

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

March 3, 2024

The Bulletin

Third Sunday

*Pardon the Work
Being Done Near
Fischer House*

PAGE 5

*Eucharistic Miracles
Exhibit*

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40 Days for Life

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Bulletin Deadlines

Content for the March 17th edition is due **by 11:59 p.m. on March 7th**. Content for the March 24th edition is due **by 11:59 p.m. on March 14th**. 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

Clergy



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Jeremy Brown
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Don Rosenberg
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Parish Contact Information

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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, March 3rd

Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 20:1-17 or Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17 | Ps 19 |

1 Cor 1:22-25 | Jn 2:13-25

7:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: Joaquin Camacom

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

Coffee & Donuts (Religious Education Building: Family Center)

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

Gift Shop Open

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

Library Open

9 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: † Robert Francis Mijares

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: † Victor Linan

Liturgy of the Word for Children available

Noon - 1:15 p.m.

Elementary Faith Formation (Religious Education Building)

Noon - 1:15 p.m.

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

5 p.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: St. Thomas More Parishioners

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, March 4th

2 Kgs 5:1-15ab | Ps 42 | Lk 4:24-30

8:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: † Guadalupe Johnson

4 - 5:15 p.m.

Elementary Faith Formation (Religious Education Building)

4 - 5:15 p.m.

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

7 - 8:30 p.m.

Lent Lectio Divina (Life House)Tuesday, March 5th

Dn 3:25, 34-43 | Ps 25 | Mt 18:21-35

6:30 - 7:30 a.m.

Men's Scripture Share (Life House: Back Room)

8:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: † Arthur Otten

9:30 - 11 a.m.

Walking with Purpose: Opening Your Heart (Religious Education Building: 101)

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)

4 - 5:15 p.m.

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

6:30 - 8 p.m.

Pastoral Advisory Council (Pastoral Offices Building: St. Joseph Conference Room)

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 - 8:30 p.m.

Walking with Purpose: Opening Your Heart (Religious Education Building: 101)

7 - 9 p.m.

Life Teen Bible Study (Life House: Back Room)Wednesday, March 6th

Dt 4:1, 5-9 | Ps 147 | Mt 5:17-19

8:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: Pat Supple

9 - 9:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation

(Church: Confessional & Holy Family Room)

5:30 - 6 p.m.

Evening Prayer (Chapel)

6:30 - 8 p.m.

Middle School Bible Study (Religious Education Building: 105)

7 - 9 p.m.

Confirmation Class (Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)

7 - 9 p.m.

Men's Club Bible Study (Religious Education Building: Library)

7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous (Parish Activity Center (PAC): St. Thomas More Room)Thursday, March 7th

Jer 7:23-28 | Ps 95 | Lk 11:14-23

6 - 7:30 a.m.

Man Up (Parish Activity Center (PAC))

8:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: † Robert Williamson

9:30 - 11 a.m.

Presense (Life House)

11 a.m.

Funeral Mass for Ed Burke (Church)

7 - 8:30 p.m.

Presense (Life House)Friday, March 8th

Hos 14:2-10 | Ps 81 | Mk 12:28-34

8:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: † Frank Kelly

9 - 10 a.m.

Library Open

9:30 a.m. - noon

Called to Be Mom (Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium)

Noon - 1 p.m.

Stations of the Cross (Church)

5 - 8 p.m.

Fish Fry (Parish Activity Center (PAC))

6 - 7 p.m.

Stations of the Cross (Church)Saturday, March 9th

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23 | Ps 137 | Eph 2:4-10 |

Jn 3:14-21

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

Theresians Retreat (Life House)

3:45 - 4:40 p.m.

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

5 p.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: Kathy Montgomery

Sunday, March 10th

Fourth Sunday of Lent

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23 | Ps 137 | Eph 2:4-10 |

Jn 3:14-21

7:30 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: † Richard Jude Janson

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

Coffee & Donuts (Religious Education Building: Family Center)

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

Gift Shop Open

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

Library Open

9 a.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: † Donald & Daniel Walthers

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: † Don MacNary

Children's Liturgy of the Word available

5 p.m.

Mass (Church)

Intention: St. Thomas More Parishioners

Due to the bulletin production schedule, *This Week at a Glance* (located 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

February 19th - 25th Collection:
\$44,108

Amount Needed Weekly:
\$50,000

BELOW Weekly Budget:
(-\$5,892)

Youth Stewardship:
\$174

Month to Date

Collected in February to Date:
\$192,294

Amount Needed to Date:
\$200,000

BELOW Monthly Pace:
(-\$7,706)

Youth Stewardship Month to Date:
\$543

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.

Did You Know?

Thank you to those who have donated to the Encounter Christ Capital Campaign (ECC) which was conducted roughly five years ago. Most recently, those funds were used to construct a new covered porch on the side of the Parish Activity Center (PAC). This will help the Knights of Columbus and other groups cook and serve food better; particularly when the weather is inclement. Thank you once again!



THE Gift Shop

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

Check out our First Communion and Confirmation table in the center section of the shop.

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 March from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. including Easter Sunday.

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



Fish Fry Fridays

Support Our Youth Programs

The Knights of Columbus will host a Fish Fry every Friday during Lent in the Parish Activity Center (PAC) from 5 to 8 p.m. Pre-paid meals are now available at stmknights.org/fishfry, which provides a receipt by email and the option for drive-thru service. The tickets can be redeemed on any Friday between February 16th and March 22nd. Simply provide us with a name on the order and we'll take care of the rest, regardless of whether you pick up or dine in. Dinner consists of fried catfish, french fries, coleslaw, hush puppies, green beans, tea or lemonade. Each adult dinner costs \$15 and child plates are \$10. All proceeds raised are used to support our Life Teen program. Please join us at the PAC or come through our drive-thru service to pick up your meals!

Family Celebrations

If you would like to include your family milestones in future editions of The Bulletin so your parish community can celebrate with you, please email 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.

What is going on behind the Fisher House?

Last year, we were approached regarding the purchase of a 15-foot easement along our property line for an outside developer to run utilities. After much negotiating, we signed contracts last Friday. The project will be done in a couple of phases and requires City of Austin approval for the final phase of construction. The first phase was to clear the trees along the fence line. This was completed by the end of February. The next phase will be the utility installation in the summer months of 2024, provided the City of Austin approves the plan. We will be compensated for each stage of project as it gets implemented. The money we receive will be used for campus improvements, the specifics of which will be determined once we know how much money we will receive. We will share more information as it becomes available.

MAR5

11 a.m.
Young at Heart Potluck
Religious Education Building:
Brennan Auditorium



Join us for our monthly potluck luncheon and socialize with other seniors in our parish community. Let's celebrate an early St. Patrick's Day. Wear your green attire and bring your favorite Irish dish, appetizer, salad or dessert. Entertainment will be provided by Michael Hawes, our director of music. He will be performing Irish music along with telling us about himself.

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

WORSHIP & PRAYER

Prayer Requests

Ally Bengs	Antonio Galian	Luke Merchant	Andy Turner
Kellie Bergman	Dave Galvin	Jason Mikolajek	Stan Urban
Barbara Boland	Judi Gilliam	Fr. Michael O'Connor	Barbara Wiegand
John Brun	Trace Gilliam	Jim O'Donnell	Jennifer Wiegand
† Ed Burke	Brendan Huey	Barbara Ohradzansky	Kerry Wolf
† Samuel Chirafis	Dylan Johnson	Trent Overall	Christopher Younger
Graciela Diaz	Beth Jones	JJ Pacelli	Luke Zouzalik
Frank DiLorenzo	Ramona Kaauamo	Sylvie Pignot	We also pray for the well-being of our fellow parishioners who are homebound or nursing home residents.
Katie DiLorenzo	Jack Klaer	Trent Rinehart	† Please pray for the souls of our parishioners who recently died.
Dodie Domanski	David Kresta	Dennis Robinson	
Al Esparza	Mary Kubala	Consuelo Rodriguez Brown	
Jo Falkenstein	Linda Lange	Dorothy Thompson	
Ray & Grace Fisher	Skye Lohraum	Bob Toeniskoetter	
Ame Frezza	Charles McCourt	Mary Ellen Toeniskoetter	



Lectio for Lent

Let us once again gather in the Life House at 7 p.m. on Mondays this Lent (March 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th) to pray Lectio Divina—drawing closer to God and discerning his will for us in meditative prayer. No experience with Lectio Divina is necessary. Bring a Bible, preferably the New American Bible Revised Edition (available for free at usccb.org/bible). If you want to Zoom in, email deacondanlupo@yahoo.com for the link—put “Lectio Zoom” in the subject line.

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

A Stewardship Moment

If you attend the 9 a.m. Mass, our Mass for the First Scrutiny for catechumens preparing for Baptism at the Easter vigil, you may hear the Gospel story of Jesus speaking with the Samaritan woman at the well; someone who supposedly is of the wrong gender, wrong religion and has lived the wrong life. The woman is overwhelmed by guilt and shame. And yet Jesus speaks to her and offers her “living waters” to quench her spiritual thirst. The living water that Jesus gives is new life through the Holy Spirit; a life that is accepted, forgiven, loved and eternal. Good stewards of their life in Christ remain mindful of their own spiritual thirst. They listen to Jesus who speaks to them just as he spoke with the Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus has living water for us today. He encourages us to come and drink. **Are you thirsty? Are you ready to listen to him?**

If you attend one of our other Masses you may hear the Gospel story of Jesus’ cleansing of the Temple, a familiar story. The prophets Jeremiah, Zechariah and Malachi prophesied that when the Kingdom of God was at hand, the Temple would be cleansed of all activities unworthy of an encounter with God. Christians are often referred to as “Temples of the Lord.” **As a steward of a “Holy Temple” God has entrusted to each one of us, what are you doing to be cleansed of activities unworthy of an encounter with the Lord? This week, reflect on one thing you can do to cleanse the Temple God has given you so that it becomes a more inviting home for Christ Jesus.**

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

Reflect on your legacy
this Lenten season

Lent gives us a chance, in this world, to reflect on our relationship with Christ. Through prayer, fasting and almsgiving, our Lenten journey draws us closer to him as we prepare ourselves for the hope and joy we know his Resurrection on Easter morning will bring. This Lenten season, consider preparing yourself for a time beyond the here and now. When you create your will, you put into

place a plan for your many blessings, such as your family and material goods. The Diocese of Austin partners with FreeWill, a tool that simplifies the process of creating a will — at no cost to you — so you can plan your legacy. You will also have the opportunity to include a gift to St. Thomas More Parish, the Diocese of Austin, Catholic schools or your favorite ministry in your will. Create your will by visiting freewill.com/austindiocese or contact Dan Wierzbowski at (512) 949-2496 or dan-wierzbowski@austindiocese.org.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Welcome, Abigail!

Please join the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Team in welcoming Abigail Gilliam, as she celebrated the Rite of Welcome on February 10th. She has journeyed through the initial phase of the RCIA process and has heard God’s call to continue her journey to become one with us at the Table of the Lord. Please pray for all in RCIA as they continue their faith journey.

“But when God acts in Christ there is an intersection of eternity with time. Such is the act of Christ in the Paschal Mystery.”

- ROBERT MIXA -

FEB
27

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

Can God really change me or is that just wishful thinking?

Religious Education Building: 101

The same power that conquered the grave lives in you! Join *Walking With Purpose: Opening Your Heart*, our Bible study for women, this week as we explore four steps that’ll help us to move toward becoming the women we long to be.

▲ Our spring season runs until April 23rd but you can join us any time! Learn more at stmaustin.org/www or email Maria Kiehn at mdkiehn@yahoo.com.

APR 15 7 to 8:30 p.m.

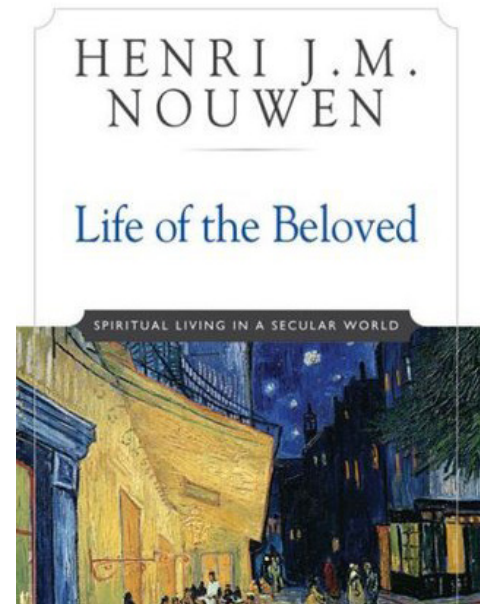
Read, Reflect & Rejoice!

Religious Education
Building: Library

Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World by Henri Nouwen

This spiritual classic began as a simple request from one friend to another. Fred Bratman, a Jewish secular journalist asked Nouwen to write a book explaining the spiritual life in terms he and his friends could understand without theology and technical language. Nouwen's answer

has become one of the most cherished books of our era. He delves deep into the fundamental questions of life, love and identity. Through Nouwen's wisdom and guidance, readers come to understand they are truly beloved, and in embracing this truth, they can live authentic, fulfilling lives in communion with God and others. "All I want to say to you is, 'You are the Beloved.'" Journey with Nouwen through being, becoming and living as the Beloved. You are welcome to join the conversation even if you haven't read the book! Let us know you're coming by registering at stmaustin.org/book-discussions. Books are available for purchase in the Gift Shop.



FAITH FORMATION

Tonight at Edge Night

Middle School Faith Formation

Sundays, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Religious Education Building: Brennan Auditorium

Fandom: Why Should I Care About Jesus? For more information, email Andrea Cochran, middle school coordinator, at andrea@stmaustin.org.

Volunteers Needed

Service Project: Easter Workshop

March 23rd | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Middle schoolers will be assigned a little kiddo to play games and do crafts with. They will also help with an egg hunt. High schoolers will supervise the activities. Contact Andrea at andrea@stmaustin.org to sign up to help.

Preparing your children for the Sacraments?

Find all the resources you need in the Library! Resources are available in book and DVD formats in the children's section. Visit us on Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or Friday mornings from 9 to 10 a.m. Search the catalog online at stmaustin.library.site.

Believe

The Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit

Thank you to all the elementary and middle school faith formation students that attended the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit! It was an amazing and interactive experience for all ages!



Faith Formation on Spring Break!

There will be no Faith Formation classes from March 10th through 19th. Have a wonderful spring break!

Middle School Bible Study and Game Night

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Religious Education Building: Room 105

Join us as we break open the Bible and then play a game. If you have any questions, please email Andrea Cochran, middle school coordinator, at andrea@stmaustin.org.

Catholic Social Teaching

The second reading for this Sunday reminds us that the power of Jesus, our Crucified Lord, is greater than what every culture of that time or any time has to offer. God's power and wisdom go beyond what we can even imagine. As we listen to the "wisdom" and "power" of the political voices that rule the news airwaves, St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians can help us remember to pay attention to "God's folly and God's weakness." We have much to learn from Christ who looked so foolish and weak and yet all true power was his and is his. **How can you confront the false powers of today with God's folly and weakness which is true power?**

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.



Overcoming Hunger

In Akwangagwel, Uganda, the climate is very hot and dry. Farmers in this region depend heavily on the rainy season for a successful harvest. But lately—due to the changing climate—the rain has been coming later than it used to and is more inconsistent. Sometimes, when it does rain, it causes flooding and ruins the crops. Learn how Adolf and Florence have taken the matter into their own hands, implementing new farming techniques they learned from a Catholic Relief Services program to improve their farm and fight against hunger in their community. Visit crsricebowl.org to read this week's *Story of Hope*.

The Green Spot

Today is World Wildlife Day (learn more at wildlifeday.org) and the theme is "Connecting People and Planet" using digital high tech such as drones in wildlife conservation. "Because of us, thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us. We have no such right." (*Laudato Si'*, 33) "Because all creatures are connected, each must be cherished with love and respect, for all of us as living creatures are dependent on one another." (LS 42)

Stuff the Truck



It's not too late. Clean out those closets and garages. Join STM's All Parish Service Day by helping the Society of St. Vincent de Paul stuff the truck with gently used items for the society's thrift store. Your items will provide low-cost items to families on tight budgets and the money generated helps fund further assistance. A win-win for everyone. **The trucks will be available this weekend from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. in our parking lot by the Life House.** Only items in good condition will be accepted. No hard baby items, paint, unframed mirrors, textbooks, batteries, mattresses or damaged goods of any kind. "Alone we can do little, Together We Do More."

It's that time: 2024 Catholic Build

Austin Habitat for Humanity, in partnership with Catholic churches and individuals in the Austin area, has been coming together for over twenty years (26 to be exact!) to build a home for a deserving family in our community. This year will be no exception as H4H heads to East Austin (6308 Zia Drive) to build a home. Through faith in action, by our volunteers and our donors, Habitat Austin and local Catholics are working together to eliminate substandard housing—one family at a time. All volunteers are required to sign up via VolunteerHub prior to the service event, so we can plan effectively for the group's size (tasks, tools, supervision, etc.):

- + Visit stma.cc/VHh4hcb24.
- + Click on the Sign In button in the top right corner.
- + If you do not already have an account, click the Create an Account button.
- + Sign up for the event!

All volunteers must complete the online waiver of liability and safety course. Any questions regarding volunteering please contact ministry leader, Sheila Kuehn, at sheila.kuehn@yahoo.com.

In need of healing prayer?

Mercy of God Prayer Center
Deacon Rod & Cindy 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



40 Days for Life

Helping to end the injustice of abortion.

St Thomas More has two scheduled days where we pray in front of a Planned Parenthood clinic for the protection of unborn babies. Please join us for an hour on March 2nd or 12th. For more information and to sign up, go to stma.cc/SG40dfl24. If you are unable to dedicate a half day to our church community service day, please consider an hour of prayer on the sidewalk for the lives of unborn babies and their mothers. Your presence WILL help save lives and convert hearts!

Lenten Donation Drive

As we celebrate the Season of Lent, we have some wonderful opportunities to offer our time, talent and treasure. Please join us in supporting Hill Country Community Ministries (HCCM) with a donation drive that will run through Easter weekend (March 31st). We are collecting the following items:

- ⊕ Bar soap
- ⊕ Shampoo
- ⊕ Deodorant
- ⊕ Toilet tissue
- ⊕ Facial tissue
- ⊕ Toothpaste
- ⊕ Individually packaged toothbrushes

Donation barrels are located outside the church and in the Religious Education Building near the 100s classrooms.

Get ready to vote!

Central Texas Interfaith and our Social Justice Ministry urge you to vote in the coming election. Early voting is going on now until March 1st. The last day to vote is March 5th. You can find the location of an early-voting site near you at votetexas.gov. Please consider getting all the eligible voters in your family to vote. Remember: your vote is your voice.



MAR
12

10:30 a.m. - noon

Cancer Support Meeting

Life House: Backroom

If you are touched by cancer, you are invited to join us as we support each other. We will jumpstart our meeting with Milepost #1: "Feeling The Feelings" - using our booklet, *Fighting Cancer with the Help of Your Catholic Faith*. We have booklets for all. Please contact karenmoore8@gmail.com for more information.

AROUND THE DIOCESE



Refugee Resettlement Services is dedicated to helping refugees adjust to their new life here in Central Texas. Services through this program include employment assistance, educational system navigation, cash assistance programs and assistance in accessing public benefits and refugee health insurance. To learn more, visit ccctx.org/refugee-resettlement-services.

YCP is Working in Witness for Christ

Young Catholic Professionals (YCP) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit on a mission to challenge, train and inspire young adults working in various professions to "Work in Witness for Christ." The Austin chapter of YCP invites all ages to get involved in this ministry:

- ⊕ 20s & 30s: Enjoy refreshments, find new friends and hear faith and career advice from local Catholic business leaders!
- ⊕ 40+: Serve young adults in your community as a mentor, board member or financial supporter of YCP.

YCP offers a variety of events to foster Catholic identity, encourage community and inspire action. To learn more and to check out some upcoming events, visit ycpaustin.org or facebook.com/YCPAustin.

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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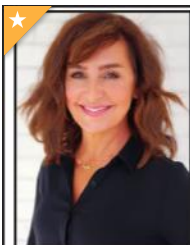


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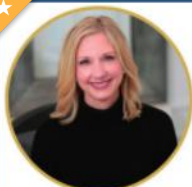
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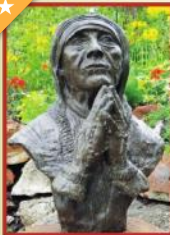
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