

# PRESENTATION OF JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

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*February 2, 2025*



## 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

# WELCOME TO ST. MARTIN'S

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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.

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

## ***Prayer 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.*
  - *To use a hearing assisted device, see one of our ushers.*
  - *St. Martin's asks that anyone coming into a worship service not bring oversized or large backpacks.*
  - *Please silence all cell phones when entering The Church and also refrain from texting.*
- Thank you for being respectful of God and others as we spend time together in worship.*



\* indicates when latecomers may be seated so as not to disturb other worshippers.

# HOLY EUCHARIST

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

VOLUNTARY ..... “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”  
Charles H.H. Parry

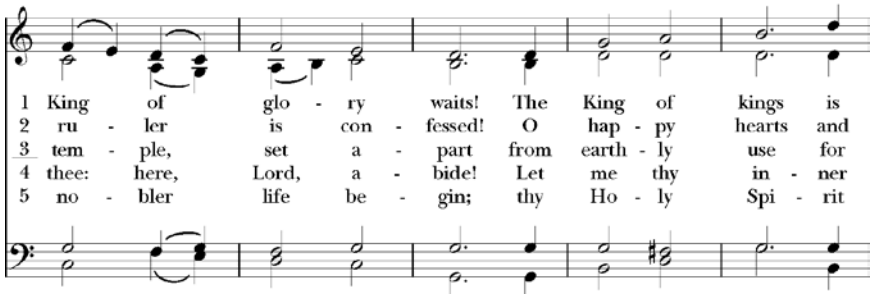
PROCESSION OF SCOUTS (9.am.)

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

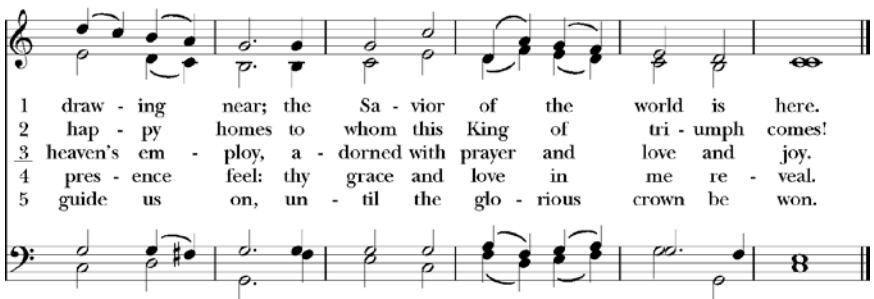
\*HYMN 436 ..... “Lift up your Heads”



1 Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates; be-hold the  
2 O-blest the land, the ci-tiy blest, where Christ the  
3 Fling wide the por-tals of your heart; make it a  
4 Re-deem-er, come! I o-pen wide my heart to  
5 So come, my Sov-ereign; en-ter in! Let new and



1 King of glo-ry waits! The King of kings is  
2 ru-ler is con-fessed! O hap-py hearts and  
3 tem-ple, set a-part from earth-ly use for  
4 thee: here, Lord, a-bide! Let me thy in-ner  
5 no-bler life be-gin; thy Ho-ly Spi-rit



1 draw-ing near; the Sa-rior of the world is here.  
2 hap-py homes to whom this King of tri-umph comes!  
3 heaven's em-ploy, a-dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
4 pres-ence feel: thy grace and love in me re-veal.  
5 guide us on, un-til the glo-rious crown be won.

Words: Georg Weissel (1590–1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878); Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmody Evangelica, Part II*, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792–1872), alt.

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

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

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

*The Celebrant says*

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

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

Praise, my soul, the King of hea - ven;

to his feet thy tri - bute bring; ran - somed,

healed, re - stored, for - gi - ven, e - ver - more his

prai - ses sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

lu - ia! Praise the e - ver - las - ting King.

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

# THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray. *(kneel)*

*The Celebrant says the Collect*

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE LESSON .....Hebrews 2:14-18

*Read at 9 a.m. by George Walters, Tenderfoot Scout, The Kinkaid School*

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*All stand.*

HYMN 516 (vs. 1-2).....“Come Down, O Love Divine”

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,  
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn long,  
 3 And so the year - ning strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;  
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;  
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,  
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,  
 for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.  
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.  
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833–1890), alt.; Music: *Down Ampney*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958); Copyright Music: By permission of Oxford University Press.

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

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

THE GOSPEL ..... Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male

shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*The remaining lectionary for the day is on page 23.*

**HYMN 516** (*vs. 3*).....“Come Down, O Love Divine”

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,  
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn  
 3 And so the year - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;  
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;  
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,  
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,  
 for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing,  
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing,  
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833–1890), alt.; Music: *Down Ampney*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958); Copyright Music: By permission of Oxford University Press.

*Please be seated.*

**THE SERMON** ..... The Rev. John D. Sundara



# THE NICENE CREED *(stand)*

*Celebrant and People*

**I believe in one God,**

**the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,**

**the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation**

**came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father,  
and he shall come again, with glory,  
to judge both the quick and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

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

**who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped  
and glorified;**

**who spake by the Prophets.**

**And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church;**

**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

# THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(kneel)*

*Minister and People pray responsively*

Father, we pray for thy holy catholic Church;

**That we all may be one.**

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

**That thy Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for the nomination of the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai, Hector and Brian, our bishops; the Clergy of this Parish; for our Search Committee and the fifth Rector; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia; for all bishops, priests and deacons;

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

We pray for Donald, our President, Greg, our Governor, John, our Mayor, and the Congress and the Courts; and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the World;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do thy will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in thy sight.**

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

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

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

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

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

**May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.**

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

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

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*

Almighty God, by thy Holy Spirit thou hast made us one with thy saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to thy power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION

*Minister says*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*A moment of silence is observed.*

*Minister and People*

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

*Celebrant stands and says*

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

## THE PEACE *(stand)*

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

**People: And with thy spirit.**

*Please be seated.*

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please see page 25 for classes and events.*

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### SCOUTING EXPERIENCE *(9 a.m.)*

*Morgan Tannery, Life Scout, The Kinkaid School*

*Please see page 24 for the full roster of Scouts.*

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### WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS *(11:15 a.m.)*

*The Celebrant*

Dear Friends in Christ, in companionship with each other as we journey in faith, we welcome new members into this community of St. Martin's Episcopal Church. We welcome them to join us as we seek to love the Lord our God with heart and soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We welcome and cherish their unique gifts and experiences as together we follow the Holy Spirit in transforming this community for the work and mission of Jesus Christ.

*Presenter*

I present these Christians to be welcomed as members of St. Martin's Episcopal Church.

Celebrant: Do you desire to continue your journey into Christ as a member of St. Martin's Episcopal Church?

**New Members: We do.**

Celebrant: Will you commit yourself to seek and serve Christ in this community of faith and pledge to work, pray, and give to build up our common life?

**New Members: We will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you who witness these promises, do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

**People: We will.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Loving God, we give thanks that you have brought these new members to join us in ministry. Knit us together, one to another, so that in unity we may know you and serve you in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

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## THE OFFERTORY

**ANTHEM** ..... "How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place"  
Johannes Brahms

How lovely is Thy dwelling place O Lord of Hosts! For my soul, it longeth, yea, fainteth for the courts of the Lord. My soul and body crieth out, yea, for the living God O blest are they that dwell in Thy house, They praise Thy Name ever more! How lovely is Thy dwelling place O Lord of Hosts!

Text: Psalm 84.

## 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..... *Old 100th*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

**People: It is meet and right so to do.**

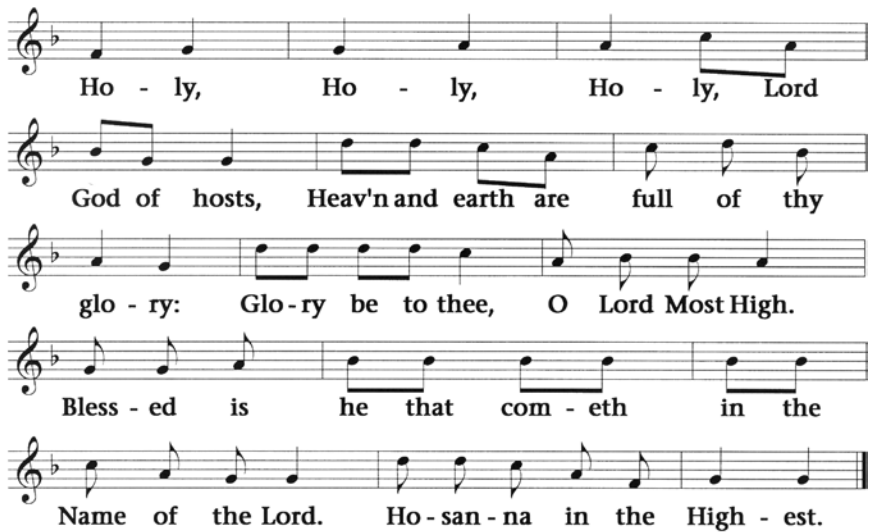
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

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

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

# SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant and People*

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



# THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

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

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

**People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

## FRACTION ANTHEM ..... *Celtic Alleluia*



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

*Then may be said by the Celebrant and People*

## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**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 ..... “Nunc Dimittis”

Harold Friedell

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen the salvation which thou hast prepar'd before the face of all people. To be a light to lighten the gentiles, and to be the Glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

Text: The Book of Common Prayer.

HYMN ..... “As the Deer”

As the deer pant-eth for the wa-ter, so my  
 You're the deer pant-eth for the wa-ter, so my  
 I want my friend and you are my broth-er ev-en  
 more than you more than gold or sil-ver, on-ly  
 soul long-eth af-ter you. You a-lone are my heart's de-sire— and I  
 though you— are a King. I love you more than an-y oth-er, so much  
 you can— sat-is-ify. You a-lone are the real joy-giv-er and the  
 long to wor-ship you. You a-lone are my strength, my shield; To  
 more than an-y-thing. ap-ple of my eye.  
 you a-lone may my spir-it yield.  
 You a-lone are my heart's de-sire,— and I long to wor-ship you.

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

HYMN ..... "In the Garden"

1. I come to the gar - den a - lone, While the dew is  
 2. He speaks, and the sound of His voice Is so sweet the  
 3. I'd stay in the gar - den with Him Tho' the night a -

still on the ros - es; And the voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear,  
 birds hush their sing - ing; And the mel - o - dy that He gave to me  
 round me be fall - ing; But He bids me go, thro' the voice of woe;

*Refrain*

The Son of God dis - clos - es.  
 With - in my heart is ring - ing. And He walks with me, and He  
 His voice to me is call - ing.

talks with me, And He tells me I am His own; And the joy we

share as we tar - ry there None oth - er has ev - er known.

Text: C. Austin Miles; Music: *Garden*, C. Austin Miles; Copyright © 1997 by Word/Integrity. All rights reserved.

H Y M N ..... “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.

*After Communion, the Celebrant says (kneel)*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

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

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

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

## THE BLESSING

*All stand.*

### HYMN 379 ..... "God is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him"

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

*A Minister says the dismissal*

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

**VOLUNTARY** ..... “Sortie in F”  
 César Franck

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

## RECOGNITIONS



### FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

On the occasion of their marriage

by Mary Lawrence McAfee and Joshua Brooks Long

In thanksgiving for all our Scouts and those who work with them



### BAPTISMS

Jan. 25 Brooks Shaffer Hamilton

Brodie Cole Marcin

Thomas Edwin Martin



### SYMPATHY

Jan. 1 Robert Burns Irwin

To mark any occasion with altar flower dedications, visit [bit.ly/smecaltarflowers](http://bit.ly/smecaltarflowers) or contact Rebekah Maddux El-Hakam at [relhakam@smec.org](mailto:relhakam@smec.org).

# 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:

Crockett Abraham	Searcy Kracke	Jeff
Carolyn Alban	Mary Tyler Labhart	Laura
Harvey Altmann	Tom Lamb	Lynne
Edith Avery	Bruce Michael Lee	Sara
Shelly Bain	Nancy Liles	Sharon
Cory Blackman	Patrick Maehs	Wayne
Jennifer Broussard	Martha Marks	
Gary Browning	Bill Maynard	
Helen Paige Buck	Barbara and Bob McClellan	
Brian Burke	Janet McDaniel	
Delonda Citrano	Patricia McDonald	
Sammy A. Citrano III	Adams McHenry	
Gail Davis	Len Menefee	
Paul Davison	Megan Palsa	
Bobby de Sosa	Dan Pate	
Linda de Sosa	Ophelia Pujol	
Holly DeMoss	Phyllis Reinhardt	
Jeanne Dewey	Hugh Ripps	
Mercedes Dewey	Monica Rivera	
Richard Dewey	John Roady	
Charlotte Dion	Magdalene Robbins	
Ross Dunn	Michael Scarborough	
Stacey and John Elliott	Helen and Jim Shaffer	
Michael Finn	Caroline Shanahan	
Will Fogle	Clif Shoemake	
Mark Gholson	Fran Gardner Shores	
Catherine Gonzales	Mitchell Neal Stearkey	
Nancy Gore	Blake and Matt Stokes	
The Rev. Alex Graham	Jan and Jim Stokes	
Shea Guinn	Grantland Wagner	
Bette Haidusek	MaeJoyce Wagner	
Cassidy Haidusek	Margaret Watson	
Cathy Haidusek	Mary Watters	
Jean Hatton	Stephen Wedemeyer	
Nancy Haywood	Eric Zoerb	
Wendy Hurt	Bill	
Clare Jan	Dave	
Mary and Jim Jennings	Elizabeth and Scott	
Katie Jones	Harold	
Dick Kilday	Henry	

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Please be advised that the weeks after Easter and All Saints' Day, this 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:

Lt. Col. Julian Benton	1st Lt. Alex Mullen
1LT. Tom Cadwallender	PFC. Parris F. Owen
1LT. Yonatan Cadwallender	SrA James W. Peoples
1st LCDR Casey Gainer	Lt. Paul Piana
LCDR Bradley Hoffman	Lt. Col. Thomas C. Plant
LTC Wesley J. Hunnell	PO1 Brian Powell
1st Lt. Stephen A. Jeckovich	Sgt. Joel Rowell
Capt. Blake J. Kidd	PO Evan Tomlin
Capt. Jack Mullen	

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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 [vriviera@smec.org](mailto:vriviera@smec.org).

## OTHER WORSHIP SERVICES

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 *family table*

9:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center

The Family Table service with Holy Eucharist combines contemporary worship music with traditional liturgy and is designed for families with young children.

 RIVERWAY

11:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center

The Riverway Contemporary Service is both Anglican and modern, offering the Holy Eucharist in a relaxed service with contemporary music.

## WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Holy Eucharist Services  
7 a.m., noon and 6 p.m. • Christ Chapel

OSL Healing Prayer Service  
First Wednesday of the month  
5 p.m. • Parish Life Center  
Online at [bit.ly/oslservice](http://bit.ly/oslservice)



# READINGS FOR THE DAY

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## THE OLD TESTAMENT ..... Malachi 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

## THE PSALM ..... Psalm 84

How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God. Happy are they who dwell in your house! they will always be praising you. Happy are the people whose strength is in you! whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way. Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water. They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion. LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob. Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your Anointed. For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked. For the LORD God is both sun and shield; he will give grace and glory; No good thing will the LORD withhold from those who walk with integrity. O LORD of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!

# TROOP 354 SCOUTS

Jake R. Campbell  
John D. Dale  
Henry A. Dooley  
Harrison Drake  
Graham M, Erwin  
Luke Erwin  
Henry F. Evans  
William M, Hanna  
Thomas S. Harrington  
Henry Hedges  
Tad O. Hruska  
Zak Hruska  
Paul Joseph  
Sam Katz  
Connor B, Kerlin  
Charlie Kirklin  
Charlie Lanier  
Harris C. Lingle  
Levi E. Lopez

Rafer Macpherson  
Alex D. Magid  
Joseph R. Nolan  
Luke H. Paxton  
James A. Pielop  
Luke A. Pinkston  
Jackson C. Price  
Jackson Pryor  
Tyson Pryor  
William A. Raynes  
Reid Rosenzweig  
Merrick Roth  
Drew O. Shagory  
Anthony Silva  
Jack M. Stratton  
Morgan Tannery  
James Villa  
George G. Walters  
Jackson J. Weber, Jr.



# THIS SUNDAY

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## ✦ ADULTS

8+

Discuss the lectionary readings of the day following the 8 a.m. service.

*8:55 a.m. • Chapel Reception Hall*

**THEOLOGY FOR LIFE** with the Rev. Alex Graham

“Frequently Asked Questions: How Can We Share Our Faith?”

This series hopes to give the best answers to the questions you have about our faith.

*10:15 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall*

## ✦ STUDENT MINISTRIES

**SUNDAY GET-TOGETHERS**

Students in grades 6–12 spend time in fellowship and discuss the Scriptures shared in worship.

*10:15 a.m. • Student Life Center*

## ✦ CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Children through 5th grade are given a solid foundation of Biblical and theological knowledge in age-appropriate ways.

*10:15 a.m. • Children’s Life Center*

**CHILDCARE**

Available during all morning services for six-weeks through three-year-olds.

*8 a.m. • Children’s Life Center*

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



*To view all our Christian education options, scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/smeucedu](https://bit.ly/smeucedu).*

# THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

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FEBRUARY 3-8, 2025

## ALL ADULTS

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** *Tuesday, 9 a.m. • Activity Center, Family Room*  
Knit and crochet shawls to be released for those in need of prayer.

**St. Clare's Guild** *Wednesday, Noon • Activity Center, Upper Hall East*  
St. Clare's Guild undertakes a variety of needlepoint projects in worship spaces and for outreach programs.

**Parish Choir** *Thursday, 11:30 a.m. or 7 p.m. • The Music Center, Rehearsal Hall*  
Sing a variety of traditional music in service to the Lord and our congregation.

## MEN

**Dads' Bible Study** *Thursday, 8 a.m. • Welcome Center*  
Join dads with children of all ages for coffee, fellowship and Bible study.

## WOMEN

**Christian Life Study**  
Join this women's Bible study and strengthen your relationship with God through the study of His word.

**Evening Group** *Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. • Children's Life Center and via Zoom*  
**Day Group** *Thursday, 9:30 a.m. • Parish Life Center and via Zoom*

## STUDENTS

**Life Groups** *Wednesday, 6 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 the meal.

## EVENTS



*To view all our upcoming events, scan the QR code or visit **[bit.ly/smecevents](https://bit.ly/smecevents)**.*



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

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

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

**Meet in the Narthex**

St. Martin's docents offer free, public and private tours.

Everyone is welcome regardless of religious affiliation.

To schedule a tour, please call St. Martin's Docent Guild at 713-830-4117 and leave a contact name and number for a return call.



**ST. MARTIN'S  
Disaster Relief**

***Join St. Martin's in supporting  
our Disaster Relief Efforts.***

Please support St. Martin's Disaster Relief Fund today. Your urgent gift will provide critical supplies such as food and water, pastoral care and other immediate needs to help those affected by the devastating fires in Los Angeles. Our Outreach ministry will distribute the funds collected to churches, community leaders and relief organizations.

Every donation counts! Tens of Thousands of people have lost their homes, businesses, churches and schools as the fires have ravaged structures and caused significant injuries.



***Thank you for your contribution.  
To donate, visit [bit.ly/smeccdisaster](http://bit.ly/smeccdisaster).***



**JUST  
FOR  
February**



*St. Martin's small group ministry continues with a new series this February on the parables of Jesus.*

*Our method is simple: we eat, we study and we pray! It's a great way to grow in faith while also building community with your Church family. Groups meet at Church or in homes once weekly for four weeks, following a study guide and videos produced by the Rev. Dr. Jordan Hylden.*



*Join us at  
[bit.ly/smecjustfor](https://bit.ly/smecjustfor)*

**Contact**

The Rev. Dr. Jordan Hylden  
and Kathy Johnson  
[smallgroups@smec.org](mailto:smallgroups@smec.org)



**HHCI** Hope and Healing  
Center & Institute

# Grief Support Group

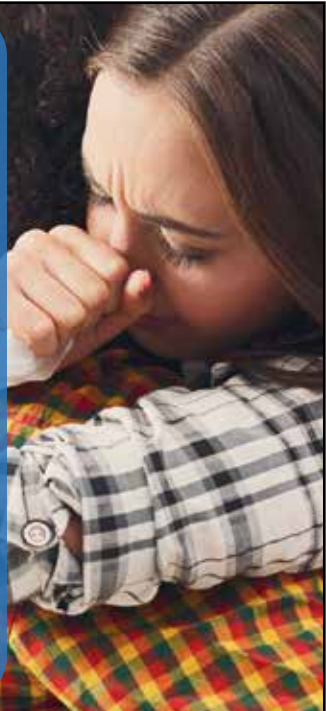
**Have you experienced bereavement?**

This includes the death of a loved one; end of a marriage/significant relationship; change in professional status; change in health/autonomy. HHCI CARES (Caregiving, Aging, Resilience, Ethics, Spirituality) offers YOU a safe space to share your responses and feelings of grief.

**VIRTUAL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 2, 2025  
5:30-6:30PM**

<https://bit.ly/HHCIgriefsupportgroupng>

Questions?  
Email Seth Stander at [ssander@hhci.org](mailto:ssander@hhci.org).



ST. MARTIN'S  
**OUTREACH**  
MINISTRIES




## Kids' Meals

**Tuesday, Feb. 4 | 4 p.m.**  
**Parish Life Center Kitchen**

See how you can help fight hunger in Houston. Bring the whole family and prepare sandwiches with us! Kids' Meals provides and distributes nutritious lunches to hungry children throughout Houston. Visit [kidsmealshouston.org](http://kidsmealshouston.org) to learn more.

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

 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, Feb. 5 | 5 p.m.**  
**Parish Life Center or via Zoom**  
[bit.ly/oslservice](http://bit.ly/oslservice)

Contact: The Rev. Sharron Cox • [scox@smec.org](mailto:scox@smec.org) • 713-830-4131



THE RT. REV.

# MIKE HILL

Bishop of Bristol

## SUNDAY, FEB. 9

8, 9, and 11:15 a.m. • The Church  
10:15 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall

## THURSDAY, FEB. 13

Men of St. Martin's Bible Study  
7 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall

## SUNDAY, FEB. 16

10:15 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall  
11:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center

*To schedule a visit with Bishop Hill,  
contact Liz Gallien at [lgallien@smec.org](mailto:lgallien@smec.org)  
or 713-830-4139.*

## INTRO TO

# Anglicanism

Sundays, Feb. 9 – May 4  
10:15 a.m.  
Chapel Reception Hall

Learn more about our unique faith, heritage and traditions, and how you can grow in your relationship with Christ with us through Word and Sacrament. Especially encouraged for all who want to be confirmed in the Anglican Communion.



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

## SPRING SCHEDULE

- Feb. 9** The Nicene Creed: God the Father
- Feb. 16** The Nicene Creed: God the Son
- Feb. 23** The Nicene Creed: The Holy Spirit and Holy Scripture
- March 2** *Outreach Sunday*
- March 9** *Spring Break*
- March 16** The Book of Common Prayer, Prayer and Sacraments
- March 23** The Church and Ministry
- March 30** History of Anglicanism and the Episcopal Church
- April 6** Holy Baptism and Confirmation
- April 13** *Palm Sunday*
- April 20** *Easter Sunday*
- April 27** Life in the Anglican Communion
- May 4** Final Lesson
- Saturday, May 10** Confirmation with the Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle



# SUPER BOWL

## SUNDAY

**FEBRUARY 9**

We know the Super Bowl football game is important, so **we won't offer the 6 p.m. Traditional service on Sunday, Feb. 9**, to accommodate Parishioners' schedules better.

Please join us on Sunday morning for the Traditional services at 8, 9 and 11:15 a.m., Family Table at 9:15 a.m. and Riverway at 11:15 a.m.



# DAY GROUP



**1–2:30 p.m. | Wednesday, Feb. 12**  
**Children's Life Center, Room 132 and**  
**Via Zoom | [bit.ly/faithinlitdayzoom](https://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 "Old God's Time"*  
*by Sebastian Barry.*

Contact: The Rev. Dr. Jordan Hylden • 713-830-4106 • [jhylden@smec.org](mailto:jhylden@smec.org)



# *Walking the Mourner's Path*

## Small Group Workshops

Wednesday, Feb. 12 (8 Weeks)  
4–5:30 p.m.

Walking the Mourners Path is a series of small group workshops which are appropriate for those who are at least 6 months out from the death of a loved one. There will always be grief after a death and we want to walk with you to ease your pain. This class will be guided by lay and clergy facilitators who are trained at a Facilitator Training School.

**Cost is \$30 • Class is limited to 12 participants**

**To reserve your space, contact**

» The Rev. Lisa Neilson • lneilson@smec.org  
The Rev. Gill Keyworth • gkeyworth@smec.org



The Rev. Gregory W. Cross'  
**ORDINATION TO  
THE PRIESTHOOD**  
By the Rt. Rev. Hector F. Monterroso  
Bishop Assistant of Texas

**Wednesday, Feb. 12  
7 p.m. • The Church**

Please join us as our very own Gregory Cross is ordained to the Priesthood. This is a significant moment in his spiritual journey that you won't want to miss!

**Contact:** The Rev. Gregory Cross  
gcross@smec.org • 713-985-3823

# HOLY SATURDAY

## Baptism Instruction

**Saturday, Feb. 22**  
**9 a.m. • Children's Life Center**

This Holy Saturday, **April 19**, St. Martin's will welcome new members into the Body of Christ through Holy Baptism. This date is particularly auspicious as it begins the season of Easter.

*If you are interested in participating in Holy Saturday Baptisms, please contact Rocio Velazquez at [rvelazquez@smec.org](mailto:rvelazquez@smec.org) or 713-985-3807 to sign up for baptism instruction.*



 RIVERWAY

# CHILI COOK-OFF



**SUNDAY, FEB. 23**  
**12:30–2:30 p.m. • Student Life Center**

We are so excited to host our chili cook-off following the Riverway service. We hope you'll consider cooking a batch of your favorite chili to share with us. If you're not much of a cook, then come to Church hungry. Everyone is invited to taste all the options and vote for their favorite. Prizes awarded for Best Tasting, Most Original and Spiciest Chili!



**Enter the contest at**  
[bit.ly/riverwaychilicookoff](http://bit.ly/riverwaychilicookoff)

**Contact**  
The Rev. Wesley Arning  
[warning@smec.org](mailto:warning@smec.org)  
346-335-8680

ST. MARTIN'S PRESENTS

# A VERY SPECIAL LENTEN RETREAT

**MONDAY–THURSDAY**

March 24–27 • 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

*The Scout Center*

**FRIDAY**

March 28 • 8:30 a.m.–2 p.m.

*The Scout Center and Christ Chapel*

Theresa Harrison returns to St. Martin's to guide retreatants in creating the icon of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. Beginners and experienced iconographers will find this retreat enriching.



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

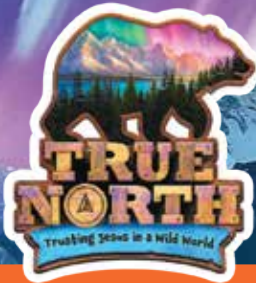


Registration fee: **\$495**  
*Includes all supplies and lunch at*  
*Café St. Martin's.*



**Only one  
spot left!**

**Register at:**  
**bit.ly/smeciconretreat**



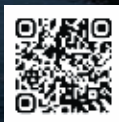
**Vacation Bible School**

# Save the Date!

## June 9–12

### 9:30 A.M. – 12 P.M.

*Children will go on an Alaskan adventure and explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today. True North VBS will point them toward Jesus and show them that Jesus is a faithful friend we can always trust.*



**Join us at**  
**bit.ly/smecchildren**

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

# MEMBERSHIP

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If you are visiting today, please fill out a Welcome Card from the pew rack to place in the offering plate or complete it online by scanning the QR code or visiting **[bit.ly/smecvisitors](http://bit.ly/smecvisitors)**. Please introduce yourself to one of our Clergy and we will be in touch to let you know more about our Parish Family.



Seeking membership in a parish is a very important step and it is our goal to support your understanding of our Parish, its ministries and your place in the life of St. Martin's. Our membership process begins by attending one of our quarterly Membership 101 classes.

Contact: Kathy Johnson • 713-985-3834 • [kjohnson@smec.org](mailto:kjohnson@smec.org)

## ST. MARTIN'S IS HERE FOR YOU

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For general questions, contact the Reception Desk at 713-621-3040 during business hours (8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday–Friday).

For pastoral concerns during business hours, contact 713-985-3817 or [pastoralcare@smec.org](mailto:pastoralcare@smec.org).

For pastoral emergencies after hours and weekends, call 713-621-3040 and follow the prompts to reach the priest on call.

For prayer requests, contact the prayer request line at 713-830-4124 or Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or [vrivera@smec.org](mailto:vrivera@smec.org).

For death notifications and funerals, contact Cyndy Ensign at 713-985-3808 or [censign@smec.org](mailto:censign@smec.org).

# 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

**Mr. Tyler (TD) Davis**

*Interim Director of Student Ministries*  
tdavis@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 2023-2025*  
Mrs. Beth Reeves, *Senior Council Representative 2023-2025*  
Ms. Samantha Hutchison, *Altar Guild President 2024-2025*  
Mrs. Shelly Newton, *ECW President 2024-2025*  
Mr. Perry Ruthven, *Men of St. Martin's President 2023-2025*  
Mr. John Sutherland, *Usher Representative 2024-2026*

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



**Mr. Will Hedges**  
*Vestry Representative*  
*Morning*



**Mr. Scott Anderson**  
*Vestry Representative*  
*Evening*

# OUR CLERGY

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



**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. Elizabeth A. Miller**  
*Pastoral Assistant*  
emiller@smec.org



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



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



**The Rev. Dr. Jordan Hylden**  
*Associate for Christian Education*  
jhylden@smec.org



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



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



**The Rev. Gregory W. Cross**  
*Curate*  
gcross@smec.org

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## **PRAYER FOR THE SEARCH FOR ST. MARTIN'S FIFTH RECTOR**

Heavenly Father,

As a community of believers, we come together in prayer seeking Your guidance as St. Martin's Episcopal Church continues the search for our fifth 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, we pray this prayer in Jesus name, who we joyfully serve and love. Amen.

WE INVITE YOU TO  
KEEP THIS BOOKLET  
FOR REFERENCE.

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

SMEC.ORG

