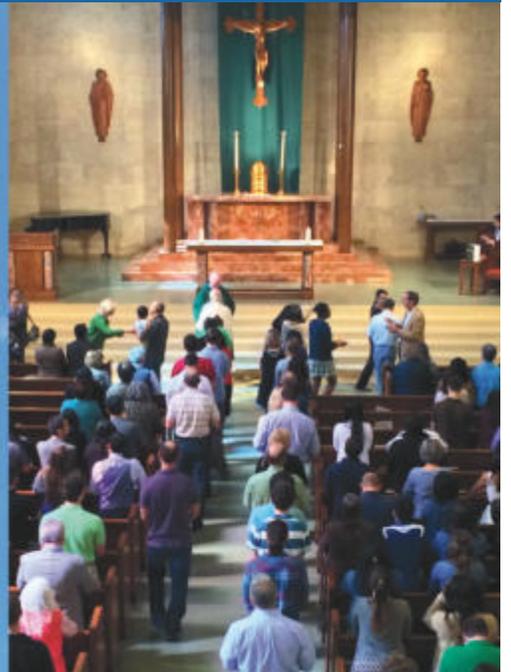




**BRINGING THE WORD OF GOD TO LIFE SINCE 1908**



**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.

**\*THESE MASSES ARE LIVESTREAMED AT  
STAUSTIN.ORG, ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL,  
AND ON 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. We ask that masks 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.

**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



Dear fellow parishioners,

First a serious issue and then an invitation. As you well know the State of Texas now has a law prohibiting abortions after a fetal heart-beat can be detected, at about six weeks of pregnancy. While all those who are pro-life and opposed to abortion may want to celebrate this victory, I urge you to remember that this is far from a complete success in developing respect for all human life from the moment of conception till natural death. This is a victory in only the most limited sense.

We have laws against theft and against human trafficking, and we are glad that we have such laws. But they are hardly what we want our fellow citizens (and ourselves) to consider when presented with an opportunity to steal or to traffic other people. The laws help keep us safe, but they are NOT what the Kingdom of God is about. They are a minimum boundary that helps to keep us safe. Laws are about fear, but the Kingdom of God is about life and about love.

Similarly, the new law against abortion will not necessarily increase respect for all human life from the moment of conception to natural death. That positive value is what we as Christians must strive for. The ceasing of abortions in itself is NOT an increase in respect for human life. Therefore, our job as Christians to witness to the dignity of all human life is far, far, far from complete.

It seems clear to me that this new law impels (or should impel) all Christians who value human life to step up their efforts to support women who find themselves in difficult situations of pregnancy. Many of these women feel abandoned and overwhelmed. We need to do much more to let them know that we are ready to provide them emotional, spiritual, financial and physical help, with a listening ear, diapers and supplies, and medical and emotional help.

Fortunately, we have a vehicle to assist women in difficult pregnancy situations through our Gabriel Project here at St. Austin's. The Saint John Paul II Life Center in Austin is another important resource. Both provide concrete practical help to pregnant women, and both need to be better known.

In short, this is not a time to celebrate a victory, but rather a call to redouble our efforts to promote respect for all life, regardless of age, or creed, or ability, or race or national origin. All people are our sisters and brothers, and we are called to live that out. We have lots to do.

Secondly, I want to invite you to a virtual fly through of our new parish ministry and school space. It will take place here, in St. Austin Church, at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday September 19. It will last about an hour. It will be live-streamed, but we think the quality of the live-stream will be a little shaky. So if you can join us, please do. I think you will be impressed. Right here in church!

God bless,

*Fr. Chuck*

## WORSHIP & SACRAMENTS

### Music Ministry Opportunities

Rehearsals for our music ministers will begin soon and there are several opportunities to be involved - the St. Austin Parish Choir (11:30 a.m.), our 8:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Ensembles, and/or as an instrumentalist. If you are interested in being part of our music ministry feel free to visit with [Dr. Andrea Pobanz](#) in the organ loft after the 5 p.m. Vigil and/or 11:30 a.m. Mass, or [Rudy Davenport](#) after the 8:45 a.m. and/or 5:30 p.m. Mass by the piano in the sanctuary.

## FAITH FORMATION

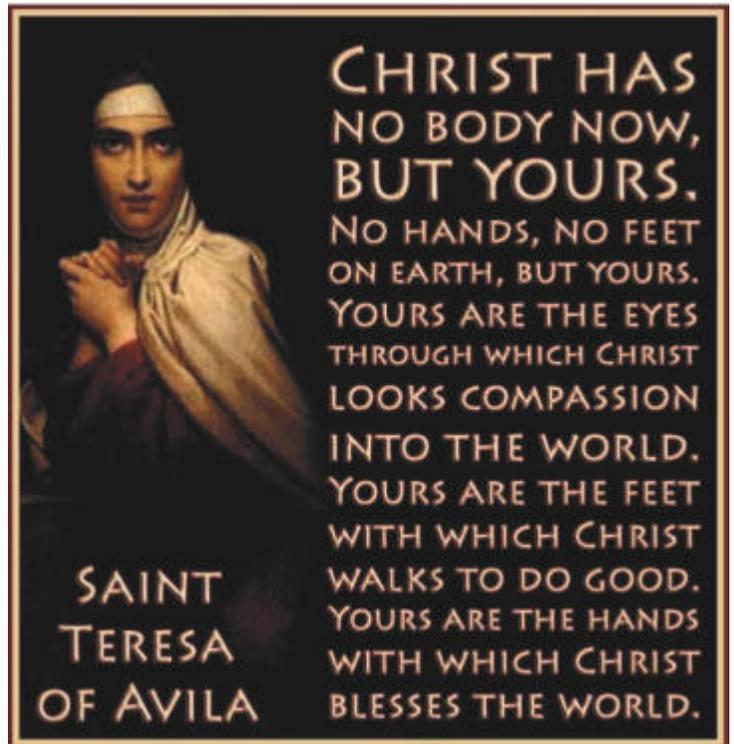
### Faith Formation

Registration for the 2021-22 school year is open for all grades from Pre-K3 through high school. Visit [Faith Formation](#) for information on programs for young people and adults, including the registration form 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](mailto:RVaughn@StAustin.org).

## ETHICS AND INTEGRITY IN MINISTRY



### *EIM? Why me?*

Why is EIM certification important? Because it is a prerequisite for participation in all volunteer ministries. And the fact is that, at St. Austin, **YOU** are those ministries of worship, education, and service. **Online EIM training is only available until January 2, 2022.** Visit [Ethics & Integrity in Ministry](#) on our website to learn more, get links to register for training, or to report abuse.

## CHARITY & JUSTICE

### SVdP Rallies To Help a Vet

We received a call this week from a Navy Veteran who was living in his car until he could get enough money together to rent an apartment before starting school in October. Our ministry was able to donate money toward rent and get a voucher for a bed and mattress from the St. Vincent de Paul store. We were also able to collect sheets, towels, a table and chairs, lamps, dishes, utensils, blankets and much more. He was so happy to move into his apartment and will receive veterans school benefits in time to start school in October. We are also hoping to help him get a computer - if anyone has one to donate, please email Huddie Murray at [hwmwswim@gmail.com](mailto:hwmwswim@gmail.com). Volunteers are always welcome!



**September 22—October 31**  
Join our Angels in support of this event of action and prayer. Learn more at the Gabriel Project page on our website.



Photo credit: Joseph Odelyn/AP

At the Request of Archbishop Gomez & the Bishops of the (USccB) We'll Pray & request a Second Collection for the People of Haiti.

September 11 - 12, 2021

## ST. AUSTIN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. Austin Catholic School is delighted to celebrate it's 104th year "Shaping the Future" of students from many parts of the Austin-metro area, neighboring cities and indeed the world. The School, as with all our parish's ministries, depends on our annual fundraising campaigns to ensure its sustainability, the high level of academics it is known for and the enrichment opportunities it provides. Centered around the Paulist mission, St. Austin Catholic School provides a faith based education which "prepares students to be Christ-centered, academically strong moral community leaders."

This year, St. Austin Catholic School extended \$130,000 in tuition assistance to families. Your continued support is needed as we traverse the hills, valleys and blind corners of the pandemic, the transition to a new campus and, for the second year in a row, the uncertainty of what the future holds for us to host large in-person events.

We ask that you please consider making your annual gift to our school at: [app.hellofund.com/ShapingTheFuture](http://app.hellofund.com/ShapingTheFuture) or by scanning the QR Code provided here.



## COMMUNITY LIFE

### Knightly News

Educational Grant applications are now being accepted! The Texas State Council of the Knights of Columbus will award several needs-based grants of \$1000 each to students in the Austin diocese. The applicant must be a Knight in good standing or his spouse, child or grandchild. Descendants of a deceased Knight are also eligible to apply. Any graduating senior of a Catholic high school in Texas is eligible when sponsored by a local Council in Texas – even if the student's parent or grandparent is not a Knight. The deadline for application is March 1, 2022 - but don't delay! Please go to [www.tkokc.org/downloads/texas-state-council-forms](http://www.tkokc.org/downloads/texas-state-council-forms) to download the fillable application and instructions.

Join the Knights of Columbus for Free! Eligible men can join online for free at [kofc.org/joinus](http://kofc.org/joinus) and pay \$0 first-year dues by entering the promotion code **MCGIVNEY2020**. Becoming a member has never been easier or faster! Contact Paul Lewis ([plewis5340@sbcglobal.net](mailto:plewis5340@sbcglobal.net)) for more information on educational grant and membership.

### Prayer Blanket Part Two as Promised

Last week we shared the first part of a message of thanks we received from Emili, a parishioner who shared her family's PB story.

*I shared with his [Dr. Jacob 's] wife recently, how Fr. René came to ICU and would give us communion. He gave us one for Isa while she was very, very ill and almost didn't make it. He also prayed over her.*

*I had no idea there were people at St. Austin who were praying for us!! We still have Isa's blanket and she used it for years, even when she became too tall. We will keep it forever. It is white and has bright pink and green animals on it with green stitching. I can see it clearly in my mind even though it's in the next room.*

*Did you know we call all of you "Our Church ladies"? (I know there are probably men too.) You all would wave to us when Isa was born but it was Fr. René who told us that you were praying. And he named your names. We were so taken aback by the community and overwhelmed with emotion.*

*I still get emotional thinking about the support we had behind us. Without even knowing.*

Thank you, you are so dear to us and those of us who have needed prayer feel it deeply by those of you who pray

## GIVE

*"A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good..."*

This line from the Gospel of Luke ( 6:45) describes so fully this beloved community. The stories in this bulletin bear witness to the good you produce. Our SVdP Society coming together to help a Navy vet and our Prayer Blanket ministry and others in the parish praying for little Isa when she was so gravely ill are samples of the goodness that comes from your hearts. Thank you for those gifts from your store of goodness.

**Thank you for giving!**

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