# FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY: THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

# January 9, 2022



# **OUR MISSION**

To bring by the power of the Holy Spirit as many people as possible to know, love, and serve God as revealed through Jesus Christ; and to be transformed into spiritually renewed disciples of Jesus who know, love and serve one another and the world.



# FROM THE RECTOR

# IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST, WELCOME.

Jesus' first words to His earliest disciples were very simple, "Come, follow Me..." (Matthew 4:19) It was a gentle invitation to take seriously the wonderful journey of faith found in Christ. For more than 2,000 years, people of all ages have responded to that invitation through a personal decision to follow Jesus Christ in a community of prayer, study and service. St. Martin's is just such a place.

St. Martin's is a member Church in the Diocese of Texas, The Episcopal Church in the United States of America and the greater worldwide Anglican Communion consisting of more than 77 million people. Our Parish Church considers it a tremendous honor to be a place where men, women, youth and children can grow in their personal relationship with our Lord, come to know and use their own spiritual gifts, and discover a personal ministry to be expressed both in the Church, the greater Houston area and beyond.

I want to personally invite you to participate in our worship services and as many of our activities and ministries as your own commitments and time will allow.

The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr., Rector

# **Prayers Before Worship**

O Lord, we thank You that You have called us as members of Your family into this beautiful house of God. Grant that here we may feel Your presence and the beauty of Your peace, and that, as we return to our homes and work, we may sense Your guiding hand and loving care and be used in the service of our neighbors, our nation and the world, and all You send our way, through Him Who came not to condemn the world but to save it, Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. *Amen*.

Please continue to take CORONA virus precautions. We encourage all who visit our campus to be fully vaccinated. If not vaccinated, we request you wear a mask while on our campus; or continue to participate in the variety of virtual offerings for worship, education and fellowship. Please note that anyone not abiding by these recommendations is doing so at his or her own risk. Thank you for your cooperation.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT

# ST. MARTIN'S

# JANUARY 9 Adults

#### 8+ with the Rev. Lisa Neilson

8:55-9:25 a.m. | Chapel Reception Hall

This class is a Clergy-led coffee and discussion following the 8 a.m. service. Each class focuses on one of the lectionary readings for the day.

Theology for Life with the Rev. Dr. Suse McBay, Ph.D. Ephesians: The Body of Christ Made for a Purpose

10:15-11 a.m. | Bagby Parish Hall

THEOLOGY

This class features a series of Biblical, theological and historical topics that engage the mind and heart in worship of God and living a life of faith.

# Creative Spaces with the Rev. Sharron Cox

Contemplative Life: Discernment and Prayer 10:15-11 a.m. | Chapel Reception Hall



This class looks at life, faith and prayer in different ways, examining contemplative spirituality, contemporary life and more.

# Family Life Class with the Rev. Alex Graham III

Grace-Centered Parenting 10:15-10:45 a.m. | Parish Life Center



This is a slightly shorter class for parents of younger families and that meets after the Family Table service three times a month–twice for class and once for a breakfast social.

#### Seekers with the Rev. Dick Elwood

10:15-11 a.m. | Activity Center, Aerobics Room



This class is for more senior parishioners for fellowship and lectionary-based Bible study.

For more information about Adult Christian Education, email the Rev. Dr. Suse McBay at smcbay@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

#### **World Missions with Kurt Ackermann**

10:15-11 a.m. | Activity Center, Fellowship Room



Come meet Kurt Ackermann, President of Sus Hijos / His Children, and learn more about his mission work.

For more information about World Missions at St. Martin's, email worldmissions@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

# 7-1-7 Students

## **Episcopal Youth Community**

10:15-11 a.m. | Student Life Center

Grades 6-12 are welcome to join Student Ministries for coffee, lemonade, donuts and conversation about the Scriptures shared in worship.

For more information about 7-1-7 Students email Student Ministries at students@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

#### **Youth Choir**

10:15-11 a.m. | Rehearsal in Student Life Center

St. Martin's Youth Choir, for students in grades 6-12, musically engages older singers while preparing them to become active, contributing members of our Parish.

For more information about Youth Choir email Carole Nelson at cnelson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

# Children's Ministry

# Children's Sunday School

10:15-11 a.m. | Children's Life Center

We have engaging lessons, curriculum and content for both preschool and elementary school. Childcare is available during all morning services for infants through four-year-olds as well.



For more information about Children's Ministry email Holli Kight at hkight@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

#### Choristers

8:30-9 a.m. | Rehearsal in Children's Life Center 9:15 a.m. | Family Table service in Parish Life Center



St. Martin's Choristers, for children in grades 1-5, make joyful and beautiful music while affording them a special place in the worship services at St. Martin's.

For more information about Choristers email Carole Nelson at cnelson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

# JANUARY 10-15

## **Saintly Stitchers**

Monday, Jan. 10 9 a.m.-noon | Activity Center, Upper Hall East



Saintly Stitchers fill St. Martin's with pew kneelers and other gifts for worship spaces. For more information, contact the Rev. Lisa Neilson at Ineilson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

## **Education for Ministry**

Tuesday, Jan. 11 6:30-8:30 p.m. | Welcome Center



EfM is a challenging and affirming four-year study developed and administered by the University of the South's School of Theology. For more information, contact the Rev. Dr. Suse McBay at smcbay@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

#### Church Tours

Wednesday, Jan. 12 10:45-11:15 a.m. | Christ Chapel 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | The Church



The Church and Christ Chapel will be open for visitors. The Docent Guild offers a formal tour of The Church at 11:30 a.m. To schedule a group tour, please contact the Docent Line at 713-830-4117. For more information, contact the Rev. Sharron Cox at scox@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

## St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild

Wednesday, Jan. 12 Noon-3 p.m. | Activity Center, Upper Hall East



St. Clare's Guild undertakes a variety of needlepoint projects in worship spaces and for outreach programs. For more information, contact the Rev. Lisa Neilson at Ineilson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

# **OSL Healing Ministry Study Group**

Wednesday, Jan. 12 4:30-6 p.m. | Chapel Reception Hall and via Zoom



Learn and grow in the practice of prayer for healing, with an opportunity to train as a licensed OSL prayer minister. For more information, contact the Rev. Dr. Suse McBay at smcbay@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

#### Parish Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Jan. 13 7-9 p.m. | Choir Rehearsal Hall



Sing a variety of traditional music in service to the Lord and our congregation. For more information, contact the Rev. Dr. Chad Martin at cmartin@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

# Sterling's Market

Saturday, Jan. 15 | Rain or Shine 9 a.m.-noon | Corner of Woodway and Sage



The mission of the Sterling's Market at St. Martin's Episcopal Church is to glorify God through sharing the Gospel and the bounties of the earth with Parishioners, neighbors and visitors. For more information and to volunteer, contact info@sterlingsmarket.org.

# Men

# Dads' Bible Study

Thursday, Jan. 13 8-9 a.m. | Welcome Center



Join dads with children of all ages for coffee, fellowship and Bible study. No registration is necessary to attend the discussions. For more information, contact the Rev. Wesley Arning at rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

## Women

# **Christian Life Study**

Tuesday, Jan. 11 – Evening Group 6:30-8 p.m. | via Zoom Thursday, Jan. 13 – Morning Group 9:30-11:30 a.m. | via Zoom



This friendly and loving group of women meets over the course of the year to target various topics in the Bible to deepen faith. For more information, contact the Rev. Marty Bastian at lgallien@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

#### **Blanket Ladies**

Wednesday, Jan. 12 10-11:30 a.m. | Activity Center, Family Room



Make receiving blankets for newborn infants at local charity hospitals. For more information, contact the Rev. Lisa Neilson at Ineilson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

# 7-I-7 Students

#### Life Groups

Wednesday, Jan. 12 6:30-8 p.m. | Student Life Center



Students in grades 6-12 connect with their peers for fun activities and great discussions about faith and life. Please bring \$5 to cover the cost of dinner. For more information, contact the Rev. Jane Ferguson at jferguson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

# HOLY EUCHARIST

Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. is a spoken service. Musical pieces in this booklet will be skipped or replaced by spoken liturgy, as noted.

VOLUNTARY ......"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" Charles Hubert Hastings Parry

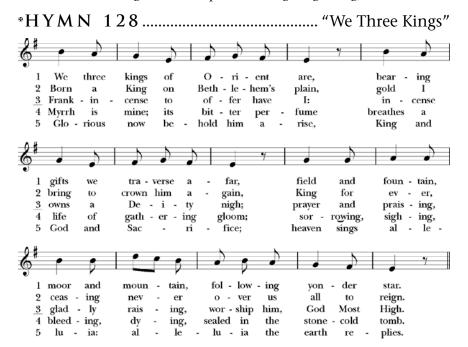
INTROIT (9 a.m. only) ...... "Light of Hope" Mark Patterson

St. Martin's Choristers

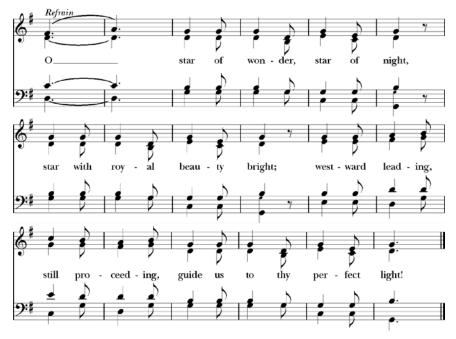
Light of hope, light of peace, you are just the light we need, Shine for all the world to see; Christ is coming soon. Light of hope, light of peace, promise of the love he brings, Shine for all the world to see: Christ is coming soon. Light of hope, light of peace, gift of joy that gladly rings, shine for all the world to see; Christ is coming soon.

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*The Celebrant greets the People. Following the greeting, all stand.* 



<sup>\*</sup>indicates when latecomers may be seated so as not to disturb other worshipers



Words: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820–1891), alt.; Music: Three Kings of Orient, John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820–1891).

Begin on page 323 of "The Book of Common Prayer" (BCP)

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# HYMN AT THE GLORIA .....The Eighth Tune



Words: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895–1984); para. of O Gracious Light; Music: The Eighth Tune, Thomas Tallis (1505?–1585); adapt. Hymnal 1982.

# THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray. (kneel)

The Celebrant says the Collect

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated.

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor. The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox. The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!" The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore. The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

All stand.





Words: John Newton (1725–1807), alt.; st. 5, from A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790; compiled by Richard Broaddus and Andrew Broaddus; Music: New Britain, from Virginia Harmony, 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851–1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919); Copyright: Music: Harmonization copyright © 1974 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Luke.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL......Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.** 

The remaining lectionary for the day is on page 41.



Words: John Newton (1725–1807), alt.; st. 5, from A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790; compiled by Richard Broaddus and Andrew Broaddus; Music: New Britain, from Virginia Harmony, 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851–1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919); Copyright: Music: Harmonization copyright © 1974 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON ..... "The Win That Outshines Them All" The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.

# THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT (BCP p. 304) (stand)

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our

Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the

Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and

fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the

prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and,

whenever you fall into sin, repent and return

to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the

Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons,

loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all

people, and respect the dignity of every human

being?

People: I will, with God's help.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (BCP p. 387, Form III) (kneel)

Minister and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for thy holy catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve thee;

That thy Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for our Anglican Communion; for the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin; for our Presiding Bishop, Michael; for our Bishops, Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector; for all bishops, priests and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do thy will in all that we undertake; That our works may find favor in thy sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise thee for thy saints who have entered into joy; May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom. Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

For Joe, our President, Greg, our Governor, Sylvester, our Mayor, and the Congress and the Courts; for all who serve in our armed forces and their families; for persecuted Christians; for victims of terror attacks; for an end to war and conflict; for victims of natural disasters; for first responders; for those suffering from the effects of the Coronavirus; for health care workers; for those in the hospitals,\_\_; for those whom our prayers have been requested,\_\_; for those on our Continuing Prayer List; for all the blessings of this life, especially those remembered today with Altar flowers,\_\_; for the dearly departed,\_\_; and we give thanks for their lives and pray for their loved ones left behind.

I invite your own prayers and intercessions.

A period of silence, during which people may add their own petitions quietly or in the privacy of their hearts.

Celebrant adds a concluding Collect (BCP p. 394)

Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

Minister says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Minister and People (BCP p. 331)

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

Priest stands and says (BCP p. 332)

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

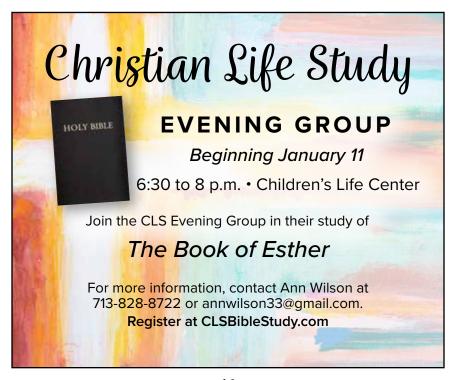
# THE PEACE (stand)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.







# Kids' Meals

Tuesday, Jan. 11 | 4 p.m. Parish Life Center Kitchen

Come prepare sandwiches to help Kids' Meals, which provides and distributes nutritious lunches to hungry preschool children throughout Houston.

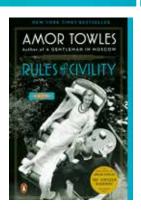
St. Martin's makes more than 10,000 sandwiches for children annually.

For more information about Kids' Meals, visit kidsmealshouston.org.

Contact outreach@stmartinsepiscopal.org for more information.



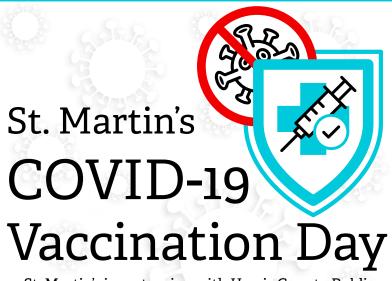
# DAY GROUP



# 1–2:30 p.m. | Wednesday, Jan. 12 Children's Life Center, Room 132

The Faith in Literature group explores, discusses and makes relevant connections between faith and works of fiction, past and present. While operating within the framework of Christian theology, we seek to ascertain in our reading how all good literature, if even by its omission, deals with and reflects themes of faith

For more information, contact Dania Lainez at dlainez@stmartinsepiscopal.org.



St. Martin's is partnering with Harris County Public Health to host a COVID-19 vaccination day.

# Friday, January 14 9 a.m.–5 p.m. | Scout Center No registration required

- No photo ID is required at Harris County Public Health vaccine sites.
- We will be administering the first and second Pfizer (ages 5 and up) vaccines, and third (booster) doses for the immunocompromised.
- A second vaccine appointment (returning in 21 days) is established for Friday, Feb. 4.
- Those who need the second Pfizer dose are welcome as long they are due or past due 21 days and must bring their vaccination card.
- You will be observed 15-30 minutes after receiving your dose.

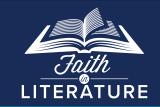


# SATURDAY, JANUARY 15 9 a.m. - NOON CORNER OF WOODWAY AND SAGE RAIN OR SHINE

346-335-8650 • INFO@STERLINGSMARKET.ORG

The mission of the Sterling's Market at St. Martin's Episcopal Church is to glorify God through sharing the Gospel and the bounties of the earth with Parishioners, neighbors and visitors.

STERLING'S MARKET NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!
TO SIGN-UP TO VOLUNTEER, VISIT BIT.LY/VOLUNTEER STERLINGSMARKET



# EVENING GROUP

Tuesday, Jan. 18 7–8:30 p.m. Children's Life Center, Room 109



The Faith in Literature group explores, discusses and makes relevant connections between faith and works of fiction, past and present. While operating within the framework of Christian theology, we seek to ascertain in our reading how all good literature, if even by its omission, deals with and reflects themes of faith.

For more information, contact Dania Lainez at dlainez@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

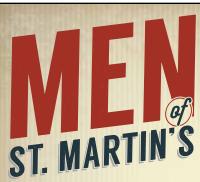




Wednesdays January 19–March 9 10–11:30 a.m. or 1–2:30 p.m. Location TBD

Women are invited to this study group on the mother-in-law/daughter-in-law relationship.

To sign up or for more information, contact Graham Neuhaus at geneuhaus@aol.com.



# THURSDAY MORNING

BIBLE STUDY AND SPEAKER SERIES



JAN. 20 7 A.M. BAGBY PARISH HALL



This year's study is "Acts" by N.T. Wright

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. David Lumpkins Founder of Yellowstone Academy

Reservations are not required. For more information, contact Dania Lainez at 713-985-3845 or dlainez@stmartinsepiscopal.org.



at bit.ly/stmartinscooking4

Register for this Greek cuisine class with Chef Mary Cuclis



# **STUDENT MINISTRIES**

# SANANIO

# MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP

**JUNE 13-17, 2022** 

Register now at bit.ly/2022MSMissionTrip
Registration deadline March 31



Please join us for the Episcopal Church Women of St. Martin's

Spring Luncheon

with Guest Speaker

Doro Bush Koch



Being

Bright. Bold & Real

in a Changing World

Join us for an exciting conversation with Doro Bush Koch, Honorary Chair of the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy, and Founding Partner of BB&R Wellness Consulting, as she returns to her home church for ECW's much anticipated spring luncheon.

Tuesday, February 8

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. • Bagby Parish Hall Tickets - \$35 • Table for 10 - \$350

Kindly register at bit.ly/2022ecwspringluncheon

ECW Committee Chairs Laura Levenson, Stacy Cheesman and Megan Holstien

The mission of the Episcopol Church Women of St. Martin's Episcopal Church is to bring women fogether for fellowship, service and outreach while spreading the good news of Jesus Christ.

# A Very Special Lenten Retreat Icon Writing with Teresa Harrison



# March 7-11 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The class meets from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday.

# 安 张

St. Martin's will host renowned instructor Teresa Harrison for a five-day course in the ancient technique of icon writing.

Participants will write their own icons using acrylic paint and gold leaf, a medium that resembles the traditional egg tempera.

Registration fee of \$495 includes all art supplies, but students will need to bring a small desk lamp and an apron or smock.

Registration is now open https://bit.ly/iconography2021



# **WAYS TO GIVE**



TEXT: Text SMEC to 73256

**ONLINE:** stmartinsepiscopal.org/giving

MAIL: St. Martin's Episcopal Church, 717 Sage Road, Houston, TX 77056

**BEQUESTS:** Contact: Director of Development, Ashley Pratka at apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org

or 346-335-8658

**TRANSFER OF ASSETS:** Pledging and setting up a recurring gift online helps you and the church budget.

LEARN MORE AT: STMARTINSEPISCOPAL.ORG/GIVING

# THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM .... "There Shall a Star from Jacob Come Forth"
Felix Mendelssohn

There shall a star from Jacob come forth, and a Sceptre from Israel rise up. And dash in pieces Princes and Nations. How brightly beams the morning star with sudden radiance from afar, with light and comfort glowing! Thy Word, Jesus, inly feeds us, Rightly leads us, Life bestowing. Praise, oh praise such love o'erflowing!

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# AT THE PRESENTATION

(8 a.m. only in place of sung Doxology)

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord;

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

DOXOLOGY .....Lasst uns erfreuen Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise him all crea - tures al - le - lu low. lu ia, Praise him ye heaven - ly Praise Ghost. host. Fa - ther, Son, Ho -Refrain ia,

Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711); Music: Lasst uns erfreuen, melody from Auserlesene Catholiche Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1623; adapt. Ralph Vaughan William (1872-1958).

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ia!

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (BCP p. 340) (stand)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

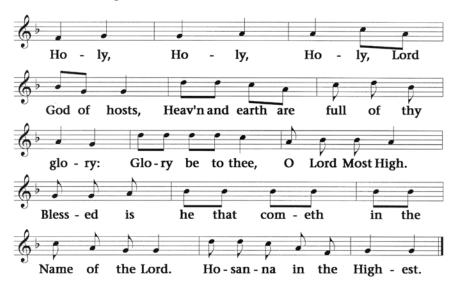
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

# SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Celebrant and People (said at 8 a.m.; sung at 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.)



John Merbecke, 1549. Copyright © 1940, 1943, 1961. The Church Pension Fund.

The Celebrant continues (BCP p. 341) (kneel)

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN**.

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

# THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 336)

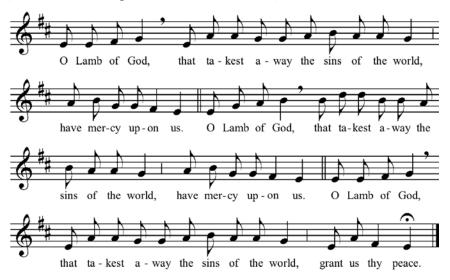
# People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

# THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

(said at 8 a.m.; sung at 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.)



John Merbecke, 1549. Copyright © 1940, 1943, 1961. The Church Pension Fund.

Then may be said

# PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS (BCP p. 337)

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Celebrant says the Invitation. (BCP p. 338)

Distribution of the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist. At this time, we are offering only the wafer, which is considered full Communion in the Episcopal Church. Please tell the priest administering Communion if you wish to receive a glutenfree wafer.

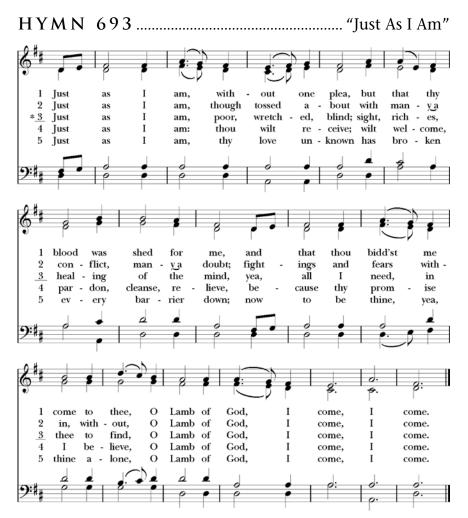
# ANTHEM....."Heavenly Light" A. Kopylow

Sent from heaven, thy rays were given on great and small to shine, O Light Divine! May each soul in sorrow's night see the heavenly light! Thou blessing to all creation, lead us to our salvation! All those whose feet may falter, lead unto the sacred altar! Oh, shine from above, Divine Light of love! Show us the way unto our God, we pray! Thou our beacon and guide shalt be! Light Divine, we praise Thee!

Text: English Text by Alice Mattullath. Music by A. Kopylow, arr. By Peter J. Wilhousky. © 1987 by Carl Fischer, Inc., New York. ARR.



Words and Music: Martin Nystrom; CCLI Song #1431; © 1984 Maranatha Praise, Inc.; All rights Reserved. CCLI #805314.



6 Just as I am, of thy great love the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove, here for a season, then above: O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Words: Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871); Music: Woodworth, William Batchelder Bradbury (1816-1868).

HYMN .....""They'll Know We Are Christians"



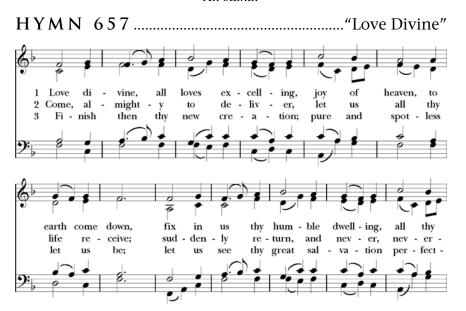
Music: Peter Scholtes; Text: Peter Scholtes, based on John 13:35; © Copyright 1966 by F.E.L. Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray. (BCP p. 339)

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

# THE BLESSING







Words: Charles Wesley (1707–1788); Music: Hyfrydol, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811–1887).

#### THE DISMISSAL

A Minister says the dismissal

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Personal prayers are available at the west Side Chapel after this service.





# ——— CARING for the ———— MEMBERS of ST. MARTIN'S

We do many important things in and through the life of St. Martin's, but toward the top of that list is the vital work of caring for our members, particularly when they face a pastoral crisis, issue or need. Between our Clergy and extensively trained crew of lay pastoral volunteers, we do a great deal of this work. For instance, in 2021, despite the limitations put upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic, our clergy and members of our Shepherd's Guild made, when allowed by hospital guidelines, 2,634 hospital visits, 1.187 home communion visits and delivered altar flowers to 85 individuals.

In 2021, members of our Clergy team officiated at 104 baptisms, 12 marriages on campus and four off campus, for a total of 16, and 61 memorial services. In addition, through our pastoral care/prayer ministries, we offered up 1,885 prayers in response to those who filled out prayer request cards. And from March of 2020 (the beginning of the pandemic lockdown for Houston) until the end of December 2021, the Clergy, Vestry and other lay leaders made three rounds of "check-in calls" to every single St. Martin's household, not one – but three times. A total of nearly 4,000 households were called at least three times! (If you did not get your call, we may need you to call or email us with updated contact information!)

The dedication that goes into all of this work has been vital, but our ability to respond to the pastoral needs of our members depends, in large part, *on you*.

That is not the way it has always been! When I was first ordained, I could call the hospital and ask for the names of not just the members of my parish who might be admitted, but often the names of all Episcopalians. All of that changed in 1996 with the passage of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) that not only secured the privacy of hospital patients, but also made pastoral care more difficult. The shift has put the burden on the patient or parishioner to personally inform family, Clergy and lay pastoral caregivers if they wish to be visited. Often, this information is also required to allow hospital visits, at times even requiring names of potential visitors. Of course, the HIPAA laws have done many good things, and securing your privacy is increasingly important in a world with access to some of your most private information.







Your Clergy want to reach out to you and care for you whenever you request our care and involvement. This is not simply limited to the physical health of our members and their families, but it also includes your mental, emotional, relational and spiritual health. We can be the best caregivers within our power when we know before the crisis ensues or the need is on the horizon, but we cannot know if you do not tell us and thus we cannot respond if we do not know.

On this point, perhaps the best way to reach out with your pastoral need is to *call the Church and ask for the Pastoral Care Department*.

While you are welcome to call any member of the Clergy at any time, often reaching out to a specific member of the Clergy may delay a response to your need-that clergy person may be traveling, ill, or out of town. In short, they may not be able to respond in the timely matter that you desire or need. When you call the Church first, you are ensuring the best and the most efficient way of getting in touch with our caring team sooner rather than later!

#### So, when should you call?

- When you want to plan a baptism, marriage or want to pre-plan your memorial service.
- When you or a loved one are to be hospitalized, scheduled for surgery or admitted to the hospital in an emergency.
- When a loved one requires prayers for the sick and dying or has passed away.
- When your marriage or a close relationship starts to show signs of trouble.
- When your child is faced with peer pressure or succumbs to the pervasive abuse of alcohol or drugs.
- When you are under any burden of emotional, mental or spiritual strain.
- When you want a Clergy or layperson to pray with you in person or by phone.
- When you want your name, or that of a friend or loved one, added to our private or public prayer list. (Please keep in mind to always get the permission of someone you are asking to be placed on our public prayer list!)
- When you need to explore your faith, including any doubts or questions you may have.
- When you face financial stress, vocational difficulties or lose your job.







- And don't forget to call us when there is good news, such as when the baby arrives or when you get a new job! We want to hear about it when you receive good news about medical tests or when you get engaged.
- Any time that you feel you could gain counsel, help, insight or strength from our Clergy team.

Another important reason to call us is that we are human and forget things! If you tell one of your Clergy at the door on Sunday, or when you run into that person at the grocery or pharmacy, about an upcoming surgery or hospital stay, we would certainly hope to remember that, but we might forget, particularly when greeting hundreds on Sunday! So again, it is better for you to call the Pastoral Care department first, and we can better serve you in that way.

We cannot help if we do not know. Many years ago, in a different parish, I had a parishioner get upset because I did not come for a pastoral visit. When I asked, "Did you tell anyone that you were going into the hospital?" The answer was, "No! I just expected a visit anyway!" Though you know your Rector likes magic tricks, mind reading was not a spiritual gift endowed at the moment of ordination. If you need us, please let us know!

You can reach our Pastoral Care office during the day by calling 713-985-3817. At least one member of our Clergy team is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The number to reach a member of the Clergy after hours is 713-621-3040. The confidential Prayer Request Line is 713-830-4124.

It is so important to me that we do our best to respond to the pastoral needs of every single one of our more nearly 9,800 members. We are here for you, but may need some help from you to do the work we have been called to do.

Thank you in advance for understanding and, more importantly, for letting us know!

Faithfully,

The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr. Rector

June J. Luna, Jr. +

Pastoral Care Office: 713-985-3817 Clergy After Hours: 713-621-3040

Prayer Request Line: 713-830-4124

# RECOGNITIONS



#### FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In thanksgiving for the Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr. on the 30th anniversary of his ordination and installation as 4th Rector of St. Martin's Episcopal Church

In thanksgiving for the baptism of Tony, Avery, Aubrey and Ashlyn by the Fernandez family

In thanksgiving for our 50th wedding anniversary by Susan and Mike Phelps

In thanksgiving for the 50th wedding anniversary of Susan and Mike Phelps by Betty and Gerald Beathard, Kim and Dean Irwin, Sande and Dwight Lyman, and Cynthia and Al Partlow

In thanksgiving for all of our St. Martin's Acolytes

In memory of Alicia Crawford Kirkland on the anniversary of her birth In memory of Donald George Dunbar, Jr. by Lynn and Douglas Dunbar



#### BIRTHS

Oct. 21 Townes Lewis Causey

Son of Anne and Jason Causey Grandson of Sharon Ervine

Nov. 19 Ben Baker "Tripp" Cravens III

Son of Mary Evans and Ben Cravens, Jr. Grandson of Susan and Ben Cravens, Sr.



#### SYMPATHY

Dec. 15 Robert Briggs Harp

To mark a special occasion with an altar flower dedication, visit bit.ly/ChurchFlowers or contact Barbara Piana at 713-830-4116.

# SERMON NOTES

# OTHER READINGS FOR THE DAY

# THE OLD TESTAMENT ......Isaiah 43:1-7

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth-everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

## THE EPISTLE ......Acts 8:14-17

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

## CONTINUING PRAYERS

Individuals are included on the *Continuing Prayers* list for numerous reasons, some of which may include recovery from illness, thanksgiving or need for support for special ministry and mission. In addition to praying for participants in cancer support groups, the Alzheimer's Caregiver's Support Group and The Gathering, this week please pray for the following:

Brittney Jacobson Shelly Bain Helen Joyner Cia Baze Jack Beeson Muriel Kearby Albaral Missy Belote Paige Laird Anne Berry Amy Lee Alli Blackman Stan Leong Cory Blackman Shawn Levenson Grace Blake Nancy Liles John and Dianne Brock III Martha Ann Linden Jane Cabes Roberta Lloyd Higdon Compton, Jr. Ryan Logan Beth Costa Jaclyn Manning Gail Davis Jo Nell Marshall Mac Davis Jeffrey Martinson BD McAndrew Sue Davis Tommy W. Davis Michelle McStravick Louis DelHomme Hal Means Len Menefee Bobby deSosa Betty DeVerter Benice Nwabueze Chase Dixon Jim Paddock Nancy Doss Troy Phillips Jimmy Prentice Jim Easterling Ophelia Pujol Stacey Elliott Matt Fryar Barbara Quackenbush Brad Gallion Rocky Robinson Robert Rosales Max Goodloe Hollis, McKay and **Brady Samuelson** Rand Grace Jim Sanitato Shea Guinn Ellie Schilling Helen and Jim Shaffer Gladys Halbouty Patsy Shappley Walesk Harvey Elizabeth Hill Clif Shoemake Mollie Hill Richard Smith Jeff Holden **Bob Spencer** Elizabeth Holderfield Jim Stokes

Wayne Hollis

Robbie Jacobe

Debra Ibarra Mayfield

Nancy Talbot Paul Therrien **Bart Tomlinson** H. Michael Tyson Randy Vander Naillen **Becky Wareing** Charles Warren Mary Waters Derry Wilkens James Wilkerson Eric Zoerb Ben Betsey Elizabeth Henry Jane Kathryn Laura Lorrie Marilyn Mark Matthew Oran Patsy RC Sally Thomas Victor and Barbara

Woody

Please be advised that we will be updating the Continuing Prayers list twice a year in the weeks before Easter and All Saints' Day. Names will remain on the prayer list for six months. To put someone on the Continuing Prayers list, please contact Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Aaron Strong

Paul Stumpff

Susan Strother

## CONTINUING PRAYERS

Names we have received of those in the Armed Forces:

SSgt Clint Bahme Lt. Col. Julian Benton 1st Lt. Benjamin Brown Lt. Col. Chris Davis Wesley Dodd James Drury III James Eilers Major Parker Firestone Capt. Dom Flatt Nathan Fordice 1st Lt. Will Golinkin LCDR Bradley Ryan Hoffman Capt. Cody Horr Maj. Wesley J. Hunnell Dallas Wayne Hunter Staton Jobe Lt. Cmdr. Kory Krebs Krystal Martinez PV2 Wills Masterson 1st Lt. Ben Matthews 1st Lt. Jack Mullen 2nd Lt. Alex Mullen Lt. Holly E. Pace Lt. Paul Piana LCMR David A. Pilko Maj. Thomas Cook Plant PO1 Brian Matthew Powell SPC Joel Rowell Maj. Christian Schleider 1st Lt. Grant Suter

# ST. MARTIN'S IS HERE FOR YOU! GOD LOVES YOU!

#### **General Questions**

Contact the Reception Desk at 713-621-3040.

#### **Prayer Requests**

Contact the Prayer Request Line at 713-830-4124, or Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

#### **After Hours Emergencies**

Call 713-621-3040 and press 2 to reach the Priest on Call.

#### **Death Notifications and Funerals**

Contact Cyndy Ensign at 713-985-3808 or censign@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

## OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

#### SUNDAY PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. David Henning

Director of Music and Parish Organist dhenning@stmartinsepiscopal.org

Mr. Kevin Riehle

Choral Director of Adult Choir kriehle@stmartinsepiscopal.org

Ms. Carole Nelson

Coordinator of Children's Music Ministries cnelson@stmartinsepiscopal.org

Mrs. Kathy Johnson

Director of Membership

kjohnson@stmartinsepiscopal.org

Mrs. Holli Kight

Lay Minister for Children's Christian Education hkight@stmartinsepiscopal.org

#### ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

Vestry Executive Committee

Mr. Jim Hibbert, Senior Warden

Mr. Titus Harris III, Junior Warden

Mrs. Anya McInnis, Missions Chair

Mr. Matt Anderson, Treasurer

Mrs. Diane Campbell, Clerk

Mr. Culver Stedman, Past Senior Warden

Mr. Bob Heston, Jr., Parish Stewardship Chair

Mr. Andy Harvin, Chancellor\*

Vestry Members

Mrs. Michelle Bain

Mr. Tommy Ford

Mrs. Whitney Gormley

Mrs. Casey Hedges

Mr. Matt Mogas

Mr. Robert Paddock

Mr. Bob Parkey

Mr. Gib Surles

The Hon. John Wooldridge

Associate Members

The Hon. James A. Baker, III, Special

Counsel to the Vestry\*

Mr. Bill Frazer, Senior Council Representative 2021-2022

Mr. Will Williams, Jr., Senior Council

Representative 2021-2022

Mrs. Therese Moore, *Altar Guild President* 2021-2022

Mrs. Dana Parkey, ECW President 2021-2022

Mr. Joe Lopez, Men of St. Martin's President 2019-2022

Mr. Michael Weaber, *Usher Representative* 2021-2022

\*Chancellor and Special Counsel are associate positions, filled at the discretion of the Rector.



**Mr. Tommy Ford** Vestry Person of the Day

#### OUR CLERGY

**Jesus, The Christ** *The Head of This Church* 



**The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.** *Rector* lhough@stmartinsepiscopal.org



**The Rev. Sharron L. Cox**Associate for Outreach, Pastoral Care and Women's Ministries
scox@stmartinsepiscopal.org



**The Rev. Martin J. Bastian** *Vice-Rector*mbastian@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. R. Wesley Arning
Associate for Young Adults and Small
Group Ministry
rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org



**The Rev. Dr. Chad T. Martin** *Vicar*cmartin@stmartinsepiscopal.org



**The Rev. John R. Bentley, Jr.**Pastoral Associate
jbentley@stmartinsepiscopal.org



**The Rev. Dr. Susannah E. McBay, Ph.D.** *Associate for Christian Education and Riverway*smcbay@stmartinsepiscopal.org



**The Rev. James (Jim) E. Cunningham** *Deacon Emeritus*jcunningham@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. Alex D. Graham III
Associate for Children and
Family Ministries
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**The Rev. Nicolas (Nick) R. D. Dyke** *Pastoral Associate* ndyke@stmartinsepiscopal.org



**The Rev. Lisa R. Neilson**Associate for Pastoral Care and
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**The Rev. Richard (Dick) H. Elwood** Pastoral Associate delwood@stmartinsepiscopal.org



**The Rev. Jane P. Ferguson**Associate for Family and
Student Ministries
jferguson@stmartinsepiscopal.org



**The Rev. Gillian (Gill) B. Keyworth** *Deacon*gkeyworth@stmartinsepiscopal.org



**The Rev. Robert E. Wareing**Pastoral Associate
rwareing@stmartinsepiscopal.org

# WE INVITE YOU TO KEEP THIS BOOKLET FOR REFERENCE.

