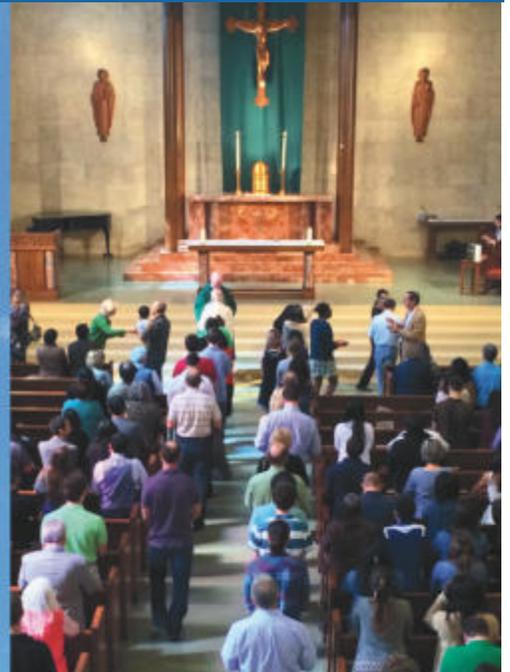




**BRINGING THE WORD OF GOD TO LIFE SINCE 1908**



**MASS SCHEDULE**

Monday-Friday 8 a.m. in the church  
Saturday 5 p.m.  
Sunday 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

**ALL DAILY & SUNDAY MASSES ARE LIVESTREAMED,  
EXCEPT FOR 5 P.M. SATURDAY VIGIL & 7:30 A.M. SUNDAY,  
VISIT STAUSTIN.ORG, YOUTUBE, OR FACEBOOK**

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. (answering phones)  
Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (answering phones)  
Saturday & Sunday Closed

**CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC EXCEPT FOR DELIVERIES, PICK UPS,  
OR BY APPOINTMENT**

**WHAT TO EXPECT — MASKS STAY ON!**

Seating is limited to maintain 6' between households, we have about 15% of our normal capacity. We clean and sanitize after every Mass. Masks must be worn by all over 2 years of age. Doors open 20 minutes before Mass, please maintain the 6' spacing as you wait. We close our doors when Mass begins.

Please follow the instructions regarding Communion:

- Wearing your mask over your nose and mouth, approach the altar in a single file using the tape on the floor for space,
- Cup your hands to give the presider or Eucharistic minister a wide space to lay the Blessed Sacrament
- Step to the side, 6' away from the Eucharistic minister, and move your mask, to consume the host.
- Replace your mask properly covering your nose and mouth.

**SACRAMENTS**

**RECONCILIATION**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered in the church on Saturdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m. (no appointment needed). Masks must be worn at all times and social distancing will be observed. We welcome requests for appointments for other days or times, please visit [StAustin.org/Reconciliation](http://StAustin.org/Reconciliation).

**BECOMING CATHOLIC**

For information on becoming Catholic, please contact Rachel Vaughn at [rvaughn@staustin.org](mailto:rvaughn@staustin.org).

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

St. Austin Catholic Parish, guided and served by the Paulist Fathers, is a dynamic, urban, Roman Catholic faith community of the Diocese of Austin.

Empowered by the Word of God, formed and nourished by the Eucharist and made bold by the Holy Spirit, we strive, through prayer, education and service to others, to manifest God's transforming love in the world and to deepen our relationship with God, one another and the universal Church. Inspired by our patrons, St. Paul the Apostle and St. Augustine of Canterbury, we dedicate ourselves to Jesus Christ, and to His continuing mission to sanctify, teach, heal, reconcile and serve.

**THE PAULIST FATHERS**

The Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle was founded in 1858 as the first community of priests established in North America. They came to Austin in 1908 to establish St. Austin Catholic Parish, named to honor St. Augustine of Canterbury. The Paulist Fathers also staff St. Paul the Apostle Parish in nearby Horseshoe Bay.

## FROM FR. CHUCK



For this Palm Sunday I offer for your reflection a section of a sermon by St. Gregory of Nazianzen. He was Archbishop of Constantinople, (now Istanbul) in the late 300's, when it was the capital of the Byzantine Empire. Much of his career was taken up with controversy over the Arian heresy, including an Arian mob attacking and breaking into the church where Gregory was celebrating the Easter Vigil in 379. He was injured in the scuffle but survived. Below is part of one of his sermons, on almsgiving.

*Fr. Chuck*

*Blessed are the merciful, because they shall obtain mercy, says the Scripture. Mercy is not the least of the beatitudes.*

*Again: Blessed is he who is considerate to the needy and the poor. Once more: Generous is the man who is merciful and lends. In another place: All day the just man is merciful and lends. Let us lay hold of this blessing, let us earn the name of being considerate, let us be generous.*

Not even night should interrupt you in your duty of mercy. Do not say: *Come back and I will give you something tomorrow.* There should be no delay between your intention and your good deed. Generosity is the one thing that cannot admit of delay. *Share your bread with the hungry, and bring the needy and the homeless into your house, with a joyful and eager heart. He who does acts of mercy should do so with cheerfulness.* The grace of a good deed is doubled when it is done with promptness and speed. What is given with a bad grace or against one's will is distasteful and far from praiseworthy.

When we perform an act of kindness we should rejoice and not be sad about it. *If you undo the shackles and the thongs, says Isaiah, that is, if you do away with miserliness and counting the cost, with hesitation and grumbling, what will be the result? Something great and wonderful! What a marvelous reward there will be: Your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will rise up quickly.* Who would not aspire to light and healing?

If you think that I have something to say, servants of Christ, his brethren and coheirs, let us visit Christ whenever we may; let us care for him, feed him, clothe him, welcome him, honor him, not only at a meal, as some have done, or by anointing him, as Mary did, or only by lending him a tomb, like Joseph of Arimathea, or by arranging for his burial, like Nicodemus, who loved Christ half-heartedly, or by giving him gold, frankincense and myrrh, like the Magi before all these others.

The Lord of all asks for mercy, not sacrifice, and mercy is greater than myriads of fattened lambs. Let us then show him mercy in the persons of the poor and those who today are lying on the ground, so that when we come to leave this world they may receive us into everlasting dwelling places, in Christ our Lord himself, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

## WORSHIP & SACRAMENTS

### Walking the Lenten Path

As we did for Advent and Christmas, we've curated a selection of Lenten observances, activities, events, music, resources, and more for you. Please chart your journey through this season of 40 days with a visit to [Lent](#).

## Holy Week Service Times

**Palm Sunday:** 5pm Saturday Vigil,  
7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

**Holy Thursday:** 7:30 p.m.

**Good Friday:** Stations: noon, Liturgy 3 p.m.

**Easter Sunday:** 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.  
The 5 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. Masses are not livestreamed.



## FAITH FORMATION

### Faith Formation

Visit [Faith Formation](#) at [StAustin.org](#) for information on programs for young people and adults, including registration for catechesis.

### RCIA

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, or finishing Sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation as an adult, please email [Rachel Vaughn](#).

### Pray With Us...

...for all on our journey of faith, and especially for our confirmandi, elect, and candidates.

## GIVE

### More Opportunities to Serve

Give the gift of your time and talent to serve our community. See more at [Help Needed](#).

### Greeters Needed for Mass!

We would appreciate some extra help welcoming our guests! **The only requirement is being EIM compliant**, otherwise this involves no contact, only a welcoming spirit! If you can help, please arrive 15-20 minutes before the Mass you attend and one of the priests will guide you! Email [apobanz@staustin.org](mailto:apobanz@staustin.org) if you have any questions.

### Volunteer Receptionists Needed

We are seeking volunteers to help part-time at the parish reception desk over the next few months. Duties include answering phones, receiving deliveries, handling mail, etc. Computer experience is a bonus but not necessary. Contact Sharon Jones at [sjones@staustin.org](mailto:sjones@staustin.org).

### Storage Space Needed

As we move forward on our Property Development Journey, we need off-site storage. Do you have some space where we could place a storage container (like a big shipping container) where we could store furniture, desks, and other things that do not need climate control? If you have available space on your ranch or homestead, and could accommodate this request, please let us know with a call to the parish office or email [Development@StAustin.org](mailto:Development@StAustin.org). We'd only need to access the container a couple of times a year, if that. THANKS!

**CHARITY & JUSTICE**

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**

We visited a neighbor who gave \$1500 to someone who promised to "improve her credit score." Her bank required repayment of the stolen funds, even though the bank caught the scam and alerted the customer in the first place! She used her SSI and her daughter helped repay the final amount. We offset her loss by helping with rent, and we are able to do so because of your generosity. Thank you! Visit [National Elder Care Fraud Hotline](#), their number is (833) 372-8311.

**Help Fill Baskets of Easter Joy!**

We're asking for donations of individually wrapped packets of Easter candy (jelly beans, small chocolate eggs, small bags of fruit chews, nuts, peanut butter or cheese crackers, cookies, etc.). We now have plenty of grass. Our goal is to fill 125 baskets. You can purchase these online and ship them to St. Austin at 2026 Guadalupe St., Austin, TX 78705. Ship or bring them to the office by **March 31**. Contact Huddie at [hwmswim@gmail.com](mailto:hwmswim@gmail.com).



**The Path of Charity**

Journey through Lent along "the path of charity towards the weaker" recommended by Pope Francis. Consider sacrificial giving to:

**CRS Rice Bowl** - Catholic Relief Services fights hunger and malnutrition around the globe.

**Ashes to Easter** - Ashes to Easter affirms and encourages diocesan missionary groups and other mission activities.

Boxes to take home to gather loose change for these two collections are in the Narthex.

**Lenten Special Collection**

**Good Friday** - Catholics around the world are invited to donate to the Franciscans ministering in the Holy Land.

Read more about these opportunities in *Almsgiving* at [Lent](#).

**Flowers in the Church for Easter**

Each year Easter flowers are placed in the Church in celebration of our loved ones. If you would like to make a donation in someone's memory or honor, please complete and return this form. The suggested offering is \$20. Pay by Venmo, online, or by check. This form is also available online at [Lent](#). Names and donations are **due by Wed., March 31**. Names will be printed in our Easter bulletin.

Please PRINT clearly and return the form below with your donation. You may attach a separate sheet if needed.

Please use this donation:

in celebration of      or       in memory of

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMUNITY LIFE**

**Adventures in the Archives**

Fr. Chuck announced last week that our new electronic bells in the church tower would ring out again on Easter Sunday.

Paulist Father Michael Smith came to Austin in May 1908 to look over the property at 21st and Guadalupe where St. Austin Chapel would be built. The year before, the Paulists had accepted the invitation from Galveston Bishop N.A. Gallagher to establish a center of Missionary activity in Austin. With the appointment of Fr. Smith, an active campaign for funds was begun over the State and in Austin. The local Knights of Columbus appointed a committee to solicit funds with S. V. Dooley as chairman.



Work on the chapel began nearly a year later. 1907-1908 were depression years and subscriptions were slow coming in. Fr. Smith returned to New York and was able to get \$4,000 for the Church and \$1,000 for the furnishings. At this time the Paulists thought the chapel would be a temporary structure. Charles Shurr was chosen as contractor and builder and George Endress was the architect selected to draw plans for the chapel to be in the Mission style.

The chapel was completed and included a tower. The first Mass was on Christmas 1908. But there was no money left for a bell! Years later a bell was installed in the tower, bearing the inscription: "Presented to St. Austin's Chapel by Mrs. S.V. Dooley in honor of Pope St. Sylvester, December 31, 1915." The tower feature was preserved in the new church building dedicated in 1953.



**Knightly News**

As one of the Faith In Action programs, the Knights of Columbus conducts the Good Friday Family Promotion. Its purpose is to foster a more robust practice and better understanding of our Catholic faith and the triduum. We do this by encouraging greater attendance at Good Friday which tends to be low. Whether

you go in person or virtually, please join us on Good Friday for Stations at noon and the 3 p.m. liturgy.

March 29 is K of C Founders Day. On this date 138 years ago, the fledgling organization started by Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney was legally incorporated by the State of Connecticut. The Knights offer FREE on-line memberships until **June 30**. Much more information about the Order and membership sign up can be viewed at [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org).

**Prayer Blanket Blessing and Anointing of the Sick  
Mon., April 12 at 8 a.m. Mass**

Please join us for the monthly Blessing of Prayer Blankets. The Prayer Blanket Ministry members continue to work from home. If you are interested in either sending or receiving a prayer blanket or helping this ministry, please contact Nancy at [tnjs@aol.com](mailto:tnjs@aol.com) or 512-837-3658.



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