

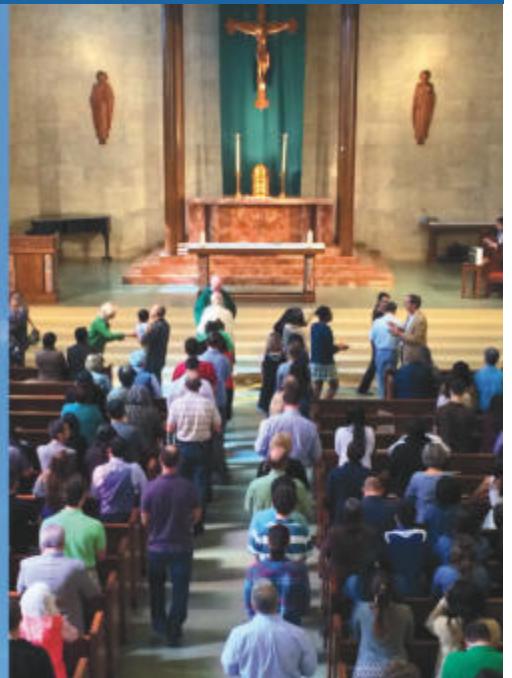


ST. AUSTIN CATHOLIC PARISH

Served by the Paulist Fathers

2026 Guadalupe Street
Austin, Texas 78705
tel 512.477.9471 • fax 512.477.9430
www.staustin.org

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. & 5:30 P.M.,
ALL MASSES ARE LIVESTREAMED.**

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 FR. CHUCK



Today we take a break from good old Ordinary Time, and pause to celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven. By a special favor of her Son, Jesus Christ, she did not experience the corruption of the grave, but was assumed (hence the Assumption) directly into heaven, to be face-to-face with her Son, Jesus.

Therefore, I contend, Mary is an example of what all of us hope to receive, the fullness of life, body and soul. As the famous English author, Graham Greene, commented, the resurrection of Jesus might be viewed as the resurrection of a god, but the assumption of Mary is a clear promise of the destiny of all of us.

It seems therefore fitting that this weekend we also make our push for our faith formation program here at St. Austin parish. Some of our parish children are enrolled in our parish grade school, and receive their formal religious instruction at school. Many others of our children are enrolled in our parish faith formation program (a/k/a religious education). Now is the time to register.

Whether the children attend Catholic school or are enrolled in our faith formation program, religious formation first and foremost takes place in the home. It is the privilege and the responsibility of the parents to share their faith with their children. This is done primarily by example. Children imitate their parents, and the example of faith their parents provide, or fail to provide, will be the most significant factor in forming the children in a life of faith.

But beyond that, and reinforcing that formation provided by the parents, the children also need information and knowledge. In the faith formation program, children learn about the Sacraments and prepare to receive their first reconciliation, first Holy Communion, and eventually to be Confirmed. The children learn about the liturgy, about prayer, about the liturgical seasons and what is important to us about Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and even Ordinary Time! They learn about Catholic teaching on social justice, on concern for the environment, and personal morality. All this and more does not take the place of the religious formation done in an everyday way by the parents, but works as a supplement and a more consistent presentation of the faith.

The entire parish is involved in the effort to pass on our faith in the Good News of Jesus Christ to our next generation. The very best way to teach the faith is by example. Our children are always watching how we pray, if we join in the singing, and especially how we treat and care for others, especially those with difficulties and needs. You are always teaching whether you want to or not. Anyway, I strongly encourage parents to continue walking their faith journey with their children in the home or small Christian communities as we share in our Pilgrimage together these next two years. And I remind all of us, parents or not, that we are always teaching by our example to the younger among us. They are watching!

A very special thank you to all who volunteer to teach and assist in our parish faith formation program. You are special!

God bless,

Fr. Chuck

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT

The next big effort this Moving Summer is that of the Rectory. Occupied since 1953, our shepherds have for many years lived with precarious plumbing, an idiosyncratic elevator, and recent rains into the third floor. One parishioner helping with the rectory packing observed, "This change is *long* overdue." Please keep our shepherds in your prayers as they endure a period of inconvenience until we can get them comfortably settled into their development home.

While we're not fully settled into our new Ministry Center yet, we're closer every day! As in any settling in, there have been hiccups, but the space is fresh. It's practically brand new in comparison to our well-loved but weary old spaces. After all, it was built in the late 2000s! As we continue to straddle the alley and San Antonio, our reception team will still be in Newman Hall while staff will be on Level Two at 500 West MLK. Thank you for your patience as we iron out wrinkles as they appear.

This effort has been monumental! We're amazed by the generosity of our volunteer team. We're very grateful for the patience, creativity, perseverance, and kindness exhibited by this community. Please join our prayers of thanksgiving for the success of this effort so far.

WORSHIP & SACRAMENTS

Your Smile Makes a Welcome Difference

Can you help us welcome our guests at Mass? Your gift of hospitality will be contact-free and would mean so much to our visitors. **NOW** is the time to get your EIM training (or make sure you are current) taken care of as it is a requirement to serve at Mass. EIM compliance is also the only requirement to serving as a greeter.

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.

A Look Back at Exploration of Dorothy Day's Work

Earlier this summer Pat Macy and Fr. Bruce Nielo shared their love and knowledge of Dorothy Day and her work with all types of people. We've heard from many of you that you wanted to participate but could not, and know that some of our participants had to miss a session from time to time. We recorded the series to share with you. You'll find links to them on our website at [Dorothy Day](#). We hope you'll find time to explore and enjoy these sessions.

CHARITY & JUSTICE

7 Steps to Take to Help Avert the Worst Climate Change Consequences

by David Knowles

Monday's release of the latest grim assessment from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change makes clear that global warming will continue to intensify over the coming decades and that, as a result of human inaction to curb greenhouse gas emissions, extreme weather events will continue to worsen.

But humankind still has the power to keep the mercury from rising even further if a concerted effort is undertaken at once.

"We can still avoid the worst consequences, but not if we continue like today, and not without treating the crisis like a crisis," climate activist Greta Thunberg tweeted Monday.

While it is easy to slip into climate despair, there are steps to be taken that, though insufficient to solve the problems posed by climate change, attempt to keep the worst consequences at bay.

1. Eat less meat
2. Reduce food waste
3. Adopt clean energy alternatives
4. Plant a lot of trees
5. Cut down on flying
6. Weatherize your home
7. Vote with climate change in mind

COMMUNITY LIFE

Clearing the Courtyard

Thanks to all the families who literally paved the way! Your gifts made our lovely plaza possible! You gave us a surprising oasis where, for many years, our trickling fountains and birdsong made the bustle of Guadalupe Street seem distant.

This last opportunity to have a bit of St. Austin's past is the Clear the Courtyard event. On Tuesday, August 31, after 8 a.m. Mass and until 8 p.m., parishioners are invited to clear the courtyard of your family's inscribed bricks. Also available will be the plants and landscaping materials there - from pavers, to plants.

This is a strictly DIY event. Please bring everything you might need to carry away what you'd like - tools for prying your bricks free, pots and gardening tools to remove plants. PLEASE don't forget to bring water, sunscreen, bug spray, etc.

Plan to Join Our Celebration of Farewell

The effort expended in moving the mountains we have this summer culminates with a special event on Saturday, August 28. The doors of the church will open promptly at 9 a.m. At 9:30, we'll gather in prayer of Thanksgiving and reflect on the beautiful memories we have of the buildings that have served us from 1918 forward. Our communal stories will be shared by Michael Flahive for the parish and Barbara Kennedy for our school. From there we'll process to the new Ministry Center to bless and commission it into service. After that, we'll fling open all our buildings so that you can bid them a fond farewell. We hope that parishioners will participate in this special homecoming and that SACS alumni will return to their aerie. To mark the end of the day, we'll have a cool and refreshing treat.

COMMUNITY LIFE

A Bouquet of Thanks from the Parish Staff to the Prayer Blanket Ministry

Earlier this summer, the parish staff met for our first in-person gathering since the pandemic isolation began. To mark this most unusual time, the Prayer Blanket team was commissioned to create blankets for each of the parish staff in recognition of their service. Our blankets are exquisitely worked and created in addition to their regular production. These unique gifts are cherished knowing that each stitch represents the prayers of these generous women. We'd like to shout our thanks from the rooftops. We're honored by these gifts.

Prayer Blankets

Our prayer blankets bring comfort near and far! Recently we received a thank you from a prayer blanket recipient in New England along with a photo taken of her wrapped in the blanket in the chemo clinic. She shared, *"I wear it at each chemo session and I feel hugged. I am grateful for the gift of artistry with the prayers that come with it."* Please keep this recipient along with all the others on our Prayer Blanket and Prayers for Healing list in your prayers. And pray for our Prayer Blanket ministry as well. The beautiful work they do and the prayers with which they do it are powerful indeed. If you're interested in either sending or receiving a prayer blanket or helping, please contact Nancy Hrin at tnejs@aol.com or 512-837-3658.

Knights News

Our Star is shining! Council 10776 has received the Star Council Award for our activities in 2020-2021 Fraternal Year. This award recognizes excellence in program activity, membership growth, insurance promotion, fraternal reporting, and Safe Environment compliance. We thank the Council members and the great community at St. Austin for helping us achieve this status. See our [webpage](#) for a full listing of activities.

ST. AUSTIN CATHOLIC SCHOOL



St. Austin Catholic School is currently accepting applications for two open positions for the upcoming 2021-2022 academic year:

**Temporary Middle School Science Teacher,
and permanent PreK Lead Teacher.
Classes start Monday, August 16th.**

Job Posting links are at StAustin.org/sacs



September 29—November 7
Join our Angels in support of this event of action and prayer. Learn more at the Gabriel Project page on our website.

GIVE

On this Feast of Our Lady's Assumption, I offer you a little spiritual bouquet in thanksgiving for your continued kindness. With the generosity of this parish foremost in my mind and heart this Sunday I will pray the Rosary, a Memorare, and our Lady's hymn of praise, the Magnificat. Thank you for giving your valuable time, your tremendous talent, and your hard earned treasure in support of St. Austin Catholic Parish. Thank you for giving!

~Mitzi

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