

St. Justin Martyr Parish

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston



Mass Schedule

Saturday: (Vigil Mass) 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m.; 10:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m. in Vietnamese;
5:00 p.m. in Spanish

Monday and Tuesday:
7:00 p.m. (Chapel)

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday
9:00 a.m. (Chapel)

Friday
6:30 p.m. (Chapel) in Vietnamese

Eucharistic Adoration Wednesday:

9:30 a.m. - 8:15 p.m. (Chapel)

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 6:30 p.m.

By appointment. Call the parish office.



Second Sunday of Advent, December 4 2016

13350 Ashford Point Drive • Houston, TX 77082-5100

Telephone: 281-556-5116 • FAX: 281-556-6932

E-Mail: sjm@sjmtx.com • Web page: www.sjmtx.org

Fr. Paul Chovanec, Pastor

Deacon Corney Llorens Deacon Nhat Tran Deacon Gary Boyd

ADULT BAPTISM AND ENTERING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) process is ongoing. Contact one of the priests in the parish office.

ADULT CONFIRMATION FOR PRACTICING CATHOLICS

Please phone the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact Dolores Gonzalez at 281-902-5711 or dgonzalez@sjmtx.com six months to two years prior to the desired date.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR CHILDREN

Baptism for children through age six is held monthly except during the season of Lent. There are no private baptisms. There are required preparation sessions for the parents. At least one parent must be a registered member of the parish and a practicing Catholic. Expectant parents are asked to begin this process during the second trimester of pregnancy. Please phone the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR CHILDREN SEVEN AND OLDER

Please contact the Religious Education office about the RCIA process, 281-902-5701.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please phone the parish office as soon as you or someone in your family schedules surgery/hospitalization or suffers an illness or injury. PLEASE DON'T DELAY in this prayer for Christian healing! The Sacrament is celebrated the fourth Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. Mass.

FIRST COMMUNION, FIRST PENANCE, CONFIRMATION AND QUINCEAÑERA CELEBRATIONS

Please contact the Religious Education office, 281-902-5701.

NURSERY

The nursery is open during weekend Masses and other parish activities. It is located in the Christian Formation Center building.

YOUTH MINISTRY AT ST. JUSTIN MARTYR

There are various activities for Middle and High School Youth throughout the year. Youth Nights take place every Wednesday 7-8:30 p.m. and are a time for youth to make friends, have fun and learn more about their faith. For more information contact the Youth Ministry Office at 281-902-5710.

ST. JUSTIN MARTYR PRESCHOOL

Early childhood education - 18 months to Pre-K Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
For information, please call 281-556-1260.

ST. JUSTIN MARTYR PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Other times, call 281-556-6882. Fax is 281-752-5985.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Bulletin e-mail: martha@sjmtx.com

WELCOME TO ST. JUSTIN MARTYR

Please let us know you have arrived. We are anxious to meet you. Contact the parish office for a welcoming packet.

ST. JUSTIN MARTYR PARISH BOUNDARIES

Beginning at a point on Barker Reservoir Dam at Briar Forest Street, East on Briar Forest to Dairy Ashford; thence South on Dairy Ashford to Westheimer Road; thence East on Westheimer Road to Old Westheimer Road; thence South on Old Westheimer Road, to Alief-Clodine; thence West on Alief-Clodine to Dairy Ashford; thence South on Dairy Ashford Bellaire Blvd; thence West on Bellaire Blvd. to Eldridge; thence South on to Beechnut; thence West on Beechnut to Addicks-Howell Road (Hwy 6); thence South on Addicks Howell Road to Keegans Bayou; thence West on Keegans Bayou to O'Brien Road; thence North on O'Brien Road to Barker Reservoir Dam; thence Northeast along the Dam to the point of beginning at Briar Forest.

Pastoral Staff

Dolores Gonzalez
Coordinator of Adult Ministry

Lisa Hachicho
Director of Preschool

Alyssa Avila
DRE

Karen Rachal
Parish Administrator

Alex Pina
Coordinator of Youth Ministry

Clergy Reflection

Hearts Ready For The Coming King

The Gospel tells us that in the days before Jesus began his ministry, a man called John began preaching and telling the people to prepare for the coming King. When John told people to prepare for the King, he didn't mean that they should go home and sweep the floor, pick up their toys, and make their beds. He meant that they should prepare their hearts. How? By repenting of their sins and turning toward God. When they did this, John would baptize them in the Jordan River. That is how he got the name, "John the Baptist."

Now, It is important we make our hearts ready for the coming King too. We do that by confessing our sins and asking God to forgive us. If we will do that, the Bible tells us that he will forgive us and make our hearts clean. Then we will be ready for Jesus when he comes.

Deacon Corney

Today's Readings

First Reading — He shall bring justice for the afflicted; the earth shall overflow with the knowledge of the LORD.

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm — Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Psalm 72

Second Reading — Glorify God by living in harmony with one another, welcoming each other as Christ welcomed you.

Romans 15:4-9

Gospel — Produce good fruit worthy of your baptism; repent, for the reign of God is near.

Matthew 3:1-12

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation.

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Financial Stewardship

Weekend Collection

November 20	\$20,669
November 27	\$19,330
Required Weekly Budget Amount	\$20,500
Building Improvements	\$ 177
Social Ministry	\$ -0-
Registered Families	1581
Campaign for Human Development Collection	\$3,406

Diocesan Services Fund 2016

Parish Goal:	\$124,780
Parish Amount Pledged:	\$ 95,141
Parish Contributions:	\$ 87,015
Balance Due:	\$ 37,765

Number of Participants 464

Please complete your 2016 DSF Pledge Envelope and submit it to our office or mail it downtown to the Archdiocese.

Upcoming Second Collections

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection
December 11

Thank you for your continued support of St. Justin Martyr Parish!

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection

Next weekend, December 10 & 11, is the annual Retirement Fund for Religious Appeal. Almost 33,000 women religious and more than 5,500 men religious are past the age of 70. Though they may withdraw from a paid full time ministry, religious continue to visit the sick, tutor children and volunteer in parishes among refugee populations. Your donations help alleviate the spiraling cost of health care.

Prayer Needs

Mass Intentions

December 3rd ~ December 11th

Sat.	Dec 3rd	5:30 p.m.	+ Maxine Shirley
Sun.	Dec 4th	8:00 a.m.	+ Members of Conover & Perciavalle Families
Sun.	Dec 4th	10:00 a.m.	+ Loretto Torres
Sun.	Dec 4th	12:00 p.m.	People of St. Justin
Sun.	Dec 4th	5:00 p.m.	+ Maria DeJesus
Mon.	Dec 5th	7:00 p.m.	Communion Service
Tue.	Dec 6th	7:00 p.m.	+ Rosario Cassarino
Wed.	Dec 7th	9:00 a.m.	+ Emma Wick
Wed.	Dec 7th	7:00 p.m.	People of St. Justin
Thurs.	Dec 8th	6:00 a.m.	+ Ralph Anselmi
Thurs.	Dec 8th	9:00 a.m.	+ Souls in Purgatory
Thurs.	Dec 8th	7:00 p.m.	Maria Yu Yin
Fri.	Dec 9th	9:00 a.m.	+ Enrique Lopez
Fri.	Dec 9th	6:30 p.m.	Communion Service
Sat.	Dec 10th	9:00 a.m.	+ Larry McMillian
Sat.	Dec 10th	5:30 p.m.	+ Lloyd Anderson
Sun.	Dec 11th	8:00 a.m.	+ Emma Wick
Sun.	Dec 11th	10:00 a.m.	Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Etoff
Sun.	Dec 11th	12:00 p.m.	Joseph Cao Duc Hung
Sun.	Dec 11th	5:00 p.m.	People of St. Justin

Readings for the Week

Sun., Dec 4th:	Is 11:1-10/Rom 15:4-9/ Mt 3:1-12
Mon., Dec 5th:	Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26
Tues., Dec 6th:	Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14
Wed., Dec 7th:	Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30
Thurs., Dec 8th:	Gn 3:9-15,20/Eph 1:3-6,11-12 /Lk 1:26-38
Fri., Dec 9th:	Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19
Sat., Dec 10th:	Sir 48:1-4,9-11/Mt 17:9a,10-13
Sun., Dec 11th:	Is 35:1-6a,10/Jas 5:7-10/ Mt 11:2-11

Vocation Brief

Family life can build values integral to a strong vocation—whether to the priesthood, religious life or marriage. Teaching your children to value commitment, service and prayer will help them make strong vocation decisions as adults and live out those vocations with success and fulfillment.

Serra for priestly and religious vocations

Parish Events

Sunday, December 4th - Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Mass
10:00 a.m. Mass
10:00 a.m. Little Church
12:00 p.m. Vietnamese Mass
5:00 p.m. Spanish Mass
6:30 p.m. Middle School & High School CCE

Monday, December 5th

5:30 p.m. Elementary CCE
7:00 p.m. Communion Service
7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, December 6th

6:30 p.m. Penance
7:00 p.m. Mass
7:00 p.m. Young Adults
7:30 p.m. Perpetual Help Novena & Rosary

Wednesday, December 7th

9:00 a.m. Mass
9:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration
7:00 p.m. Elementary CCE
7:00 p.m. Youth Night
7:00 p.m. RCIA Pre-Catechumenate
7:00 p.m. RCIA
7:00 p.m. NO Adult Sacrament Class
7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Thursday, December 8th - Feast of the Immaculate Conception

6:00 a.m. Mass
9:00 a.m. Mass
7:00 p.m. Mass

Friday, December 9th

9:00 a.m. Mass
6:30 p.m. Communion Service

Saturday, December 10th

9:00 a.m. Mass
9:00 a.m. Elementary CCE
4:00 p.m. Penance
5:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 11th - Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Mass
10:00 a.m. Mass
10:00 a.m. NO Little Church
12:00 p.m. Vietnamese Mass
5:00 p.m. Spanish Mass
6:30 p.m. Middle School & High School CCE

Parish Life

Immaculate Conception of Mary

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary is the day we remember and celebrate that she was conceived without original sin in preparation for her vocation as the Mother of God.

Mary, under this title, is also the patroness of the United States of America. This Holy Day of Obligation is therefore a special opportunity and time to pray for our nation.

We will celebrate the Holy Day at the following Masses:

- December 7: 7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass
- December 8: 6:00 a.m.
- December 8: 9:00 a.m.
- December 8: 7:00 p.m.

If you are a St. Justin Martyr Liturgical Minister please consider serving at Mass. Sign-up in the brides-room.

Simbang Gabi

Everyone is invited to attend the annual Simbang Gabi a Filipino Christmas tradition on Friday, December 16. It will begin with Rosary at 6:30 p.m. followed by Mass at 7:00 p.m. For more information please call either Philip Mendoza at 832-491-3767 or Connie Herber at 832-877-4557.

Many Thanks

To Al & Elsie Alba for providing the Wine and Hosts for St. Justin Martyr for the month of December. It was in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Giving Thanks When You Shop

Please be sure to thank the generous advertisers in our bulletin when you visit their business. Through their participation, our parish receives our weekly bulletin free of charge.



*Today, Sunday, December 4, enjoy
Breakfast prepared by the Youth on sale in
the parish hall after morning Masses.*

*Next Sunday, December 11, enjoy
Vietnamese Food on sale in the parish hall
after morning Masses.*

St. Nicholas Play - December 4

The play will take place Sunday, December 4 at the 8:00 a. m. and 10:00 a.m. Mass (CLOW). For more information please see the Youth article.

Feast Day Of Our Lady Of Guadalupe

Everyone is invited to attend this special celebration on Monday, December 12. We will sing "Las Mananitas" at 5:30 a.m. in the church. Then in the evening we will pray the Rosary at 6:15 p.m. followed by Holy Mass at 7:00 p.m. There will be a reception in the parish hall after Mass where traditional food will be served. Please join us in honoring our Blessed Mother. All services will be in Spanish.

Advent Penance Service

I haven't been to Confession is years. Is that a sin?

No, it's not a sin to skip the Sacrament of Penance. Confession is about God's forgiveness, not making more opportunities to fall into sin. So, when you come in and say, "Father, it's been years since I went to confession," he's not going to shout, "Shame on you!" and begin weeping uncontrollably. He's going to be rejoicing (just like Jesus, the Good Shepherd) that you've come back. He's also going to know that this probably wasn't easy for you, and that your courage and God's grace made it possible. He's going to celebrate it with you as the wonderful moment it is.

The Advent Penance Service is coming soon. It is Tuesday, December 13. There is NO Mass on Tuesday, December 13, due to the Penance Service being held at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas for St. Dominic's Seniors

St. Justin Martyr Girl Scout Troop 19406 is working with St. Dominic Village to help the seniors have a wonderful holiday season. We need families, groups, girls, troops, and parents to Adopt a Senior. There are 98 seniors that have a wish list. On the ornament is their wish list. Some need blankets, slippers, socks, Walmart or Kroger gift cards. They live at St. Dominic Village. If you can adopt a senior, please Call Jodie Estimbo at 832-421-0311. Let me know how many ornaments your family, group, or scout troop can take. We will be delivering the items on December 20. Thanks for being generous!

Parish Life

St. Justin Martyr Catholic Preschool News

It is so hard to believe we only have 3 short weeks until the preschool breaks for our Christmas holidays! This is such a busy month with lots of fun activities planned.

Tuesday we will be hearing about St. Nicholas as we celebrate his feast day. They are learning about giving by collecting toys for our social ministries "Adopt a Family" program.

Please mark your calendars for our Christmas performance scheduled on Friday, December 16 at 11:30 a.m. This is an early dismissal day! The preschool will be closed December 19 through January 2!

Daughters of Isabella Unity, Friendship and Charity

"O Lord, our Lord, how awesome is your name through all the earth!" Psalm 8:2

We will have our annual Christmas party at 2:00 p.m. December 11, at Lasagna House.

Our next meeting is January 9 at 7:15 p.m.

If you are interested in finding out about or joining our wonderful organization please call Bette Breaz at 281-493-6855.

Thank You For Your Consideration Of Other Worshipers

The **nursery** is located at the end of the hall, on the right, when you enter the Christian Formation Center. It is open for the 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. Masses, except Christmas and Easter.

The **parents with infants' room** is located in the narthex, on your right, just before entering the church.

Thank you for coming to Mass dressed appropriately.

Thank you for turning off your **cellular phone** during Mass.

Next weekend the Ministry Spotlight
will be on
- Music Ministry -
Visit the table in the Narthex after
Mass next weekend to learn more
about this Ministry.

News About the Mavericks

December 12 – Monday – Bus trip to see area Christmas lights and decorations. Cost \$2. Early dinner at Schultz Barbecue in Rosenberg, \$5 - \$10. Bus leaves at 3:30 p.m. from church parking lot. Reservations to Marge at 281-498-3413 by December 5.

December 13 – Tuesday – 3:00 p.m. – Monthly birthday party for residents at West Oaks Geriatric Center. If interested in helping, call Joanne at 281-395-2123.

December 17 – Saturday – 2:00 p.m. – Club Christmas party in parish hall. Pot luck lunch followed by a white elephant gift exchange. Meat being provided by club.

The Mavericks is an organization of and for individuals 50 years and older that provides opportunities of fellowship, spiritual growth and service. For more information call Jim at 281-293-8206.

Please Pray for . . .

The following couple as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony on December 31, 2016 in Enugu, Nigeria.

Onyebuchi Ralph Nwatarali &
Francess Nwakaego Chinyere Okolo

Any usual inquires please contact the Archdiocese of Lagos.

Social Ministry News

*"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for they shall be satisfied."*

Today we are celebrating St. Nicholas Sunday. The "Wish Ornament" gifts are due back today. This will give us time to prepare for distribution. If you forgot, please return them to the church office by Wednesday, December 7.

Sincere thank you to St. Justin Martyr Preschool and all the parishioners for your generous food/monetary donations during the month of November.

20 Families received a Thanksgiving meal.

May God bless and keep you safe.

Parish Life

St. Justin's Young Adult Group

Are you between 18 and 35? Want to learn more about your faith and meet some other young adults too? The Young Adult Community meets on Tuesday nights in CFC room 211 from 7:00 to 8:45 p.m. We are currently Watching and discussing a video lecture series on "Why Evil Exists?"

December 6 - Why Evil Exists? - Freud: The Death Drive and the Inexplicable.

December 13 - Advent Penance Service.

December 20 - Christmas Party, at Alamo Drafthouse 531 South Mason Road, Katy, Texas 77450. Enjoy dinner, drinks and a movie to celebrate Christmas with other young adults.

December 27 - No meeting. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Want to learn more? Search "St. Justin Martyr Young Adult Community" on Facebook or contact Robert Ontko at robert.ontko@gmail.com or 832-372-9928.

Donation for the Christmas Season

Donation envelopes are available in the pews to contribute to the cost of poinsettias and greenery for Christmas. Please help if you are able. Thank you. All memorials will be published in the bulletin.

African Community of St. Justin Martyr

December 4 - General meeting after the 10:00 a.m. Mass in the CFC building room 212.

December 11 - Choir practice after the 10:00 a.m. Mass in the CFC building room 212.

December 18 - Christmas Party after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at Gardenia Hall, 3505 South Dairy Ashford. Questions, contact Jude Obinyan at 832-788-3117.

A Stewardship Prayer

Jesus, I give my whole life to you, I thank you for creating me, dying for me, and rising for me.

Please give me a spirit of service and love so I can pour out myself for others as you did for me.

In gratitude, I offer myself to you, asking for the grace to keep you first in my heart.

Help me to use everything You have given me to serve You, my parish, and all those around me. Amen

Planned Giving

End Of The Year Gifts

This holiday season, consider adding "charitable gifts" to your list of giving ideas. If you or your loved ones value the mission of your parish or the Archdiocese, consider making a gift in their honor. Your gift will make a difference at your parish or the archdiocese and it is a great way to honor your loved ones.

Gift of Securities

Donating stock to support the mission of your parish or Archdiocese can offer even more tax benefits than writing a check. You will be exempt from paying capital gains taxes on any increase in value—taxes you would pay if you had otherwise sold the securities. You are entitled to a federal income tax deduction based on the current fair market value of the securities, regardless of their original cost.

Learn More

A tax or legal advisor can provide you additional information. The Archdioceses is also happy to assist you as well, please call them at 713-659-5461.

Poinsettias for Christmas

Remember a loved one at Christmas by donating towards the Poinsettias to decorate the church. Donors and the names of loved ones will be listed in the Bulletin. Price is \$10.00 for each Memorial.

Fill in the information below and bring with payment to the Church Office or drop it in the Sunday Collection. Make your check payable to St. Justin Martyr.

— Poinsettias for Christmas —

I would like to donate towards decorating the Church with Poinsettias at \$10.00 per Memorial, for the following:

1. _____

2. _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

CCE News

Contact
Us

Alyssa Avila
Director of Religious
Ed.
aavila@sjmtx.com
281-902-5701

Perla Galvan-Sainz
CCE Assistant
281-902-5712

**There will be NO CCE from
December 17—January 7.
Classes will resume January 9.**

Please check out our website and Facebook page to
keep up with the latest CCE news.

Website:

www.sjmtx.org/childrens-ministrycce

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/sjmcece

RCIA: BOW

RCIA students meet
every Sunday at the **10:00 AM** Mass.
Parents and students, remember
to be here every week.
There will be NO BOW on December
25 and January 1.

The next sacrament class for those students
receiving a sacrament this year will be held on

Saturday, January 21
from 12:00-2:00.

Your child must attend all 14 classes!

Please see handbook for attendance policy.
If your child missed a class, **please have them**
turn in make-up work ASAP.

Middle and High School Youth Ministry

For more information about youth
events and activities contact:

Alex Pina, Coordinator of
Youth Ministries

281-902-5710
apina@sjmtx.com

Information is also available on the
Youth Ministry page of the parish
website at www.sjmtx.org.

Important Days to Remember

December 18 & 25, 2016
January 1, 8, & 15 2017

**There will be NO CCE during these dates, due
to our Christmas and New Year's Holidays.
Please mark them in your calendars.**

**A big thank you! From the Office of Youth
Ministry at SJM, for our youth that
participated in the St. Nicholas Play
on December 4.**

INFORMATION SHEET:

Church name & address
St. Justin Martyr #515169
13350 Ashford Point Drive
Houston, Texas 77082

Contact person: Martha Martin @ 281-556-5116

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