

STAFF

Rev. Fred Valone Pastor

Felix Ramos Permanent Deacon
Kathy Boscarino . .DRE / Y M
Maria DelgadoElem. CCE
Mari Maloney.....Administrative Asst.
Rick Reed Music Coordinator
Jill BakerNursery Coordinator
Letty Clark.Bookkeeper
Sylvia VitelaSecretary
Laura PuenteCustodian



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

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www.saintthomashuntsville.org
Fr. Fred's Disciples of Mercy blog fatermickey.com

"...there is no inequality of significance amongst us except holiness..."
"No hay desigualdad de importancia entre nosotros excepto la santidad..."

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 8, 2017



MASS INTENTIONS of the WEEK

Sat	1/7	5:30 pm	Catherine "Cathy" Gabel ✝
Sun	1/8	7:45 am	Parishioners
		10:45 am	Paula Legler Phillips ✝
		12:30 pm	Juan Garcia ✝
Mon	1/9	No Mass	
Tues	1/10	No Mass	
Wed	1/11	No Mass	
Thurs	1/12	No Mass	
Fri	1/13	No Mass	
Sat	1/14	5:30 pm	Chad Wagamon ✝
Sun	1/15	7:45 am	Parishioners
		10:45 am	Deceased members of the Miller family ✝
		12:30 pm	Jose Mortero Villanueva ✝

Weekly Readings

Mon	1-9	IS 42:1-4, 6-7; MT 3:13-17
Tues	1-10	HEB 2:5-12; MK 1:21-28
Wed	1-11	HEB 2:14-18; MK 1:29-39
Thurs	1-12	HEB 3:7-14; MK 1:40-45
Fri	1-13	HEB 4:1-5, 11; MK 2:1-12
Sat	1-14	HEB 4:12-16; MK 2:13-17
Sun	1-15	IS 49:3, 5-6; 1 COR 1:1-3; JN 1:29-34

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS / RECUERDEN EN SUS ORACIONES...

Judy Adib, Veronica Antwi, James Aubey, Irma Avalos, Gene Barrett, Jordan Bergeron, Chelsea Brown, Fidelis Burton, Phillip Caito, Sunni Cook, Sabrina Coronado, Terry Corral, Melanie Davis, Katie Davison, Tom and Erin Degnan, Jose Luis Ecamilla, Carrie, Justin, and Abby Claire Faltysek, Paul Fivel, Diane Fuller, Diana Garcia, Isla Garcia, Mary Gedelian, Mary Hall, Dorothy Jordan, Sandra Kilgore, Kevin Kretschmar, Dorothy Laskoskie, Al Losack, Don Marcotte, Sam and Marie Martinez, Ralph McHargue, Coby Meinzer, Bill Middleton, Donna Moore, Floyd and Maryann Moore, Tom Morales, Lourdes Mosqueda, Brenda Piñeda, John Raia, Lillian Rodriguez, Lydia Rodriguez, Maria Ines Rodriguez, Margaret Rozell, Jack Rumfield, Audra Rumfield, Ana Marie Santos, John Sarley, Jerry Seaton, Cindy Schwanke, Lorayne Shaw, Kayden Bryn Shipley, Linda Skains, Cheryl Smith, Elizabeth Speck, Tim Speck, Dorothea Stachowiak, Kathy Spivey, Dorothy Townsend, Matthew Varnum, Maria Elena Valencia, Leo Vasquez, Shirley Villareal, Alma Williams, Rose Youngblood.

OFFICE MEMOS

Important Office Memo to all Parish Ministries/Organizations: As the new year is about to start, we are now scheduling our parish ministries/organizations events in our 2017 calendar. It is important that we receive your yearly schedule to be included. Please email to svitela@sbcglobal.net or bring them by the office. Thank you for your cooperation.

REFLECTION... That, through our generous giving, we may show our gratitude to God for the great gift of vvsending His beloved Son to save us.

"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:11

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow all year long. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be the most generous with that one thing that means the most to us.

REFLEXION... Que, a través de nuestro aporte generoso, podamos mostrar nuestra gratitud a Dios por el gran regalo de enviar a su Hijo amado para salvarnos.

"Entonces abrieron sus tesoros y le hicieron ofrendas de oro, incienso y mirra." Mateo 2:11

La imagen de los Reyes Magos arrodillados ante el niño Jesús y abriendo sus arcones de tesoros para Él es una imagen que todos debemos tratar de seguir durante todo el año. En agradecimiento por todo lo que nos ha sido dado, estamos llamados a compartir generosamente todos nuestros dones, no sólo los que tomamos y elegimos. Dios quiere que seamos los más generosos con

Beware of Scams and Fraud Parishes: Please use caution if you receive phone calls from vendors or "community" organizations that want access to the senior group in your parish. Seniors are often targets for scammers and unscrupulous individuals wishing to prey on vulnerable or unsuspecting seniors. Please feel free to refer callers to the Office of Aging before connecting them to your senior group. The Office of Aging can speak with the vendor, check credentials with the Better Business Bureau and assist your parish senior group with connecting to legitimate service organizations. The Office of Aging can be reached at **713-741-8712**.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

Our parish Christmas project completed another successful year of sharing the Light of Christ with deserving families. The project was a success through the efforts of all who participated. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way: identifying families, purchasing gifts, donating food and/or money, the gift of time in sorting, organizing, and wrapping gifts, collecting and filling the food baskets and goodie bags, and delivering to the families. Each contribution is important for the project's success. We continue to be humbled by the generosity of our St. Thomas community. Blessings for 2017! Mary Gedelian, Kirstie and Mike Legerski

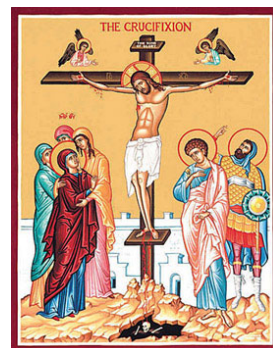
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ... Archdiocesan Mass celebrates the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. The Archdiocese will honor the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and remember his call to achieve peace through service to one another at its annual Mass at 3:00 p.m. on January 15 at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, 1111 St. Joseph Pkwy., in Houston. Catholics from all 10 counties of the Archdiocese will celebrate King's legacy at the 32nd annual Archdiocesan Mass honoring his birthday, which will be celebrated by Daniel Cardinal DiNardo as principal celebrant and Father Ralph Roberts as homilist. A reception will follow in the Cathedral Centre. For more information, call **713-652-8203**.

CARLOS SEOANE... Concierto "Canto y Predicación con Carlos Seoane" La oficina de Evangelización y Catequesis con la Casa Pasionista Holy Name y la parroquia de San Jerónimo Houston? invitan a todos al concierto de Alabanza GRATUITO que tendremos el Viernes 27 de Enero, 2017. Estará con nosotros Carlos Seoane desde Argentina, autor del disco "Cartas" con canciones inspiradas en textos de San Pablo para la editorial San Pablo en ocasión del año paulino, entre otros discos. Ha realizado giras dando conciertos y talleres de formación para músicos en Argentina, España, Estados Unidos, México, El Salvador, Colombia, Ecuador, Perú, Bolivia, Chile, Uruguay y Paraguay. Para mayor información visita www.archgh.org/OEC/Qados

CONTEMPLATIVE WEDNESDAY MORNINGS FOR WOMEN

"Praying with the Eyes, Ears, and Heart of a Believer"
Praying with Mary, Theotokos: Mother of God
9:00-12:30 p.m. Minimum offering: \$20

Cenacle Retreat House, 420 N. Kirkwood, Houston,
TX 77079
281-497-3131



COME JOIN US!

6-Day ICONOGRAPHY WORKSHOP
with

Fr. Elias Rafaj

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

January 16, 17, 18

January 23, 24, 25

9:30 AM to 5:00 PM

in the parish hall

All materials will be provided

Cost \$200

**Make checks payable to St. Thomas
Church and bring by the church office
or mail to:**

St. Thomas Church

ATTN: Icon Guild

1603 Avenue N

Huntsville, TX 77340

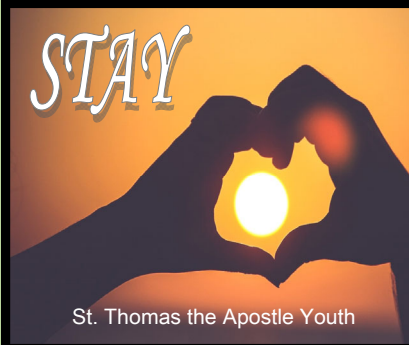
If you have any questions about iconography
please contact Fr. Elias Rafaj at
houstonelias@gmail.com

If you have any questions about the workshop
please contact Susan Garrett at
susangarrett8358@yahoo.com

**Sponsored by the
St. Thomas Catholic Church Icon Guild**

PASSIONS.... We should employ our passions
in the service of life, not spend life in the service
of our passions. —Richard Steele

TIME... Do not squander time, for that is the stuff
life is made of. —Benjamin Franklin



Contact Information

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(936) 520-6524

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Weekly Events

Sundays CCE 9:15 am—10:30 am
Edge (5th –8th grade) CCE Bldg
Lifeteen (9th– 12th) CSC

Wednesdays *STAY Youth Night*
6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Youth Cntr

2nd Thursday of Each Month
STAY Edge Night 6:00pm—7:30pm

I Praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works.
Psalm 139:14

Important Information

The final fall semester CCE Classes will be let out 5-10 minutes early to assist in traffic flow.
Beginning today, Sunday, January 8, 2017 CCE (Lifeteen; Edge and English k-5 CCE) will begin at 9:05 a.m. and end at 10:20 a.m.

The Spanish k-5 CCE and Confirmation times will remain the same.

Parents, Consider coming to the 7:45 a.m. Mass with your children.

January 08, 2017

Welcome Back!

Edge and Life Teen is today from 9:05 am—10:20 am

Coming up in STAY

Saturday, February 25, 2017 Archdiocesan Junior High Youth Rally @ St. Simon and Jude
from 10:30 am-9:00 pm. Cost is \$40. Registrations forms may be picked up at parish office, or
online at: www.saintthomashuntsville.org/faithformation/Edge
Deadline for registration is January 22, 2017

Friday, July 28—Sunday July 30 Archdiocesan Youth Conference for high school youth.
For more information, contact Kathy Boscarino, Youth Minister at 936-295-8159.

It's Time!

Interviews for *Adult Confirmation*
will begin

January 09, 2017 through January 20, 2017.

Candidates must be:

- Beyond high school age and have not been Confirmed
- Baptized Catholic and has received first Communion

If married, they are married in the Catholic faith or have an irregular marriage corrected before Confirmation

Please contact Kathy Boscarino, DRE
in the church office for more information or to set up an interview at (936) 295-8159 or
kboscarino@saintthomashuntsville.org

¡Es hora!

Las entrevistas para *Confirmación de Adultos*
comenzarán el

9 de Enero 2017 hasta el 20 de Enero 2017.

Los candidatos deben:

- Haber terminado la escuela secundaria y no estar confirmados
- Haber sido bautizados en la fe católica y haber recibido la Primera Comunión

Si son casados, que sea por la fe católica o si tienen un matrimonio irregular, debe ser corregido antes de ser Confirmado

Póngase en contacto con Kathy Boscarino, DRE

en la oficina parroquial para programar su entrevista. Llamar al (936)295-8159 o
kboscarino@saintthomashuntsville.org

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM... The unfolding of the story of the Incarnation continues today as the Church celebrates the Epiphany. The tale of the magi from the East is one of the most fascinating in all of scripture. It has much to teach us about what we can come to expect, even in circumstances and places that may seem insignificant or small. Bethlehem was a tiny town, what we might refer to today as a town without even one stop light. Yet it is over this seemingly insignificant place that the guiding star stops in its own search for the place where the Savior would be born. Too often we fail to recognize the fact that the star of Bethlehem comes to rest in our everyday lives, where we can experience God's presence, manifested in ever new ways. Epiphany calls us to shake off our stupor and recognize the One who comes to save us.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION...

This year, in the United States the celebration of the Epiphany falls on January 8, but the traditional date for the Epiphany is January 6. The date we know as January 6 was established as the solstice in Egypt in 1996 BC, but the Egyptian calendar lost a full day every 128 years. Twenty centuries later the actual solstice had migrated to December 25. People still kept January 6 for the solstice celebration, but December 25, matching nicely with the Roman pagan feast of the Unconquered Sun, launched an extended solstice holiday. By the time of the early church, the whole period of twelve days was celebrated just about everywhere. Christians began to celebrate Christ as the true light of the world in four themes: the Nativity, the manifestation to the Gentiles, the baptism of the Lord, and the wedding feast at Cana. That was entirely too much for one day to handle. A twelve-day season was ready to be adapted, so Christians borrowed from the pagan calendar for their own season of light. Thus early Christian celebrations of the Christmas season extended from one date for the solstice, December 25, to the older date, January 6. The darkest time in the Northern Hemisphere could now be filled with the Christian observance of the arrival of the Light of the World. —Rev. James Field, Copyright ©

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TRUE HAPPINESS... Abandon yourself utterly for the love of God, and in this way you will become truly happy. —Blessed Henry Suso

SELFLESSNESS REWARDED... Help another's boat across, and lo! thine own has reached the shore. —Old Hindu proverb

LA ESTRELLA DE BELÉN... El desarrollo del relato de la Encarnación continúa hoy cuando la Iglesia celebra la Epifanía. La historia de los Magos de oriente es uno de los relatos más fascinantes de las Escrituras. Nos enseña mucho sobre qué podemos esperar, incluso en circunstancias y lugares que pueden parecer insignificantes. Belén era un pueblo diminuto, lo que hoy diríamos un pueblo sin siquiera un semáforo. Sin embargo, es sobre este lugar aparentemente insignificante que la estrella guía se detuvo en su búsqueda del lugar en donde el Salvador nacería. Muchas veces no comprendemos que la estrella de Belén se posa en nuestra vida diaria, donde podemos sentir la presencia de Dios, manifestada de maneras diversas y nuevas. La Epifanía nos llama a salir de nuestro estupor y a reconocer a Aquél que viene a salvarnos. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE... Es tiempo de añadir los reyes magos al pesebre. En 1448 llegaron los pesebres italianos a las iglesias españolas, pero no fue hasta que el Rey Carlos III le regaló un pesebre a su hijo en el siglo XVIII que el uso de pesebres se expandió en los hogares. Desde entonces, el uso de nacimientos llegó al continente americano en donde se convirtió en la decoración principal para las fiestas navideñas. Así como en todo país latinoamericano el montaje del Belén es una tradición, lo es también en Venezuela. Con el pesebre venezolano llegan también aguinaldos, parrandas, Misas y patines. ¡Sí! ¡Patines! Desde la mitad del siglo pasado los venezolanos celebran la época navideña con "patinadas". Estas "patinadas" normalmente se hacen por las mañanas y muchas calles están cerradas a los autos hasta las 8 a.m. para que niños y jóvenes puedan disfrutar de los patines, bicicletas y otros juguetes que les regala el niño Dios. Por esto, muchos niños duermen con un "cordoncito" atado al dedo gordo de los pies, que cuelgan por la ventana para que los despierten los que pasan patinado. —Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



VERDADERA FELICIDAD... Abandónate por entero al amor de Dios, de esta manera serás genuinamente feliz. —Beato Henry Suso

EL ALTRUISMO PAGA... Si ayudas a otra barca a llegar a la orilla, verás que la tuya llega también. —Viejo proverbio hindú



Vigilia Pastoral XVII El Amor en la Familia Esperanza para el Mundo – El Amor Siempre Da Vida

Este evento está diseñado para toda la comunidad de habla hispana, es una noche de velación, alabanza y oración al Santísimo Sacramento durante 10 horas donde se invitan a los grupos y movimientos de jóvenes adultos que son parte de nuestra Arquidiócesis. Es organizada en su totalidad por los jóvenes adultos hispanos (18-35) de los varios grupos y movimientos que están bajo la dirección de la Oficina de Jóvenes Adultos y Pastoral Universitaria. El estilo litúrgico que se experimenta y se vive durante la noche se caracteriza por la alabanza y adoración carismática. El evento atrae a más de 900 jóvenes adultos y a más de 400 adultos cada año. Al amanecer cierra con la celebración Eucarística del domingo. Se llevará a cabo en el Centro Católico Carismático, localizado en el 1949 Cullen Blvd., Houston, TX 77023 comenzando el sábado, 21 de enero a las 7:00 p.m. y terminando el domingo, 22 de enero a las 6:00 a.m. del 2017. La misa será a las 6:30 a.m., celebrante: Su Eminencia Daniel Cardenal DiNardo. Recuerden que es un evento para toda la comunidad y es totalmente gratis.