

# A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

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*December 4, 2022  
11:15 a.m.*



## 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.*



**ST. MARTIN'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## FROM THE RECTOR

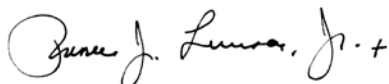
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IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD,  
JESUS CHRIST, WELCOME.

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.***

### **NOTICES**

*St. Martin's is a gun-free campus.*

*St. Martin's asks Parishioners and guests not to bring large purses, totes or backpacks to Wednesday and Sunday worship services. Exceptions include diaper bags and bags for medical equipment. Purses and bags should be 12" by 11" by 6" or smaller.*

# WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

## DECEMBER 4

### Adults

#### **8+ with the Rev. Wesley Arning**

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. Jim Jackson, Jr.**

*Welcoming Mary: Learning from Jesus' Mother in Scripture*

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

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.



#### **Seekers with the Rev. Nick Dyke**

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 Amanda DeViney at [adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:adeviney@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](mailto:students@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.



*For more information about Children's Ministry  
email Ashley Monachelli at [amonachelli@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:amonachelli@stmartinsepiscopal.org).*

## Music Ministry

### Young Singers of St. Martin's

8:15 a.m. | Rehearsal in Children's Life Center

9:15 a.m. | Family Table service in Parish Life Center

Young Singers of St. Martin's, for grades 1-12, make joyful and beautiful music while affording them a special place in the worship services at St. Martin's.



*For more information about Young Singers of St. Martin's  
email [yssm@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:yssm@stmartinsepiscopal.org).*

# DECEMBER 5-10

## Adults

### Saintly Stitchers

Monday, Dec. 5

10 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@stmartinseiscopal.org](mailto:Ineilson@stmartinseiscopal.org).

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, Dec. 6

9-11:30 a.m. | Activity Center, Family Room



Knit and crochet shawls to be blessed for those in need of prayer. For more information, contact the Rev. Lisa Neilson at [Ineilson@stmartinseiscopal.org](mailto:Ineilson@stmartinseiscopal.org).

### Blanket Ministry

Wednesday, Dec. 7

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@stmartinseiscopal.org](mailto:Ineilson@stmartinseiscopal.org).

### Church Tours

Wednesday, Dec. 7

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@stmartinseiscopal.org](mailto:scox@stmartinseiscopal.org).

### St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild

Wednesday, Dec. 7

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@stmartinseiscopal.org](mailto:Ineilson@stmartinseiscopal.org).

### **St. Martin's 20s & 30s**

Wednesday, Dec. 7

7-8:45 p.m. | Children's Life Center



Join our young adults as they explore Luke 14:15-24. There will be discussion, prayer and dinner. For more information, contact the Rev. Wesley Arning at [rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

### **Parish Choir Rehearsal**

Thursday, Dec. 8

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 Dr. David Henning at [dhenning@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:dhenning@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

### **Sterling's Market**

Saturday, Dec. 10 | Rain or Shine

9 a.m.-1 p.m. | Corner of Woodway and Sage



The mission of 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](mailto:info@sterlingsmarket.org).

## **Men**

### **Men of St. Martin's**

Thursday, Dec. 8

7-8 a.m. | Bagby Parish Hall



This men's group meets for fellowship, mutual support and Bible study. This fall, we are studying the Book of Romans. No registration is necessary to attend the discussions. For more information, contact the Rev. John Sundara at [jsundara@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:jsundara@stmartinsepiscopal.org)

### **Dads' Bible Study**

Thursday, Dec. 8

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](mailto:rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

## Women

### Christian Life Study

Tuesday, Dec. 6 – Evening Group  
6:30–8 p.m. | Children’s Life Center and 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 [Igallien@stmartinseiscopal.org](mailto:Igallien@stmartinseiscopal.org).

### The Moms’ Group

Wednesday, Dec. 7  
9:15–10:30 a.m. | Student Life Center Lounge



Join mothers of infants through grade 12 students for a book study of “Risen Motherhood: Gospel Hope for Everyday Moments” by Emily Jensen and Laura Wilfer. For more information, contact the Rev. Jane Ferguson at [jferguson@stmartinseiscopal.org](mailto:jferguson@stmartinseiscopal.org).

## 7-1-7 Students

### Life Groups

Wednesday, Dec. 7  
6–8 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@stmartinseiscopal.org](mailto:jferguson@stmartinseiscopal.org).

# A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

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The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols originated with an Order drawn up by E. W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for Christmas Eve 1880, at 10 p.m. in the wooden shed which then served as his Cathedral in Truro. A.C. Benson recalled: "My father arranged from ancient sources a little service for Christmas Eve: nine carols and nine tiny lessons." The suggestion had come from G.M.S. Walpole, later Bishop of Edinburgh. The present form of the Festival was first held on Christmas Eve 1918 in King's College Chapel, Cambridge, and planned by Eric Milner-White, Dean. Since 1963, a shorter and more informal service has also been presented on television. The BBC programs, and the long playing records of the service, have encouraged countless churches throughout the world to adapt the Festival. Milner-White, however, warned any who might be tempted to substitute more carols for the lessons: "Its liturgical order and pattern is the strength of the service; the main theme is the development of the loving purpose of God from the Creation to the Incarnation through the windows and words of the Bible: the scriptures, not the carols, are the backbone."

*...from service leaflet, King's College Chapel*

## VOLUNTARY ..... "O Come All Ye Faithful" Eric Thiman

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

### HYMN IN PROCESSION (*stand*) (*sung by all*)

1 O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O  
 2 God from God, Light from Light e-ter-nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion,  
 4 See how the shep-herds, sum-moned to his cra-dle,  
 5 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap-py morn-ing;

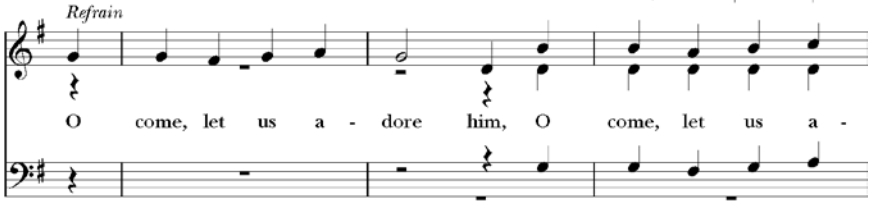
1 come ye, O come ye to Beth-le-hem;  
 2 lo! he ab-hors not the Vir-gin's womb;  
 3 sing, all ye ci-ti-zens of heaven a-bove;  
 4 leav-ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
 5 Je-sus, to thee be-glo-ry given;





1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;  
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
 5 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

*Refrain*



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -



dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Words: John Francis Wade (1711–1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802–1880) and others; Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711–1786); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

THE SERMON ..... “About Time”  
*The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.*

THE BIDDING PRAYERS (*stand*)

*Officiant*

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; and let us celebrate the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us, devoutly kneeling:

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER *(kneel)*

*People and Officiant*

**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.**

**Officiant:** The glory of the Lord shall be revealed.  
**People:** **And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.**  
**All:** **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

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**LESSON I: ADAM AND EVE REBEL AGAINST GOD  
AND ARE CAST OUT OF THE GARDEN OF EDEN**  
Genesis 3:8-15

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel." *The Word of the Lord.*

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## H Y M N *(stand) (sung by all)*



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!  
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.  
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.  
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.  
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.  
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.  
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772–1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (b. 1920); Music: *Bereden väg för Herran*, melody from *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697; Copyright: Words: © 1982, Charles P. Price.

*Please be seated.*

## LESSON II: GOD ESTABLISHES A COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM

Genesis 22:15-18

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

*The Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

H Y M N (stand) (sung by all)

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er  
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your  
 3 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in

all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
 flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;  
 hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

*Refrain*  
 now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,  
 in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Words: James Montgomery (1771–1854), alt.; Music: *Regent Square*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813–1879).

*Please be seated.*

# LESSON III: THE PROPHET ISAIAH FORETELLS THE BIRTH OF THE MESSIAH

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.  
*The Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN (stand) (sung by all)

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our  
 #3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: *Antioch*, G.F. Händel.

*Please be seated.*

## LESSON IV: THE ONE WHO IS TO RULE ISRAEL WILL BE BORN IN THE VILLAGE OF BETHLEHEM Isaiah 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like

the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.  
*The Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**H Y M N** (*stand*) (*sung by all*)

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
 2 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
 3 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
 2 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
 3 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
 2 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
 3 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 2 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 3 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835–1893); Music: *St. Louis*, Lewis H. Redner (1831–1908).



*Please be seated.*

## LESSON V: THE ANGEL GABRIEL ANNOUNCES TO THE VIRGIN MARY THAT SHE WILL BEAR THE SON OF THE MOST HIGH

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM ..... “Advent Blessing”

Kris Crunk

*Young Singers of St. Martin’s*

Bless all you sons and daughters who await the coming child; the only Son, the Promised One. Who comes to us born in a stable. Bless all the children of the light, with their brilliant faces. Lift high your candles, show the night; that Christ overcomes the darkness. Alleluia. The light of Light overshadows. Brighter than the things of earth, Son of God, humble birth. Bless all who worship in this place, the coming breath of heaven. The One whose life and death becomes salvation to the nations. Alleluia. The light of Light overshadows. Brighter than the things of earth, Son of God, humble birth. Alleluia.

Text: Randy Cox and Kris Crunk. Music: Kris Crunk. © 2012 Choristers Guild.

**LESSON VI: JESUS IS BORN TO THE VIRGIN MARY**

Luke 2:1, 3-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.  
*The Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

# H Y M N *(stand) (sung by all)*

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that  
2 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by

glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing  
pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -

near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from  
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

heaven’s all - gra - cious King.” The world in sol - emn  
an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

The musical score consists of six systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The tempo and style are indicated by the title as a hymn to be sung by all while standing. The lyrics are arranged in two parts, with the first part starting on the first line and the second part starting on the second line. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support for the vocal lines.

still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Words: E.H. Sears; Music: *Carol*, R.S. Willis.

*Please be seated.*

## LESSON VII: ANGELS ANNOUNCE TO THE SHEPHERDS THE BIRTH OF THE SAVIOR

### Luke 2:8-16

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM ..... "Thou Shalt Know Him"**  
**Mark Sirett**

Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by any din of drums, nor his manners, nor his airs, nor by anything he wears. Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by his crown or by his gown, but his coming known shall be, by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee. Thou shalt know him when he comes. Amen, amen.

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**LESSON VIII: WISE MEN FIND THE CHRIST  
CHILD AND WORSHIP HIM**

**Matthew 2:1-11**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over

the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.  
*The Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

H Y M N *(stand) (sung by all)*

*Unison or harmony*

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with  
ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for  
peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

*Refrain*

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds  
 guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to  
 bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Words: W. C. Dix; Music: *Greensleeves*, English Melody.

*Please be seated.*

## LESSON IX: JOHN UNFOLDS THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world,

and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.  
*The Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**T H E P E A C E** *(stand)*

**Officiant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** **And with thy spirit.**

*The people greet one another*

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*Please be seated.*





## TOUR A GOTHIC-STYLE CHURCH WITHOUT LEAVING HOUSTON!

**SUNDAY, DEC. 4**

**Following the 11:15 a.m. service**

**Meet in the Narthex**

St. Martin's docents offer free, public and private tours. Everyone is welcome regardless of religious affiliation. To schedule a tour, please call St. Martin's Docent Guild at 713-830-4117 and leave a contact name and number for a return call.

# ADVENT *Fest*



**Sunday, Dec. 4**

**4–6 p.m.**

**Bagby Parish Hall**

Celebrate Advent with fresh evergreens and supplies to make a family Advent wreath, followed by a pancake dinner. Donations appreciated. Please come join the fun!



**ST. MARTIN'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# WAYNE & FRIENDS

IN CONCERT

## *Holiday Edition*

Sunday, Dec. 4

7 p.m. • Parish Life Center



*With special guest,  
Curt Cloninger*



Wayne Watson, St. Martin's Director of Contemporary Music, opens the Christmas season and is joined by special guest performer, Curt Cloninger, and talented musicians who perform Sundays at the Riverway service. The concert is open to all and will feature holiday favorites, celebrating the birth of our Lord.

The evening will be a mix of instrumental Christmas classics, carols, modern Christmas compositions, comedy and drama that will feed, challenge and bless you.

### *Devotionals Needed!*

Bring a new or gently used Bible, devotional or other Christian books, which will be donated to the Houston International Seafarers Center.

# Witness to Dignity

*The Life and Faith of  
George H.W. and Barbara Bush*

## ***Give a Special St. Martin's Gift this Christmas***

Just published, this book offers a personal insight into the life and faith of St. Martin's Parishioners President George Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush by our Rector, Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.

Available at St. Martin's Gift Shoppe or anywhere you purchase Christian books.



# Christmas Coffee

Monday, Dec. 5 • 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

At the home of Ann Cochran  
6050 Riverview Way, Houston, TX 77057

Christmas casual attire | Carpooling encouraged

In the spirit of the season, please bring an unwrapped gift for children ages 5-17 to be given to DePelchin Children's Center and Christian Community Service Center.

Gift Wish List: Gift cards (\$15-\$20 to Walmart, Target, Academy, H-E-B or Kroger), clothes, board games, puzzles, Legos, arts-and-crafts kits and balls.

For more information, contact Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817  
or [vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

Kindly RSVP at [bit.ly/ecwchristmascoffee](http://bit.ly/ecwchristmascoffee)



## Activity Center

### CHRISTMAS GREETING CARDS

Tuesday, Dec. 6 | 10-11 a.m.

Fellowship Room

Create a special Christmas card for that special someone! All supplies are provided, and we will have samples for inspiration.

For more information about the extended Activity Center calendar, visit [bit.ly/smecactivitycenter](http://bit.ly/smecactivitycenter)

ST. MARTIN'S  
**OUTREACH**  
MINISTRIES



## Kids' Meals

**Tuesday, Dec. 6 | 4 p.m.**

**Parish Life Center Kitchen**

Come prepare sandwiches to help Kids' Meals, which provides and distributes nutritious lunches to hungry children throughout Houston. For more information about Kids' Meals, visit [kidsmealshouston.org](http://kidsmealshouston.org).

Contact [outreach@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:outreach@stmartinsepiscopal.org) for more information.

# Blue Christmas

in the manner of

*Taizé*

**Wednesday, Dec. 7**

**5 p.m. • Parish Life Center and  
via Zoom at [bi.tly/oslservice](https://bi.tly/oslservice)**

Sponsored and hosted by



# ADVENT QUIET DAY

*Seeking the Incarnation*

**Saturday, Dec. 10 | 9 a.m.-noon | Parish Life Center**

St. Martin's Clergy will provide meditations on three aspects of Jesus as the Incarnate One: *Incarnate to be Human, Incarnate to be in Relationship, and Incarnate to be the Christ.*

Between the meditations, Parishioners will have time for quiet contemplation to journal, pray, or walk the grounds.

*Sponsored by The Order of the Daughters of the King®*

For more information, contact Tracee Tindol at 713-985-3811 or [tmartin@stmartinsepiscope.org](mailto:tmartin@stmartinsepiscope.org).



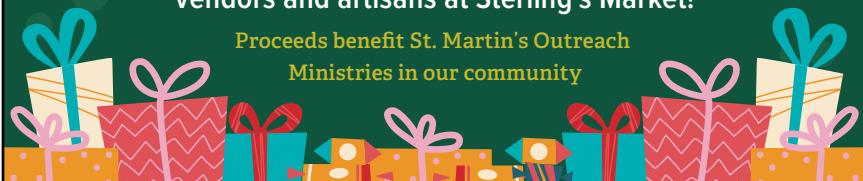
**Saturday, Dec. 10  
9 a.m. – 1p.m.  
Sage and Woodway  
[sterlingsmarket.org](http://sterlingsmarket.org)**

## Stuff Your Stockings



**'Tis the season to shop for the Holidays!  
Find the perfect Christmas stocking stuffers from local vendors and artisans at Sterling's Market!**

**Proceeds benefit St. Martin's Outreach  
Ministries in our community**



# 20<sup>s</sup> & 30<sup>s</sup>

*Holiday Gathering*

**Saturday, Dec. 10**

**6 – 8 p.m.**

Please bring a side dish or drinks to share.

The group is also collecting new socks and toiletries (for men and women) for an Outreach Ministry project.

For more details, including the meeting location, please contact the Rev. Wesley Arning at [rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org).



Bring your kids and join us  
in Sunday School for

**COCOA**   
& **CAROLS**

**SUNDAY, DEC. 11**

**10:15 a.m. • Childrens Life Center**

All the Sunday School classes will gather for a fun-filled morning to celebrate the coming of Jesus. Children will listen to the story of the legend of the candy cane, enjoy hot cocoa and sing Christmas carols.



# Christmas Crash

Sunday, Dec. 11

5 – 8 p.m. • Student Life Center  
For Students in Grades 6-12

Join the Student Ministries team for an evening of holiday fun, games, prizes, festive eats and all things Christmas. Wear your ugly Christmas sweater or your best Christmas garb. Friends are always welcome!



The Giving Tree



## Christmas Card Program

The Giving Tree is a branch of St. Martin's Outreach Ministries, offering Parishioners and the surrounding community the opportunity to honor a loved one on a special occasion through a heartfelt gift that empowers a worthy organization while touching hearts and changing lives. Cards are sold in St. Martin's Gift Shoppe or through the website.

**Deadline to order is Monday, Dec. 12.**

For more information, visit [bit.ly/christmasgivingtree](http://bit.ly/christmasgivingtree)



# DAY GROUP



**1–2:30 p.m. | Wednesday, Dec. 14**  
**Children’s Life Center, Room 132 and**  
**Via Zoom | [bit.ly/faithinlitdayzoom](https://bit.ly/faithinlitdayzoom)**

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 Amanda DeViney at [adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

## The Moms’ Group

### Christmas Social and Outreach Event

**OTHELANDING**

**Wednesday, Dec. 14**

**9:30-10:30 a.m.**

**Student Life Center Living Room**

The Moms’ Group is creating goody bags for The Landing filled with snacks and hygiene items as well as a prayer pocket from the Prayer Shawl ministry. The Landing is a faith-based anti-trafficking organization in Houston.

Bring your favorite Christmas dessert to share! Send in the recipe so we can expand our Christmas repertoires.

Email your recipe to Florence Ritchie at [fritchier@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:fritchier@stmartinsepiscopal.org) and she will print copies to share with the group.





## Houston Boychoir

Winter Concert and Reception

**Saturday, Dec. 17**

**4 p.m. • The Church**

*Free admission.*

A favorite among Parishioners, the Houston Boychoir has earned its place in the city's fine arts community, collaborating with numerous professional organizations including the Houston Symphony Orchestra, Houston Bach Society, Moores School of Music and Hope Stone Dance.



YOUNG  
**SINGERS**  
OF ST. MARTIN'S

## Christmas Story in Song

**Sunday, Dec. 18**

**9:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center**

Hear the Young Singers of St. Martin's as they present a Christmas Program of Lessons and Carols. Sing Along to some of your favorite traditional carols and hear the telling of the Christmas Story.



Hosts Seafarers' Outreach Project

# SHOEBOX WRAPPING PARTY



**SUNDAY, DEC. 18**

**10:15 A.M.**

**CHILDREN'S LIFE CENTER**

Children will fill empty shoeboxes with necessities and wrap them with colorful paper for the Houston International Seafarers Center, which serves the many seafarers who pass through the Port of Houston.

# GIVE BLOOD

**St. Martin's Episcopal Church**

## **Blood Drive**

**Monday, Dec. 19**

**9 a.m.-3 p.m.**

**Bagby Parish Hall**

Appointments are required to donate.  
Please go online to schedule at [bit.ly/smeceblooddrive](http://bit.ly/smeceblooddrive).

**EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.**

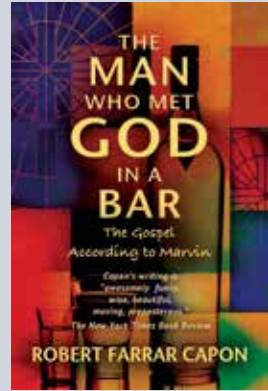


**Gulf Coast Regional  
Blood Center**



# EVENING GROUP

**Christmas Celebration and Book Review**  
**Tuesday, Dec. 20 | 7-8:30 p.m.**  
**Offsite**



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 Amanda DeViney at [adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org).**

## Year-End Contributions to St. Martin's Episcopal Church



The Internal Revenue Service requires that, in order to be tax deductible in 2022, cash, check or credit card contributions to St. Martin's Episcopal Church must be received by the Church or postmarked by the United States Postal Service no later than Friday, Dec. 30, 2022; this includes any payments to your 2022 pledge, prepayment of your 2023 pledge and payment of your Building for the Ages pledge. The Finance staff is required to check the postal cancellation dates on all receipts in early January to ensure our legal compliance to this rule.

For more information, contact Debbie Hutchison at [dhutchison@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:dhutchison@stmartinsepiscopal.org) or 713-985-3803



## Christmas Eve Services

**Saturday, Dec. 24**

**The Family Service** | 11 a.m. • *The Church*

Music and Nativity Liturgy. Designed for families with younger children. No Eucharist.

**Traditional Services** | 1, 3:30, 6 and 8:30 p.m. • *The Church*

Holy Eucharist; festive Christmas music by the Parish Choir, accompanied by the *Gloria Dei* Organ with brass and timpani.

*Note: The 11 a.m., 3:30, 6 and 8:30 p.m. worship services will be livestreamed on Facebook and Youtube.*

**Riverway Contemporary Service** | 6:30 p.m. • *Parish Life Center*

Come gather for the Riverway's Christmas Eve service with Holy Eucharist. Enjoy contemporary music, fellowship and more.

*Note: The service will be livestreamed on Riverway's Facebook page.*

## Christmas Day Service

**Sunday, Dec. 25** • 11 a.m. • *The Church*

Celebrate our Lord's birth. Holy Eucharist; traditional service with hymns, anthems and the Parish Choir.

## New Year's Day Services

**Sunday, Jan. 1**

**Traditional Service with Holy Eucharist**

8, 9, and 11:15 a.m. • *The Church*

*Note: The 6 p.m. traditional service in The Church will not be offered on Jan. 1.*

**Family Table**

9:15 a.m. • *Parish Life Center*

**Riverway Contemporary Service with Holy Eucharist**

11:15 a.m. • *Parish Life Center*

**Childcare services will be available for infants through pre-K at all services.**



# A Change of Heart



Women are invited to this study group on the mother-in-law/daughter-in-law relationship. If yours is difficult, we can offer hope; if yours is great, we can learn from you.

**Wednesdays**

**Jan. 11 – March 1 • 10:30 a.m. – noon or 1–2:30 p.m.  
Student Life Center, Room 201**

Each class is limited to the first 20 who register.

To sign up or for more information, contact Graham Neuhaus at [geneuhaus@aol.com](mailto:geneuhaus@aol.com).

“A Change of Heart” is available for purchase in St. Martin’s Gift Shoppe.  
Session one should be completed for the first meeting.

A VERY SPECIAL LENTEN RETREAT:

## Icon Writing with Teresa Harrison



**Monday – Thursday, March 20 – 23  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

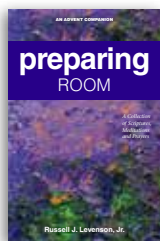
**Friday, March 24  
8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

The ancient technique of icon writing inspires prayerful meditation, both while creating the art and reflecting on the finished piece. This four-day retreat includes Eucharist, chant, prayer, silence and lively conversation. Beginners and experienced iconographers are welcome!

Reserve your space at [bit.ly/iconography2023](http://bit.ly/iconography2023)

# Advent Resources

Prepare for this solemn and wonderful season with these special resources:



## **“Preparing Room”** by the Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.

- Scriptures key to telling the Christmas story as it centers on Jesus
- Brief meditations to help readers step more deeply into the Advent story
- Reflections on how to prepare just a bit more room for the King
- Prayers from Judeo-Christian tradition or by the author



## **“Advent Wreath Devotional”** by Laura and Russ Levenson

The “Advent Wreath Devotional” in both adult and children’s versions provides a framework within which to traverse the Advent season.

Available for sale through St. Martin’s Gift Shoppe



## Opening Doors to Hope

2022 End-of-Year Campaign



### HHCI Client Testimonial



“I have witnessed *LIGHT* shining in these therapy sessions, and I am encouraged to bring that *LIGHT* back out into the world.”

At the Hope and Healing Center & Institute, we are *Opening Doors to Hope* for those living with mental health issues and addiction.

To give to our *Opening Doors to Hope* campaign and make a difference in the lives of those in your community, visit [hopeandhealingcenter.org/GIVE](https://hopeandhealingcenter.org/GIVE)

# All-In

for STEWARDSHIP

TIME ■ TALENT ■ TREASURE

2023 Stewardship is here! Please join us and prayerfully consider a pledge and how you will serve St. Martin's in the coming year. We are counting on our Parish Family to be All-In just as our founders were 70 years ago.



Please scan this QR code or visit [bit.ly/smec2023stewardship](https://bit.ly/smec2023stewardship) to make your pledge online.

Questions? Contact Ashley Pratka, Director of Development, at [apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org) or 346-335-8658.

## WAYS TO GIVE



### TEXT

Text SMEC to  
73256



### MAIL

St. Martin's Episcopal Church  
717 Sage Rd.  
Houston, TX 77056



### ONLINE

[bit.ly/smecgiving](https://bit.ly/smecgiving)



### BEQUESTS

Contact: Director of Parish  
Stewardship, Ashley Pratka at  
[apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto: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: [SMARTINSEPISCOPAL.ORG/GIVING](https://stmartinsepiscopal.org/giving)

# THE OFFERTORY

## ANTHEM .....*Messiah*, "And the Glory of the Lord" G.F. Handel

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together, For the mouth of the Lord has spoken it

Text: Isaiah 40:5.

## DOXOLOGY WITH ALLELUIAS

(stand) (sung by all) ..... *Lasst uns erfreuen*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here be-  
low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a -  
bove ye heaven - ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

*Refrain*  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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

## THE PRAYERS (*kneel*)

### THE FINAL COLLECT

Almighty God, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word: Grant that the same light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE BLESSING



All stand.

## HYMN IN PROCESSION

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!  
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.  
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*  
Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707–1788), alt.; Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831–1915).

# THE DISMISSAL

*A Minister says the dismissal*

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## VOLUNTARY "Fanfare" by Charles Lang

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

## RECOGNITIONS

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### FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In memory of Charles Grimes Williams and Robert Milton Horton on the occasion of their birthdays

by their grandson and son, Laurence B. Horton



### SYMPATHY

Nov. 20 Andrew Laurence Funk

Nov. 21 Dorothy Wollbrett Hood Stehr

Nov. 24 Grace Anne Blake

To mark a special occasion with an altar flower dedication, visit [bit.ly/smecalartflowers](http://bit.ly/smecalartflowers) or contact Rebekah Maddux El-Hakam at 713-830-4146.

# SERMON NOTES

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# CONTINUING PRAYERS

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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:

Bobbie Adams	Sherman Lasker	Millie Tonn
Carolyn Alban	Stan Leong	Jane Touchstone
Harvey and Katie Altmann	Shawn Levenson	Sue Uthe
Patsy Angel	Nancy Liles	Tim VanAntwerp
Shelly Bain	Ryan Logan	Randy Vander Naillen
Anne Berry	Marie Lord	Mae Joyce and Grant Wagner
Cory Blackman	Greg Martin	Janice Waits Murphy
Dianne Brock	Pat Marymee	Roger Williams
Don Cheatham	Janet McDaniel	Eric Zoerb
Higdon Compton, Jr.	Patricia McDonald	Angela
Beth Costa	Christine Nguyen	Anne
Gail Davis	Nwora Onwuzulu	Barbara
Mac Davis	Jim Paddock	Betsey
Sue Davis	Russell Pae	Dean
Tommy W. Davis	Jimmy Prentice	Elizabeth
Bobby deSosa	Michael Reade	Eric and Family
Ross Dunn	Ted Reed	Henry
Kiersten Dyke	Susan Rovello	Jana
Jim Easterling	Baker Rudolph	Landry
Stacey and John Elliott	David Samuelson	Laura
Mayfield Family	Molly Scarbrough	Leslie
Charles Flores	Helen and Jim Shaffer	Marilyn
Brad Gallion	Caroline Shanahan	Mary Jane
Catherine Gonzales	Megan Sharkey	Naomi
Nancy Gore	Clif Shoemake	Willie
Shea Guinn	Ryan Smith	
Connie Haney	William and Betsy Smith	
Susie C. Hatfield	Mark Solomons	
Mollie Hill	Bob Spencer	
Jeff Holden	Jim and Jan Stokes	
Nicole Jabbari	James Swann	
Ronnie Jacobs, Jr.	Nancy Talbot	
Lynda Jones	Martin Taylor	
Mary Anne Kannard	Paul Therrien	
Muriel Kearby Albaral	Mimi Thobae	
Paige Laird	Carlotta Thomas	

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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](mailto:vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

# CONTINUING PRAYERS

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Names we have received of those in the Armed Forces:

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

# OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

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## SUNDAY PROGRAM STAFF

**Dr. David Henning**

*Director of Music and Parish Organist*  
dhenning@stmartinsepiscopal.org

**Ms. Carole Nelson**

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

**The Rev. Jane P. Ferguson**

*Associate for Student and Family Ministries*  
jferguson@stmartinsepiscopal.org

**Mrs. Ashley Monachelli**

*Director of Children's Ministry*  
amonachelli@stmartinsepiscopal.org

**Mrs. Kathy Johnson**

*Director of Membership*  
kjohnson@stmartinsepiscopal.org

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## ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

### *Vestry Executive Committee*

Mr. Matt Anderson, *Senior Warden*

Mrs. Diane Campbell, *Junior Warden*

Mrs. Casey Hedges, *Missions Chair*

Mr. Tommy Ford, *Treasurer*

Mr. Gib Surlis, *Clerk*

Mr. Jim Hibbert, *Past Senior Warden*

Mr. Bob Heston, Jr., *Parish Stewardship Chair*

Mr. Andy Harvin, *Chancellor\**

### *Vestry Members*

Mrs. Michelle Bain

Mrs. Nancy Bynon

Mrs. Elizabeth Dukes

Mrs. Whitney Gormley

Mr. Ryan LaRue

Mr. Dan Meyer

Mr. Matt Mogas

Mr. Roy W. Nichol

Mr. Bob Parkey

The Hon. John Wooldridge

### *Associate Members*

The Hon. James A. Baker, III, *Special Counsel to the Vestry\**

Mr. Jon Clarkson, *Senior Council Representative 2022-2023*

Mr. Richard Nelson, *Senior Council Representative 2022-2023*

Mrs. Janet Hoover, *Altar Guild President 2022-2023*

Mrs. Dee Frappier, *ECW President 2022-2023*

Mr. Jim McCulloch, *Men of St. Martin's President 2022-2023*

Mr. Bob Porter, *Usher Representative 2022-2023*

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



**Mrs. Michelle Bain**  
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