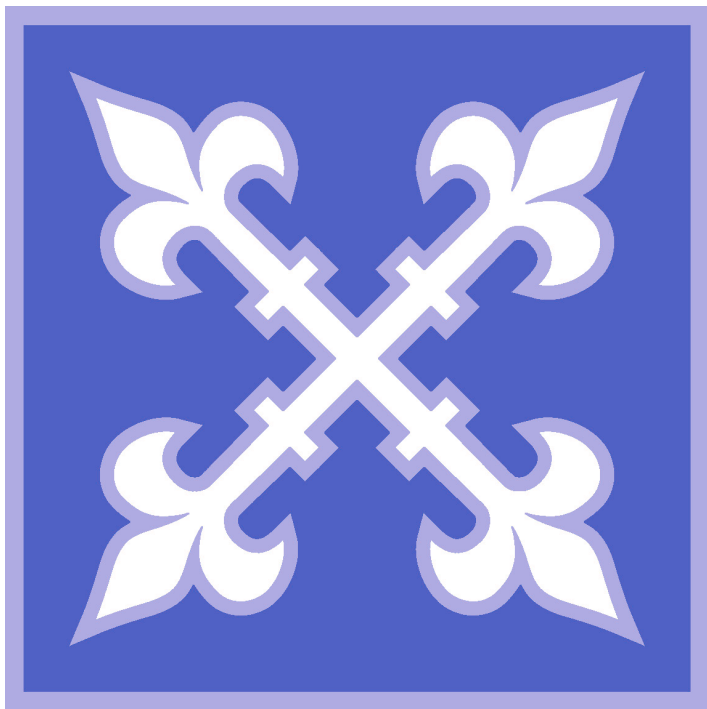


# SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

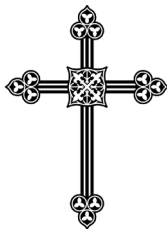
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*February 25, 2024*



## 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

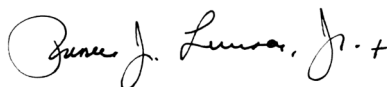
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IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD,  
JESUS CHRIST, WELCOME.

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

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

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



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

### ***Prayers Before Worship***

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

### **NOTICES**

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

*St. Martin's asks 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

## FEBRUARY 25

### Adults

#### **8+ with the Rev. Sharron Cox**

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

#### **Seekers with the Rev. Gill Keyworth**

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:cnelson@smec.org).*



# FEBRUARY 26-MARCH 2

## Adults

### **Saintly Stitchers**

Monday, Feb. 26

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](mailto:scox@smec.org).

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Tuesday, Feb. 27

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](mailto:scox@smec.org).

### **Blanket Ladies**

Wednesday, Feb. 28

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](mailto:scox@smec.org).

### **St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild**

Wednesday, Feb. 28

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](mailto:scox@smec.org).

### **Church Tours**

Wednesday, Feb. 28

11 a.m.-noon | The Church

The Docent Guild offers a formal tour of The Church and Dr. Henning will perform on the Gloria Dei organ. 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](mailto:scox@smec.org).

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

Wednesday, Feb. 28

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](mailto:scox@smec.org).

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

Wednesday, Feb. 28

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](mailto:rwarning@smec.org).

**Parish Choir Rehearsal**

Thursday, Feb. 29

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](mailto:dhenning@smec.org).

## Men

**Men of St. Martin's**

Thursday, Feb. 29

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](mailto:jsundara@smec.org).

**Dads' Bible Study**

Thursday, Feb. 29

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](mailto:rwarning@smec.org).

## Women

### **The Moms' Group**

Wednesday, Feb. 28

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 Monachelli at 713-985-3816 or [amonachelli@smec.org](mailto:amonachelli@smec.org).

## 7-1-7 Students

### **Life Groups**

Wednesday, Feb. 28

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](mailto: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 ..... “O Lamm Gottes, Unschuldig” Johann Sebastian Bach

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

## \*HYMN 142 ..... “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us didst fast and pray,  
2 As thou with Sa - tan didst con-tend, and didst the vic-tory win,  
3 As thou didst hun-ger bear and thirst, so teach us, gra-cious Lord,  
4 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through thy Pas-sion - tide,  
5 A - bide with us, that so, this life of suf - fer-ing o - ver - past,

1 teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.  
2 O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to con-quer sin.  
3 to die to self, and chief - ly live by thy most ho - ly word.  
4 yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bide.  
5 an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last!

Words: Claudia Frances Hernaman (1838–1898); Music: St. Flavian, melody from Day's Psalter, 1562; adapt. and harm. Richard Redhead (1820–1901).

**Celebrant:** Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

**People:** His mercy endureth for ever.

## DECALOGUE *(kneel)*

*Celebrant and People pray responsively*

God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Honor thy father and thy mother.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt do no murder.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not steal.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not covet.

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

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us, and  
write all these thy laws in our hearts, we be - seech thee.

The image shows a musical score for a Kyrie eleison chant. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The first system has the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy up - on us, and' and the second system has 'write all these thy laws in our hearts, we be - seech thee.' The music is written in a simple, liturgical style with various note values and rests.

John Merbecke and George C. Martin.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*The Celebrant says*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*A moment of silence is observed.*

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Celebrant stands and says*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*(8 a.m. only in place of sung Trisagion)*

**Celebrant:** Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

**People:** Have mercy upon us.

## TRISAGION

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Title: The Holy Eucharist, Holy God: Trisagion; Music: Ver. Hymnal 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846–1924).

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And with thy spirit.

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the Collect*

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**THE LESSON** .....1 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.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

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

*All stand.*



\*HYMN 707 (vs. 1).....“Take My Life”



1 Take my life, and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
2 Take my voice, and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;



take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.  
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.



Take my hands, and let them move at the im-pulse of thy love;  
Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no long - er mine.



take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.  
Take my - self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

Words: Francis Ridley Havargal (1836–1879), alt.; Music: *Hollingside*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823–1876).

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

**People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

**THE GOSPEL** .....Mark 8:31-38

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*The remaining lectionary for the day is on pages 28-29.*

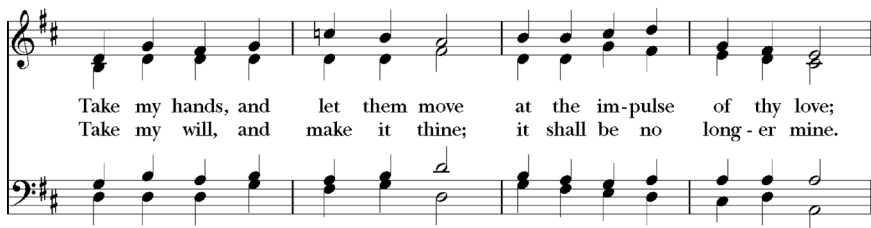
\*HYMN 707 (vs. 2).....“Take My Life”



1 Take my life, and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
2 Take my voice, and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;



take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.  
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.



Take my hands, and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no long - er mine.



take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.  
Take my - self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

Words: Francis Ridley Havargal (1836–1879), alt.; Music: *Hollingside*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823–1876).

*Please be seated.*

THE SERMON .....The Rev. Alex D. Graham III

# 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*

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector, our bishops; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the Anglican Church of Tanzania; and for all clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Joe, our President, Greg, our Governor, and John, our Mayor; for the Congress and the Courts; for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially those in hospitals \_\_\_\_, and those who have requested our prayers \_\_\_\_, and those on our continuing prayer list, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, for all who remember and care for them; for first responders, and for all who serve in our armed forces and their families, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially \_\_\_\_, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all the blessings of this life, especially those remembered today with Altar greenery, \_\_\_\_; and in the communion of St. Martin and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

**To thee, O Lord our God.**

*Silence*

*Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son 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.*

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please see page 33 for upcoming events.*

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# THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM ..... “O Love Divine”

David Ashley White

O Love divine, what hast Thou done! The immortal God hath died for me! The Father’s co-eternal Son bore all my sins upon the tree. The immortal God for me hath died: My Lord, my Love, is crucified! Is crucified for me and you, to bring us rebels back to God. Believe, believe the record true, ye all are bought with Jesus’ blood. Pardon for all flows from his side: My Lord, my Love, is crucified. O ye behold Him, all ye that pass by, the bleeding Prince of life and peace! Come, sinners, see your Savior die, and say, “Was ever grief like His?” Come, feel with me His blood applied: My Lord, my Love, is crucified!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1742; Music: Isaac B. Woodbury, 1850. Setting by David Ashley White. © 1995, JEHMS, Inc. 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.**

# DOXOLOGY ..... *Gardiner*



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.

The image shows a musical score for the Sanctus and Benedictus. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is 'Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord'. The second staff is 'God of hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy'. The third staff is 'glo - ry: Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High.'. The fourth staff is 'Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the'. The fifth staff is '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.**

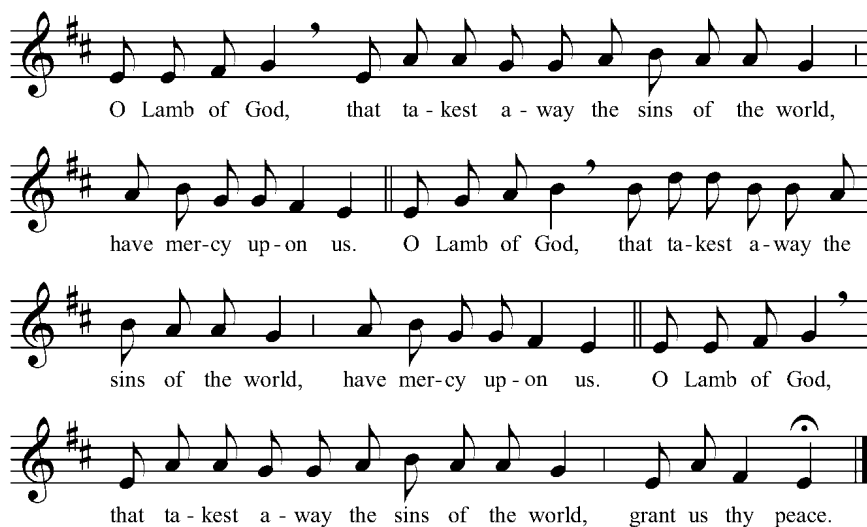
Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:

**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



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.*

# ANTHEM ..... "Agnus Dei"

Franz Josef Haydn

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

Copyright © Oxford University Press 1988.

# HYMN 343 ..... "Shepherd of Souls"

1 Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless thy cho - sen  
 2 We would not live by bread a - lone, but by thy  
 3 Be known to us in break - ing bread, and do not  
 4 Lord, sup with us in love di - vine thy Bo - dy

pil - grim flock with man - na in the  
 word of grace, in strength of which we  
 then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with  
 and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.  
 trav - el on to our a - bid - ing - place.  
 us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.  
 heaven - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

Words: James Montgomery (1771–1845), alt.; Music: *St. Agnes*, melody John Bacchus Dykes (1823–1876); harm. Richard Proulx (b. 1937), after John Bacchus Dykes (1823–1876); Copyright: Music: Copyright © 1985, G.I.A. Publications, Inc., Chicago. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-705539.

# HYMN 685 ..... “Rock of Ages”

1 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
 2 Should my tears for ev - er flow, should my zeal no lan - guor know,  
 3 While I draw this fleet-ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound - ed side that flowed,  
 all for sin could not a - tone: thou must save, and thou a - lone;  
 when I rise to worlds un - known and be - hold thee on thy throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.  
 in my hand no price I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Words: Augustus Montague Toplady (1740–1778), alt.; Music: *Toplady*, Thomas Hastings (1784–1872).

# 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.**

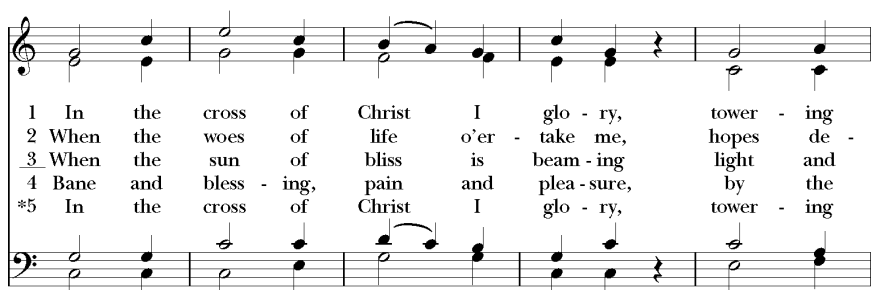
At 9 and 11:15 a.m., after the Post-Communion Prayer, members of the Shepherd's Guild may come forward. The priest or deacon gives the Sacrament to the Eucharistic visitors, saying

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.*

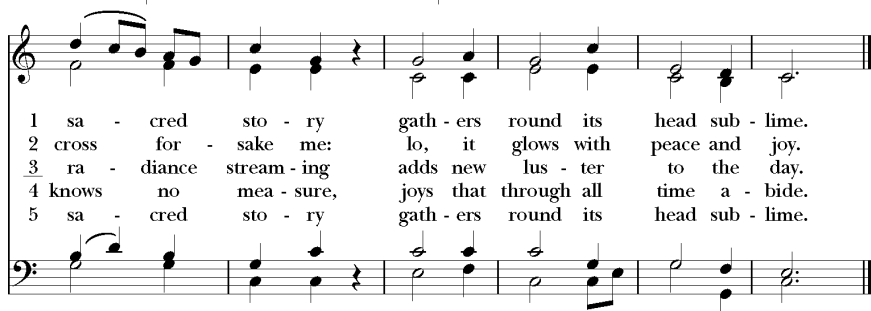
### HYMN 441 ..... "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing  
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and  
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the  
 \*5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing



1 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of  
 2 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
 3 love up - on my way, from the cross the  
 4 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that  
 5 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of



1 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
 2 cross for - sake me: lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
 3 ra - diance stream - ing adds new lus - ter to the day.  
 4 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.  
 5 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.

Words: John Bowring (1792–1872); Music: Rathbun, Ithamar Conkey (1815–1867).



# THE DISMISSAL

*Alleluias are omitted during the season of Lent.*

Minister: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY ..... “Elevation”  
Girolamo Frescobaldi

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

## RECOGNITIONS

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### 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



### BIRTHS

Jan. 30 Crosby Culver Roberts  
Son of Macy and Andrew Roberts



### SYMPATHY

Dec. 31 Joan Gastrock Brubaker  
Jan. 11 Helen Lanneau Eaker

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

# OTHER READINGS FOR THE DAY

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## THE OLD TESTAMENT ..... Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

# OTHER READINGS FOR THE DAY

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## THE PSALM ..... Psalm 22:22-30

- 22 Praise the LORD, you that fear him; \*  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither does he hide his face from them; \*  
but when they cry to him he hears them.
- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who  
worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: \*  
"May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to  
the LORD, \*  
and all the families of the nations bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; \*  
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down  
in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

# CONTINUING PRAYERS

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

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

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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](mailto:vriviera@smec.org).

# CONTINUING PRAYERS

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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

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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](mailto:vrivera@smec.org).

# SERMON NOTES

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# 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](mailto: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.

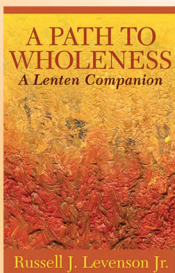
*Isaiah 30: 21, "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it."*



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. Beeley, Rector of The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, Dallas

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

Contact: Barbara Shoemake · 713-985-3840 · [giftshoppe@smec.org](mailto:giftshoppe@smec.org)

# RIVERWAY

## *Celebration Sunday!*

**Celebrate February Birthdays and Anniversaries  
with Riverway.**

**SUNDAY, FEB. 25**

**Parish Life Center Narthex**

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

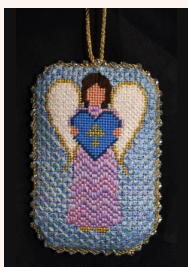
We invite everyone who has had a recent birthday or anniversary to join us in acknowledgement of your special day, and share a dessert or breakfast item with us. Everyone is welcome!

For more information, contact Amanda DeViney at  
713-830-4110 or [adeviney@smec.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:students@smec.org) • 713-985-3843



## Clothed by Faith

**Monday-Thursday | 10 a.m.-4 p.m.**

**802 Dominion Dr., Suites 100-300, Katy, TX 77450**

Volunteers are need to sort donations, help in the warehouse and assist as a personal shopper. Two-hour shifts are available for volunteers ages 14 and above (14 and 15 year-olds must be accompanied by an adult). Sign up at [clothedbyfaith.org/volunteer](http://clothedbyfaith.org/volunteer).

**Contact Tracee Tindol at [outreach@smec.org](mailto:outreach@smec.org) or 713-985-3811 for more information.**



## THE GATHERING

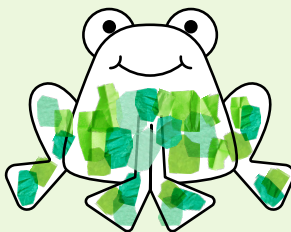
*For church members and others in our community who experience memory loss and their caregivers*

**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](mailto:kattellepsen@me.com) or [kattellepsen@me.com](mailto: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.**

**Bagby Parish Hall**

***Event is Sold Out!***

*To get on the waitlist, contact Valerie Rivera  
at [vriviera@smec.org](mailto:vriviera@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's 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](mailto:amonachelli@smec.org) • 713-985-3816

# 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 Narthex  
of the Church or download a digital  
copy at [bit.ly/smeclent](http://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@smecc.org](mailto:bpiana@smecc.org) • 713-830-4116

## WEDNESDAY EVENING ADULT LENTEN SERIES



### FEBRUARY 28

*"Hallowed be Thy Name ..."*

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@smecc.org](mailto:adeviney@smecc.org) • 713-830-4110

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON ADULT LENTEN SERIES

*Then Sings My Soul*

Thursday, Feb. 29  
4–5 p.m.  
Chapel Reception Hall



*The Rev.*  
**Lisa Neilson**  
Vicar for Pastoral Care

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



## ACTIVITY CENTER

### FRI-YAY FULL BODY STRENGTH

Fridays

10–10:45 a.m. | Aerobics Room

Join Johnny for a class that helps you define and build lean muscle! This class focuses on intense isolation exercises utilizing free weights, resistance bands and callisthenic core exercises. **Open to ALL levels.**

**MOST CLASSES ARE FREE!**

For more information, visit [bit.ly/smecactivitycenter](https://bit.ly/smecactivitycenter).

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



Saturdays • 9 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Rain or Shine  
Corner of Sage and Woodway  
[sterlingsmarket.org](http://sterlingsmarket.org)

# ROUND UP YOUR FRIENDS!



March is Rodeo Month and it's the perfect time  
to lasso in great finds from our local artisans.



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



Contact: Justin Jacobson Avery • [info@sterlingsmarket.org](mailto:info@sterlingsmarket.org) • 713-985-3838



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](http://bit.ly/easteraltarflowers)

Contact: Rebekah Maddux El-Hakam • [relhakam@smec.org](mailto: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](https://bit.ly/kimswalesevent)**

**Contact:** Ashley Monachelli  
[amonachelli@smec.org](mailto:amonachelli@smec.org) • 713-985-3816



## SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR *Healing and Wholeness* Order of St. Luke

St. Martin's International Order of St. Luke (OSL) Healing Community offers a service of prayer for healing and wholeness on the first Wednesday of each month. This short service is held for anyone in need of prayer for themselves, friends or family.

### **Next Service**

**Wednesday, March 6 | 5 p.m.**

**Parish Life Center or via Zoom**

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

For more information, contact Amanda DeViney at  
713-830-4110 or [adeviney@smec.org](mailto:adeviney@smec.org).



# CHRISTIAN LIFE STUDY

A Bible Study for Any Woman Seeking God's Truth

***Christian Life Study Invites Visitors to Join!***  
**[clsbiblestudy.com](http://clsbiblestudy.com)**

## **DAY GROUP – *Changes to Galatians on March 7***

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 – *Continues with 2 Corinthians on March 5***

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!**



*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](http://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](mailto:ckana@smec.org) • 713-985-3806





## 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](mailto:robertbrucemorgan@gmail.com).

NEW BOOK BY THE REV. DR. RUSSELL J. LEVENSON, JR.

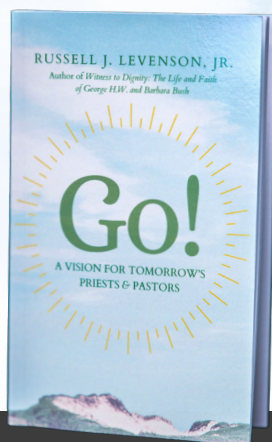
## Go! A VISION FOR TOMORROW'S PRIESTS & PASTORS

When it comes to priests and pastors, today's crisis of vocation isn't just about the numbers. It runs into issues of identity and purpose. Originally delivered at the 177th Commencement Address at Nashotah House Theological Seminary, “Go!” seeks to reignite the passion of priests and pastors everywhere.

Dr. Levenson reminds us that pastoral ministry can always be renewed so long as we are willing to obey the fundamental command of Jesus Christ: “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations.”

“These are tough days for the Church, and we need a united Christ-centered ministry for the service of Christ. Russ crafts an attractive vision of ministry.”

— George Carey, 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury

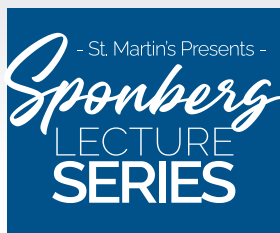


**Contact:** Barbara Shoemaker

Gift Shoppe Supervisor

[bshoemaker@smec.org](mailto:bshoemaker@smec.org) • 713-985-3834

Published by VTS Press and available at St. Martin's  
Gift Shoppe or wherever fine books are sold.



## *How the Christian Revolution Remade the World*

*with Tom Holland*

Thursday, March 21 • 7 p.m. • The Church



Registration required at  
[bit.ly/032124sponberg](https://bit.ly/032124sponberg)

\$20 for adults | \$10 for students



Tom Holland, author and historian, will speak about his book, “**Dominion: How the Christian Revolution Remade the World.**” The book looks at how Christ’s teachings liberated the Western mind and has been described as the most important theological writing of the last 50 years.



Ron Sponberg was a loyal member of the Church and the Men of St. Martin’s. His life was dedicated to God, his family and his country.

Before his death, Ron and his family endowed a lecture series designed to re-educate us about our country’s core principles and teach us about their genesis. American democracy, as it should, has always allowed for a healthy debate about the direction of the country.

When its core principles are at risk of being eliminated — whether by those at the right or left of the political spectrum — they need to be defended. This series will remind us of what they are and where they came from.



ST. MARTIN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Contact:** Juli Browning, Worship Service Coordinator  
[jbrowning@smec.org](mailto:jbrowning@smec.org) • 713-985-3845



# 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.



ST. MARTIN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## Contact

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

**PASSION CAMP – JULY 8-12, 2024**  
FL USA  
**DAYTONA BEACH**  
OCEAN CENTER



717 STUDENTS

To register, visit [bit.ly/2024passioncamp](https://bit.ly/2024passioncamp)

Total cost: \$800 • Deadline to register: April 30

**Complete trip dates: July 7–13** (*Overnight stop in Mobile, Ala. each way*)

Middle and high school students completing grades 7–12 in May are invited to join the Student Ministries leaders in Florida for four days of worship, teaching and community service. Meet Christian teens from around the country in worship, music, fun and foundational conversations about being disciples of Christ.

**Contact:** Florence Ritchie • [students@smec.org](mailto:students@smec.org) • 713-985-3843

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

## **General Questions**

Contact the Reception Desk at 713-621-3040.

## **Prayer Requests**

Contact the Prayer Request Line at 713-830-4124,  
or Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or  
[vriviera@smec.org](mailto:vriviera@smec.org).

## **After Hours Emergencies**

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

## **Death Notifications and Funerals**

Contact Cyndy Ensign at 713-985-3808 or  
[censign@smec.org](mailto:censign@smec.org).

# SHEPHERD'S GUILD

The Shepherd's Guild ministry complements the work of St. Martin's Clergy in visiting homebound Parishioners or those who reside in retirement and assisted living facilities.

The trained lay volunteers offer support, prayers and Holy Communion, being a physical reminder of Jesus' love for them and their value and importance within our church community.

To learn more about joining this ministry or to provide information about Parishioners who may benefit by the Shepherd's Guild, contact Deacon Gill at [gkeyworth@smec.org](mailto:gkeyworth@smec.org) or  
**346-335-8660.**

Training and support is provided.





## HOURS

Monday – Thursday

11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Bagby Parish Hall

View our menu at

[bit.ly/cafestmartins](http://bit.ly/cafestmartins)

Come by and discover delicious specialties prepared daily by our café team.

Enjoy our hot meal entrées, sandwiches, salad bar, baked potato bar, desserts and more!

## CONTACT

Chrissy Kana, Café Manager

713-985-3806 • [ckana@smec.org](mailto:ckana@smec.org)



# WAYS *to* GIVE



## TEXT

Text SMCEC to 73256



## MAIL

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



## ONLINE

[bit.ly/smeccgiving](http://bit.ly/smeccgiving)



## REQUESTS

Contact: Ashley Pratkan at  
[apratka@smec.org](mailto: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](mailto:dhutchison@smec.org) or 713-985-3803.

# OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

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## 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

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## 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. Ryan LaRue**  
*Vestry Representative*  
*Morning*



**Mr. Roy W. Nichol**  
*Vestry Representative*  
*Evening*

# OUR CLERGY

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## **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

