



**Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.**

-Matthew 25:40



**St. Theresa**  
MEMORIAL PARK

*all are welcome*

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON

**DECEMBER 25, 2019**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)**

## From Father Phil



My Dear Friends,

I want to wish all of you reading this, and those that you love, a very Merry Christmas. May the blessings of the one God who, "loved the world so much that he gave us his only begotten Son," find a place in your heart, and rest assured that you are already in the heart of Jesus, the one who came and the one who stayed.

In this sacred place in Memorial Park, I hope that you will find a welcome, no matter your creed, color, sexual orientation, social standing or immigrant status. In this place of worship, our emphasis is always on the extraordinary generosity and mercy of God. Recently Bishop McElroy of California called for a church that is less judgmental.

"If we are to build a welcoming church in the United States, the searing issue of judgmentalism must be faced. There is no sin that Jesus condemns in the gospel more than that of judgmentalism. The church of Jesus Christ must be a church that proclaims the catholic moral life in all its fullness and call all believers to high standards of faith and conduct. But the church must proclaim that life in recognition that is the mercy of God which saves us, not our own merits."

In this first Christmas in our remodeled church may we as a community of welcome be ourselves renewed in mercy. As pastor I hope that we can live the words of all are welcome when we sing:

***Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
Let this house proclaim from roof to rafter  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.***



Happy Christmas, with love and blessings,

Fr. Phil Lloyd

Pastor

# Holiday Mass Schedule

## Saturday, December 28, 2019

Vigil of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
5:00 p.m. Mass

## Sunday, December 29, 2019

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
8:00 a.m. Mass | 10:00 a.m. Mass  
12:00 p.m. Mass (Spanish) | 5:30 p.m. Mass

## Wednesday, January 1, 2020

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God  
12:10 p.m. Mass

## Sunday, January 5, 2020

The Epiphany of the Lord  
8:00 a.m. Mass | 10:00 a.m. Mass  
12:00 p.m. Mass (Spanish) | 5:30 p.m. Mass

## Sunday, January 12, 2020

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord  
8:00 a.m. Mass | 10:00 a.m. Mass  
12:00 p.m. Mass (Spanish) | 5:30 p.m. Mass

### Church Office

Closed through Thursday, January 2nd. Returning to the regular schedule on Friday, January 3rd.



### NEEDS PANTRY ITEMS:

- sugar
- coffee
- canned tomatoes
- size 4-6 children's diapers
- Cooking oil
- maseca
- rice
- pinto beans

Please bring all donations to the church office

713-869-3783

## SIGN UP TO GIVE A RECURRING GIFT ONLINE!

If you have already signed up to give a recurring gift online, thank you. If not, please consider signing up today. Your participation in supporting our ministries matters!

1 Visit [www.sttheresa.cc](http://www.sttheresa.cc) and click **Online Giving**.

2 Select the collection of your choice.

3 Set up your donation amount, payment type, and frequency.

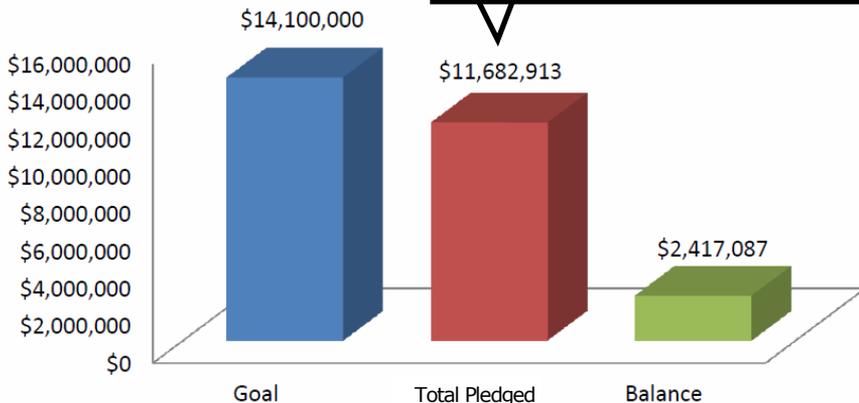
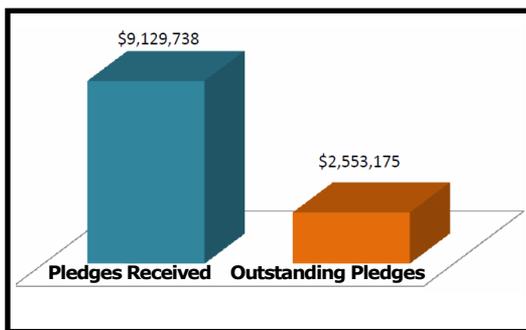
Once your account information is added, donations will automatically deduct from your account. It's that easy!



**QUESTIONS?** Contact the parish office or WeShare support at (800) 950-9952, *Select Option 1* HOURS: 7:00am-7:00pm (Mon-Fri)

# Capital Campaign Update

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Theresa, we're truly "Giving thanks always and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father" it is with your support that we have met 83% of our goal.



Your invaluable support is what made this renovation dream possible. Please, take a look around our beautiful Church and you will be able to see how much we have accomplished. We hope you consider helping us to meet our goal by continuing to make your pledge payments and/or renewing your commitment.

## Earning a Bonus, Receiving a Dividend or Making some Year-End Gifts

*Some parishioners find themselves at the end of the year sorting out some "extra" giving opportunities. For some its, the result of a 401(k) distribution or a company yearend bonus or just a surplus in the gift account. If that is you, please keep in mind the variety of parish needs - The Stewardship Fund, The School Annual Fund or the Capital Campaign. If you are pleased with what you see and experience at St. Theresa, the extra help would be great! As always, we are so blessed by the generosity of our parishioners and friends.*

*On the other hand, if you are touched by the needs of our sisters and brothers, please consider a gift to Christian Community Service Center (our social ministry partner), Casa Juan Diego (our longstanding service ministry), or Catholic Relief Services (a highly qualified international relief agency).*

*In the Christmas season, we are reminded of the generosity of a God who "gave his only son." May we reflect his generosity in our gifts to support our parish, parish schools, and these important social ministries. What better way to Give thanks in everything and in every way.*



THE JOY AND THE HOPE,  
THE GRIEFS AND THE ANGUISH  
OF THE PEOPLE OF OUR TIME,  
ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE  
POOR OR AFFLICTED IN ANY WAY,  
ARE THE JOY AND HOPE,  
THE GRIEF AND ANGUISH OF  
THE FOLLOWERS OF  
CHRIST AS WELL.

PASTORAL CONSTITUTION  
ON THE CHURCH IN THE  
MODERN WORLD  
GAUDIUM ET SPES  
PROMULGATED BY  
HIS HOLINESS, POPE PAUL VI  
ON DECEMBER 7, 1965



Thank you for your thoughtfulness and support through the Giving Tree. We are blown away by your generosity. All the presents will be greatly appreciated this Christmas.





Dear Friends of Magnificat:

Every weekday morning I receive a Christmas gift. Or eight or ten, or more.

My good fortune is to office above Magnificat's admissions center where the poor--those Jesus loved most--wait patiently hoping for a bed for the night or a month or forever.

"They" are our people. God entrusted them to us--and they bear gifts of great worth: they hold up a steady mirror to our deepest fears of poverty, loneliness, despair.

I ask their names and "they" become Carla, Sam, Letitia, Alvin, Johnny. Dewitt, Sandy and Joey.

Jesus speaks to me through their eyes, their humble words, and the tiny light of hope they have summoned even to appear at our door. Each inspires my gratitude for my comfortable home, my loving wife and daughter, and the opportunity to work in dedicated community.

Please check with your heart and ask what Jesus would have you do to help Magnificat help them: the unending procession of those desperate for housing, food, clothing, community and hope.

Monthly we must raise \$140,000 to support 16 housing communities, programs for the mentally ill, job retraining and placement efforts, and the 300 or more *hungry-at-large* who appear at our soup kitchen six days a week.

We are profoundly grateful for your help...as are Jesus' most beloved.

All Blessings in this Joyous Season!

**John Boyles**  
*Executive Director*



Christian Community Service Center

CCSC Christian Community Service Center

Jingle Bell

Express



Dear Friends of CCSC,

For many years, I have volunteered for the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) Jingle Bell Express, and in 2019 I was honored to be asked to be on the Planning Committee (Toys) – joining parishioner Manju Manga (Books).

I was surprised at how small the planning committee actually is, but everyone works hard, and we ran a tight ship. Of course, the success of the event depends on the many volunteers that work the entire week of the event: scouts, school groups (including the Bellaire HS baseball team), corporate teams, other charities, and, of course volunteers from the member churches.

Over two mornings, we distributed toys, new books and groceries to 2,800 children (900 families.) Everything moved very fast and it was incredibly hard work, but it was a great feeling to know that we were able to provide some Christmas cheer to families in need.

Thank you to all that donated gifts to CCSC and all the other charities.

Cindy Featherston



Dear Friends of Casa de Esperanza,

My sincere thanks for the gift cards and donations for the children of Casa de Esperanza. Your donation is a great help to us during the Christmas gift giving for the children. We provide Christmas for over 350 children and so your gift cards are most useful in our process.

My best to you and the St Theresa community. Again, thank you for your continued support. Your parish is a blessing to us.

Love,  
Shelley



by Angel Valdez

Dear Friends of Casa Juan Diego,

Thanks be to God and generous people, Casa Juan Diego has completed its 39<sup>th</sup> year.

Because of your generosity thousands of poor people have been served and many refugees and immigrants and their families have been helped. Our Houses of Hospitality have been full for many months. The food lines grow longer each winter.

Our medical clinics are busy each day, thanks to volunteer doctors and assistants, and medicines are purchased for those who cannot afford them.

Our biggest challenge now, is the sick and injured person who has no insurance, no disability, and no way of getting help. Each day we are presented with people who are seriously ill—mentally or physically, who have broken limbs or no limbs, or even more, broken heads or broken backs. Or they have been shot in the head and the back by thieves – and no one to receive them. There is an epidemic of neglect. All of these people have been abandoned by society.

Casa Juan Diego provides these services and keeps its houses going through voluntary contributions.

All money received goes to the service of the poor. There are no salaries at Casa Juan Diego.

The poor, the sick and injured who come to us for help often tell us that they pray for us. We ask them to pray also for all who help Casa Juan Diego in so many ways to do the Works of Mercy. For without you and your participation, nothing would be possible.

We ask you to remember us during Christmas time. We need your gift to continue another year.

Gratefully,

Louise Zwick and all the Catholic Workers



For those of us who have difficulty adequately hearing the sermons and readings at Mass, there are hearing devises (LISTEN) to assist us.

The devises (LISTEN) are located on a table in the narthex near the Baptismal Font. I can assure you that an English accent even sounds more Texan with the use of these devises.

Joe Tusa

## Seeking peace and quiet during the hustle and bustle of Advent?

*All are welcome to Enjoy the Most Peaceful Time of Your Day during this Advent Season.  
Come and visit the Blessed Sacrament Chapel!*

Blessed Sacrament Chapel located at the far corner of the Fellowship Hall  
opening schedule:  
Dec. 23rd-Dec. 27th: 7:00 am-7:00 pm  
Dec. 28th -Dec. 29th: 9:00 am-7:00 pm  
December 30th-Jan. 2nd: 9:00 am-7:00 pm



### Divorced? What is an annulment? Is it a "Catholic divorce"?

The common understanding of an annulment has many unfortunate connotations which imply that the Church is doing something to your marriage [such as dissolving it]. That is not true... No human power can dissolve a valid, consummated, sacramental marriage... Instead, the Church is making a statement about the marriage after investigating to see what may have been lacking in the quality of the spouses consent.

If an annulment is rendered, the Church is stating that some key element(s) was missing from the very beginning which rendered the marriage invalid. Instead of using the word "annulment," the proper terminology in Church teaching is a "declaration of nullity,"... Does a declaration of nullity "wipe out or erase the years of my married life as if they did not exist?" NO.

There were undoubtedly some other good aspects of the relationship. But if a declaration of nullity is rendered, it states that the marital relationship lacked one or more of the elements that the Catholic Church considers essential to form a valid, binding union until the death of either spouse.

The Church is not declaring anything necessarily new or not doing anything to the marriage. Rather, it is making a statement about the reality of the marital relationship. Although the relationship resembled a marriage, there was some key element(s) missing that prevented a marriage from being valid and binding until the death of either spouse...if one receives a declaration of nullity one is free to marry...

If you have any questions about the annulment process please contact **Patrick Miral** at [p.miral@sttheresa.cc](mailto:p.miral@sttheresa.cc) or you can find more information at <https://www.archgh.org/offices-ministries/metropolitan-tribunal/english/information-about-annulments>

**St. Theresa Women's Club  
Spaghetti Dinner  
Fundraiser**

**Saturday, January 25, 2020  
6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall**

**\$10  
plate**



Tickets are available from  
the women's club officers.

Please contact  
**Cristela Flores** at  
**713-560-7863**



Readers,  
please use the  
left QR-code to  
indicate your  
availability for  
the first  
three months  
of 2020!

CONTEMPORARY  
ISSUES  
COMMITTEE



**Come and join us this  
Wednesday, January 8th,  
in the Blue Room  
at 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.**

For more information,  
please contact **Larry Payne**  
at **LJPayne06@aol.com**

**ST. THERESA'S YOUTH MINISTRY PRESENTS**

**THE**

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Power*

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New Apple Watch Series 5  
Ipad Pro | Apple Pencil  
Apple HomePod | Apple TV 4K  
Beats Powerbeats Wireless Headphones

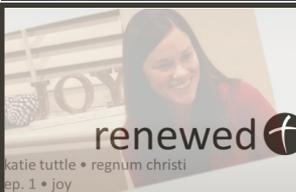
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**Been away awhile? Check out  
this video: This is who we are  
and what we're doing, and how  
you can be a part.**

Mis queridos amigos,

Quiero desearles una feliz Navidad a todos los que están leyendo esto y a sus seres queridos. Que las bendiciones del único Dios que "amó tanto al mundo que nos dio a su Hijo unigénito" encuentren un lugar en su corazón y tengan la seguridad de que ya están en el corazón de Jesús, el que vino y El que se quedó.

En este lugar sagrado en Memorial Park, espero que se encuentren bienvenidos, sin importar tu credo, color, orientación sexual, posición social o estatus de inmigrante. En este lugar de adoración, nuestro énfasis siempre está en la extraordinaria generosidad y misericordia de Dios. Recientemente, el obispo McElroy de California pidió una iglesia que sea menos crítica.

"Si queremos construir una iglesia acogedora en los Estados Unidos, se debe enfrentar el tema abrasador del juicio crítico. No hay pecado que Jesús condena en el evangelio más que el del juicio crítico. La iglesia de Jesucristo debe ser una iglesia que proclame la vida moral católica en toda su plenitud y llame a todos los creyentes a altos estándares de fe y conducta. Pero la iglesia debe proclamar que la vida en reconocimiento es la misericordia de Dios que nos salva, no nuestros propios méritos".

En esta primera Navidad en nuestra iglesia remodelada, como comunidad de bienvenida, seamos renovados en misericordia. Como pastor, espero que podamos vivir, las palabras de todos son bienvenidas cuando cantamos:

*Construyamos una casa donde todos sean nombrados, sus canciones y visiones escuchadas y amado y atesorado, enseñado y reclamado como palabras dentro de la palabra. Construido de lágrimas, gritos y risas, oraciones de fe y canciones de gracia, que esta casa proclame desde el techo hasta la viga.  
Todos son bienvenidos, todos son bienvenidos.  
Todos son bienvenidos en este lugar.*

Feliz Navidad, con amor y bendiciones,

Phil Lloyd

Pastor



**Comience el viaje del pecado a la santidad**

con el programa del Obispo Barron. Este programa usa recursos para revisar en su casa antes de cada sesión y el grupo se reúne una vez por semana para discutir cada tema. Las reuniones son los martes en el cuarto azul de 7:00 p.m. a 8:30 p.m.

**\*Todavía puede inscribirse!**

**Inicie el año nuevo reflexionando sobre las palabras del Obispo Barron para crecer en la fe católica.**

Registro y material por todo el curso: \$10.

Para registrarse o para más información por favor contacte a **Veronica Benitez al 713-869-3783 ext. 1809**

**2020**

Ene. 7	Feb. 4
Ene. 14	Feb. 11
Ene. 21	Feb. 18
Ene. 28	

# PARISH AND SCHOOL DIRECTORY

[www.StTheresa.cc](http://www.StTheresa.cc)

[www.facebook.com/StTheresaMemorialPark](https://www.facebook.com/StTheresaMemorialPark)

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Phone: 713-869-3783 Fax: 713-869-3784

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Deacon Dwight Coles,  
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Deacon Juan de Dios Perez  
[juandedios0308@yahoo.com](mailto:juandedios0308@yahoo.com)

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## Pastoral Associate

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## Director of Liturgy

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## Director of Maintenance

Andras Bandi, ext. 1814

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## Director of Technology

Zach Wilson ext. 1715

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## 10:00 a.m. Mass Choir Director

Stephen Schad

[s.schad@sttheresa.cc](mailto:s.schad@sttheresa.cc)

## Bulletin Info and Sacramental Records

Veronica Benitez ext. 1809

[v.benitez@sttheresa.cc](mailto:v.benitez@sttheresa.cc)

## St. Theresa School

[www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/StTheresaCatholicSchool)

StTheresaCatholicSchool

Principal—Melissa Ilski

[melissa.ilski@sttheresa.cc](mailto:melissa.ilski@sttheresa.cc)

## Director of Admissions, School & ECC

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## School Accountant

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## Early Childhood Center

[www.facebook.com/sttheresaecc](https://www.facebook.com/sttheresaecc)

Director—Melanie Leadingham, ext. 1817

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## Director of Admissions, School & ECC

Kelly McCarty, ext. 1706

[k.mccarty@sttheresa.cc](mailto:k.mccarty@sttheresa.cc)

## THE WEEK AHEAD

Thursday, December 26

Church Office Closed

6:30 am Women's AA, *Office*

7:30 am-10:00 pm Adoration, *Canceled*

12:00 pm **Mass, Church**

5:30 pm-6:15 pm Reconciliation, *Narthex*

6:30 pm *Mass, Church*

7:00 pm AA, *Blue Room*

7:30 pm Men's Encounter, \* *CR*

Friday, December 27

Church Office Closed

6:45 am Rosary for Peace, *Church*

12:00 pm **Mass, Church**

Saturday, December 28-Vigil of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Church Office Closed

12:00 pm Rosary, *Chapel*

3:30 pm-4:30 pm Reconciliation, *Narthex*

5:00 pm *Mass, Church*

Sunday, December 29-Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Church Office Closed

8:00 am *Mass, Church*

10:00 am *Mass, Church*

11:15 am Sunday by Sunday, \* *CR*

12:00 pm Spanish Mass, *Church*

5:30 pm *Mass, Church*

Monday, December 30

Church Office Closed

7:00 am Communion Service, *Church*

6:30 pm Meditation Group, *Office*

7:00 pm Grupo de Oración, \* *CR*

Tuesday, December 31

Church Office Closed

7:00 am *Mass, Church*

7:30 am-10:00 pm Adoration, *Canceled*

Wednesday, January 1-Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Church Office Closed

12:00 pm *Mass, Church*

\* CR: Conference Room inside the Fellowship Hall

\* FH: Fellowship Hall

\* Blue Room classroom next to the Fellowship Hall

### Church Holiday Schedule:

Dec. 26th-Dec. 27th: 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Dec. 28th: 9:00 am-7:00 pm

Dec. 29th: 7:00 am-7:00 pm

Dec. 30th-Dec. 31st: 6:00 am-11:00 am

Jan. 1st: 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Jan. 2nd: 6:00 am-12:00 pm

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

### Thursday, December 26

12:00 PM Anthony & Natalie Adams †

Joseph & Louis Adams †

Dorothea Kristoff †

Michelle Marks †

6:30 PM Edward Bryan †

Maria David †

### Friday, December 27

12:00 PM Bro Andy Gancarczyk (L)

Raul Caffesse (L)

Oscar Wilkins (L)

### Saturday, December 28

5:00 PM Wil Dalferes †

Stevenson Family †

Mulvihill Family †

### Sunday, December 29

8:00 AM Robin McLaurin Williams †

Mariah Locke (L)

10:00 AM Pro-Populo (Parishioners)

Cristal Trejo (L)

5:30 PM Maggie Majewski †

Teresa Vale De Moreno †

### Monday, December 30

7:00 AM Communion Service

### Tuesday, December 31

7:00 AM Olivia Brehm & Maxwell Brehm (L)

Melissa Sacher & Eric Sacher (L)

Raul Caffesse (L)

### Wednesday, January 1

12:10 P M Emma Etlinger & Owen Etlinger (L)

Peace for Anne (L)

John Anthony Ramirez (L)

### Thursday, January 2

7:00 AM Communion Service

6:30 PM Communion Service

### Friday, January 3

7:00 AM Communion Service

### Saturday, January 4

5:00 PM Lana Marie Eakin †

Wil Dalferes †

### Sunday, January 5

8:00 AM Verla Bundick †

Father Ryan Stawaisz (L)

Thomas William Flaherty †

10:00 AM Pro-Populo (Parishioners)

12:00 PM Cristal Trejo (L)

5:30 PM Edmond & Mary Tamowski †



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**HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**NON-EMERGENCY CALLS:**

713- 884-3131 — [www.houstonpolice.org](http://www.houstonpolice.org)

**HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT:** 311

**NATIONAL EMERGENCY CHILD LOCATOR**

**CENTER:** 1-866-908-9570

**AMERICAN RED CROSS:**

1-800-RED-CROSS

Volunteer at [redcross.org](http://redcross.org).

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:**

The Bridge Over Troubled Waters

24 Hour Hotline: 713-473-2801

[www.thebridgeovertroubledwaters.org](http://www.thebridgeovertroubledwaters.org)

**UNITED WAY OF GREATER HOUSTON:** 211

Texas/United Way Helpline

Available 24/7

[www.unitedwayhouston.org](http://www.unitedwayhouston.org)

**CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER:**

713-961-3993 | [www.ccschouston.org](http://www.ccschouston.org)

**NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE**

**CENTER:** 1-800-273-8255 | Available 24

hours everyday | Online Chat: [https://](https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat)

[suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat](https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat)

**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS (NA):**

713-661-4200 — [www.na.org](http://www.na.org)

**SEX ADDICTS ANONYMOUS (SAA):**

713- 405-1142 — [www.houstonsaa.org](http://www.houstonsaa.org)

**COUNSELING (GRIEF, FAMILY, ETC.):**

Catholic Charities | 713-526-4611

[www.catholiccharities.org](http://www.catholiccharities.org)

**FAMILIES OF ADDICTS:**

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