

FIlius MEVS DILECTVS

ECCE AGNVS DEI

**ST. THERESA**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL  
Worship Aid and Bulletin / January 10, 2021

# INTRODUCTORY RITES

Processional Hymn – *Jesus, at the Jordan Baptized*

*Please stand*



1. Je - sus, at the Jor - dan bap-tized By your proph-et -  
2. Break - ing not the bruised and bat-tered, Quench-ing not the  
3. Saints, through-out the a - ges bap-tized, Born of Spir - it,  
4. Chris - tian, at the foun - tain bap-tized, Mem - ber of God's



cous - in John, Spir - it - blest for works of jus - tice,  
ti - ny flame, Free - ing pris - 'ners from con - fine - ment,  
born to light, Liv - ing now with Christ, who called you,  
house - hold here, For the deeds of mer - cy mis - sioned,



Fa - vored ser - vant, cho - sen one: Al - le - lu - ia,  
Heal - ing deaf and blind and lame: Al - le - lu - ia,  
Let us share your glo - ry bright. Al - le - lu - ia,  
Show the world a love sin - cere. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, You are God's be - lov - ed Son!  
al - le - lu - ia, Light of Na - tions is your name!  
al - le - lu - ia, Fam - 'ly ho - ly, God's de - light!  
al - le - lu - ia, Son be - lov - ed, daugh - ter dear!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b.1939, © 2011, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Tune: FORTUNATUS NEW, 8 7 8 7 8 7; Carl F. Schalk, b.1929, © 1967, Concordia Publishing House

## Invocation

**Penitential Act**—*Lord Have Mercy*, Palestrina, arr. Covington

Sung: **Kyrie Eleison,  
Christe Eleison,  
Kyrie Eleison**



Glory to God—Mass of St Theresa, Covington

(Organ) Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace on earth to  
peo-ple of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we a-dore you, we glo-ri-fy you, we  
give you thanks for your great glo - ry, Lord God hea-ven-ly King, O God, al -  
migh-ty Fa - ther. Lord Je - sus Christ On - ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord God  
Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the  
sins of the world, have mer - cy on us; you take a -  
way the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer;  
you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on  
us. For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly  
Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - men,  
a - - men.

Collect

*Please sit*

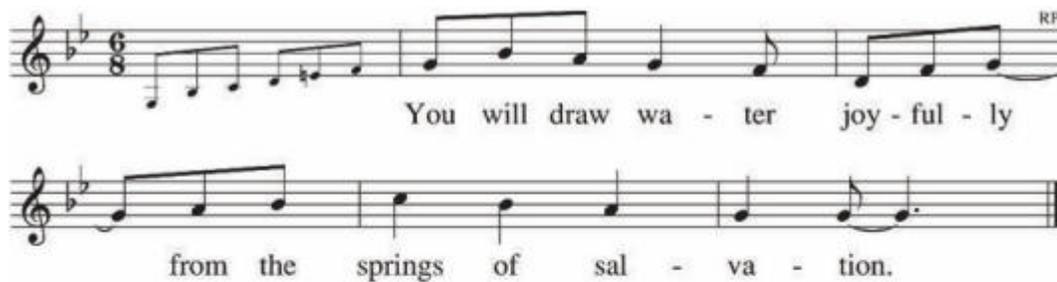
# THE LITURGY *of the* WORD

## First Reading – *Isaiah 55:1-11*

Thus says the LORD: All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat; come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk! Why spend your money for what is not bread, your wages for what fails to satisfy? Heed me, and you shall eat well, you shall delight in rich fare. Come to me heedfully, listen, that you may have life. I will renew with you the everlasting covenant, the benefits assured to David. As I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander of nations, so shall you summon a nation you knew not, and nations that knew you not shall run to you, because of the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, who has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked man his thoughts; let him turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. As high as the heavens are above the earth so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts. For just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.

## Responsorial Psalm – *Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6*



Truly, God is my salvation,  
I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
he became my savior.  
With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. R.

Give thanks to the Lord,  
give praise to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds

known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name.  
Sing a psalm to the Lord! R.

For he has done glorious deeds,  
make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion,  
sing and shout for joy  
for great in your midst  
is the Holy One of Israel. R.

Text: *The Revised Grail Psalms*, © 2010, Conception Abbey and The Grail, admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.;  
Refrain, *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL  
Music: Richard Proulx, © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Second Reading – *1 John 5:1-9*

Beloved: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith. Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

## Second Reading *continued*

This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. The Spirit is the one who testifies, and the Spirit is truth. So there are three that testify, the Spirit, the water, and the blood, and the three are of one accord. If we accept human testimony, the testimony of God is surely greater. Now the testimony of God is this, that he has testified on behalf of his Son.

## Gospel Alleluia - *cf. John 1:29*

*Please stand*

John saw Jesus approaching him, and said:  
Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

## Gospel - *Mark 1:7-11*

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

## Homily

*Please sit*

## Nicene Creed

*Please stand*

I believe in one God, the Father  
almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came  
down from heaven,

*(All bow for the following words)*

**and by the Holy Spirit  
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius  
Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge  
the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayers of the Faithful

## Announcements

*Please sit*

# THE LITURGY *of the* EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Anthem

*Infinite Light*, English Traditional, arr. Martin Shaw

Invitation to Prayer

*Please stand*

Prayer over the Offerings

Holy, Holy, Holy – *Mass of St Theresa*, Covington

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord  
God of hosts. Hea - ven and earth are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est.

*Please kneel or be seated*

Mystery of Faith – *Mass of St Theresa*, Covington

Save us Sa - vior of the world, for by your cross and  
Re - sur - rec - tion, you have set us free.

Great Amen – *chant*

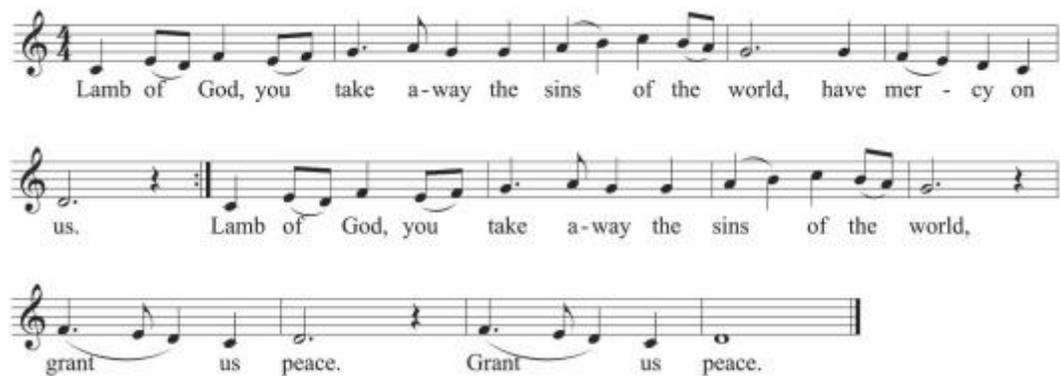
*Please stand*

## THE COMMUNION RITE

Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace

## Lamb of God *from* Mass for St. Theresa, Covington



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on  
us, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,  
grant us peace. Grant us peace.

*Please kneel as you are able*



## Communion Antiphon – *St. Meinrad Communion Antiphon*, Columba Kelly, OSB

### Congregational Refrain



We have seen and be - lieve that you are the Son\_\_ of God!

## Communion Hymn – *O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word*



1. O ra - dian - t Christ, in - car - nate Word, E - ter - nal  
2. Our bar - tered, bus - y lives burn dim, Too tired to  
3. Your glo - ry shone at Jor - dan's stream, The font where  
4. O Light of Na - tions, fill the earth; Our faith and  
love re - vealed in time: Come, make your home with -  
care, too numb to feel. Come, shine up - on our  
we were born a - new. At - tune your Church to  
hope and love re - new. Come, lead the peo - ples  
in our hearts, That we may dwell in light sub - lime.  
shad - owed world: Your ra - dian - ce bathes with pow'r to heal.  
know you near; Il - lu - mine all we say and do.  
to your peace, As stars once led the way to you.

Text: Ruth Duck, b.1947, © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Tune: WAREHAM, LM; William Knapp, 1698–1768

## Prayer after Communion

*Please stand*

# THE CONCLUDING RITES

## Hymn of Thanksgiving – Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



1. Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to  
2. Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and  
3. Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole Pal - sied limbs and  
4. Grant us grace to see you, Lord, Pres - ent in your



you we raise, Man - i - fest - ed by the star  
King su - preme; And at Ca - na, wed - ding guest,  
faint - ing soul; Man - i - fest in val - iant fight,  
ho - ly word. By that grace which you en - dow,



To the sag - es from a - far; Branch of roy - al  
In your God - head man - i - fest; Man - i - fest in  
Quell - ing all the dev - il's might; Man - i - fest in  
Help us im - i - tate you now, That we, pure like



Da - vid's stem In your birth at Beth - le - hem;  
pow'r di - vine, Chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
gra - cious will, Ev - er bring - ing good from ill;  
you, may be At your great e - piph - a - ny;



An - thems be to you ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
An - thems be to you ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
An - thems be to you ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
And may praise you, ev - er blest, God in flesh made man - i - fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.  
Tune: SALZBURG, 77 77 D; Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702, harm. by J. S. Bach, 1685–1750

## Blessing and Dismissal



# THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

## MASS AND THE SACRAMENTS

**WELCOME** to St. Theresa Parish! We are glad you are here and want to walk with you no matter where you are on your journey of faith.

**Rev. Larry Covington, Pastor**  
**Rev. Moses Iyogwoya MSP, Parochial Vicar**

### MASS TIMES

**Monday—Friday** | 11:30 AM

**Saturday** | 5:00 PM

**Sunday** | 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM\*, 11:00 AM

\*This mass will be livestreamed.

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00—4:45 p.m. or by appointment

### OFFICE HOURS

**Mon—Friday** | 9 AM—5 PM | 512-451-5121

**BAPTISM**—Contact Donna Henderson, parish secretary.

**MARRIAGE**— Contact Kari Cruz (x1006) at least six months in advance of the wedding.

**FUNERALS**—Contact Kari Cruz (x1006) for arrangements.

**BECOMING CATHOLIC**— Contact Amy Allert (x1008).

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sun, 1/10 Children's Gospel Reflection, YouTube video  
Children's Catechesis, self paced, online  
RCIA, 11:30 a.m., Elmer Hall, Rm. 202

Mon, 1/11 RCIA Inquiry Session, 7-8 p.m., via Zoom

Tues, 1/12 Caregiver Support, 10:30 a.m., Zoom  
Connections, 7 p.m., Family Center & Zoom  
Theresa Moms, Endow, 8:30 p.m., Zoom

Wed, 1/13 Catalyst Men, 6:15-7:20 a.m., Zoom  
Senior Adult Friendship Group, 1:30, Elmer  
St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Zoom

Thur, 1/14 Grief Support, 4:00 p.m., via Zoom  
K of C Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Rm. 205

Sat, 1/16 Reconciliation, 4:00-4:45 p.m., church

Sun, 1/17 Children's Gospel Reflection, YouTube video  
Children's Catechesis, self paced, online  
RCIA, 11:30 a.m., Elmer Hall, Rm. 202

More information at [www.sttaustin.org](http://www.sttaustin.org).

## DAILY READINGS AND MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, January 9

1 Jn 5:14-21 Ps 149:1-6a, 9b Jn 3:22-30

5:00 p.m.....Reynaldo Chapa †

### Sunday, January 10

#### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Is 55:1-11 (Ps) Is 12:2-6 1 Jn 5:1-9 Mk 1:7-11

7:30 a.m.....Jack Waddell †

9:00 a.m.....Judy Renick †

11:00 a.m.....Parishioners of St. Theresa Catholic Church

### Monday, January 11

Heb 1:1-6 Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9 Mk 1:14-20

11:30 a.m.....Julianna Casey †

### Tuesday, January 12

Heb 2:5-12 Ps 8:2ab, 5-9 Mk 1:21-28

11:30 a.m.....Maria Johnson †

### Wednesday, January 13

#### Saint Hilary, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Heb 2:14-18 Ps 105:1-4, 6-9 Mk 1:29-39

11:30 a.m.....Leslie Key

### Thursday, January 14

Heb 3:7-14 Ps 95:6-7c, 8-11 Mk 1:40-45

11:30 a.m.....Mack † and Jeanette Breedlove

### Friday, January 15

Heb 4:1-5, 11 Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8 Mk 2:1-12

11:30 a.m.....Andrew Pierce †

### Saturday, January 16

Heb 4:12-16 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mk 2:13-17

5:00 p.m.....Walter Tacquard

### Sunday, January 17

#### SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20

Jn 1:35-42

7:30 a.m.....Alex and Leila Brown

9:00 a.m.....Jimmy McGinn & Shirley McGinn

11:00 a.m.....Parishioners of St. Theresa Catholic Church

## RCIA INQUIRY SESSION MONDAY, 7 PM, JAN 11

- ◇ Do you have questions about the Catholic faith?
- ◇ Are you considering becoming Catholic?
- ◇ Are you a Catholic adult needing to celebrate any of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Communion, Confirmation)?

If you have answered yes to any of these questions, or if you know someone who might be interested, please reach out! Contact Amy Allert to discuss the various options available, 512-451-2940, [amy-allert@sttaustin.org](mailto:amy-allert@sttaustin.org).

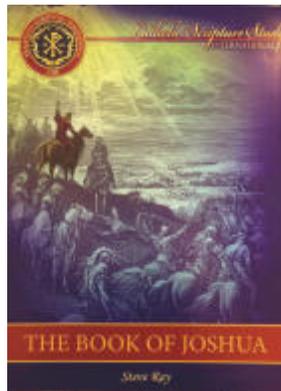
**The Inquiry Session overview is January 11th, 7-8 p.m. via Zoom.**



## NEW BIBLE STUDY ON JOSHUA

### STARTS JANUARY 20TH

Join us for this new study on *The Book of Joshua*, from Steve Ray and Fr. Scott Courtney. We all need role models to encourage us through the mess that daily life can become. Joshua was no stranger to this challenge, especially when charged with picking up where Moses left off, and leading the Israelites with prudence and patience. Choose **Wed. 7 - 9 p.m.** (on Zoom) or **Thurs. 9:15 - 11:15 a.m.** (in-person with masks).



## SR. ANN PENNINGTON ANNOUNCES "SEMI-RETIREMENT"

Sr. Ann Pennington, director of senior adult ministry and outreach for the parish, has announced that she will be moving to Waco to enjoy "semi-retirement." We will miss her ever joyful spirit and her inspired pastoral care and guidance for the elderly of the parish. Here is her note to the parish community:

*For the past six years I have had the joy and privilege of serving as director of senior adult and social outreach ministries here at St. Theresa. Truly we are blessed to be part of a parish whose members live out their faith in service and support to each other and to the community at large.*

*On the first of February, I will be relocating to Waco to begin a new phase of my journey which we might call "semi-retirement." I will be renting an apartment in the independent living section of Providence Park where I will be actively involved in ministry. Waco is quite familiar to me since I am a Baylor graduate and spent several years there in various types of ministry including church music and chaplaincy in hospital, long-term care, and hospice settings. When I called to ask about apartment availability, a former colleague answered the phone. A short time later, I was told that, out of appreciation for my years of ministry in Waco, Providence Park had decided to waive my entrance fee of \$1,800.*

*Please know how much I will miss you and I will keep you in my prayers.*

*May God bless you in every way,*

*Sr. Ann Pennington, SFCC, D. Min.*



## STEWARDSHIP

### Contributions:

Weekly—Dec 28-Jan 3.....	\$61,177
January to date.....	\$14,104
Month of December.....	\$258,385
Fiscal Year '21 to date.....	\$1,058,753

### Budgeted Offertory:

January Budget.....	\$153,467
December Budget.....	\$274,196
FY21 Budget.....	\$1,990,856

*For more information visit [sttaustin.org/ways-to-give](http://sttaustin.org/ways-to-give). Please contact Geneva in the parish office if you need assistance. Thank you!*

## Stories of Hope From St. Vincent de Paul

This case started with a call from a 17-year-old girl. Her mother had been forced to leave the apartment they shared in south Austin with her husband. The mother does not speak English. She was working three different part-time jobs in fast food when she was let go from one and had her hours reduced in the other two. The family was two months behind on rent, several months behind on utilities and the 17-year-old daughter is pregnant. St Vincent de Paul helped with their rent and utility bills, brought them a bed and a kitchen table with chairs, helped them receive food stamps, directed them to agencies to get further rent assistance and arranged for them to receive pro bono mediation with the father to help restore some form of child support. We continue to follow-up with them to ensure the expectant daughter is well and has what she needs during this special time.

**Please pray for the repose  
of the soul of:**

**Kathy Grady**

# CHILDREN & YOUTH

## WELCOME NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH DIRECTOR

We are excited to announce that Austin Choate will be spearheading our Middle School Youth Group starting this semester! Austin will be working with Chase Crouse in the Youth Ministry department to help expand our ministry and keep it growing. Austin was hired by the school last semester as the new middle school religion teacher. Originally from Dallas, he earned his BA in philosophy, religious studies, and Great Books from the University of Texas, where he also met his wife and converted to Catholicism. He has an MA in philosophy from the University of St. Thomas and is currently completing his PhD in theology. He and his wife have three young children.



## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS PRESENT VIRTUAL TALENT SHOW

All are invited to enjoy a Virtual Talent Showcase **Jan. 23** at 6:30 p.m. It is a free evening of talent, inspiration and celebration in honor of Catholic education. Bishop Bill Wack of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee will give the keynote address. Congratulations to STCS teacher **Clare Sprinkle** for being named the Unsung Hero of our school. She has been teaching P.E. at St. Theresa for 33 years and will be honored at the virtual event on Jan. 23rd. Visit [CSDATX.org](http://CSDATX.org) to reserve a spot, to become a sponsor or to donate online. Proceeds from the event are returned to schools for tuition assistance.



*Congratulations*  
**CLARE SPRINKLE**  
ST. THERESA'S CATHOLIC  
SCHOOL, AUSTIN

## EARLY STCS APPLICATIONS THIS YEAR

Are you considering Catholic School next fall? Early applications are currently open! Plan ahead for a great 2021-22 school year! Learn more at [st-theresa.org](http://st-theresa.org).

## STCS CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

January 19	Return to in-person classes with online option
January 23	Virtual Talent Showcase for Catholic schools
Jan 31—Feb 5	Catholic Schools Week
February 5	Grandparents' and Friends' Day
February 13	School Gala



## SENIOR ADULTS CORNER

We thank God for our senior adult parishioners and pray for their continued safety during this pandemic. We want to recognize and respond to their needs. If you are a senior adult and need support of any kind, please contact Sr. Ann Pennington at (512) 451-5121, ext. 1017 or [ann@sttaustin.org](mailto:ann@sttaustin.org).

**The Senior Adult Friendship Group** is meeting at a new time for the cooler months. They are now meeting at 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays on the outdoor terrace of Elmer Hall or in the Great Room, depending on the weather. All are welcome!

**Caregiver Support Group** meets the first Tuesday of each month from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. via Zoom. Contact Sr. Ann at [ann@sttaustin.org](mailto:ann@sttaustin.org) to receive the link to join.

**Grief Support Group** meets each Thursday at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. For more information and/or to be put on the Zoom invitation list, please contact Sr. Ann at [ann@sttaustin.org](mailto:ann@sttaustin.org). All ages welcome.

**Senior Adult Book Club** will resume meeting, but in a new way. Barbara Preston has graciously agreed to help choose a book to read for the month, and facilitate sharing by reporting on the book with a paragraph online. Contact Barbara at [bpreston@austin.rr.com](mailto:bpreston@austin.rr.com).



## Farewell Dan Girardot

Thank you to all who stopped by to wish a fond farewell to Dan Girardot on Dec. 26-27th. A special thank you to Celia Youngren of the sewing ministry for creating an amazing quilt. Blessings to Dan as he continues to bring his powerful ministry to others.

# PARISH NEWS

## ARE YOU CELEBRATING A MILESTONE WEDDING ANNIVERSARY?

If you are celebrating a milestone anniversary for your Sacrament of Marriage in 2021, we'd like to honor you with a certificate from the Bishop. If you are celebrating your 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th or above, you may send the following information, **by Jan. 18**, to Linda Gockel at [linda-gockel@sttaustin.org](mailto:linda-gockel@sttaustin.org):



- ◆ Name of the couple as you would like it to appear
- ◆ Number of years of marriage you will be celebrating
- ◆ Your mailing address
- ◆ Your email address

We regret that we will not be able to celebrate milestone anniversaries in person this year due to the pandemic and limits on capacity at Mass.

## FATHER LARRY'S BLOG

Did you know that Fr. Larry's (nearly) weekly messages to the St. Theresa family are posted on a page on our website called "From the Pastor." Find it at [sttaustin.org/from-the-pastor](http://sttaustin.org/from-the-pastor). We have received many positive comments from readers, including this one:



*"Every week, Fr. Larry sends out an email and hardly one goes by that does not stop me in my tracks to consider my faith, feel hope from, and be inspired by." – Rebecca G.*

If you have not been receiving his email messages, you can sign up on the homepage of our website for our email service, Flocknote.

## CATALYST RESUMES ON JANUARY 13th

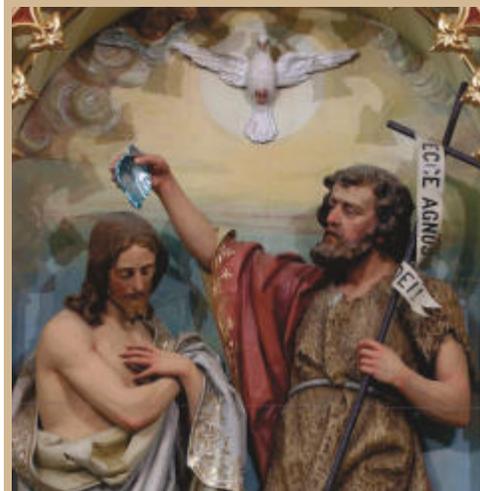
Men of St. Theresa's Parish, would you like to deepen your faith and strengthen your fellowship with other Catholic men during 2021? If so, Catalyst invites you to join 50-60 other men by Zoom every Wednesday morning as they explore how to become better disciples of Christ in a world that sometimes seems turned upside down. Find the calendar of content and more info at [sttaustin.org/catalyst-mens-ministry](http://sttaustin.org/catalyst-mens-ministry). Please email [menofcatalyst@gmail.com](mailto:menofcatalyst@gmail.com) to receive the latest "Catalyst Caller" email containing the session video content and a Zoom link for participating in group discussions. Join Catalyst every Wednesday morning, 6:15-7:20 a.m. beginning January 13th. Roll out of bed, grab some java, and join us when you can!



## JOIN CONNECTIONS WOMEN FOR NEW SERIES

Connections welcomes all women of the parish to start the new year learning about the Sacraments through Bishop Barron's new series, Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m., in-person or on Zoom. Contact [tjfrance@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tjfrance@sbcglobal.net) for Zoom link.

## LIVING THE GOSPEL



### The Baptism of the Lord

In today's Gospel, we see the Blessed Trinity unfold. As John baptizes Jesus, the Holy Spirit descends and God says, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Just as Jesus went forth to do good and heal the oppressed, we too go forth with the help of the Holy Spirit to do good and help our brothers and sisters in need. How can you help those in need around you? How do you continue to do the good work of Christ?

## THANK YOU

to all those who made our Christmas liturgies so beautiful—our choirs and musicians, our lectors, acolytes, deacons and priests, our hospitality ministers, our flower ministry and all those who volunteered to decorate the church! You are the hands and feet of Christ!

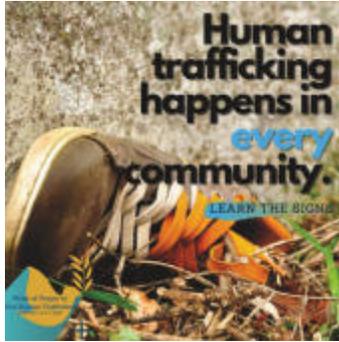
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# PARISH and DIOCESE

## PRAY TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops is urging all Catholics to set aside this week to pray for an end to human trafficking and to take time to learn more about this horrific crime that impacts many innocent victims in our Texas communities. There are three types of human trafficking: sex trafficking, forced labor and domestic servitude.



- ◆ Truck stops, hotels and private homes are among the places where people are sold for commercial sex.
- ◆ Forced labor is when victims work for little or no pay. Factories, farms and construction work are all places where people are forced to make products or food with little or no compensation.
- ◆ Domestic servitude includes nannies, maids or domestic help. Often women, these modern-day slaves are hidden in plain sight and held against their will because their identification papers and travel documents are taken by their traffickers.

Learn more and see daily prayers for the week at [txcatholic.org](http://txcatholic.org).

## HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR CATHOLICS ABOUT HOSPICE

Many people who are considering hospice care for a loved one have questions about how it is viewed by the Catholic Church. Our own Sr. Ann Pennington, who has worked as a hospice chaplain, has reassuring information and many tips to share on the subject. Find them in the News section of the homepage of the parish website [sttaustin.org](http://sttaustin.org).

## NEW SERIES ON CATHOLIC MYSTICS

Holy Cross Brother Joel Giallanza will present *Mondays with the Mystics* from January - May. He will explore what Catholic mystical tradition might have to say to our spirituality in today's modern world, with a look at the spirituality of Catholic mystics such as St. Francis of Assisi and St. Teresa of Avila. Details at [st-ignatius.org/mondays-with-the-mystics](http://st-ignatius.org/mondays-with-the-mystics). Come in person or join online.

## DOWN HOME RANCH IN NEED OF A GREEN THUMB OR TWO



Families, couples and individuals who enjoy working outdoors and in the soil have an opportunity to help out at the non-profit Down Home Ranch in Elgin which serves adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. There is a lot of spring planting to do in January and beyond. Learn more at

[downhomeranch.org](http://downhomeranch.org) and contact volunteer specialist Stephanie Lebens at [stephaniel@downhomeranch.org](mailto:stephaniel@downhomeranch.org) with questions or to volunteer. Face masks and social distancing are required for volunteers.

## PARISH OFFICE

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**Admissions:** Susie Thompson—[stthompson@st-theresa.org](mailto:stthompson@st-theresa.org)

# Welcome Home!

## *A few things you need to know about attending Mass*

Face masks are highly encouraged by order of the bishop.

Any who are 65 or older, those who have pre-existing conditions or those who are immunity compromised should remain home. Any person who is ill should remain at home.

The Bishop continues to waive the obligation to attend weekend Mass.

Please allow the hospitality ministers to find you a seat when you arrive, and please wait for them to usher you out of the building at the end of worship.

Late comers will be asked to remain in the narthex until the hospitality minister can seat them. This will be done only during the Responsorial Psalm.

The pews in the narthex are reserved for families with infants and small children. Please respect their needs.

At Holy Communion everyone must come forward to receive the Eucharist or a blessing. This prevents having to pass in front of other parishioners in the pews.

Please remember not to gather in the narthex either before or after Mass.

Those who are looking for greater distancing are encouraged to attend the 5:00 vigil on Saturday or the 7:30 a.m. Sunday Mass.

While we do sing at Mass, we have not yet resumed full congregational music participation at the direction of the Diocese.

Once seated, please remain in that designated space in order to maintain social distance. Moving about in the sanctuary should be avoided if possible.

Out of respect for the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, it is not permitted to receive Holy Communion in the hand while wearing gloves. It is also not permitted to rest anything, such as a tissue, on the hand to use as a barrier.

We regret that the church cannot remain open for private prayer following Mass, but it needs to be vacated so that we can begin sanitizing and preparing for the next Mass.



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