

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 18, 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.



ST. MARTIN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

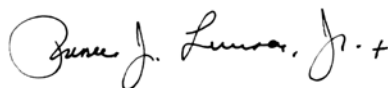
FROM THE RECTOR

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

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

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

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



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

Prayers Before Worship

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

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 worshippers*

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

FEBRUARY 18

Adults

8+ with the Rev. Naomi Sundara

Lectionary-based Bible Study

8:55-9:25 a.m.

Chapel Reception Hall

Theology for Life with the Rev. Dr. Jim Jackson, Jr.

"A Short History of Christian Thought"

10:15-11 a.m.

Bagby Parish Hall

Family Life Class with the Rev. Alex Graham III

"Artificial Intelligence and the Future of the Church"

10:15-11 a.m.

Activity Center, Game Room

Contemplative Prayer Hour with the Rev. Sharron Cox

10:15-11 a.m.

Pastoral Care Center, Bride's Parlor

Seekers

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.

Christ Chapel

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.

FEBRUARY 19-24

Adults

Saintly Stitchers

Monday, Feb. 19

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, Feb. 20

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, Feb. 21

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, Feb. 21

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, Feb. 21

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, Feb. 21

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, Feb. 21

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, Feb. 22

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, Feb. 24 | 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, Feb. 22

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, Feb. 22

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, Feb. 20 – Evening Group | 6:30-8 p.m. | Children’s Life Center and via Zoom

Thursday, Feb. 22 – 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 lgallien@smec.org.

The Moms’ Group

Wednesday, Feb. 21

9:15-10:30 a.m. | Student Life Center Living Room

Join mothers of infants through grade 12 students for a book study and fellowship. For more information, contact Ashley Monacelli at 713-985-3816 or amonacelli@smec.org.

7-1-7 Students

Life Groups

Wednesday, Feb. 21

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. John Sundara at 713-985-3842 or jsundara@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 “Sicilienne”


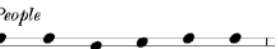
Maurice Duruflé



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



THE GREAT LITANY


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


Cantor  *People* 
O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth, Have mer - cy up - on us.


Cantor  *People* 
O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, Have mer - cy up - on us.


Cantor  *People* 
O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faith - ful, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Cantor  *People* 
O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Cantor 
Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy

People 
preserve us for ev - er. Spare us, good Lord.

Cantor 
From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the


devil; and from everlast - ing dam - na - tion,

People 
Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

(This same response is sung after the petitions that follow)

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy;
from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of
the world, the flesh, and the devil,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart,
and contempt of thy Word and commandment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood; from
plague, pestilence, and famine,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from violence, battle,
and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and
submission to the Law; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by
thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and
Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,

Good Lord, deliver us.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour
of death, and in the day of judgment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may
please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church Universal in the
right way,

People
b 

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

(This same response is sung after the petitions that follow)

That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests, and deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living, they may set it forth, and show it accordingly,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest, and to draw all mankind into thy kingdom,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give to all people increase of grace to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all mankind,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of St. Martin and all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.



Cantor Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

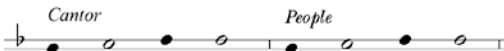
People Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.



Cantor O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, *People* Have mer-cy up-on us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Have mer-cy up-on us.



Cantor O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, *People* Grant us thy peace.



Cantor O Christ, hear us. *People* O Christ, hear us.

Title: The Great Litany; Music: John Merbecke (1510?-1583?), alt.; Copyright: © 1927 by Wallace Goodrich, Secretary for the Joint Commission on Church Music.

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 blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSON Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

HYMN 671 (vs. 1-3).....“Amazing Grace”

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 *5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

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

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

T H E G O S P E LMark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The remaining lectionary for the day is on page 27.

HYMN 671 (vs. 4-5).....“Amazing Grace”

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 *5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
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Please be seated.

THE SERMON.....“The Choice God Leaves Up To You”
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 PEACE

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

People: And with thy spirit.

Please be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see page 30 for upcoming events.

THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM *Requiem, “Kyrie”*

Maurice Duruflé

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Copyright by Durand & Co. 1948

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.

DOXOLOGY.....Gardiner



All things are thine; no gift have we, Lord of all
gifts, to offer thee; And hence with grateful hearts to -
day Thine own before thy feet we lay.

Text, John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872; Music, *Gardiner*, William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815; By permission of Houghton Mifflin Company.

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.

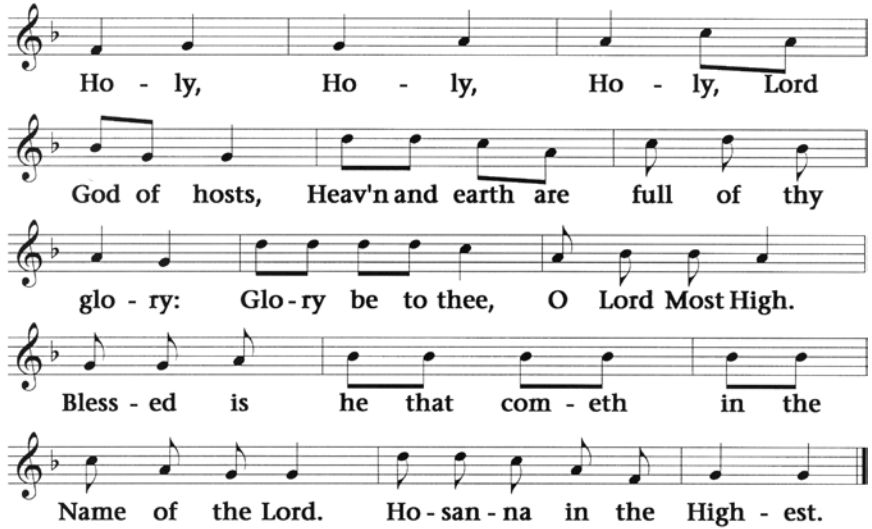
It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

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

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

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



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord
God of hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy
glo - ry: Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the
Name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est.

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

The Celebrant continues (kneel)

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of 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, he brake 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 ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, 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, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, 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; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ’s holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with 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

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 Fraction Anthem)

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:

People: Have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:

People: Have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:

People: Grant us thy peace.

FRACTION ANTHEM

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world,
have mer-cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the
sins of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Lamb of God,
that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

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

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.

AN T H E M “Almighty and Everlasting God”
Orlando Gibbons

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us: through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Text: Edited by E.H. Fellowes. Revised edition by Peter Le Huray and David Willcocks. Music: Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625). © 1969 Oxford University Press.

H Y M N 1 5 0 (*vs. 1-3*)..... “Forty Days and Forty Nights”

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou wast fast - ing in the wild;
 2 Should not we thy sor - row share and from world - ly joys ab - stain,
 3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior, hear our call!
 4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;
 5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con - stant by thy side;

1 for - ty days and for - ty nights tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
 2 fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?
 3 Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!
 4 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - is - tered to thee.
 5 that with thee we may ap - pear at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

Words: George Hunt Smytton (1822–1870), alt.; Music: *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*, melody att. Martin Herbst (1654–1681), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823–1889).

HYMN “In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified”

1. In my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;—
 2. In my song, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;—
 3. In your church, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;—

In my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.
 In my song, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.
 In your church, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.

Music and text: Bob Kilpatrick (b. 1952); Copyright: © 1978 Bob Kilpatrick Music, P. O. Box 2383, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. CCLI #805314.CCLI #805314.

HYMN “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores thee! My

heart is glad to say the— words: thou art ho - ly, Lord.

Music: Geoff Weaver. Arr. © 1993 Geoff Weaver/Jubilate Hymns. (Admin. by Hope Publishing Co.) All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-705539.

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.**

LENTEN BLESSING

All stand.

HYMN 379 "God is Love"

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
 2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
 3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
 one em - brace; with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
 hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun-
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Words: Timothy Rees (1874–1939), alt.; Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907–1991); Copyright: Words: Copyright held by A. R. Mowbray & Co. Ltd. Music: Copyright © 1942, renewed 1970 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

THE DISMISSAL

Alleluias are omitted during the season of Lent.

Minister: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY “Jesus Christus unser Heiland”
Johann Sebastian Bach

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

RECOGNITIONS



GREENERY GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In thanksgiving for the anniversary of their wedding at St. Martin’s
by Lila and Chad Flores

In loving memory of Mary Stuart McHenry Baker
by James A. Baker, III; James A. Baker, IV; Stuart McHenry Baker;
John Coalter Baker; and Douglas Bland Baker

In loving memory of Sells Neuhaus on the occasion of our 41st wedding anniversary
by Becky Neuhaus



BAPTISMS

Feb. 10 Lee William Hofer
 Weldon William Pipkin

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

OTHER READINGS FOR THE DAY

THE PSALM Psalm 25:1-9

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

THE EPISTLE 1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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	Thelma Isenhardt	Phyllis Reinhardt
Bobbie Adams	Christine Jean	Monica Rivera
Carolyn Alban	Mary and Jim Jennings	John Davis Roady
Katie and Harvey Altmann	John Justice	Joe Rodriguez
Scotty Arnoldy	Sandra "Sandy" Justice	Maggie Rodriguez
Edith Avery	Mary Anne Kannard	Consuelo Saldana
Ally Babineaux	Candi Keebler	Helen and Jim Shaffer
Shelly Bain	Dick Kilday	Caroline Shanahan
Kathy Beadnell	Marjorie Krajian	Clif Shoemake
Beth Beathard	Reggie Lang	Bob Spencer
Cory Blackman	Rhea Latta	Trish St. Jean Martin
Kenny Brown	Bruce Michael Lee	Paul Therrien
Bella Carosi	Nancy Liles	LaVonne Waldron
Cole Cattan	Nicole Holdford Lockney	Mary Watters
Debbie Chernosky	Ryan Logan	Stephen Wedemeyer
Doug Clarke	Bella Martin	Ann Winters
Hallie Cooley	Ronnie Martin	Stacy Wood
Michael Craig	Janet McDaniel	Eric Zoerb
Sam Cruse	Barbara McMahan	Alexi
Gail Davis	Dave McStravick	Atticus
Bobby de Sosa	Frances Melicks	Henry
Linda de Sosa	Len Menefee	Julie
Ross Dunn	Margaret Milner	Laura
Kiersten Dyke	Ruth Moorhead	Lynne
Jim Easterling	Stuart Nixon	
Stacey and John Elliott	Ann Noel	
Mary Finucane	Deborah Oliver	
Charles Flores	Andrew O'Malley	
Will Fogle	Bob Paddock	
Julie G.	Jim Paddock	
Catherine Gonzales	Judy Peach	
Nancy Gore	Betty Polando	
Bette Haidusek	Joseph Powell	
Ann Halverson	Ophelia Pujol	
Kayla Hamaker	Barbara Quackenbush	
Amy Heath	Heather Rathnau	
Mollie Hill	Dana Raymant	
Marguerite Hillgers	Ted Reed	
Marilyn Ingham	Marjorie Reeks	

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 vriviera@smec.org.

CONTINUING PRAYERS

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

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

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.

THE RECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE WANTS YOUR HELP!



St. Martin's Search Committee is committed to helping find the 5th Rector and invites you to help with the process! We are working to identify the Church's needs and aspirations, and to create a Parish profile.

The Search Committee invites your continuing prayers and asks for your input in suggesting specific candidates and other suggestions.

Particularly, the Committee wants Parishioners' feedback regarding the qualifications and characteristics that should be prioritized as they review potential candidates. Please provide candidate names and their current location to the Search Committee for consideration. All feedback will be shared with the Committee members and remain confidential. We are very thankful for your support.

To provide feedback, please email the Rector Search Committee at searchcommittee@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

PRAYER FOR THE SEARCH OF ST. MARTIN'S 5TH RECTOR



Heavenly Father,

As a community of believers, we come together in prayer seeking Your guidance as St. Martin's Episcopal Church begins the search for our 5th rector. May we be blessed with Your Holy Spirit's wisdom and discernment. We especially ask that You guide the hearts and minds of the Search Committee who will be deeply involved in this choice. Lord Jesus, shepherd Your flock with tender care and love. Give us patience as we wait, trusting in Your gracious provision. Guide us, Oh Lord, as we navigate this season of change, knowing that You are with us every step of the way. Our fervent prayer is that Your will be done.

With humble expectations,

Amen.

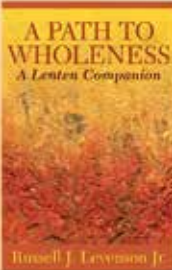
Isaiah 30: 21, "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it."



ST. MARTIN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SEASONAL BOOK BY THE REV. DR. RUSSELL J. LEVENSON JR.

A portion of proceeds goes to support Outreach Ministries at St. Martin's



A Path to Wholeness **A Lenten Companion**

For those seeking inspiration and devotion for Lent and beyond, A Path to Wholeness is an invitation to Lenten observance through Biblical passages and reflections.

“Russ Levenson’s Lenten devotions breathe with the air of a seasoned pastor and preacher. With his characteristic wit and Southern charm — and many, many good stories — Levenson brings the gospel to life. Above all, he shows what it looks like to devote one’s life to the only one who deserves our allegiance, Christ Jesus our Savior. One could look for no better path to wholeness.”

—The Rev. Dr. Christopher A. Bealey, Rector of The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, Dallas

Available at St. Martin’s Gift Shoppe or anywhere you purchase fine books

Contact: Barbara Shoemaker · 713-985-3840 · giftshoppe@smec.org

SADDLE UP &

SAVE LIVES

Monday, Feb. 19
9 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Student Life Center

Walk-ins Welcome!

Schedule your next appointment.

bit.ly/smecblooddrive



Buckle up for some rodeo excitement! Donors who give blood will receive a “Rodeo” T-shirt* as a thank you for saving lives and helping patients in our community.

**While supplies last. Promotional item may be substituted for item of equal value.*



Questions? Contact Justin Jacobson Avery
at events@smec.org or 713-985-3838.





ACTIVITY CENTER

WATERCOLOR PAINTING CLASS

Mondays and Wednesdays
10:30–11:30 a.m. | Fellowship Room

Learn watercolor techniques and styles in this fun class for all levels. All painting supplies provided.

MOST CLASSES ARE FREE!
Visit bit.ly/smecactivitycenter

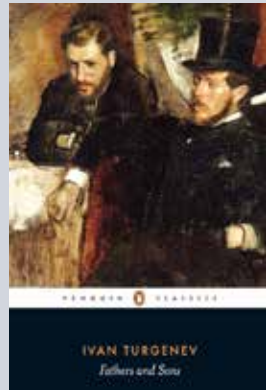
Contact | Victoria Wilson
activitycenter@smec.org • 713-985-3835



LITERATURE

EVENING GROUP

Tuesday, Feb. 20 | 7-8:30 p.m.
Children's Life Center, Room 109 and
Via Zoom | bit.ly/faithinliteveningzoom



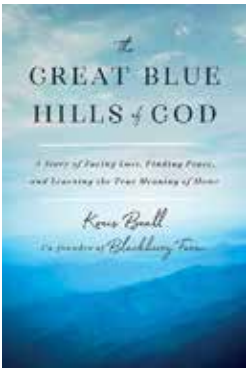
While operating within the framework of Christian theology, Faith in Literature seeks to ascertain in our reading how all good literature, if even by its omission, deals with and reflects themes of faith.

This month, we discuss "Fathers and Sons" by Ivan Turgenev.

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



DAY GROUP

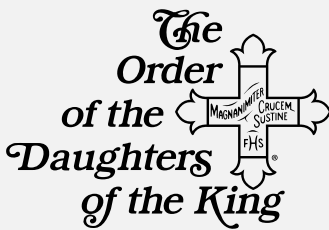


1–2:30 p.m. | Wednesday, Feb. 21
Children’s Life Center, Room 132 and
Via Zoom | bit.ly/faithinlitdayzoom

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 “The Great Blue Hills of God”
by Kreis Beall.*

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



SPRING ASSEMBLY “Count It All Joy”

Friday, March 1 • 1 p.m.
Saturday, March 2 • 8 a.m.
Bagby Parish Hall

(for a detailed agenda, visit dokdot.org)

St. Martin’s DOK, St. Barnabas Chapter, will host and participate in the Diocesan-wide annual assembly. This year’s theme is based upon James 1:2 “... count it all joy.” This is a ticketed event and you must register to attend at bit.ly/dokassembly
Registration closes Feb. 21.

\$40 for Friday and Saturday

\$35 for Saturday Only

Contact: Tracee Tindol
tmartin@smec.org • 713-985-3811

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Sundays, before and after
the morning services.**

*Parishioners and guests are invited
to make their pilgrimage along the
Via Dolorosa, or "Way of Sorrows,"
during Lent and Holy Week 2024.*

A free guide is available in the Northex
of the Church or download a digital
copy at bit.ly/smeclent

Wednesdays, Feb. 21–March 20

4:30–5:30 p.m. • The Church

Holy Week, March 25–28

11 a.m.–1 p.m. • The Church

Good Friday, March 29

11 a.m.–noon and 1–2 p.m. • The Church

Contact: Barbara Piana

bpiana@smec.org • 713-830-4116

WEDNESDAY EVENING ADULT LENTEN SERIES



FEBRUARY 21

"Our Father"

Dinner • Bagby Parish Hall 5–6:30 p.m.

Holy Eucharist • The Church 5:30 p.m.

Program • Bagby Parish Hall 6:30 p.m.



LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY...

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

Join us weekly as Dr. Levenson offers this
five-part review of our Lord's most well-known
sermon. Each class is of its own, so weekly
attendance is not necessary ... but preferred!

Contact: Amanda DeViney • adeviney@smec.org • 713-830-4116

THURSDAY AFTERNOON ADULT LENTEN SERIES

Then Sings My Soul

Thursday, Feb. 22
4–5 p.m.
Chapel Reception Hall



During Lent, join St. Martin's Clergy as they share a favorite hymn or song that transformed their lives and their faith, and learn how this drew them closer to Christ.

Contact: Amanda DeViney, Clergy Assistant
adeviney@smec.org • 713-830-4110



OSL Lenten Quiet Day

*Putting on Christ: The Baptismal
Nature of Lent*

Saturday, Feb. 24
9 a.m. – noon • Parish Life Center

The Church has long associated the season of Lent with the preparation for the sacrament of baptism and for living a baptismal life. Meditations by the Revs. Sharron Cox and Wesley Arning on the intersection between this sacrament and Lent will be given, with quiet time for reflection and prayer.

Contact: The Rev. Sharron Cox • scox@smec.org • 713-830-4131



ST. MARTIN'S
OUTREACH
MINISTRIES



CCSC Work Day

Saturday, Feb. 24 | 9 a.m.–noon
3434 Branard, Houston, TX 77027

Organize and distribute food at the Emergency Services location for the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC). CCSC assists the poor, hungry, disabled and otherwise needy, and provides a back-to-school and Christmas program for low-income children.

Contact Tracee Tindol at outreach@smec.org or 713-985-3811 for more information.

RIVERWAY

Celebration Sunday!

Celebrate February Birthdays and Anniversaries
with Riverway.

SUNDAY, FEB. 25
Parish Life Center Narthex
Following the 11:15 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.



ST. CLARE'S NEEDLEPOINT GUILD



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, FEB. 25

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](https://www.instagram.com/st.claresneedlepoint)



[St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild](https://www.facebook.com/St.Clare'sNeedlepointGuild)



Sports Social Night



Sunday, Feb. 25

5–7 p.m. • Student Life Center

For students in grades 6–12! Wear your favorite sport/team jersey and join us for games, and game time snacks. This is a free event and friends are always welcome.

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

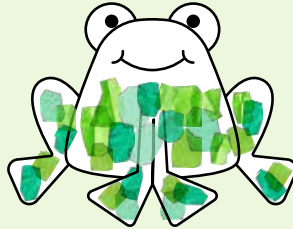


THE GATHERING

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

February 26
10 a.m – 1:30 p.m.
Bagby Parish Hall

**Hoppy
Leap
Year!**



Feb. 26
Jane Vandiver

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



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN OF ST. MARTIN'S PRESENTS



SPRING LUNCHEON

Finding Faith Through Loss

FEATURING KREIS BEALL

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Parish Life Center

Event is Sold Out!

*To get on the waitlist, contact Valerie Rivera
at vrivera@smec.org or 713-985-3817.*



LUNCH & LEARN

SERIES FOR PARENTS WITH
YOUNG CHILDREN

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

Noon–1 p.m. • Children's Life Center, Large Pod

The Pattern of Christian Life: Christ Suffering

led by the Rev. Alex Graham III

St. Martin's Children's Ministry continues its Lunch-And-Learn series this spring with a discussion developed especially for parents of young children. Join us and grow your love of Jesus and discover what it means to live according to God's Word.

Grab lunch from Café St. Martin's and join us for the conversations.

Contact: Ashley Monachelli • amonachelli@smec.org • 713-985-3816



Remember a loved one by ordering lilies to decorate The Church at Easter. All requests received will be included in the worship booklet available at all Easter services. Names submitted after the deadline will be printed in worship booklets in weeks following Easter.

Donations Open: 8 a.m. Monday, Feb. 12

Donations Close: 5 p.m. Monday, March 4

Due to limited space, please do not include additional dedication language.

Make your flower dedication online at

bit.ly/easteraltarflowers

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

PARENTING WORKSHOP

with guest speaker
Dr. Kim Swales, Parenting Coach



Wednesday, March 6
9:30–10:30 a.m. • Chapel Reception Hall

Hear Dr. Kim Swales, a parenting, relationship, marriage and life coach who specializes on how to connect and communicate better. Dr. Swales hosts “Connecting with Dr. Swales” a podcast that features discussions on parenting, marriage, dating, relationships and self-growth. Dr. Swales will address “Yes you can say no: Parenting with loving boundaries.”

Register for this free event at bit.ly/kimswalesevent

Contact: Ashley Monachelli
amonachelli@smec.org • 713-985-3816



Pam Fullenweider,
Fully Mediterranean
founder and Registered
Dietitian Nutritionist

FULLY MEDITERRANEAN

Outsmarting Disease with the Mediterranean Diet

Thursday, March 7 • Parish Life Center, Kitchen
6–8 p.m. • Cost is \$75

Sign up at bit.ly/cafestmartinscooking5

This hands-on course explores the health benefits and foundations of the Mediterranean diet, which promotes fresh and seasonal plant-based foods — including fruits, vegetables, grains, legumes, seeds, nuts, olive oil, herbs and spices — as well as fish and poultry, while limiting red meats and sugar.

Contact: Chrissy Kana • ckana@smec.org • 713-985-3806

Student Mission Trip · June 15–22

Nashville

TENNESSEE



Registration: bit.ly/2024nashvillemissiontrip

Deadline to register: March 31

Cost: \$800

Open to students who are currently in 6th–12th grade.

An Opportunity To See Nashville With The Lord's Heart And Eyes

This summer, the students and their leaders will head to Nashville for a week-long mission dedicated to help local elderly, children and homeless people. “Week of Hope” participants will serve the non-profit Group Missions team through Jesus-centered programs that combine work, fun and worship.

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



Volunteers are invited to be part of the cast for Palm Sunday Dramatic Re-Enactment Services

Rehearsal Date

Saturday, March 23

10 a.m.–noon

The Church

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24

9 and 11:15 a.m. services

The Church

No “acting” experience needed and costumes will be provided.
Adults, youth and children over the age of 10 (with participating parents).

Limited time commitment.

Interested? Please respond by Monday, March 18, to Bruce Morgan at robertbrucemorgan@gmail.com.



HIGH SCHOOL *Retreat*

717 STUDENTS

April 26-28 • Lake Livingston
Cost is \$250

For students in grades 9-12

Join us for a weekend away from the busyness of life to spend time together in fellowship with one another and the Lord. We will talk about the Song of Songs and step out Saturday evening for a fancy dress dinner.

Sign up at bit.ly/smechsretreat

Deadline to register is April or until the trip is full.

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

SCUBA
diving into friendship with God

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

JUNE 10-13 • 9:30 a.m. – noon

Registration: bit.ly/SMEC_VBS
(Case sensitive)

It's not too early to start thinking about a fun-filled week during Vacation Bible School. This year, children will take a deep-sea adventure and experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. During Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is about.

Contact: Rocio Velazquez • rvelazquez@smec.org • 713-985-3807

Witness to Dignity

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

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For more information, contact Barbara Shoemaker, Gift Shoppe Supervisor, at bshoemaker@smec.org or 713-985-3840.



WAYS *to* GIVE



TEXT

Text SMEC to 73256



MAIL

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



ONLINE

bit.ly/smecgiving



REQUESTS

Contact: Ashley Pratkan 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

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. Dan Meyer, *Senior Warden*
Mr. Ryan LaRue, *Junior Warden*
Mrs. Nancy Bynon, *Missions Chair*
Ms. Sherrie Perkins, *Treasurer*
Mr. Logan Walters, *Clerk*
Mr. Tommy Ford, *Past Senior Warden*
Mr. Bob Heston, Jr., *Parish Stewardship Chair*
Mr. Andy Harvin, *Chancellor**

Vestry Members

Mr. Scott Anderson
Mrs. Summer Craig
Mrs. Elizabeth Dukes
Mr. Will Hedges
The Hon. Edith Jones
Mr. David Leonard
Mrs. Susan McConn
Mr. Roy Nichol
Mrs. Courtney Schilling
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. Logan Walters
Vestry Representative
Morning



Mrs. Elizabeth Dukes
Vestry Representative
Evening

OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ
The Head of This Church



The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.
Rector
lthough@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. Gillian (Gill) B. Keyworth
Deacon
gkeyworth@smec.org

WE INVITE YOU TO
KEEP THIS BOOKLET
FOR REFERENCE.

*717 Sage Road
Houston, TX 77056
713-621-3040*

STMARTINSEPISCOPAL.ORG

