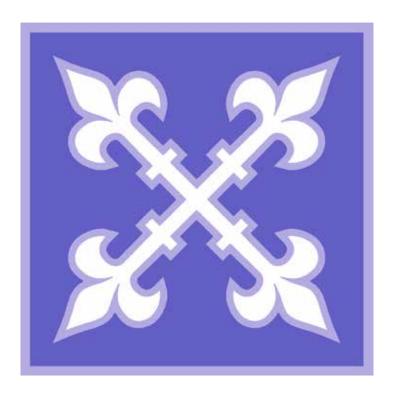
## FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

## April 6, 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.



#### WELCOME TO ST. MARTIN'S

## 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.



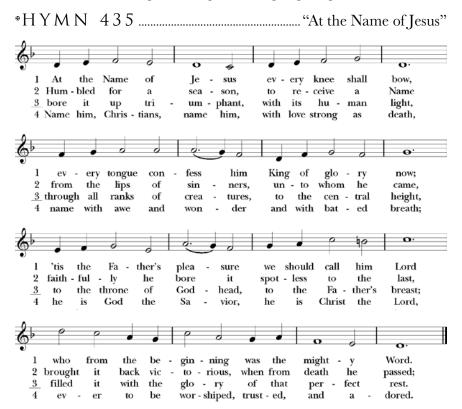


## HOLY EUCHARIST

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...... "Herzlich Tut Mich Verlangen Sicilienne" Johannes Brahms and Johann Sebastian Bach

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



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

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People: His mercy endureth for ever.

#### THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 22:37-40

#### 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



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

#### 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

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through 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 ......Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

All stand.



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 John.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL......John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The remaining lectionary for the day is on page 23.



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

#### Please be seated.

THE SERMON.....The Rev. Sharron L. Cox

#### 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 the nomination of the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury; for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Andy, Jeff, Kai, Hector and Brian, our bishops; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the Anglican Church of Chile; and for all clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

#### Lord, have mercy.

For Donald, 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

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, who didst stretch out thine arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of thy saving embrace: So clothe us in thy Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know thee to the knowledge and love of thee; for the honor of thy Name. **Amen.** 

THE PEACE (stand)

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

People: And with thy spirit.

Please be seated.

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see page 24 for classes and events.

#### THE OFFERTORY

A N T H E M ......"Ave Verum Corpus" Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Ave verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine, vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine, Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit et sanguine: Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.

Hail, true Body, born from Virgin Mary, Who truly suffered, was put to death on the cross for humankind, And from whose pierced side, both water and blood flowed: Be a foretaste for us in our examination of death.

Latin Text attributed to either Pope Innocent III (1198-1216) or Pope Innocent IV (1243-1254).

#### 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.







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.

11

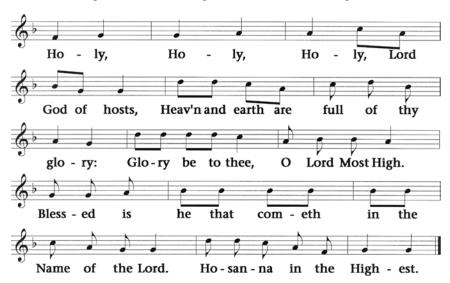
Who dost bid thy faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee.

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

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.)



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.

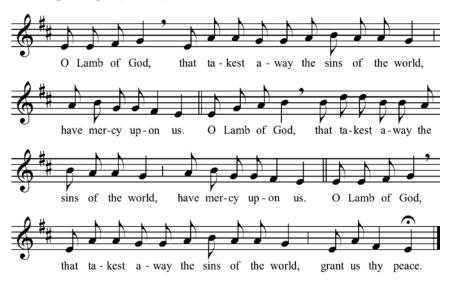
Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:

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.

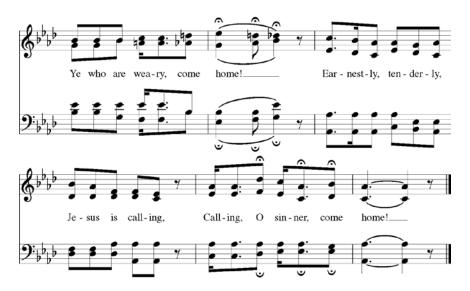
All Christians who have been baptized with water and in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and are permitted to receive Holy Communion in their own church are welcome to do so on this occasion. If you do not wish to receive one or both Elements, cross your arms over your chest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

## A N T H E M ......""O Taste and See" Ralph Vaughan Williams

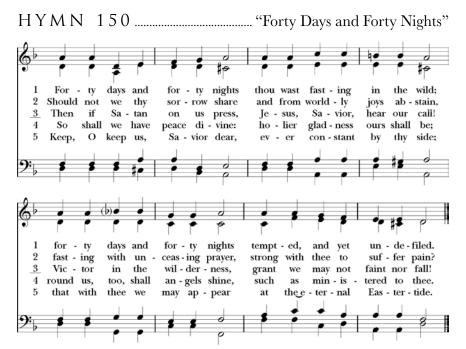
O taste and see how gracious the Lord is: blest is the man that trusteth in Him.

Text: Psalm xxxiv, v. 8; © 1953, Oxford University Press, London.





Words: Will L. Thompson (1847–1909) Music: Will L. Thompson.



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





Text and Music: Terry Coelho; © 1972, Maranatha! Music (ADMIN. by The Copyright Co.). 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.** 

#### LENTEN BLESSING

All stand.



Words: Isaac Watts (1674–1748); Music: Rockingham, from Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature, ca. 1970; harm. Edward Miller (1731–1807).

#### 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

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

#### RECOGNITIONS



#### GREENERY GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In memory of Marilyn Chionsini by the Nesmith family



#### BIRTHS

Dec. 4 Carol Joyce Skinner

Daughter of Kate and Jacob Skinner Granddaughter of Kathryn and Kent Cavender

Feb. 4 Georgia Jones Sneed

Daughter of Jordan and Clay Sneed Granddaughter of Pat and David Jones



#### SYMPATHY

March 11 Gladys H. Halbouty March 20 Frank Daniel "Dan" Foster

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

#### CONTINUING PRAYERS

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

Crockett Abraham John Illeman Michael Stern
Carolyn Alban Wanda Jacobs Blake and Matt Stokes

Edith Avery
Clare Jan
Shelly Bain
Mary and Jim Jennings
Bridgette Barnes
Katie Jones
Terry Trotter

John Bebout Phyllis Katharine Scarlett and Luke Tyler Cory Blackman Dick Kilday Grantland Wagner Jennifer Broussard Searcy Kracke Margaret Watson Gary Browning Tom Lamb Mary Watters Helen Paige Buck Bruce Michael Lee Stephen Wedemeyer Brian Burke Mary Lehman Chris Woessner Delonda Citrano Nancy Liles Eric Zoerb Sammy A. Citrano III Patrick Maehs Abagail Gail Davis Martha Marks Bill

Paul Davison Bill Maynard Carol Bobby de Sosa Barbara and Bob McClellan Dave Linda de Sosa Janet McDaniel David

Renita DeBois Adams McHenry Elizabeth and Scott

Holly DeMoss Babies A and B McLaughlin Ellen Gillian McLaughlin Jeanne Dewey Grace Mercedes Dewey Frank Melcher Harold Richard Dewey Carole Moore Henry Charlotte Dion Bob Paddock Ieff Ross Dunn Megan Palsa Laura Stacey and John Elliott Ophelia Pujol Lynne Jackie Eubank Phyllis Reinhardt Mark Hugh Ripps Sara Michael Finn Will Fogle Monica Rivera Sharon David Lee Garza John Roady Stephen Catherine Gonzales Magdalene Robbins Wayne

Nancy Gore Angela Salinas

Aart and Susan Gosma
The Rev. Alex Graham
Shea Guinn
Bette Haidusek
Cathy Haidusek
Nancy Hall
Iean Hatton
Michael Scarborough
Helen and Jim Shaffer
Caroline Shanahan
Clif Shoemake
Fran Gardner Shores
Karen Smaistrla
Joel Speights

Nancy Haywood Mitchell Neal Starkey

Wendy Hurt Frank Steed

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 vrivera@smec.org.

#### CONTINUING PRAYERS

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

Lt. Col. Julian Benton
1LT. Tom Cadwallender
1LT. Yonatan Cadwallender
Cant. Casey Gainer

Capt. Casey Gainer LCDR Bradley Hoffman LTC Wesley J. Hunnell

1st Lt. Stephen A. Jeckovich

Major Blake J. Kidd Capt. Jack Mullen 1st Lt. Alex Mullen PFC. Parris F. Owen SrA James W. Peoples

Lt. Paul Piana

Lt. Col. Thomas C. Plant CPO Brian Powell

PO Evan Tomlin

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.

Please circle the name of any loved one that you would like to remain on our Continuing Prayer list, tear out this sheet of your bulletin and place it in the Prayer List box in the Narthex. You may also email Valerie Rivera at vrivera@smec.org with this information. Your assistance in maintaining our prayer list is most appreciated.

#### OTHER WORSHIP SERVICES





#### 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.

#### 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. and noon • Christ Chapel 5:30 p.m. • The Church

OSL Healing Prayer Service First Wednesday of the month 5 p.m. • Parish Life Center • Online at smec.org/osl

#### READINGS FOR THE DAY

#### THE OLD TESTAMENT......Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

THE PSALM.....Psalm 126

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \* then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \* and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*
  "The LORD has done great things for them."
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, \* and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \* like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears \* will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \* will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

#### THIS SUNDAY

#### **▶** 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. Dr. Jordan Hylden "The Seven Deadly Sins (And How to Avoid Them): Sloth or *Acedia* This series hopes to give the best answers to the questions you have about our faith.

10:15 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall

**INTRO TO ANGLICANISM** with the Rev. John Sundara Discuss the Book of Common Prayer, the Sacraments and the Church's history and polity to explore the Episcopal faith.

10:15 a.m. • Chapel Reception Hall

FAMILY LIFE CLASS with the Rev. Alex Graham

"Sanctification: The Art of Christian Growth and Maturity" Parents of younger families meet to examine key teachings on Christian growth and maturity.

10:15 a.m. • Activity Center, Game Room

**CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER** with the Rev. Sharron Cox Spend a morning in silent prayer and sharing as we grow to learn to love as God loves.

10:15 a.m. • Levenson Pastoral Care Center, Bride's Parlor

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



To view all our Christian education options, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/smecedu.

#### THIS SUNDAY

#### 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

#### OUTREACH MINISTRIES

#### EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP INFORMATION SESSION

Zoom with Kurt Ackermann of Sus Hijos and learn about the trip. 10:15 a.m. • Vestry Conference Room

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



To view all our Christian education options, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/smecedu.

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

APRIL 6-12, 2025

#### **ALL ADULTS**

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.

OSL Study Group *Wednesday*, 4:30 p.m. • Children's Life Center and via Zoom Learn and grow in the practice of prayer for healing.

St. Martin's 20s & 30s *Wednesday*, 7 p.m. • *Children's Life Center* Join a community of young adults who eat, pray and read Scripture together.

#### **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**

Youth Choir *Sunday*, *10:15 a.m.* • *Children's Life Center* Students in grades 6-12 spend time in fellowship and heart Christ's Word through the music they study and sing.

#### **EVENTS**



To view all our upcoming events, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/smecevents.

## St. Martin's Welcomes Our 5<sup>th</sup> Rector August 1, 2025



# THE VERY REV. Dane E. Boston

The Very Rev. Boston became the sixth Dean of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Columbia, S.C. on January 1, 2021. During his tenure, he oversaw sustained growth in Trinity's worship attendance, congregational vitality and financial engagement.

For the past 14 years in ordained ministry, he has been blessed to share in the Holy Spirit's transformative work, guiding new believers to faith in the crucified and risen Savior. He counts it a privilege to lead St. Martin's Episcopal Church as we go forth to serve our Lord in His world.

The Very Rev. Boston is an alumnus of Washington and Lee University, where he met his wife, Debbie, and they wed one year after graduation. He continued his education at Yale Divinity School and Berkeley Divinity School (the Episcopal seminary at Yale).

The couple has four children: Ella, Fritz, Ruthie and Myles. The Boston family will relocate to Houston this summer and looks forward to meeting everyone at St. Martin's!







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

# SUNDAY, APRIL 6 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.



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

Rehearsal Date
Saturday, April 12
10 a.m.-noon
The Church

Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 13
9 and 11:15 a.m. services
The Church

No "acting" experience needed and costumes will be provided.

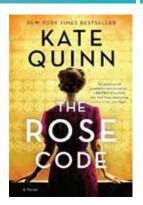
Adults, youth and children over the age of 10 (with participating parents).

Limited time commitment.

Interested? Please respond by Monday, April 7, to Bruce Morgan at robertbrucemorgan@gmail.com.



# DAY GROUP



1–2:30 p.m. | Wednesday, April 9 Children's Life Center, Room 132 and Via Zoom | smec.org/faith-in-literature

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

This month, we discuss "The Rose Code" by Kate Quinn.

Contact: The Rev. Dr. Jordan Hylden • 713-830-4106 • jhylden@smec.org



## **Spring Festival**

Help celebrate the season with our friends at Amazing Place, which provides a safe, spiritual and nurturing program for older adults with mild to moderate Alzheimer's or similar dementia (amazingplace.org).

**Tracee Tindol,** *Outreach and Grant Coordinator* ttindol@smec.org • 713-985-3811

Wednesday, April 9 10 a.m. 3735 Drexel Drive Houston, TX 77027





MOST CLASSES ARE FREE! For more information, visit smec.org/activity-center

## ACTIVITY CENTER

#### **TAI CHI**

WEDNESDAYS 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Aerobics Room

Join Neus for Tai Chi, which is beneficial for overall muscle strength, joint health, flexibility and improving balance and coordination.

Activity Center Reception activitycenter@smec.org • 713-985-3835

# THE STATIONS OF THE ROSS

**WEDNESDAYS • MARCH 12–APRIL 9** 4:30–5:30 p.m. • The Church *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. The Stations of the Cross depict the final hours (or Passion) of Jesus and the devotion commemorating the Passion.

Contact: Juli Browning jbrowning@smec.org • 713-985-3845



# WEDNESDAY ADULT LENTEN SERIES Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus: The Seven Christian Habits

#### APRIL 9

God's Gifts and Generous Living Led by the Rev. Sharron Cox

This Lent, we invite you to spend Wednesday evenings with your Church family as we seek to re-focus our lives and hearts on Jesus. We'll walk together through the Seven Christian Habits as good practices God has given the church to draw us into a closer relationship with Him.

Dinner (\$10) • Bagby Parish Hall • 5–6:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist • The Church • 5:30 p.m. Program • Bagby Parish Hall • 6:15 p.m.



Sign up for Dinner at **smec.org/cafe** or purchase tickets at the Gift Shoppe by Tuesday.





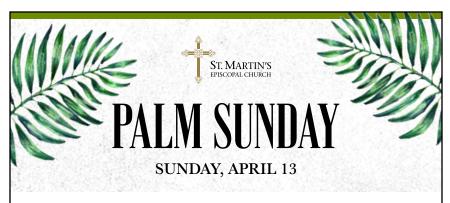
## PALM CROSS WORKSHOP

FRIDAY, APRIL 11
9 A.M. – 3 P.M.
STUDENT LIFE CENTER

If planning to attend after 1 p.m., please call in advance to ensure volunteers are still needed.

Join members of the Altar Guild as they make palm crosses to distribute on Palm Sunday, the Sunday of the Passion. This annual tradition is a fun and meaningful time of fellowship and service. Please bring scissors.

> Barbara Piana, Verger 713-830-4116 • bpiana@smec.org



#### **Traditional Services**

The Church 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Holy Eucharist 9 and 11:15° a.m..

9 and 11:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist and dramatic re-enactment

\*The 11:15 a.m. service will be livestreamed

#### **Family Table**

Parish Life Center 8:30 and 9:45 a.m., Holy Eucharist and dramatic reading

A Mediterranean buffet will follow the 9:45 a.m. service.

Riverway Contemporary Worship Service Parish Life Center

11:15 a.m.,

Holy Eucharist

Join the Riverway community as we recall Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem



NOTICE.
GIVE.
MAKE.
BLESS.

# **LENT 2025:** 40 DAYS OF WELCOME AND GRATITUDE

The United Thank Offering is a ministry of The Episcopal Church that began in 1883. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen daily, thank God, and make an offering in a UTO Blue Box.

Find UTO envelopes in The Church pews and boxes in The Church Narthex and Parish Life Center. Boxes collected on Easter morning.

**One-hundred percent** of the collected funds are distributed throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.



## **Adult/Family Mission Trip**

June 14-19, 2025 • San Salvador, El Salvador

Adults and families are invited to serve with St. Martin's ministry partner, Kurt Ackermann, and his organization, Sus Hijos, in San Salvador, El Salvador. Together, we will be the hands and feet of Jesus by visiting an orphanage, building a house for a needy family and ministering to special needs children on a beach trip—all while deepening our faith and theirs.



Register at smec.org/worldmissions
Deadline: April 15

Contact: Courtney Kearns worldmission@smec.org 713-985-3819



## AMISTAD MISSION TRIP

JUNE 24-JULY 1 Cochabamba, Bolivia

Join us in building meaningful relationships with the children at Casa San Martín! We'll engage in arts and crafts, visit a park, play games, work in their garden and have a lot of fun. Since 1993, St. Martin's has sponsored Casa San Martín, a home that offers a loving Christian community for children who have been abused, abandoned or orphaned.



Register at smec.org/worldmissions

Deadline: April 15

Minimum age: 12 years old

Contact: Courtney Kearns

worldmission@smec.org • 713-985-3819





# Thursday, April 17 7 p.m. • The Church

Maundy Thursday commemorates the institution of the Eucharist by Jesus on the night he was betrayed. Following this, the altar is stripped and all decorative furnishings are removed from The Church in preparation for Good Friday.

This revential worship service will conclude outdoors near the Wayside Chapel and Great Cross.



#### FRIDAY, APRIL 18

## Traditional Services The Church

Noon\* and 6 p.m.

Liturgy includes John's account of the Passion Gospel, the Solemn Collects and meditation on the Cross, with a special performance by the Parish Choir.

\*The noon service will be livestreamed

# Family Table Parish Life Center Noon

This Good Friday service is specifically designed for

families and children.

ST. MARTIN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

#### Riverway Keeping the Kalendar— Contemporary Worship Parish Life Center

6 p.m.

Join the Riverway Community for a distinct service around the Cross, featuring the liturgy for Good Friday, sermon, and special music.

## Holy Saturday Baptism

#### Saturday, April 19 10 a.m. • Christ Chapel

Holy Saturday is considered a particularly appropriate time in the Episcopal Church to undergo the sacramental rite of full initiation, by water and the Holy Spirit, into membership in the Church. Join us as we welcome new members to St. Martin's.

For more information about Holy Baptisms, contact Rocio Velazquez at rvelazquez@smec.org or 713-985-3807.













Join us for a morning of fun and celebration! The festivities will begin with a reading of the Easter story, followed by an Easter Egg hunt, crafts, a petting zoo and more fun activities. Bring your family and friends for a delightful gathering!

Contact: Valerie Rivera • vrivera@smec.org • 713-985-3817

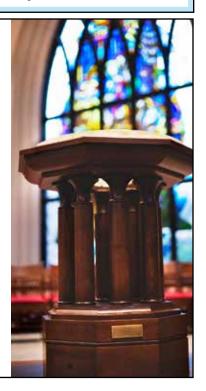
## Baptism Instruction Class

#### Saturday, April 26 9-11:30 a.m. Children's Life Center

The rite of Holy Baptism is a special occasion for St. Martin's — a service of joy that underscores the communal aspect of worship and expresses God's presence amid His people.

If you are interested in public baptism, please sign up for this Baptism Instruction class by contacting Rocio Velazquez at rvelazquez@smec.org or 713-985-3807.







#### Easter Morning Breakfast Hosted by St. Martin's Vestry

8–11 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall Before or after the Easter services, enjoy a complimentary breakfast served and sponsored by the current and past Vestry of St. Martin's.

#### **Traditional Worship Services**

7, 9, \*11:15 a.m. and 6 p.m. • The Church Holy Eucharist; festive music by the Parish Choir, Gloria Dei Organ, brass and timpani.

\*The 11:15 a.m. service will be livestreamed.

#### **Family Table Services**

8:30 and 9:45 a.m. • Parish Life Center Join us for a family-friendly worhsip service with Holy Eucharist.

#### **Riverway Service**

11:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center

This worship service for students, families and adults features the Holy Eucharist and beautiful music.

#### **Sunday School**

Sunday school classes will not meet in observance of Easter.

#### **Childcare**

Childcare will be provided for six-weeks through three-year-olds in the Children's Life Center during all Easter morning services.





#### **SAN ANTONIO • JUNE 15-20**

This summer Student Ministries will take our middle and high school students to beautiful San Antonio to work with Blueprint Ministries, a non-profit that works to make homes healthier, safer and drier for San Antonio neighbors.



## Register at smec.org/students

Deadline to register: May 15

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



#### MEMBERSHIP

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**. 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

#### ST. MARTIN'S IS HERE FOR YOU

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.

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.

For death notifications and funerals, contact Cyndy Ensign at 713-985-3808 or censign@smec.org.

#### OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

#### SUNDAY PROGRAM STAFF

#### Dr. David Henning

Director of Music and Parish Organist dhenning@smec.org

#### Mr. Keith Lathrom

Choral Director of the Adult Choir klathrom@smec.org

#### Ms. Hannah Cen

Associate Organist hcen@smec.org

#### Ms. Carole Nelson

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

#### Mr. Tyler (TD) Davis

Interim Director of Student Ministries tdavis@smec.org

#### Mrs. Kathy Johnson

Director of Membership kjohnson@smec.org

#### Mrs. Barbara Piana

Verger and Worship Coordinator bpiana@smec.org

#### ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

#### **Vestry Executive Committee**

Ms. Sherrie Perkins, Senior Warden

Mr. Logan Walters, Junior Warden

Mrs. Susan McConn, Missions Chair

Mr. David Leonard, Treasurer

Mrs. Courtney Schilling, Clerk

Mr. Dan Meyer, Senior Council President

Mr. Bob Heston, Jr., Parish Stewardship Chair

Mr. Andy Harvin, Chancellor\*

#### **Vestry Members**

Mr. Scott Anderson

Mrs. Hunter Bell

Mrs. Kathy Bennett

Mrs. Summer Craig

Mr. Mike Fuqua

Mr. Will Hedges

The Hon. Edith Jones

Mr. John Maclay, Jr.

Mrs. Debbie Robinson

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.



Mrs. Debbie Robinson Vestry Representative Morning



Mrs. Hunter Bell Vestry Representative Evening

#### OUR CLERGY

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. Gregory W. Cross gcross@smec.org



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



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



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



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

# WE INVITE YOU TO KEEP THIS BOOKLET FOR REFERENCE.

