SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 14, 2024



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.

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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 that anyone coming into a worship service not bring oversized or large backpacks.

^{*}indicates when latecomers may be seated so as not to disturb other worshipers

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

JANUARY 14

Adults

8+ with the Rev. Wesley Arning

Lectionary-based Bible Study 8:55-9:25 a.m. Chapel Reception Hall

Theology for Life with Dr. Dave Peterson

"Dave on the Life of David: Lessons of Faith from One of the Old Testament's Most Famous Characters" 10:15-11 a.m.
Bagby Parish Hall

Family Life Class with the Rev. Alex Graham III

"Artificial Intelligence and the Christian Faith" 10:15-11 a.m.
Activity Center, Game Room

Spiritual Formation with the Rev. Sharron Cox

"Praying with Icons" 10:15-11 a.m. Founders' Hall

Seekers with the Rev. Dick Elwood

Lectionary-based Bible Study 10:15-11 a.m. Activity Center, Aerobics Room

For more information about Adult Christian Education, contact Amanda DeViney at 713-830-4110 or adeviney@smec.org.

Adult Confirmation with the Rev. John Sundara

10:15-11 a.m. Chapel Reception Hall

For more information about Adult Confirmation, contact email Juli Browning at 713-985-3845 or jbrowning@smec.org.

7-1-7 Students

Sunday Get-Togethers

For students in grades 6-12 10:15-11 a.m. Student Life Center, Living Room

For more information about 7-1-7 Students, contact Florence Ritchie at 713-985-3843 or students@smec.org.

Children's Ministry

Children's Sunday School

For children through grade 5 10:15-11 a.m. Children's Life Center

Childcare is available during all morning services for infants through three-year-olds.

For more information about Children's Ministry, contact Rocio Velazquez at 713-985-3807 or rvelazquez@smec.org.

Music Ministry

Young Singers of St. Martin's

For children and youth in grades 1-12 8:15 a.m. | Rehearsal in Children's Life Center 9:15 a.m. | Family Table service in Parish Life Center

For more information about Young Singers of St. Martin's, contact Carole Nelson at 346-335-8677 or cnelson@smec.org.

JANUARY 15-20

Adults

St. Martin's Campus will be closed Monday, Jan. 15, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, Jan. 16

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. Sharron Cox at 713-830-4131 or scox@smec.org.

Blanket Ladies

Wednesday, Jan. 17 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. Sharron Cox at 713-830-4131 or scox@smec.org.

St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild

Wednesday, Jan. 17

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. Sharron Cox at 713-830-4131 or scox@smec.org.

Church Tours

Wednesday, Jan. 17 11 a.m.-noon | The Church

The Docent Guild offers a formal tour of The Church. To schedule a group tour or special tours of The Church windows, Christ Chapel or Campus gardens, please contact the Docent Line at 713-830-4117. For more information, contact the Rev. Sharron Cox at 713-830-4131 or scox@smec.org.

Order of St. Luke (OSL) Healing Ministry Study Group

Wednesday, Jan. 17

4:30-6 p.m. | Children's Life Center and via Zoom

Learn and grow in the practice of prayer for healing, with an opportunity to train as an OSL prayer minister. For more information, contact the Rev. Sharron Cox at 713-830-4131 or scox@smec.org.

St. Martin's 20s & 30s

Wednesday, Jan. 17

7-9 p.m. | Children Life Center

Young adults meet weekly for a time of fellowship and study. For more information, contact the Rev. Wesley Arning at 346-335-8680 or rwarning@smec.org.

Parish Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Jan. 18 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 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 713-985-3820 or dhenning@smec.org.

Sterling's Market

Saturday, Jan. 20 | Rain or Shine 9 a.m.-1 p.m. | Corner of Woodway and Sage

Sterling's Market at St. Martin's Episcopal Church glorifies God through sharing the Gospel and the bounties of the earth with Parishioners, neighbors and visitors. For more information, contact Justin Avery at 713-985-3838 or info@sterlingsmarket.org.

Men

Men of St. Martin's

Thursday, Jan. 18 7-8 a.m. | Bagby Parish Hall

This men's group meets for fellowship, mutual support and Bible study. For more information, contact the Rev. John Sundara at 713-985-3842 or jsundara@smec.org.

Dads' Bible Study

Thursday, Jan. 18 8-9 a.m. | Welcome Center

Join dads with children of all ages for coffee, fellowship and Bible study. For more information, contact the Rev. Wesley Arning at 346-335-8680 or rwarning@smec.org.

Women

Christian Life Study

Tuesday, Jan. 16 – Evening Group | 6:30-8 p.m. | Children's Life Center and via Zoom Thursday, Jan. 18 – Day Group | 9:30-11:30 a.m. | Parish 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@smec.org.

7-1-7 Students

Life Groups

Wednesday, Jan. 17 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 346-335-8659 or jferguson@smec.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"Herr Jesu Christ, Dich Zu Uns Wend" Johann Sebastian Bach

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





 $Words: Harry \ Emerson \ Fosdick \ (1878-1969), \ alt.; \ Music: \textit{Cwm Rhondda}, \ John \ Hughes \ (1873-1932); \ Copyright: \ Words: \ By \ permission \ of the \ author.$

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.**

GLORIA (said at 8 a.m.; sung at 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 6 p.m.)



Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847); Music: Lauda anima, John Goss (1800-1880).

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

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSON 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

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

All stand.

HYMN 652 (vs. 1-2)....." "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"



Words: John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892), alt.; Music: Rest, Frederick Charles Maker (1844–1927).

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

THE GOSPELJohn 1:43-51

Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The remaining readings for the day are on page 26-27.





 $Words: John \: Greenleaf \: Whittier \: (1807-1892), \: alt.; \: Music: \textit{Rest}, \: Frederick \: Charles \: Maker \: (1844-1927).$

Please be seated.

THE SERMON "Speak, Lord! Your Servant is Listening!"

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

THE NICENE CREED (stand)

Celebrant and People

I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father;

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation

came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the

Virgin Mary,

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered and was buried;

and the third day he rose again according to

the Scriptures,

and ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of the Father,

and he shall come again, with glory,

to judge both the quick and the dead;

whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,

who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together

is worshiped

and glorified;

who spake by the Prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church;

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;

and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (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 Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector, our bishops; the Clergy of this Parish; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the Church of the Province of South East Asia; for all bishops, priests and deacons;

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

We pray for Joe, our President, Greg, our Governor, John, our Mayor, and the Congress and the Courts; and 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.

We pray for those for whom our prayers have been requested, especially ___; for those who are hospitalized, especially ___; and for those on our continuing prayer list; have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

We pray for those who have died, especially ___; give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We give thee thanks for all the blessings of this life, especially those remembered today with Altar flowers, ___; and we praise thee for thy saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.

In this moment of silence, let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

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

Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Minister says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

A moment of silence is observed.

Minister and People

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.

Celebrant stands and says

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.

Please be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see page 31 for upcoming events.

THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies" T. Frederick H. Candlyn

Christ, Whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only Light, Sun of righteousness, arise! Triumph o'er the shades of night: Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear. Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by Thee; Joyless is the day's return, till Thy mercy's beams I see; Till they inward light impart, glad my eyes and warm my heart. Visit then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief! Fill me, Radiancy Divine; scatter all my unbelief; more and more Thyself display, shining to the perfect day. Amen.

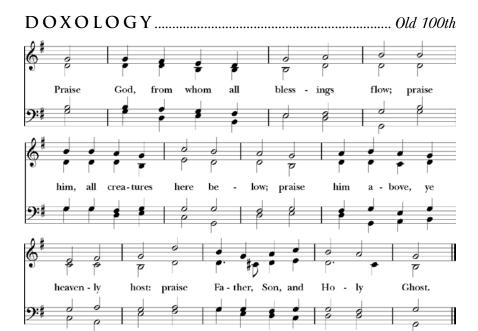
Words: Charles Wesley. Music: T. Frederick H. Candlyn. © 1943 by Carl Fischer Inc., New York. ARR.

AT THE PRESENTATION (stand)

(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.



Words: Isaac Watts (1674–1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637–1711); Music: Old 100th, melody from Pseaumes octante trois de David, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?–1561?).

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

(said at 8 a.m., sung at 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 6 p.m.)



Music: From Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena, Healey Willan (1880-1968); Copyright: By permission of Oxford University Press.

The Celebrant continues (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

 ${\it Celebrant\ and\ People}$

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.

(8 a.m. only in place of sung Fraction Anthem)

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.



Text: Celtic Alleluia, Christopher Walker; Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker; © 1985, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, public by OCP Publications. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under LicenSingOnline #U3219.

Then may be said

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Celebrant and People

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.

All Christians who have been baptized with water and in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and are permitted to receive Holy Communion in their own church are welcome to do so on this occasion. If you do not wish to receive one or both Elements, cross your arms over your chest and the Clergy will give you a blessing. Please tell the Clergy administering Communion if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.

ANTHEM"Arise, Shine, for Thy Light is Come" Healy Willan

Arise, shine, for thy Light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. Alleluia! Oh, praise the Lord, all ye nations, and laud Him, all ye people! For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever. Alleluia!

Text: Isaiah 60:1 From the Epistle for the Epiphany of Our Lord, Psalm 117© 1960 by Concordia Publishing House. St. Louis, Mo. All rights reserved.



Text: Judson W. VanDeVenter; Music: Winfield S. Weeden.



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After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

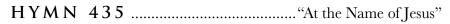
Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate 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.

At 9 and 11:15 a.m., after the Post-Communion Prayer, members of the Shepherd's Guild may come forward. The priest or deacon gives the Sacrament to the Eucharistic visitors, saying

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us the Communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we share one bread, one cup. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

All stand.





Words: Caroline Maria Noel (1817–1877), alt.; Music: King's Weston, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958); Copyright: Music: By permission of Oxford University Press.

THE DISMISSAL

A Minister says the dismissal

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

VOLUNTARY"Symphony 3: Marcia" Charles-Marie Widor

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

RECOGNITIONS



FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In thanksgiving for the Rev. Naomi Sundara on the first anniversary of her ordination In thanksgiving of those participating in the 2024 Chevron Houston Marathon In memory of Elizabeth Elledge Turley

by her loving family



BIRTHS

Aug. 29 Ethan Alexander Coy

Son of Regan and Alex Coy

Oct. 10 Jonathan McLean Goossen, Jr.

Son of Catherine and Jay Goossen

Grandson of Janice Murphy and Paul Murphy, Jr.



BAPTISMS

Jan. 7 Robert Fitzgibbons Board

George William Sawyer Engerrand Liam Alexander Hallenbeck

John Jett Larson

Collins Caroline McClure James Edward Patterson



WEDDINGS

Jan. 6 Mary Catherine Scroggins and Robert James Corbett Dunbar, Jr.

To mark a special occasion with an altar flower dedication, visit bit.ly/smecaltarflowers or contact Rebekah Maddux El-Hakam at relhakam@smec.org.

READINGS FOR THE DAY

THE PSALMPsalm 139:1-5, 12-17

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; * you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places * and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, * but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before * and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; * it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; * you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; * your works are wonderful, and I know it well.
- 14 My body was not hidden from you, * while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.
- 15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; * they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.
- 16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! * how great is the sum of them!
- 17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; * to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

READINGS FOR THE DAY

THE EPISTLE1 Corinthians 6:12-20

"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

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:

Robin Adair Mary and Jim Jennings Bobbie Adams John Justice Sandra "Sandy" Justice Carolyn Alban Katie and Harvey Altmann Mary Anne Kannard Scotty Arnoldy Candi Keebler Ally Babineaux Dick Kildav Shelly Bain Reggie Lang Kathy Beadnell Rhea Latta Beth Beathard Bruce Michael Lee Bob Beelev Nancy Liles

Cory Blackman Nicole Holdford Lockney Kenny Brown Ryan Logan Bella Carosi Bella Martin Cole Cattan Ronnie Martin Debbie Chernosky Ianet McDaniel Barbara McMahon Doug Clarke Hallie Cooley Dave McStravick Michael Craig Len Menefee Sam Cruse Margaret Milner Ruth Moorhead

Gail Davis Clarine Naskrent Bobby de Sosa Linda de Sosa Stuart Nixon Ross Dunn Ann Noel Kiersten Dyke Deborah Oliver Jim Easterling Andrew O'Malley Stacey and John Elliott Bob Paddock Charles Flores Jim Paddock Judy Peach Iulie G. Catherine Gonzales Betty Polando Nancy Gore Joseph Powell Bette Haidusek Ophelia Pujol

Amy Heath Ted Reed
Mollie Hill Marjorie Reeks
Marguerite Hillgers Phyllis Reinhardt
Marilyn Ingham Monica Rivera
Christine Jean John Davis Roady

Ann Halverson

Kavla Hamaker

Joe Rodriguez
Maggie Rodriguez
Consuelo Saldana
Suzzy Schuwerk
Helen and Jim Shaffer
Caroline Shanahan
Clif Shoemake
Bob Spencer
Paul Therrien
LaVonne Waldron
Mary Watters
Stephen Wedemeyer

Ann Winters Eric Zoerb Alexi Atticus Henry Laura Lynne

Please be advised that we will be updating the Continuing Prayers list twice a year in the weeks after Easter and All Saints' Day. The list will be completely redone. To add or remove someone on the Continuing Prayers list, please contact Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or vrivera@smec.org.

Heather Rathnau

Dana Raymant

CONTINUING PRAYERS

Prayers for those on Active Military Duty in the Armed Forces:

Lt. Col. Wesley J. Hunnell Capt. Blake J. Kidd Capt. Jack Mullen 1st Lt. Alex Mullen Lt. Paul Piana Lt. Col. Thomas C. Plant LCDR Bradley Hoffman

Please be advised that each year the week after Veterans Day, this list will be completely redone. To add or remove someone on the Military Service Prayers list, please contact Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or vrivera@smec.org.

SERMON NOTES

MARATHON SUNDAY JANUARY 14

Even though the Chevron Houston Marathon does not go by St. Martin's, some roads will not open until after 11 a.m. and may affect your drive to and from Church.

To view the course map and street closure times, visit **bit.ly/marathonsunday**

Please note the streets near Campus affected:

- Eastbound Woodway Drive traffic (west of Chimney Rock) will be forced to turn south on Chimney Rock.
- Eastbound traffic on Memorial Drive (west of Chimney Rock) will be forced to go north on Chimney Rock.

Questions? Contact Barbara Piana at 281-794-4669.



ACTIVITY CENTER

NEW CLASS! Barrelates

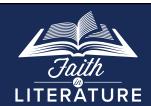
Tuesdays 11–11:45 a.m. | Aerobics Room

Join Angela for a fusion class of Barre and Pilates. Toning, flexibility, balance and core strength will all be addressed and a variety of equipment may be incorporated. Open to all levels.

MOST CLASSES ARE FREE!

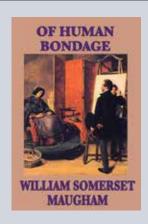
For more information, visit bit.ly/smecactivitycenter.

Contact | Victoria Wilson activitycenter@smec.org • 713-985-3835



EVENING GROUP

Tuesday, Jan. 16 | 7-8:30 p.m. Children's Life Center, Room 109 and Via Zoom | bit.ly/faithinliteveningzoom



While operating within the framework of Christian theology, Faith in Literature seeks to ascertain in our reading how all good literature, if even by its omission, deals with and reflects themes of faith.

This month, we discuss "Of Human Bondage" by William Somerset Maugham.

For more information, contact Amanda DeViney at adeviney@smec.org or 713-830-4110.





Contact: Florence Ritchie • fritchie@smec.org • 713-985-3843

"In This House We Giggle" by Courtney DeFeo. *Childcare is provided for infants through age 4.*



LEARN ABOUT MISSION WORK IN EL SALVADOR

SUNDAY, JAN. 21 10:15 A.M. VESTRY CONFERENCE ROOM

Trip Dates: March 9-14

Kurt Ackermann, president of Sus Hijos, will join us via Zoom to talk about projects for the the upcoming adult and family mission trip to El Salvador.

Mission Trip registration now open at bit.ly/2024elsalvadormissiontrip

For more information, contact Courtney Kearns at ckearns@smec.org or 713-985-3819.

FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR

THE REV. JANE P. FERGUSON



SUNDAY, JAN. 21 • BAGBY PARISH HALL • 12:30 P.M.

Immediately following the 11:15 a.m. worship services.

Please join Jane, her husband, Alex, and their daughter, Poppy, as we bid them farewell. Come by and thank Jane for the ministry work she has accomplished at St. Martin's since 2019. Jane's most significant contribution has been to the Student Ministries and nurturing our student Acolytes while leading the Student Confirmation program.





January 22 10 a.m – 1:30 p.m. Bagby Parish Hall

For church members and others in our community who experience memory loss and their caregivers



For more information, contact Kathy Tellepsen at 713-301-4786 or kattellepsen@me.com.



A Bible Study for Any Woman Seeking God's Truth

2024 Registration Now Open! clsbiblestudy.com

DAY GROUP - Begins Colossians Study Jan. 25

Thursdays • 9:30-11:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center and via Zoom.

For more information, contact Anna McLean at 281-782-0594 or amaynebr1@gmail.com.

EVENING GROUP - Begins 2 Corinthians Study on Jan. 23

Tuesdays • 6:30–8 p.m. • Children's Life Center and via Zoom.

For more information, contact Ann Wilson at 713-828-8722 or annwilson33@gmail.com.

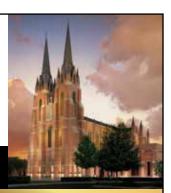
This is a great opportunity to join for the first time!



The Houston Civic Symphony returns to St. Martin's for a performance that will include Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's "Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture;" "Symphony No. 2" by Ludwig van Beethoven; and a concerto performance by the winner of the Symphony's Member Concerto Competition for the 2023 season. Dr. Brian Runnels will conduct.

Contact: Dr. David Henning • dhenning@smec.org • 713-985-3820.

Hunual PARISH MEETING



Sunday, Jan. 28 10:15 a.m. Bagby Parish Hall

Parishioners are invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to learn about progress in the preceding year and plans for 2024. Sunday School for adults will not be offered on this Sunday so that all will have the opportunity to attend. The 11:15 a.m. services in The Church and Parish Life Center will begin at 11:30 a.m. to accommodate the Annual Parish Meeting.

Please join us!

RIVERWAY

Celebration Sunday!

Celebrate January Birthdays and Anniversaries with Riverway.

SUNDAY, JAN. 28
Parish Life Center Narthex

Following the 11:30 a.m. services

We invite everyone who has had a recent birthday or anniversary to join us in acknowledgement of your special day, and share a dessert or breakfast item with us. Everyone is welcome!

For more information, contact Amanda DeViney at 713-830-4110 or adeviney@smec.org.





Do you love to needlepoint?

Consider joining St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild. This guild welcomes stitchers of any skill level and teaches needlepoint from basic stitches to detailed and advanced work.



SUNDAY, JAN. 28 1-4 p.m. **Activity Center Upper Hall East**

St. Clare's also meets during the week. For more information, contact Amanda DeViney at 713-830-4110 or adeviney@smec.org.



st.claresneedlepoint



St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild



Join us this Epiphany to reflect and hear from the Lord through the contemplative sounds of Taizé Prayer. Through chant-like songs, Scripture and silent meditation, this quiet and prayerful time will nourish your soul!

Contact: Rebekah Maddux El-Hakam • relhakam@smec.org • 713-830-4146.







MEMBERSHIP 101

MONDAY, JAN. 29

Bagby Parish Hall and Online • 6-9 p.m. • Dinner will be served. *Reservations are required by 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28.*

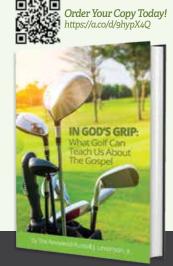
Learn more about the mission and core values of St. Martin's and broaden your understanding of our ministries and your role in the Church.

CONTACT

Kathy Johnson, Director of Membership membership@smec.org • 713-985-3834

Register at bit.ly/Membership-101 Case sensitive

A NEW BOOK by the Rev. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.



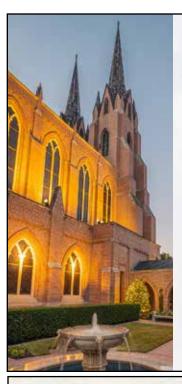
"This is a book about God's help."
– Russell J. Levenson, Jr.

"IN GOD'S GRIP: What Golf Can Teach Us About The Gospel"

"This delightful little book on what golf can teach us about the most important questions people have about their lives is a truly great read. As a former teenager caddy at the oldest 18-hole course in North American (the Chicago Golf Club), who caddied for the likes of Charlie Coody, Ben Crenshaw, Tom Weiskopf and others, and is pleased to serve as a divinity school dean, I recommend it wholeheartedly."

— Dr. Doug Sweeney, Dean of Beeson Divinity School

Place orders now at St. Martin's Gift Shoppe or wherever fine books are sold, contact Barbara Shoemaker at bshoemaker@smec.org or 713-985-3834.



YOUR PLEDGE

Matters

As we move through the Stewardship Season at St. Martin's, we prayerfully urge you to consider contributing to our annual campaign. This cannot happen without the support of all!

If you have never pledged to St. Martin's, I invite you to begin! You will feel joy and pride to uplift your Church and the many community non-profits it supports. Your generosity in supporting the Church and our financial needs is greatly appreciated.



Contact

Ashley Pratka, Director of Development apratka@smec.org • 346-335-8658

WAYS to GIVE



TEXT
Text SMEC to 73256



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



ONLINE bit.ly/smecgiving



BEQUESTS

Contact: Ashley Pratka at apratka@smec.org or 346-335-8658



TRANSFER OF ASSETS

Pledging and setting up a recurring gift online helps you and the church budget

For all stewardship questions, contact Debbie Hutchison at dhutchison@smec.org or 713-985-3803.

OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

SUNDAY PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. David Henning

Director of Music and Parish Organist dhenning@smec.org

Mr. Keith Lathrom

Choral Director of the Adult Choir klathrom@smec.org

Ms. Hannah Cen

Associate Organist hcen@smec.org

Ms. Carole Nelson

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

The Rev. Jane P. Ferguson

Associate for Student and Family Ministries jferguson@smec.org

Mrs. Ashley Monachelli

Director of Children's Ministry amonachelli@smec.org

Mrs. Kathy Johnson

Director of Membership kjohnson@smec.org

Mrs. Barbara Piana

Verger and Worship Coordinator bpiana@smec.org

ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

Vestry Executive Committee

Mr. Tommy Ford, Senior Warden

Mrs. Michelle Bain, Junior Warden

Mr. Gib Surles, Missions Chair

Mr. Dan Meyer, Treasurer

Mr. Ryan LaRue, Clerk

Mr. Matt Anderson, Past Senior Warden

Mr. Bob Heston, Jr., Parish Stewardship Chair

Mr. Andy Harvin, Chancellor*

Vestry Members

Mrs. Nancy Bynon

Mrs. Elizabeth Dukes

Mrs. Whitney Gormley

Mr. Will Hedges

Mr. Matt Mogas

Mr. Roy W. Nichol

Ms. Sherrie Perkins

Mrs. Courtney Schilling

Mr. Logan Walters

Mr. Milton West

Associate Members

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

Mr. David Harvin, Senior Council Representative 2023-2024

Mrs. Beth Reeves, Senior Council Representative 2023-2024

Mrs. Hope Huber, *Altar Guild President* 2023-2024

Mrs. Kathy Bennett, ECW President 2023-2024

Mr. Perry Ruthven, Men of St. Martin's President 2023-2024

Mr. Bob Porter, Usher Representative 2022-2024

*Denotes Associate Vestry filled at the discretion of the Rector.



Mr. Tommy Ford Vestry Representative Morning



Mr. Milton West Vestry Representative Evening

OUR CLERGY

 $\ \, \textbf{Jesus, The Christ} \\$

The Head of This Church



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



The Rev. Sharron L. Cox Associate for Spiritual Formation and Pastoral Ministries scox@smec.org



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



The Rev. R. Wesley Arning Associate for Riverway and Discipleship Ministries rwarning@smec.org



The Rev. John D. Sundara Vicar for Worship and Evangelism jsundara@smec.org



The Rev. Naomi B. Sundara *Chaplain to the Preschool* nsundara@smec.org



The Rev. Lisa R. Neilson *Vicar for Pastoral Care* lneilson@smec.org



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



The Rev. Alex D. Graham III Associate for Children and Family Ministries agraham@smec.org



The Rev. Nicolas (Nick) R. D. Dyke Pastoral Associate ndyke@smec.org



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



The Rev. Richard (Dick) H. ElwoodPastoral Associate
delwood@smec.org



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

WE INVITE YOU TO KEEP THIS BOOKLET FOR REFERENCE.

