



ST. THERESA
CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Making Disciples:
A Guide to
Parish Ministries*

MINISTRY BOOKLET



Welcome to St. Theresa Catholic Church

Welcome home! The family of Christ at St. Theresa Church welcomes you to the Catholic community of Northwest Austin. Our parish encompasses all the surrounding neighborhoods including Northwest Hills, Highland Hills, Balcones, Jester, Steiner Ranch, River Place, Westover Hills, City Park, The Courtyard/Scout Island, and more. Many of our parishioners live far beyond our parish boundaries and chose to make St. Theresa their spiritual home. All are welcome here.

We encourage you to use the **parish membership form** located in the back of church or online to let us know about you. Feel free to hand this to a hospitality minister or one of the clergy.

We invite you to discover a deeper relationship through one or more of our small group ministries. Essential to our personal growth is the strength we receive from other Christians who support us with caring, friendship, guidance, and accountability. Become part of our extended family at St. Theresa through the small group life of the church! Many of our parish groups and activities are listed in this book. More can be found on our church website www.sttaustin.org. If you are not sure how to become involved in one of our groups or activities, simply call the church office, (512) 451-5121, and we'll be glad to help.



Fr. Larry Covington
Pastor



Fr. Neville Jansze
Parochial Vicar

Who We Are

*Our mission is to make disciples for
the Lord Jesus Christ and,
together in ministry for Him,
advance the Kingdom of God.*

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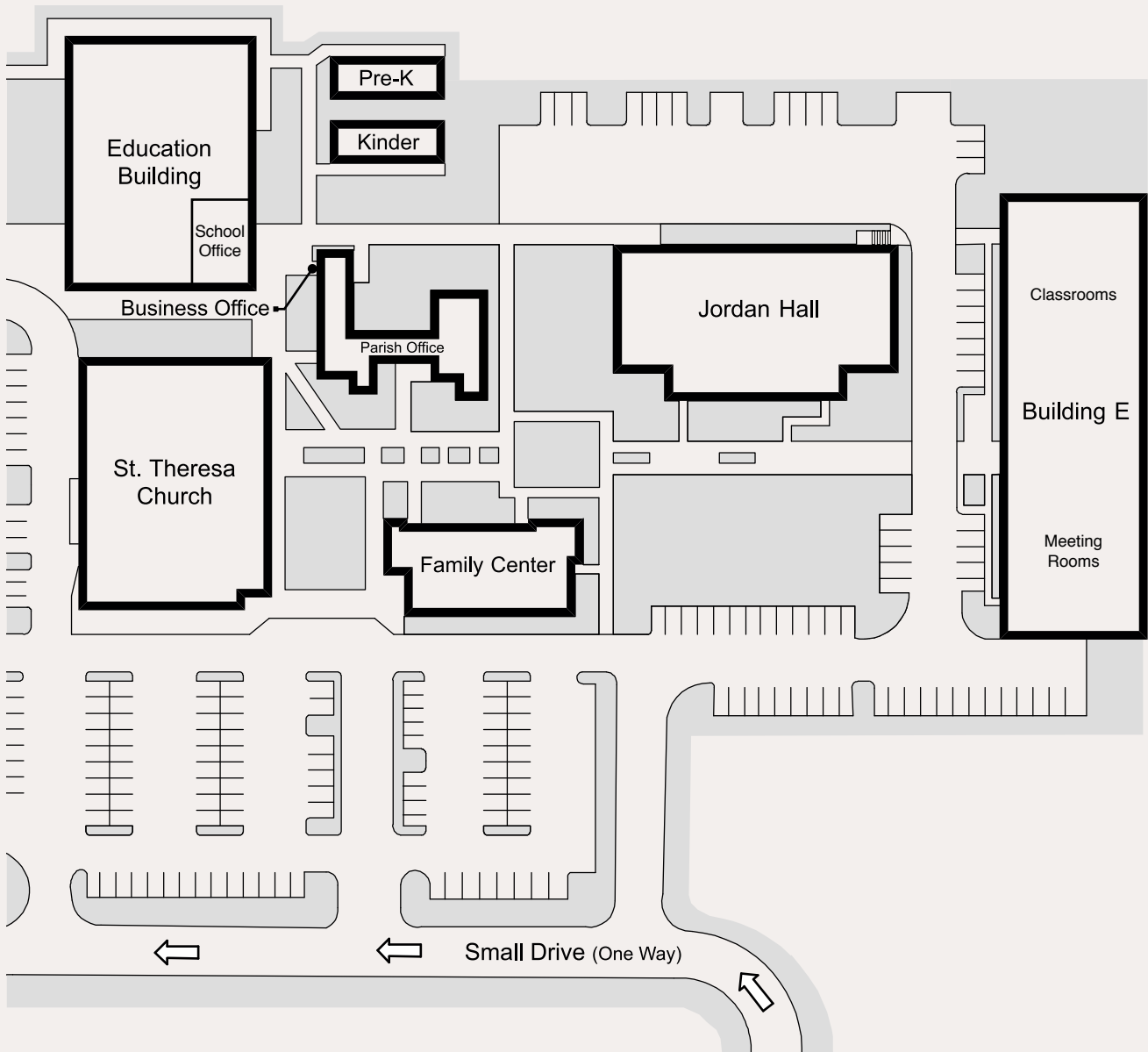
Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 5 p.m.
Sunday 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 5 p.m.
Weekday 11:30 a.m. Monday–Friday
Thursday 8 a.m. School Mass

Reconciliation

Saturday 4–4:45 p.m. or by appointment

Campus Map



Staff Directory

Parish Office: 512-451-5121

Pastor: Rev. Larry Covington—larry-covington@sttaustin.org

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Neville Jansze—fr-neville@sttaustin.org

Deacons:

George Zacek gezacek@gmail.com
Tony Pynes deaconpynes@gmail.com

Minister of Senior Adults and Social Outreach:

Sr. Ann Pennington, SFCC, D.Min.—Ext. 1017, ann@sttaustin.org

Financial Officer:

Theresa Keane—Ext. 1014, theresa-keane@sttaustin.org

Business Office Assistant:

Geneva Moore—Ext. 1003, geneva@sttaustin.org

Event and Volunteer Coordinator:

Jeanette Schmitz—Ext. 1002, jeanette-schmitz@sttaustin.org

Pastor Assistant and Bulletin/Newsletter:

Jamie Riscen—Ext. 1006, jamie@sttaustin.org

Liturgy and Music: (512) 451-5132

Director: Dr. Dan Girardot, D.Min.—Ext. 1004, dgirardot@sttaustin.org

Assistant: Linda Howard—Ext. 1020, lhoward@sttaustin.org

Evangelization and Catechesis: (512) 451-5121

Pastoral Associate: Marie Cehovin—Ext. 1008, marie-cehovin@sttaustin.org

Director of Children's Ministry: Beverly Riviello—Ext. 1027,
beverly-riviello@sttaustin.org

Director of Youth Ministry: Nina Koziuk—Ext. 1005, nina-koziuk@sttaustin.org

Communications and Assistant for Evangelization and Catechesis:

Linda Gockel—Ext. 1009, linda-gockel@sttaustin.org

Director of People and Organizations:

Laura Lincoln—Ext. 1031, laura-lincoln@sttaustin.org

Director of Facilities:

Ray Durden—Ext. 1054, ray-durden@sttaustin.org

School Office: (512) 451-7105

President: Ann Walters—Ext. 1015, awalters@st-theresa.org

Principal: Debbie Solcher—Ext. 1013, dsolcher@st-theresa.org

Development and Admissions: Suzanne Leggett—Ext. 1025, sleggett@st-theresa.org





Our Strategy for Ministry

Proclamation: Providing effective, evangelical teaching and celebration which incorporates the best of our tradition with an emphasis on the Sacramental life, Scripture, and the experience of grace. We are to be a worshipping church, accepting Jesus' lordship over all aspects of our life and building our life upon his Word, so that we might open our heart to the full presence and power of the living God.

Community: Providing the educational, supportive, and disciplining ministries necessary to incorporate individuals into the Body of Christ. As the Universal Church we are open to everyone who seeks the love of God. We share in the redemptive fellowship of a kingdom community and the disciplines of faithfulness so that we each may grow into what Christ intends for us.

Service: Providing ministries of outreach to help build the kingdom and equip every member to be in ministry for Christ. We are to be a servant church, modeling our lives after the One who came to serve and sharing the grace we have been given, so that the living Lord might make a difference in our world through us, His disciples.

These three aspects of our strategy are not isolated from each other, but are interwoven and are all to be present to some extent in each aspect of the life of the Church. Grounded in worship and the Word, growing in the Spirit, and reaching out in love are summarized in Proclamation, Community and Service.

This strategy sets the standard by which everything is accomplished in the Parish community.

Every organization needs clear standards by which to judge the effectiveness of its activities. Given our strategy for ministry, our evaluation process is simple. We ask three questions of each proposed event or activity:

- Will it **GLORIFY** God through Christ?
- Will it **NURTURE** disciples for Christ?
- Will it **WIN** disciples for Christ?

Jesus said to his disciples:

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age."

—Matthew 28:19–20

Adult Evangelization and Fellowship

Foundations

“For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

—1 Corinthians 3:11

Foundations is our program for Christian growth and discipleship for adults. Each fall and spring we explore a particular subject that impacts our life as Christians. Topics may include Scripture, Church history, biblical and historical theology, sacramental theology, and comparative religion. The weekly sessions are presented by the pastor, and the format allows for interaction and group discussion. Typically, we gather Monday at 7 p.m. in the Family Center. **Contact Linda Gockel, at linda-gockel@sttaustin.org.**

Bible Study

“Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.”

—Luke 11:28

The parish offers Bible studies for those seeking to develop a personal relationship with God through His word. No previous experience with the Bible is necessary. The studies help participants grow in their knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the story of salvation and our place in it. The studies feature a dynamic video presentation and small group discussion and include time for fellowship. Studies are typically offered Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings. **Visit www.sttaustin.org/aff or contact Coni Butler at sttadults@gmail.com.**

Catalyst

“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.”

—Proverbs 27:17

Catalyst is a ministry for men and provides an opportunity for fellowship, spiritual growth and personal accountability. Various formats are used for presentation and emphasis is placed on small group discussion. Catalyst forms and supports Godly men who claim their place of leadership in the family and the community. In addition to the weekly gathering, we offer an open invitation to play weeknight basketball and occasional bowling nights. Catalyst meets at 6-7:20 a.m. Wednesdays in the Family Center and breakfast is provided.

Contact Jayson Vogler at jaysondv@gmail.com.



Connections

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

—Philippians 4:13

Connections is a ministry for women who are looking to deepen their faith and strengthen their connections with other women of the parish. This inspiring ministry offers the opportunity for women of all ages and marital status to know God and experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ. Connections offers a creative and supportive fellowship for women to advance in spiritual knowledge through a variety of presentations and small group discussions. One participant wrote: "I always walk away from Connections with some new insight and a nugget of inspiration to help me grow in faith." Connections meets in the Family Center at 7-8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays with refreshments provided. **Contact Debra Vogler at debra77@gmail.com.**



Becoming Catholic: RCIA

"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

—2 Peter 3:18



Are you new to the Catholic Church or curious about the Church? We are eager to meet you, welcome you, and share with you the Catholic faith and its history and tradition. We want to help you explore your questions about God, what He wants for your life and what it means to be Christian.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a faith building process for someone who has never been baptized or has been baptized but never instructed in the ways of faith. This program shepherds the individual through a process that presents the Christian faith as a way of life and culminates in either baptism or confirmation. A well trained and enthusiastic team leads this process on Sunday mornings. **Contact Marie Cehovin, at marie-cehovin@sttaustin.org.**

Covenant of Love

“That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body.”

—Genesis 2:24

Covenant of Love offers programs and services that support a comprehensive marriage ministry for the various ages and stages of the marriage life cycle. The mission is to help create and foster a stronger marriage community at the parish level, to enrich good marriages, to advocate for the dignity, sanctity and permanence of marriage and to provide practical tools for couples to successfully and joyfully live out God’s plan for their vocation of marriage. The Covenant of Love ministry currently includes our marriage preparation process with sponsor couples, Natural Family Planning, and the Date Night ministry (see page 17) for married and engaged couples. **Contact Marie Cehovin at marie-cehovin@sttaustin.org.**

Breaking Open the Word is an opportunity to take a closer look at the Lectionary each Sunday morning. All are welcome to join an informal discussion of the context of the readings and how they can be applied in our daily lives. Breaking Open the Word is generally held Sunday mornings during Catechesis class time. **Contact Coni Butler at sttadults@gmail.com.**

Retreat Ministries

“Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.”

—Mark 6:13

Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) renewal weekends are an opportunity to spend 36 hours away from the hustle and bustle of daily life to be with God and fellow parishioners. The annual retreats take place from early Saturday morning through Sunday afternoon on parish grounds every January and are a gift presented by current and former CRHP participants, so there is no fee to attend. **To learn more, visit www.sttaustin.org/christ-renews-his-parish.**

A.C.T.S. is an extended weekend retreat offered by St. Louis, St. Theresa and St. Albert the Great parishes in Austin. A.C.T.S. Retreats provide an opportunity for you to focus on your relationship with the Lord and His place in your daily life, while building purpose in your prayer life, and cultivating friendship and fellowship among members of the community. (Women’s and Men’s retreats are held separately.) A.C.T.S stands for Adoration, Community, Theology, Service. **To learn more visit www.stlouisacts.com.**





Ministries for Children and Youth

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.”

—Proverbs 22:6

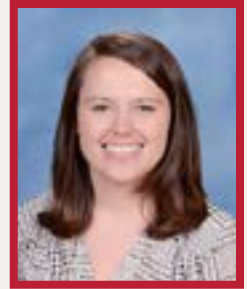
St. Theresa’s Catholic School

Our award-winning parish school celebrates three decades of providing an excellent academic and Christian environment for our parish children in grades pre-K to 8. Our strong community of committed teachers, Catholic leaders and highly involved families ensures that each child is surrounded by faith, love and support – all while being taught to the highest standards of learning. With a near capacity enrollment of more than 400 students, the school inspires students, faculty and parents with its motto: Learn * Serve * Believe. “This school motto is the heart of our mission to help children reach their full potential and lead happy, purposeful lives that honor God and enrich their community,” says school president Ann Walters.

St. Theresa’s Catholic School admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin, or religious belief, and does not discriminate in administering its policies. Admission is based on a student’s application, academic records, standard-ized test scores, placement test scores, teacher recommendations, and the school’s ability to meet the student’s needs. Applications are due in mid-February, and selection notifications are typically mailed in April. *Learn more at st-theresa.org. For registration information, contact Suzanne Leggett at sleggett@st-theresa.org.*

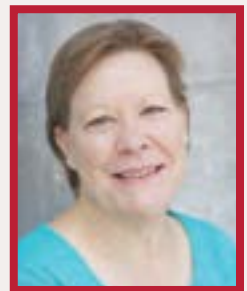


Pre-School and Elementary Catechesis is offered for children starting at age 3 through 5th grade. Classes meet Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons Septmeber to May. Second grade catechesis includes preparation for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion. *For more information and to enroll, visit sttaustin.org/elementary-catechesis or contact beverly-riviello@sttaustin.org.*



Marie Cehovin
Pastoral Associate for
Evangelization and
Catechesis

Middle School Catechesis serves children in grades 6-8, and meets September to May, Sunday from 10:20–11:30 a.m. (Wednesday evenings if interest warrants). The Catholic Church specifies that the first phase of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation must include two years of remote catechesis (participation in parish or school catechesis in 7th and 8th grade). *Learn more at sttaustin.org/childrens-catechesis or contact beverly-riviello@sttaustin.org.*



Beverly Riviello
Children's Ministry Dir.

Youth Ministry is for all high school students and generally meets Sunday evenings following the 5 p.m. Mass. Students are invited to be a part of building this ministry modeled after St. Theresa and her “little way” of doing small things with big love. She showed how we can each be a missionary in our own space and be Christ to those we see every day. Come be a part of planning and building a ministry that helps teens grow in love for God and each other. *Contact the Director of Youth Ministry, Nina Koziuk at youth@sttaustin.org.*

High School Confirmation: Those who are Confirmed are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit so they may be true witnesses of Christ. The Sacrament of Confirmation is usually held in the middle of the school year for parish youth in the 10th grade. Confirmation candidates can begin registration in the spring of their 8th grade year and are required to actively participate in the life of the parish in 9th grade through the high school youth ministry or high school religious education. Youth who meet those requirements can begin formal Confirmation classes in 10th grade and attend a confirmation retreat. *Visit sttaustin.org/high-school-confirmation or contact youth@sttaustin.org. If you are an adult seeking Confirmation, contact marie-cehovin@sttaustin.org.*



Nina Koziuk
Youth Ministry Dir.

Catechists help build the Kingdom by sharing the Word of God and the Catholic faith with the children and youth of the parish. In addition, catechists evangelize through various faith experiences including prayer, silence, compassion, and creativity. Most find that as they share the faith with students, they grow in their own faith. The parish is always in need of catechists and catechist helpers, Liturgy of the Word with Children volunteers and Confirmation and Youth Ministry team leaders. *Contact Linda Gockel, linda-gockel@sttaustin.org or visit sttaustin.org.*

Liturgical Ministries

Participating in a Liturgical Ministry is an opportunity to fulfill Christ's baptismal call to serve others. Whether your participation is behind the scenes in the preparation and support ministries or service in a more public way at Mass, you will help our liturgies to be truly life-giving celebrations. Most ministries require participants to attend annual training and/or formation sessions. *If you are interested in serving as a Liturgical Minister or need more information, visit our website, contact the ministry coordinator, or the Director of Liturgy and Music dgirardot@sttaustin.org.*

Altar Server Ministry is for 4th–12th grade youth and is a way to make Mass more meaningful for young people. Those who have received First Holy Communion and are practicing Catholics are eligible to participate in this ministry. All servers receive training and can choose which Mass they would like to serve. Typically a server is scheduled to serve once a month. One parent shared that her daughter “said being an altar server taught her about the church, nurtured her spirit and brought her closer to God.” *Contact Cathy Brocato at brocatoark@hotmail.com for further information.*

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) assist the community of faith by distributing the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ during Communion at Mass. Many of our ministers experience joy, faith, hope and love as a result of their ministry. Volunteers are confirmed and practicing Catholics, and registered members of St. Theresa's Parish. Many EMHC have said that the ministry brings them closer to Christ in the presence of the Eucharist. *Contact Steve Wolford at swolford@okpaper.com.*



Ministry of Hospitality (ushers and greeters) welcome the community and communicate that their presence is vital to our worship so that all will experience the hospitality of Jesus Christ. Ministers attend a training and formation session each year, serve at mass about once a month, assist with the offering collection, and guide the congregation during the communion procession. *Contact David Bregger at dbregger@gmail.com.*

Lectors read the Scripture readings at Mass. All lectors participate in formation and training sessions once or twice a year as well as attend ongoing preparation for proclaiming scripture and parish scripture study. Many lectors find that they grow in their knowledge and appreciation of scripture. *Contact John Fox at rjohnf@austin.rr.com.*

Liturgical Support Ministries

Flower Guild volunteers offer their talent for a few hours each week to adorn the altar with beautiful fresh flowers. There are both regular and seasonal volunteers and there are seasonal volunteers who help create inspirational displays for major feast days. Parishioners often comment on the flowers and the special dimension they add to worship. One volunteer says: “St. Theresa is my church; I want her to look nice all the time.” **Contact Paula Campbell at paulawc@austin.rr.com.**

Ministry of Sewing supports the liturgy by sewing and embroidering baptismal bibs, altar cloths and other needed items. They also collaborate and create beautiful prayer blankets that are blessed by the clergy and given to those in need. The monthly sew-ins



are great fun and give volunteers a chance to meet with an awesome group of ladies of all ages, sharing ideas and swapping new methods, all while serving the Lord. **Contact Judy Russell at judymrussell@gmail.com.**

Altar Guild volunteers are assigned a specific week each quarter to take care of the altar and liturgical items used for mass. They spend about an hour or two completing their work. **Contact Dan Girardo at dgirardot@sttaustin.org or Linda Howard at lhoward@sttaustin.org.**

Ministry of Altar Linens is responsible for the respectful and gentle care of the altar linens. Volunteers each commit to about 3 -4 times a year to wash and press the altar cloth, purificators and corporals used for mass. One volunteer shares: “It is a truly wonderful and peace filled ministry, for in the solitude of washing and pressing, there is prayer.” **Contact Mariette Wroe at mwroe@austin.rr.com.**

Let It Shine Brass Ministry volunteers polish brass and silver items used in our worship environment. The time commitment is an hour or two twice a month. Retired military are especially welcome to join this polishing ministry. **Contact the Office of Liturgy and Music at dgirardot@sttaustin.org or lhoward@sttaustin.org.**

Liturgy Office Volunteers are needed to assist with preparation for Christmas and Easter worship services and other seasonal and ministry formation events. **Contact Linda Howard at lhoward@sttaustin.org.**





Music Ministries

“Praise the Lord. Sing to the Lord a new song and his praise in the congregation.”
—Psalm 149:1

Angel Choir is open to pre-K, kindergarten, and 1st grade children. Interactive musical games and movements are designed to promote positive music and faith experiences that prepare our students to sing in the children’s choir. Rehearsals are Wednesday 5:30–6:15 p.m. in the school Music Room. Angel Choir sings at a parish liturgy or a short concert once or twice a semester. **Contact Dan Girardot at dgirardot@sttaustin.org.**

Children’s Choir is for students in 2nd through 5th grade. Through active and conscious participation in the liturgy, members are nurtured in their faith and commitment to service in the Church. Rehearsals are Wednesday 5:30–6:30 p.m. The choir sings once or twice a month and a yearly schedule is published for regular and special services. **Contact Ann Girardot at anngirardot@hotmail.com.**

Youth and Young Adult Choir and Ensemble is open to youth in 6th through 12th grade, young adults and instrumentalists are welcome. The choir serves the parish community at the Sunday 5 p.m. Mass and other special services. Rehearsals are Sunday from 3:30–5 p.m. **Contact Dan Girardot at dgirardot@sttaustin.org.**

9 a.m. Liturgical Choir leads the assembly in song at the 9 a.m. Mass and other special services during the year. It is open to youth of high school age and adults. Rehearsals are Wednesday 7:30–9:30 p.m. Special concerts, liturgies, and combined choir events during the year are also part of the ministry. **Contact Morris Stevens at morris_stevens@yahoo.com.**

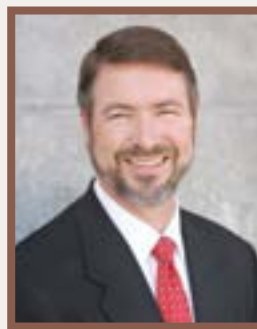
11 a.m. Liturgical Chorale leads the assembly in song at the 11 a.m. solemn Sunday Mass and other special services during the year. It is open to youth of high school age and adults. The choir focuses on liturgical and sacred music from all eras of church history. Rehearsals are Wednesday 7:30–9:30 p.m. and Sunday at 10:20 a.m. **Contact Dan Girardot at dgirardot@sttaustin.org.**

Occasional Choir is designed for singers who would like to explore and expand their voice through basic vocal and choral techniques. Singers who want to explore the basics of unison and two part choral singing are welcome. Singers rehearse every other Thursday (usually the first and third Thursdays) from 1:15–2:30 p.m., and typically sing for the third Saturday, 5 p.m. Mass. **Contact Sylvia Casper at sylviacasper@att.net.**

Handbell Choir is open to all age groups. Basic ability to read music is necessary and rehearsals are Wednesdays 6:30–7:30 p.m. **Contact Morris Stevens at morris_stevens@yahoo.com.**

Cantors are leaders and animators of sung prayer for our parish liturgies. Experienced singers from the choir lead psalms, hymns, and acclamations at Mass. These auditioned choir members become cantors-in-training and join experienced cantors to learn the art of leading song. Individual training consists of extended voice and psalm study as well as spiritual formation. Cantors minister every four to six weeks at mass and sing at weekly choir rehearsals. **Contact Colleen Webb at mejncm@aol.com.**

Cantate Chamber Choir is an auditioned group of trained singers that lead sung prayer in the liturgy. Experienced voice training and solo singing ability are required for this ministry. This choir includes parish Vocal Scholars and music ministry staff members. Rehearsals for singing and leading the 5 p.m. Saturday Mass are scheduled once a month and during special seasons of the year. Membership is by audition with the **Director of Liturgy and Music, Dan Girardot at dgirardot@sttaustin.org.**



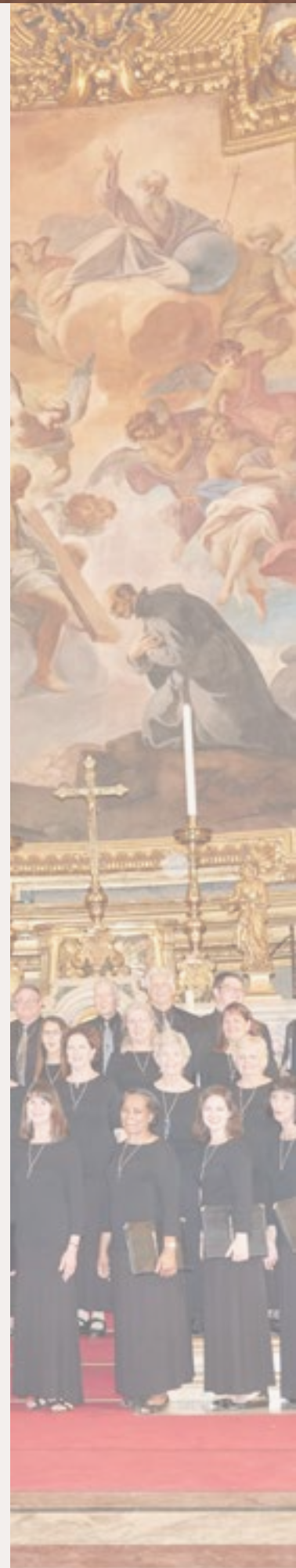
Dan Girardot
Director of Liturgy and Music

Schola Cantorum is a choir that sings music from various choral traditions of the Church. Choral experience is required. Choir members attend a rehearsal to prepare for the 5 p.m. Saturday Mass scheduled occasionally during the year. **Contact Morris Stevens at morris_stevens@yahoo.com.**

Resurrection Choir is an ensemble that supports the sung prayer of the assembly at funeral masses. They rehearse prior to the funeral liturgy and a moderate level of choral experience is necessary. **Contact Dan Girardot at dgirardot@sttaustin.org.**

Music Library Volunteers are needed to file, catalogue and organize music for all parish choirs. Good organizational skills are helpful. Time commitment is one hour per week, prior to rehearsals and special events. **Contact Dr. Lee Stroud at drlee@austin.rr.com.**

Sacred Music Series Volunteers assist with communication, design, production, support materials and coordination of the special sacred music events throughout the year. **Contact Dan Girardot at dgirardot@sttaustin.org.**



Service and Outreach Ministries

St. Vincent de Paul is a worldwide organization dedicated to providing short-term assistance for the needy. St. Theresa chapter members work in pairs visiting families in need and assisting them with prayer, food debit cards or financial help to prevent eviction or the cutoff of utilities or to help with other emergencies. Ministers also direct people to other providers of assistance. Funds for this ministry come almost entirely from generous parishioners who donate through our monthly black bag collection. Members meet briefly on Wednesday evenings and volunteer about one hour per week. One parishioner observed that the SVDP ministry “puts the Gospel into action, as we become the hands and feet of the Lord.” *Contact Gil Koss at gkoss@austin.rr.com.*

Early Bird Taco Ministry serves breakfast to our less fortunate brothers and sisters every Friday morning, rain or shine. The parish team takes tacos, orange juice and vitamins to serve outside of the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless. Volunteers choose whether to shop, cook, or serve the tacos, and they include families, grandparents, students and adults. Each Friday morning, our volunteers are greeted by long lines of hungry, yet grateful, men and women. The Early Bird Taco ministry is one small way for people to experience the love of Christ in others. *Contact Jeff Gordon at jeffgordonlawfirm@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering.*



Social Outreach Committee discerns and plans methods for educating, advocating, and reaching out to our less fortunate brothers and sisters. The committee meets the first Tuesday evening of every other month at 7:30 p.m. in Bldg. E, Rm. 102. *Contact Sr. Ann Pennington at ann@sttaustin.org.*

Helping Hands Funeral Ministry assists fellow parishioners at the time of the death of a family member by hosting a reception at the parish. Volunteers may sign up to help serve at the reception or just provide a food item. Time commitment and frequency varies. *To volunteer contact Patsy Eckelkamp at grannyeck@gmail.com.*

Parish Nursery

The Parish Nursery, located in the Family Center, cares for children ages 6 months to 3 years during the 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday Masses and is also available for young children of catechesis volunteers, those attending adult faith formation on Sunday and special parish events. The nursery is staffed by responsible high school youth and adults who have attended CPR/first aid training and have met EIM requirements. *Contact sttnursery@gmail.com.*

Ethics and Integrity Ministry

EIM of the diocese requires a background check and training workshop for all volunteers, paid staff, and clergy of the parish. Refresher courses are required every three years.

For more information visit sttaustin.org/ethics-training-eim or call the parish office 512-451-5121.

Parish Groups

Young Adults is a new group for those in their 20's and early 30's. Married or single, all are invited to come hang out to learn more about your faith and foster meaningful friendships. We meet Tuesday evenings and for regular social outings. As one member said, "Christ turned water into wine, and we enjoy that as we listen to His Word."

Contact staustinya@gmail.com.



Knights of Columbus is a service organization that supports charitable works and our parish programs. The group helps strengthen the community of St. Theresa through volunteer service for numerous parish activities including the Friday fish fries, parish picnic and ministry fair. Members support a broad range of programs and charities such as diocesan seminarians, youth programs at St. Theresa and St. Louise House. Members choose activities that fit their interests and schedules. Meetings are the second Thursday of the month. **Contact Kevin Byrne at knights.sttaustin@gmail.com.**

The Pro-Life Ministry promotes the Church teaching that human life is sacred and deserves respect from the moment of conception until natural death. The Pro-Life group regularly hosts coffee and doughnuts after Mass where we share the Pro-Life message on topics such as adoption, fertility awareness, end-of-life issues, and immigration. We support pro-life organizations and participate in pro-life activities such as 40 Days for Life, marches and rallies for life. The parish supports the ministry with the collection of baby booties for the unborn. Members meet on the second Friday of the month at 10:30 a.m. **Contact Celie Harden at celieharden@hotmail.com.**

Date Night is a marriage ministry that meets once a month for dinner and discussion. The program ranges from game nights to cinema quality videos about marriage, its history, tradition and the foundational role it plays. Grow closer to God and your spouse as you connect with other married couples of the parish. Childcare available. Date Night is the third Saturday of the month, 6:15–8:15 p.m. in the Great Room, Bldg. E. **Contact Laura Logan at sttaustinmarriage@gmail.com.**

St. Theresa Mom's Group (STTM) is for mothers with children of all ages and expectant mothers. We foster friendships and support for one another in motherhood and in faith. Experienced and new moms of the parish enjoy playgroups, Mom's Nights Out and occasional meetings. **Contact Kristina Jansen at kristinafranco@hotmail.com or Debra Vogler at debra77@gmail.com.**

Naomi Circle is a supportive gathering of women of all ages who have lost their husbands. This uplifting fellowship offers the blessing of friendship and a community of growth. Grief support is offered to those in need. Naomi Circle meets the second Tuesday, 2:30–4 p.m. in Room 205 of Building E. **Contact Sr. Ann Pennington at ann@sttaustin.org.**

The Legion of Mary is a worldwide lay apostolic organization based on a strong devotion to the Blessed Mother and aims to do apostolic work in union with her. Work is done in pairs and typically involves visiting lapsed Catholics, non-Catholics, shut-ins, nursing homes, hospitals, jails, etc. The Legion provides opportunity each week for apostolic ministry. There is one short meeting and about two hours of service per week. *Contact Anna Quimby at quimby5@swbell.net.*

The Ladies Club enjoys fellowship and promotes parish life through service. Monthly meetings feature guest speakers, faith, friendship and fun. Meetings at 9:30 a.m. are usually on the first Friday of the month September–May. *Contact Nancy-Jane Griffith at Nancy-janetravel@austin.rr.com.*

Cub Scouts serves boys of the parish who are in grades 1–5, and provides diverse experiences of fun and challenge for young boys and their families. Activities address moral and physical development. *Contact dstroud@prismnet.com.*

Boy Scout Troop 229 teaches young men the skills they need to be successful in life including Scouting values, survival skills, leadership and organizational skills. The troop is committed to adventure, learning and fun through challenging outdoor and indoor experiences. It meets Sunday 2–3 p.m. during the school year. *Contact dstroud@prismnet.com.*

American Heritage Girls (AHG) is a character development organization for girls ages 5–18 that embraces Christian values and encourages family involvement. It is new to St. Theresa and seeks to build women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country, while having fun and making friends through new experiences. Troop meetings TBD. *Contact clare.chachere@gmail.com.*

Prayer Groups

Eucharistic Adoration is held first Fridays of the month, following the 11:30 a.m. Mass. School children and parishioners are invited to adore the exposed Blessed Sacrament during the period from noon–3 p.m. Many have found that Eucharistic Adoration is a beautiful way to be faithful and grow spiritually. *Contact Lori Mazzurana at gwynnero@swbell.net.*

The Rosary is prayed several times per week in the church side chapel: at 7:55 a.m. weekdays (except Thursdays), Beads for Teens invites adults to pray for the youth of the parish Sunday after the 5 p.m. Mass, and Rosary for Peace is prayed from 6-7 p.m. Mondays.

For a full listing of all the ministries of the parish, visit the parish website, www.sttaustin.org.

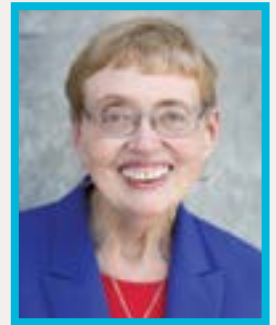


Senior Adult Ministries

“They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green.”

—Psalm 92:14

Our Senior Adult Ministry seeks to help senior adults experience a sense of community in the parish, stay connected to the faith community and feel appreciated for what they do and have done for the parish. Many seniors go through big changes late in life, whether it is the loss of a spouse, a new illness, a new living arrangement or a new home closer to their grown children. In all these cases, our Senior Adult Ministry seeks to offer support and community to ease the transition. ***For all Senior Adult Ministries and inquiries contact our Sr. Ann Pennington at ann@sttaustin.org.***



Sister Ann Pennington
Minister of Senior Adults
and Social Outreach

Pastoral Care

The Minister of Senior Adults, Sr. Ann Pennington, visits senior adult parishioners in assisted living, nursing homes, and private homes as requested. Sister says, “I was deeply impressed when I made an initial visit to a senior adult parishioner in her home and her first words were ‘As long as I have breath I want to serve the Lord!’” ***To request a visit, contact Sister Ann, at (512) 541-5121 or ann@sttaustin.org.***

Social Opportunities

There are many social opportunities for senior adults of the parish, including trips, presentations on topics affecting seniors, Senior Adult Appreciation Day, and table games including:

- Bridge Class each Thursday from 10–11:30 a.m. in the Family Center. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn to play bridge with your fellow parishioners.
- Bridge Club meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 1–4 p.m. in the Family Center. Consider joining your fellow parishioners for bridge and an enjoyable time together.

Support

- Senior Adult Ministry also serves as a Referral Center for seniors seeking help with housing, medical supplies, medical equipment repair, home health care and elder abuse.
- Naomi’s Circle is a support group for widows of all ages. See page 17.

The Community Outreach Ministry helps parish members stay connected to their faith by providing weekly Holy Communion to those confined to their homes, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities. Ministers often comment about what a blessing this ministry is to them and those served by it. They provide training and can always use new volunteers. ***Contact Marlene Weitzel at weitzel.marlene@yahoo.com.***

Singles Over 60 is for single men and women of the parish who are 60 years or older. The group is both spiritual and social. Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m., September–May. ***Contact Evelyn Monnich at evmon@austin.rr.com.***

Young at Heart brings together both married and single people of the parish who are 50 and older for occasional social activities. ***Contact Connie Morris at conniemorr@sbcglobal.net.***



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*Printed by PrintMailPro
www.printmailpro.com*