jesus." Here we go ...

* Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timely (SMART) goals first coined by George Doran and colleagues in 1981.

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

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

A Stewardship Moment

In today's letter from St. Paul to the Corinthians, he calls upon people of faith to disengage from the world's way of living. He wants the community to step back and see how being entangled with the outside world can be captivity preventing them from living authentic lives in Christ. Yet, to his way of thinking, disengagement is not an end in itself. Rather, being disengaged and set free, a person can engage the world from the perspective of being one who is "in Christ." Good stewards recognize they live in a troubled world. **However, knowing the certainty of God's ultimate kingdom beyond human history, how can you work as a good steward of your daily life to align the present and the future with that kingdom?**

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. If you don't already have a Ministry Platform account, you should have received an email 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 are included as an insert in this week's bulletin. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Olesen at jolesen@stmaustin.org or (512) 258-1721.

Embrace the New Year with Thoughtful Planning

The new year is an ideal time to reflect and plan. Create your legacy and support our parish with FreeWill, a trusted online will planning tool that is free and easy-to-use. It is a simple, thoughtful way to plan for the future while ensuring our mission continues for your family of faith for many years to come. Go to freewill.com/austindiocese to get started! For more information contact Dan Wierzbowski at (512) 949-2496 or dan-wierzbowski@austindiocese.org.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

JAN
23

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

What Does the Eucharist Have to Do with My Friendship with Christ?

Religious Education Building: Room 213

Walking with Purpose: Opening Your Heart (a 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 that we need to wrestle with if we want to experience all that God has for us. Our spring season runs from January 9th through April 23rd but you can join at any point. Learn more at stmaustin.org/www.



walking with purpose

FEB
26

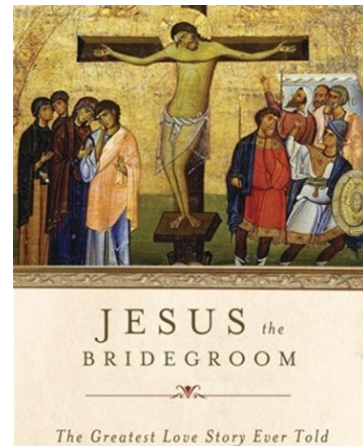
7 to 8:30 p.m.

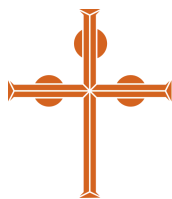
Read, Reflect, Rejoice!

Religious Education Building: Library

Jesus the Bridegroom by Brant Pitre

In the pages of *Jesus the Bridegroom*, dozens of familiar passages in the Bible — the Exodus, the Song of Songs, the Wedding at Cana, the Woman at the Well, the Last Supper, the Crucifixion and even the Second Coming at the End of Time — are suddenly transformed before our eyes. Indeed, when seen in the light of Jewish Scripture and tradition, the life of Christ is nothing less than the greatest love story ever told. Join us on the journey to see Jesus through the eyes of ancient Christians; through ancient Jewish eyes. Let us know you'll be joining us by registering at stmaustin.org/book-discussions. You are welcome to join us even if you have not read the book! Books are available for purchase in the Gift Shop.





Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

**2023 Tax Statements will be
available on January 22nd.**

How to Access Your Tax Statement Once You Have Created an Account (You must first create an account.)

- 1) Go to stmaustin.org/statements.
- 2) Login using your existing Ministry Platform credentials.
- 3) Select the year for which you would like your statement, then click on Save PDF.
- 4) Your statement will then be downloaded as a PDF.

Don't have a Ministry Platform account?

Flip insert over for instructions on how to create your account.

How To Create Your Ministry Platform Account

- 1) From any page on our website, click Login at the top of the page. (Ministry Platform is a database used throughout the Diocese of Austin, this is why you see the diocesan logo on the sign-in page. After you log in, you will be redirected to our website.)
- 2) Click on **Sign Up** (not Login) and fill in the requested information. Once complete, click Create Account. If you receive an error message at this point you will need to contact the church office at info@stmaustin.org.
- 3) You will receive a verification email from Church Administrator. If you don't find this email in your Inbox, check your Spam folder.
- 4) Open the email from Church Administrator and click on Finish Account Setup
- 5) After clicking Finish Account Setup, you'll be directed back to Ministry Platform. Create your login credentials.
- 6) Click on Save.
- 7) Follow the instructions on the reverse side to access your Tax Statement.

For a more detailed outline of the process, check out our Account Creation and Login Process guide at stma.cc/TacIp

**If you have problems at any point during this process,
please email us at info@stmaustin.org or call (512) 258-1161.**

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.

SOCIAL OUTREACH & PASTORAL CARE

Catholic Social Teaching

This Sunday, we hear Jesus first proclaim the Good News that the kingdom of God is at hand. As he began this ministry, he called a community to accompany and assist him, but they needed to leave their old lives behind. **As you grow in discipleship, what is it that you need to leave behind in order to follow Jesus more fully? Are there attitudes or actions that are not in keeping with the kingdom values of Jesus that you need to abandon? The world and the culture cling to prejudices, racism, individualism, materialism and consumerism. Whose ways are you following, the ways of Jesus or the ways of the world?**

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

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

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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., Life House: Back Room**

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

**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' Immigration Legal Services offers legal assistance to individuals and families eligible to apply for immigration benefits, including family reunification, naturalization, asylum, removal defense, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), as well as services for victims of domestic violence and human trafficking. If you or someone you know needs services, call (512) 651-6125.

JAN 26 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
3**

through February 9th

Interactive Eucharistic Miracle Exhibit

Parish Evangelization Center, St. William Catholic Church, Round Rock



Eucharistic wonder and awe for the whole family, open to all ages. Renew and deepen your faith in Jesus' True Presence in the Eucharist. For children, there will be nine interactive, nature-defying, awe-inspiring, child-friendly Eucharistic miracle displays shared through storytellers, experiential visual displays, audience participation plays and activity sheets! For teens and adults, there will be 35 international Eucharistic miracles spanning the ages shared through large posters, scavenger hunts, activities and talks! For the latest updates, visit st-william.org/eucharistic-miracles-exhibit or scan the QR code with your phone's camera. Questions? Contact Melissa Kirking at mkirking@hotmail.com.

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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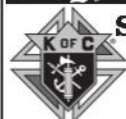
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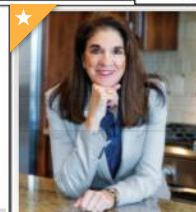
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hands establish thou it" Ps 90:17



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