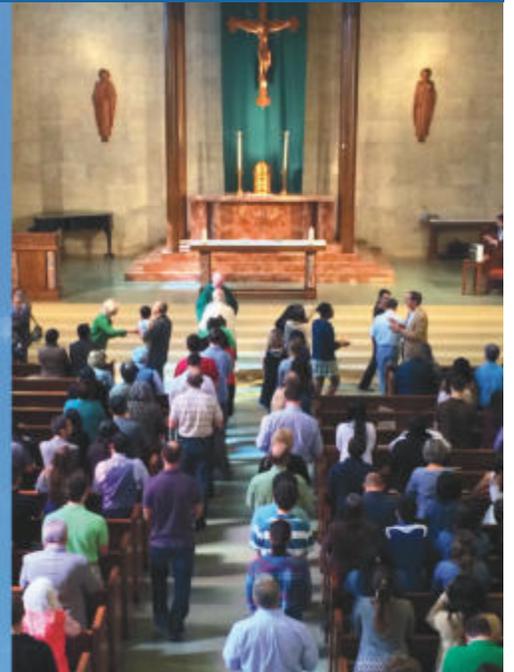




BRINGING THE WORD OF GOD TO LIFE SINCE 1908



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.

**EXCEPT FOR SATURDAY 5:00 P.M. & SUNDAY 7:30 A.M.,
ALL MASSES ARE LIVESTREAMED.**

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 – More People & Masks!

We welcome the return of worshipers into the church. Our seating is at about 75% of our pre-pandemic capacity. When attending Mass, please continue to wear a mask for the safety of those not yet vaccinated, especially the children. Masks must be worn by all over 2 years of age. Doors open 20 minutes before Mass.

About Reception of the Eucharist - We only offer Communion in the form of bread, placed in your hand. Please ~

- Wear your mask over your nose and mouth.
- Cup your hands to give a wide space to receive the host.
- Step 6' to the side of the minister and move your mask to consume the host.
- Replace your mask, fully 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.

BECOMING CATHOLIC

For information on becoming Catholic, please contact Rachel Vaughn at 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 PADRE PAOLO



On Sunday, July 25, I celebrate my first-year anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood. I hope this past year will remain unlike any other. Between the evolving uncertainty of the COVID pandemic and the ongoing projects on our parish campus, I could use some stability in the years ahead.

I am thankful that the priests, staff, and parishioners here at St. Austin have remained generally healthy and well through the fall and winter surges with the COVID pandemic. Despite the limited opportunities for in-person interactions this past year, I am so grateful for the many ways that people have reached out to me with kind notes of gratitude and encouragement during my first year of priesthood. I always enjoy hearing if a particular homily resonated with someone and helped them discover God's presence in new ways.

I have been fully vaccinated since Easter weekend, so I have enjoyed many dinner invitations since then to get to know our families here at St. Austin. I have discovered that so many parishioners have similar interests, and yet they have never met each other. Being invited into people's lives has been one of my greatest joys as a new priest, and I am eager to share the message that this world is filled with so many compassionate, joyful, and Spirit-filled people. Goodness abounds, even if we tend to forget that with all the problems in this world.

I am in the midst of packing my bedroom for our move to a temporary house in Hyde Park during the parish campus redevelopment. This will be my fifth time moving bedrooms since the summer of 2016, so it feels natural at this point. In 2016, the Paulists sold our seminary that was built in 1913, so the seminarians had to clean out decades worth of items and downsize into a temporary space. Then, I moved back-and-forth to Grand Rapids for my pastoral year between 2017-2018, and I moved to Austin last summer.

Much like the St. Austin's redevelopment, the Paulists have been undertaking a similar effort to build a facility that better fits our mission. The original seminary built in 1913 had become too expensive to maintain, so the Paulists sold it in order to construct a new seminary on land we retained. Zoning permission took longer than expected, but the new seminary should be ready for the fall of 2022, six years after we first moved to our temporary quarters. The new Paulist House of Mission & Studies (seminary) will be made with environmentally friendly materials that will lower our operating expenses. Most importantly, our rector will be able to spend less time worrying about ongoing maintenance projects and more time focused on the mission of guiding our seminarians.

This is an exciting time for both the Paulists and our St. Austin's community. Between the pandemic and the demands of our parish move, I've been amazed by the support we have received. I pray that the labor and sacrifices we have put into this effort will pay dividends into the future. With better facilities, we will be able to focus more attention on new possibilities for ministry and service as Austin continues to grow.

Thank you again for all the ways you have made my first year special, and I can't wait for the possibilities that the Holy Spirit has in store for us in the years ahead.

Fr Paolo

OUR 2021 LUMEN GENTIUM HONOREE

At the 11:30 Mass, **Martha Gerling Schroeder** will receive a *Lumen Gentium* Award. Martha is a bright light in our community, serving on our school board and leading our Christmas Bazaar with great cheer. But wait, there's more. Martha graciously accepted Fr. Chuck's request to lead our Treasure Committee as we prepared for the BIG Move. That gracious "yes" morphed into directing the move of our ministries of service and offices to MLK, overseeing the Great Giveaway, and let's not forget the BIG SALE, and all that follows.

Congratulations, Martha!

The *Lumen Gentium* awards recognize lay persons across the diocese who exemplify the spirit of Christ as expressed in Matthew's Gospel 5:14, 16 ~

*"You are the light of the world...
your light must shine in the sight of all,
so that, seeing your good works,
they may give the praise
to your Father in heaven."*

Lumen Gentium are the first words of the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church. The Latin phrase might best be considered as light of all peoples. The Vatican II document describes what the Church - not clergy or religious but all of us, the whole body of Christ - is meant to do. What we should do is essentially to live out our parish mission, to bring the Gospel and the light of Christ to all of humanity. *Lumen Gentium* states, "*The laity, however, are given this special vocation: to make the Church present and fruitful in those places and circumstances where it is only through them that she can become the salt of the earth.*"

FR. PAOLO CELEBRATES YEAR ONE!

Can it be only a year ago that we celebrated with great joy the second ordination in our parish history? Last July 25th we welcomed Fr. Paolo, rejoicing in his priestly ordination with all the festivities we could manage in the time of COVID. We've been fortunate to gather the first fruits of his ministry. We've put his analytical, programming, and engineering skills and experience to work. We've enjoyed his conversation in the Season of Creation series, in his classroom visits, and more. We're grateful for his thoughtful homilies, his engaged presence, and for his compassionate care. Look back at Fr. Paolo's Grand Ordination.

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year has opened for all grades from Pre-K3 through high school. Because of the limited meeting spaces on campus during the development project, we have a variety of home-based and pod-based options, with multiple lectionary-based curricula for your family to choose from. We will be with you every step of the way to support you in this endeavor! Visit Faith Formation 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 in receiving the sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation as an adult, please email RVaughn@StAustin.org.

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT

As we release our past through the great giveaway and the BIG Move Sale, we're also preparing to keep that mission in motion by readying our Ministry Center in the retail and office spaces we wisely included in the construction of our parking facility. Bravo - good plan! New photos mark the progress - see them at [Our Property Development Journey](#).

SOCIAL JUSTICE

From Outreach & SVdP ~

Like the St. Austin community moving mountains to prepare for the big move, Outreach is moving mountains to help our neighbors in need **NOT** to have to move or have their utilities disconnected! The City of Austin resumed utility disconnections last week. On August 1, the eviction moratorium will be lifted for the first time since the pandemic started. Outreach has responded by increasing our rental assistance to \$350 per household and by paying as much as we can on utility bills - thanks to extra Austin Energy funds!

Here are some of our stories of Good News!

- A husband and wife had to choose between their 2 overdue utility accounts when they applied to Outreach since we normally only assist with one bill. We ended up having enough grant funds to pay the entire balance on both accounts, almost \$2,000! When we confirmed we could cover both bills, the wife declared, "¡Bendito sea Dios!" (Blessed be God!)
- A guest in subsidized housing who is experiencing food insecurity received food resources and 2 months' worth of rental assistance from Outreach, giving her a little breathing room this summer.
- Outreach and SVdP worked together to pay down the water bill of a woman with 4 kids so that she could get on a payment arrangement and not have her water turned off. This single mom started a new job this week after being without work since March 2020.
- Another mom of school-aged children had to stop working recently because she tested positive for COVID. Rental assistance from Outreach is helping her navigate temporarily not working, and she plans to look for a higher paying job when her doctor says she can go back to work.

From the Gabriel Project ~

St. Austin Catholic Parish will unite with hundreds of churches across Central Texas from September 29 to November 7 for a 40-day prayer vigil. It is a campaign of prayer, fasting, community outreach, and education with a constant peaceful prayer vigil in front of abortion facilities. Prayer volunteers pray one hour, one day a week (any time Sunday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.) during the vigil. St. Austin will conduct a prayer volunteer sign up on August 14 and 15 after all Masses. Partner with a friend or St. Austin Gabriel Project Angel by contacting Carmen Adams at 512-417-8309 or centraltexascoalition.com/signup/ or call 512-296-2071. *Your prayer and presence saves lives.*

This is the last bulletin edition for 2 weeks. The BIG MOVE into our new Ministry Center calls for an all hands on deck effort! We'll resume our bulletin publication schedule Sunday, August 15. Look for an eNews on August 6, or sooner if there's fast-breaking news.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Prayer Blanket Blessing and Anointing of the Sick Monday, August 9, at 8 am Mass

Prayer blankets allow our parish to reach out in a ministry of comfort and healing. The prayers of our community represented by the blankets are appreciated by each recipient. Here's an excerpt from a recent message of thanks, "My surgery... proved more complicated than I expected, but the outcome was very positive. I truly believe prayer played a big role in my very successful surgery." The Prayer Blanket Ministry members continue to work from home. If you are interested in helping, please contact Nancy Hrin at tnejs@aol.com or 512-837-3658.

Knightly News

As we're busily working toward the future, this week our KC Council invites us to glance back with a smile to a 1992 edition of the Texas Knight. The big news was the speaker for their 88th annual State Convention. You'll see a familiar face as you look back with them in the [Knightly News](#).

FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

An invitation from beyond our parish ~ Young Catholic Professionals (YCP) challenge, train and inspire young adults working in various professions to *Work in Witness for Christ*. The Austin YCP invites all ages to engage in their ministry:

- **20s & 30s:** Enjoy free beer and wine, find new friends, and hear faith and career advice from local Catholic business leaders at our events!

- **40+:** Serve the young adults in your community as a mentor, board member, or financial supporter of YCP!

YCP offers a variety of events to foster Catholic identity, encourage community and inspire action. To learn more about upcoming events, visit ycpaustin.org.

GIVE

The Stewardship Pledge campaign is our appeal to parishioners to commit to giving to our Offertory regularly - be it weekly, monthly, or annually. It's a commitment to the Offertory. We ask for pledges so that we can have an idea of what our revenues will be and budget accordingly. These Stewardship - Offertory dollars are what we rely on for the day-to-day operations of the parish. On April 29, we tried something new by inviting you to make a commitment or pledge of support to the parish with **an email campaign**. We are grateful to all who responded with generosity. To give everyone else an opportunity to make their Stewardship pledge, on July 16 we mailed a letter that many received this week. If you haven't yet, please pledge your [Stewardship](#).



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