

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.



Nativity of the Lord, December 25, 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

The Gift of God's Word

On this day of gifts and gift giving, it seems appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the great gift of God's Word. Because it is creative, God's Word always points to its author, always calls us to respond. Because it is powerful, God's Word can link the sublime with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the immanent, the divine with the human. Because it is graceful, God's Word establishes a relationship of deep intimacy between us and God.

At the heart of God's Word lies a tantalizing tension between the mysterious and the mundane. In our liturgical celebration, this unresolved tension both reveals the meaning of life for us and calls us to respond, to act upon that meaning.

Once accepted and opened, the gift of God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving and keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares us to be like the gift giver and to become gifts for others, not only at Christmas, but at every moment of life.

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Attention Men Of ACTS!

The ACTS Men's Retreat has identified next year's director and co-directors. They will be meeting throughout December. A "Call for Team" will be issued in January. If you have been to an ACTS retreat and wish to help with the next retreat, please answer the call in January. If you have not been on an ACTS retreat, the next Men's retreat will be the 1st weekend in June. We anticipate having early registration open in February. Please let Josh know so he can cancel his wedding/graduation/reunion/fishing trip plans.

Financial Stewardship

Weekend Collection

December 18	\$19,258
Required Weekly Budget Amount	\$20,500
Building Improvements	\$ 85
Social Ministry	\$ 600
Registered Families	1581

Diocesan Services Fund 2016

Parish Goal:	\$124,780
Parish Amount Pledged:	\$111,335
Parish Contributions:	\$107,010
Balance Due:	\$ 17,770

Number of Participants 519

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

As DSF 2016 comes to a close on December 31 we are very close to reaching our goal. Please make your contributions as soon as possible.

Many thanks to everyone who has participated.

Upcoming Second Collections

January 29	Bishop's Fund for Latin America
February 5	DSF Sunday
March 1	Archdiocesan Social Ministries
March 5	Black & Indian Missions

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

Many Thanks

To the Filipino Community for their gift of \$1,476.95 collected during Simbang Gabi!

Prayer Needs

Mass Intentions

December 24th ~ January 1st

Sat.	Dec 24th	5:30 p.m.	+ Stephen Barta
Sat.	Dec 24th	8:00 p.m.	+ Dorothy Craig
Sat.	Dec 24th	Midnight	+ Angela D'Costa + Anita & Brian Almeida
Sun.	Dec 25th	8:00 a.m.	+ Michael Cook
Sun.	Dec 25th	10:00 a.m.	+ All Souls in Purgatory
Sun.	Dec 25th	12:00 p.m.	+ Leopoldo Lopez
Sun.	Dec 25th	5:00 p.m.	NO Mass
Mon.	Dec 26th	7:00 p.m.	NO Communion Service
Tue.	Dec 27th	7:00 p.m.	NO Mass
Wed.	Dec 28th	9:00 a.m.	Thinh Le
Thurs.	Dec 29th	9:00 a.m.	+ Santiago Gapultos
Fri.	Dec 30th	9:00 a.m.	+ Dorothy Craig
Fri.	Dec 30th	6:30 p.m.	Communion Service
Sat.	Dec 31st	9:00 a.m.	+ Souls in Purgatory
Sat.	Dec 31st	5:30 p.m.	+ Dinh Do
Sun.	Jan 1st	8:00 a.m.	People of St. Justin
Sun.	Jan 1st	10:00 a.m.	+ Gabriel & Christiana Udeh
Sun.	Jan 1st	12:00 p.m.	+ Peter Nguyen Van Canh
Sun.	Jan 1st	5:00 p.m.	NO Mass

Readings for the Week

Sun., Dec 25th:	Is 62:4-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Mon., Dec 26th:	Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
Tues., Dec 27th:	1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a,2-8
Wed., Dec 28th:	1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Mt 2:13-18
Thurs., Dec 29th:	1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
Fri., Dec 30th:	Sir 3:2-6,12-14/Mt 2:13-15/19-23
Sat., Dec 31st:	1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
Sun., Jan 1st:	Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Vocation Brief

All too often we forget to express appreciation to those in service-oriented jobs, including priests, sisters and brothers. We forget because we think, "It's their job to help." Priests and religious aren't superhuman. They need genuine support from those they serve. Let them know how you feel.

Serra for priestly and religious vocations

Parish Events

Sunday, December 25th - The Nativity of the Lord

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. NO Spanish Mass
 6:30 p.m. NO Middle School & High School CCE

Monday, December 26th - Parish Office Closed

5:30 p.m. NO Elementary CCE
 7:00 p.m. NO Communion Service
 7:00 p.m. NO Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, December 27th - Parish Office Closed

6:30 p.m. NO Penance
 7:00 p.m. NO Mass
 7:00 p.m. NO Young Adults
 7:30 p.m. NO Perpetual Help Novena & Rosary

Wednesday, December 28th

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

Thursday, December 29th

9:00 a.m. Mass

Friday, December 30th - The Holy Family

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

Saturday, December 31st

9:00 a.m. Mass
 9:00 a.m. NO Elementary CCE
 4:00 p.m. Penance
 5:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday, January 1st - Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

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. NO Spanish Mass
 6:30 p.m. NO Middle School & High School CCE

Parish Life

Christmas Eve - December 24

5:30 PM English Vigil Mass

8:00 PM Spanish Vigil Mass

Christmas Midnight Mass

Prelude music will begin at 11:00 PM

Mass will be at Midnight

Christmas Day - December 25

8:00 AM English 10:00 AM English

Noon Vietnamese

NO 5:00 PM Spanish Mass

Please note: The Parish Office will be closed at Noon on Friday, December 23, and all day December 26 & 27. There is NO 6:30 PM Communion Service on December 23. There are NO Masses on December 26 & December 27.

New Year's Eve Masses - December 31

9:00 AM 5:30PM

New Year's Day Masses - January 1

8:00 AM, 10:00AM & Noon

There is NO 5:00 PM Spanish Mass

Please note: The Parish Office will be closed on January 2. There is NO Mass.

January 1 Bulletin Deadline

The deadline for the January 1 bulletin has passed. It has already gone to the printers.

Please Pray for . . .

The following couple as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony at St. Justin Martyr:

January 7 Hieu Le Watt & Nhi Doan Huynh

**Today, Sunday, December 25, there are
NO Food Sales.**

**Next Sunday, January 1, enjoy breakfast prepared by
the Respect Life committee on sale in the parish hall
after morning Masses.**

Why Are You Resisting Happiness?

The book *Resisting Happiness* by Matthew Kelly, which you have been given, is published and distributed by an organization called Dynamic Catholic. This book is a gift from Fr. Paul, to each family attending Mass on Christmas weekend and was funded by our ACTS Retreat Ministry.

It was once said "the right book at the right moment can be life changing". If that book contains solid spiritual guidance and sound Catholic theology, that's even better. If this book can improve the spiritual health of just one person, that's fantastic and all glory to God. However, if this book improves the spiritual health of several lives, we can positively impact the spiritual health of our entire parish. And if we can improve the spiritual health of many parishes, we can improve the spiritual health across our country and the world . . . all because of a book.

As an added bonus, Dynamic Catholic, will also be using this book in the Spring as the basis for their program, *Best Lent Ever*, a daily online Lenten Devotional. Stay tuned for more information on that.

So, we invite you to read this book and change the world. The books are in the pews this Christmas weekend.

**Merry Christmas
from the Clergy & Staff
of St. Justin Martyr**

The Prayer Blanket / Prayer Shawl Ministry

Holds monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each month from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 3. We gather to sew, knit and crochet blankets and shawls and to teach those who want to learn. We provide fabric, yarn and the tools to work with. This is a great ministry for those who want to work from home as you can just pick up materials as needed. You can also participate by donating fabric (preferably cotton/flannel; however any donation is welcome) and yarn. If you have any questions, please call Guadalupe V. Mussio at 281-896-4368. God Bless!

Parish Life

St. Justin Martyr Catholic Preschool News

We hope everyone will enjoy their Christmas holidays these next few weeks and take time for family and friends. From all of us at the preschool "Merry Christmas"! May God bless you and your families this Christmas season and always!

Daughters of Isabella

Unity, Friendship and Charity

"Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel." Matthew 1:23

We want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.

We will pray the rosary on January 7 at 5:00 p.m. in the chapel. This is a beautiful way to begin Mass.

Our next meeting is January 9 at 7:15 p.m. If you are interested in finding about or joining our wonderful organization please call Bette Breaz at 281-493-6855.

Knights of Columbus-SJM Council 8293

December 29 - K C Officer's Meeting 7:00 p.m.

If you are interested in joining the Knights of Columbus, please contact Grand Knight Michael Akiboh at 281-707-4444.

**The Knights of Columbus wish
you all a Merry Christmas.**

Let Us Pray

For the souls of the recently deceased, Joseph Huynh Nguyen & Joseph Vinh Do. May eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

African Community of St. Justin Martyr

December 25 - Christmas Day! We wish you a Merry Christmas.

May the blessings of the birth of our Lord abide with you today and throughout the Christmas season.

Amen

Thanks to all for making the Christmas Party a success.

Merry Christmas!

Questions, contact Jude Obinyan at 832-788-3117.

News About the Mavericks

January 6 – Friday – 9:00 a.m. – First Friday Mass followed by breakfast at IHOP, 6759 S. Hwy 6.

January 8 – Sunday – Bus trip to Houston Museum of Natural Science to see Mummies of the World, an exhibition of real mummies and artifacts. Cost \$18. Ticket includes admission to all permanent exhibits. Lunch at Avalon Diner. Lunch \$7 - \$10. Bus leaves from church parking lot at 12 noon. Reservations to Marge at 281-498-3413 by January 2.

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 281-8206.

Please Welcome Our Newest Members

Baptized last weekend

Rocco Clark Dela Paz

Zinachukwudinma Malachi Omaliko

Social Ministry News

The Adopt A Family project was a great success thanks to your generosity, (whether it was adopting a child, donating a toy, food or monetary donations). Forty eight (48) Families received a Holiday Meal and fresh produce. Ninety-nine (99) Children received presents. Mom's received a gift thanks to the Women's ACTS Retreat Team and Social Ministry.

Thank you to the Preschool for hosting the toy drive.

A sincere thank you to all volunteers that gave their time helping those less fortunate in our community during this Holiday season.

The ministry participated in programs with the Houston Food Bank. A free pallet of fresh produce was received.

Share your holidays - 89 households received 30 pounds of free food.

Social Ministry is closed and will reopen on Wednesday, January 4.

Merry Christmas to all!

Parish Life

RCIA

Curious about the Catholic Faith? Are you unbaptized? Or were you baptized in another faith? **RCIA is the program for you!** Please call the church office and leave your name and a contact phone number, and someone from the RCIA team will call you to give you more information

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 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.

Spring Festival Planning Committee Meeting

The parish Spring Festival is scheduled for April 29th and 30th next year. Everyone is invited to be part of the planning committee. The first meeting will be held on Sunday, January 8, in the CFC building at 1:30 p.m. Come with ideas on how to make the festival more successful.

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.**

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
or January 1.

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/sjmccce

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.

Merry Christmas

The Office of Youth Ministry wishes all
the community of St. Justin Martyr
Catholic Church a Merry and Holy
Christmas.

*"On this night let us share the joy of the
Gospel: God loves us, he so loves us that he
gave us his Son to be our brother, to be
light in our darkness."*

-Pope Francis



**Saint
Justin
Martyr
Youth**

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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