



ST. AUSTIN  
CATHOLIC PARISH  
FAITHFUL TO OUR MISSION



# GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY

2017

2018



2026 Guadalupe Street  
Austin, Texas 78705  
512-477-9471  
[www.staustin.org](http://www.staustin.org)



ST. AUSTIN  
CATHOLIC  
PARISH

2026 Guadalupe Street  
Austin, Texas 78705

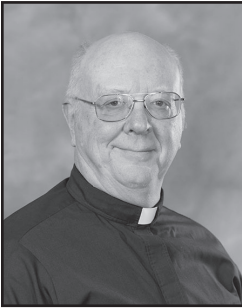
Telephone: 512-477-9471  
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[www.staustin.org](http://www.staustin.org)

*Served by the Paulist Fathers*

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## A MESSAGE FROM FR. CHUCK



Dear Fellow Parishioners of St Austin,

Well, right now may not be the most comfortable time to be a parishioner, what with the dust, dislocation and inconvenience of construction, but it certainly is an exciting time.

I hope you are excited as I am to see our church and rectory getting a face lift, and look forward to newer and larger bathrooms, and more useful meeting and ministry space in the rectory building. Our community is alive!

But beyond bricks and stones and mortar, our community is first and foremost people. And the health of our community depends on the people: their commitment, participation, identification, and generosity with time, talent and treasure.

This Guide Book and Directory is a tool to help you stay or get more involved in the active St. Austin Community. Your participation is vital to our parish community carrying out the mission we have from Jesus to spread the Good News.

I invite you to read this directory as you discern where and how you are called to be *Faithful to Our Mission*. Listen to the Holy Spirit as you explore our many wonderful ministries and activities.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Chuck Kullmann, CSP  
Pastor

## PARISH HISTORY

Founded in 1908, St. Austin Catholic Parish was named in honor of St. Augustine of Canterbury when the Most Rev. N. A. Gallagher, bishop of Galveston, invited the Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle, known as the Paulist Fathers, to establish a parish. Not only did Bishop Gallagher ask the Paulist Fathers to tend to the “spiritual needs of our growing Capital City;” he further requested them to “make their House a center of missionary activity for Catholics and non-Catholics.” The Bishop then gave them a particular mandate to “exercise a special care and supervision over the Catholic young men and women who are students at the State University.”

With the help of the Dominican Sisters of Houston, St. Austin Catholic School was founded in 1917. In 1953-1954, under the leadership of then pastor Rev. Joseph Troy, CSP, the present church, residence for the Paulist Fathers and school were built. St. Austin has grown to become a parish of over 2,000 households from over 80 zip codes. In addition, we continue to serve hundreds of university students each year.

## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. Austin Catholic Parish, guided and served by the Paulist Fathers, is a dynamic, urban Roman Catholic faith community of the Catholic Diocese of Austin. Empowered by the Word of God, formed and nourished by the Eucharist, and made bold by the Holy Spirit, we strive through prayer, education and service to others to manifest God’s transforming love in the world and to deepen our relationship with God, one another and the universal Church. Inspired by our patrons, St. Paul the Apostle and St. Augustine of Canterbury, we dedicate ourselves to Jesus Christ and to His continuing mission to sanctify, teach, heal, reconcile and serve.

## ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



Our parish patron saint, Augustine of Canterbury, was living a quiet life in late sixth century Rome as Prior of St. Andrew Monastery, which was established under Pope Gregory’s patrimony and was where the Pope himself had once been Prior. Gregory called upon Augustine to lead a mission to England to fulfill the Pope’s dream of bringing the Christian faith to that country. Previous missionaries sent before the Saxon conquest had been killed, had fled into hiding or had returned to Rome with stories of the cruelty and barbarity of the Saxons. Pope Gregory knew that a strong hand, like that of Augustine, would be needed to convince the Saxons to become Christians themselves.

Augustine was also given the task of bringing the wayward Christians already living in the English Islands and Ireland back to allegiance under Rome and the Pope.

In the spring of 597 the monastic band of travelers accompanying St. Augustine crossed the channel. They were told a Christian queen would welcome them, and much to their relief, they were embraced warmly by King Aethelbert and his Frankish queen, Bertha. Legend says that this first meeting took place under a great oak, a tree symbolic of hospitality in iconography. Aethelbert gave Augustine and his monks land and buildings in Canterbury to establish their mission. The king invited his people to listen to the monks, but he would not permit the monks to force conversion on anyone. Under Augustine's influence, the monks lived simply among the local people, always respecting their customs. Their lives were a witness to Christianity as they preached of God's love, cared for the poor and prayed constantly.

Impressed by Augustine's and the monks' ways, the king himself requested instruction and was baptized at Pentecost. With this foothold, Augustine was consecrated Archbishop of the English. Aethelbert continued to allow his subjects religious freedom of choice; yet because of Augustine's teachings, more than ten thousand people were baptized of their own free will that Christmas. King Aethelbert allowed his territory to be mapped out into dioceses and began to speak to the Celtic bishops on behalf of his Archbishop, Augustine, and Pope Gregory. Augustine was sent priests, liturgical books, vestments and vessels to expand his mission. Pagan temples were converted for Christian worship and pagan festivals were turned into martyrs' feast days. Finally Pope Gregory's ultimate mission to bring the British isles under the Church's influence was coming to fruition under Augustine's influence.

Augustine died in 605. In the eight years that Augustine lived among the tribes of England, his mission of conversion grew slowly, but he never wavered in his teaching of Christ's saving love.

## PARISH SCHEDULE

### **Weekend Masses**

Saturday ..... 5 p.m.  
Sunday ..... 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

### **Weekday Masses**

Monday-Friday ..... 8 a.m.

**For Holy Day and Holiday schedules please contact the parish office or visit our website.**

### **Sacrament of Penance (Confession)**

Saturday ..... 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. or by appointment

### **Office Hours**

Sunday ..... 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Monday-Thursday ..... 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Friday ..... 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Saturday ..... Closed

### **Nursery**

Sunday ..... 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.



**NANCY JONES, REALTOR®**  
**RAVE Real Estate Agent**

Nancy and her family (Her Mom, Tess Schlegel, was St. Austin School Librarian for many years) have been St. Austin's parishioners for over 80 years. After retiring from her job as an Association Executive, Nancy pursued her dream of becoming a real estate agent. "It was always something I wanted to do - help people find their perfect home. I love serving the great people at St. Austin's."



**(512) 293-0166**

[nancy@raverealestateaustin.com](mailto:nancy@raverealestateaustin.com) | [www.raverealestateaustin.com](http://www.raverealestateaustin.com)



**BILLY F. PEEL**  
President



**Austin-Peel and Son**  
**Funeral Home & Crematory**

(512) 419-7224  
FAX (512) 419-7641

607 E. Anderson Lane  
Austin, TX 78752

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[austinpeel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:austinpeel@sbcglobal.net)

## PARISH BENEFACTORS

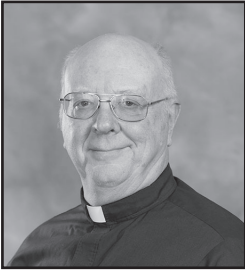
### **R. Richard Campbell, Ph.D.**

Clinical Psychologist  
4405 Rosedale Avenue  
Austin, TX 78756  
(512) 468-6843

### **John M. Vail CPA, PC**

CPA, MBA, CFP • (512) 794-9111  
Tax and Financial Advisory  
4131 Spicewood Springs Rd. B-1  
[www.jvail.com](http://www.jvail.com) • [jvail@jvail.com](mailto:jvail@jvail.com)

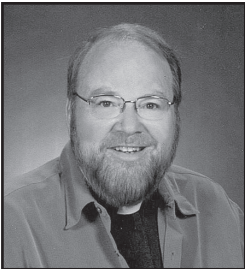
## PARISH STAFF



**Rev. Charles (Chuck) Kullman, CSP**  
Pastor  
Ext. 328  
ckullmann@staustin.org



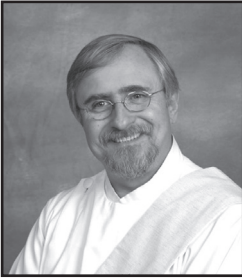
**Rev. Richard (Rich) Andre, CSP**  
Associate Pastor  
Ext. 327  
randre@staustin.org



**Rev. Richard (Dick) Sparks, CSP**  
Associate Pastor  
Ext. 319  
rsparks@staustin.org



**Billy Atkins**  
Deacon  
Ext. 318  
batkins@staustin.org



**Dan Wright**

Deacon  
Ext. 318  
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Ext. 325  
janderson@staustin.org



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Principal, St. Austin Catholic School  
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tcevallos@staustinschool.org



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Administrative Assistant  
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kdempseypasyk@staustin.org



**Frank Garcia**

Facilities Manager  
Ext. 315  
fgarcia@staustin.org



**John J. Hoffman**

Director of Worship & Sacred Music  
Ext. 326  
jhoffman@staustin.org



**Sharon Jones**

Office Manager, Ethics & Integrity in Ministry  
Coordinator  
Ext. 303  
sjones@staustin.org



**Pat Luksinger**

Bookkeeper, Baptism & Wedding Coordinator,  
Sacramental Records  
Ext. 322  
plucksinger@staustin.org



**Pat Macy**

Director of Social Justice Ministries  
Ext. 324  
pmacy@staustin.org



**Tricia Salcher**

Associate Director of Discipleship Formation  
Ext. 314  
psalcher@staustin.org





**Elberta (Berta) Smoak**

Director of Business & Finance  
Ext. 301  
esmoak@staustin.org



**Marylynn Wesson**

Director of Discipleship Formation  
Ext. 320  
mwesson@staustin.org

## STEWARDSHIP & DISCIPLESHIP

**Contacts:**

**Jennifer A. Anderson**, *Director Administration & Stewardship*

Ext. 325, [janderson@staustin.org](mailto:janderson@staustin.org)

**Pat Lucksinger**, *Bookkeeper*

Ext. 320, [plucksinger@staustin.org](mailto:plucksinger@staustin.org)

At Baptism we are called to model our lives on the life and teachings of Christ. This responsibility compels us to become disciples, which naturally leads to the practice of stewardship. As Christian stewards, we recognize that everything we have, including our talents, our abilities, our loved ones, our resources, our world, our faith, and our very lives are gifts from God. A Christian steward receives God's gifts with gratitude, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them with all in justice and love, and returns them with increase to the Lord.



If you're not sure how to use your talents and gifts at St. Austin, this book is for you! Keep reading! You can also visit [www.staustin.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory](http://www.staustin.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory) to explore your gifts online. This helpful tool on our website will assess your gifts and suggest parish ministries that might be a good fit for you.

For more information about any of the ministries described in this directory, please contact the parish staff or volunteer listed with that ministry or contact the parish office for more information.

To register at St. Austin Catholic Parish, visit [www.staustin.org/registration](http://www.staustin.org/registration) or stop by the parish office during business hours to pick up a form.

And finally, if you are ready to make a financial commitment to support St. Austin Catholic Parish, Offertory Pledge forms are available in the church brochure racks, in the parish office, and online at [www.staustin.org/stewardship](http://www.staustin.org/stewardship). You can also use the Give Online button on our website homepage to set up electronic contributions.

## ETHICS & INTEGRITY IN MINISTRY (EIM)

**Contact:**

**Sharon Jones**, *Office Manager*

*Ext. 303, [sjones@staustin.org](mailto:sjones@staustin.org)*

In accordance with the policies of the Diocese of Austin, anyone—volunteers, paid staff, religious or clergy—who through their ministry may come into contact with minors (those under the age of 18) or vulnerable adults is required to:

1. submit to the Diocese of Austin a Parish Volunteer Application,
2. agree to a criminal background check, and
3. attend the diocesan Ethics and Integrity in Ministry workshop every three years.

The diocesan Ethics and Integrity in Ministry policies are rooted in the Catholic understanding that each individual must be respected and honored. Jesus had a deep, abiding respect for each human being and would not harm or mislead anyone in their personal or spiritual life. We must attempt to do likewise. These policies cover four areas of possible harm: immoral conduct, exploitation, harassment and abuse. More information about these policies may be found on the Diocese of Austin web site at [www.austindiocese.org](http://www.austindiocese.org).

## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

**Contact:**

**John J. Hoffman**, *Director of Worship and Sacred Music*

*Ext. 326, [jhoffman@staustin.org](mailto:jhoffman@staustin.org)*

Each week hundreds of Catholics come to worship on the Lord's Day and Holy Days at St. Austin. Some people serve as liturgical ministers to help facilitate the assemblies during the liturgies. Their ministry touches all who come to worship at our parish and assist the faith community in its public communal prayer, as we join the endless prayer of thanksgiving in union with the whole Church. There are a variety of ways in which the laity can be involved with the Mass:

### **Greeters/Ushers**

Greeters/Ushers provide hospitality and welcome to all worshipers. They minister in various ways throughout the liturgy, including welcoming and providing directions to parishioners and visitors, taking up and securing the collection, responding to questions and emergencies that may arise, and handing out worship aides and bulletins. Ethics and Integrity in Ministry compliance is required.

### **Altar Servers**

Altar Servers assist the presider at the altar throughout the Mass. This ministry is open to boys and girls beginning in the fourth grade, after reception of the sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion. Parents of Altar Servers must be compliant with diocesan Ethics and Integrity in Ministry policy.



### **Lectors (Readers)**

Lectors assist with the proclamation of the Word of God, announcements and the general intercessions. These ministers must be able to proclaim the readings, prayers and announcements to the assembly clearly and effectively. *All Lectors must be fully initiated into the Roman Catholic Church (Baptism, Confirmation, Communion).* Ethics and Integrity in Ministry compliance is required. Lectors must also be able to navigate the steps in the sanctuary.

### **Eucharistic Ministers**

Eucharistic Ministers assist the presider and concelebrants with the distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ at Mass. Ministers must be at least 16 years old and be fully initiated into the Roman Catholic Church (Baptism, Confirmation, Communion). Ethics and Integrity in Ministry compliance is required.

### **Communion Outreach Ministry**

Ministers involved in Communion Outreach visit and bring Communion to the hospitalized or homebound after Mass on Sunday or during the week. Ministers visit and pray with those who request communion. Ethics and Integrity in Ministry compliance is required. Contact Fr. Dick Sparks at ext. 319 or [rsparks@staustin.org](mailto:rsparks@staustin.org) for more information.

### **St. Austin Choir**

The parish choir sings primarily at the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Rehearsals are held on Wednesdays at 7-9 p.m. The choir performs sacred music from all periods of the Church's musical heritage. Membership is open to all high school through adult parishioners. There is no audition.



### **Contemporary Music Ensembles**

Our ensembles focus on contemporary liturgical music for singers and instrumentalists at the 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Sunday masses. Rehearsals for the 9 a.m. Sunday Mass are held at 8 a.m. on Sunday. Rehearsals for the 5:30 p.m. Sunday Mass are held at 4 p.m. on Sunday. Membership is open to all high school through adult parishioners. There is no audition.

### **Instrumentalists**

Woodwinds, brass and string instrumentalists with experience performing solo or in an ensemble are invited to contact the Director of Worship and Sacred Music for more information. Instrumentalists frequently accompany the assembly's song, the choir or even perform solo literature. An audition is required.

### **Cantors**

Singers with exceptional vocal skills lead the assembly in hymn, songs, acclamations and the responsorial psalm during the liturgy. An audition is required, along with some formation and training.

## SACRAMENTS

### **Baptism**

Parents and Godparents seeking baptism for an infant or child under the age of 7 years must attend a Baptism Preparation Class. Classes are offered approximately every other month at 2 p.m. in the Church. The completion of a baptism preparation class is mandatory to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism. The class provides parents and godparents with information about



Baptism and offers a time of discussion and question answering. For more information and a list of class dates, visit [www.staustin.org/baptism](http://www.staustin.org/baptism).

Generally children age seven and older who have not received the Sacrament of Baptism will need to complete our RCIA Adapted for Children/Youth program. If you are an adult seeking Baptism, please see the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults information below.

### **First Reconciliation (Penance) & First Communion**

First Reconciliation and First Communion are offered to children of the parish in the second grade who have been enrolled in Religious Education classes for at least one year. The religious education prerequisite can be in either a Catholic school setting (St. Austin or another Catholic school) or in the parish's Religious Education program. Please contact the Director of Discipleship Formation for more info.

Children enrolled in St. Austin Catholic School also celebrate First Reconciliation and First Communion in the second grade, in coordination with the Parish. Your child's teacher can provide more information.

Preparation for Adults is offered on a case by case basis. Please contact the Director of Discipleship Formation for information.

### **Confirmation**

Confirmation is offered to high school youth provided they have had a minimum of two years of formal Catholic religious education immediately prior to celebrating Confirmation. The two-year religious education prerequisite can be in either a Catholic school setting or in the parish's Religious Education program. A separate Confirmation program for college students and other adults is available in the fall and spring. Please contact the Director of Discipleship Formation for more information.

### **Marriage**

Marriage Preparation should begin at least six months prior to the desired wedding date so couples can participate in pre-marriage preparation and counseling. For more information please contact the parish office for a wedding packet or visit [www.staustin.org/weddings](http://www.staustin.org/weddings) to download a PDF copy. After completing and submitting the Wedding Request Form, our Wedding Coordinator will contact you.



### **Marriage Convalidation**

Those Catholic parties who were married in a civil ceremony or in a religious ceremony outside the Catholic Church and who wish to have their marriage celebrated in the rites of the Church should contact our Wedding Coordinator for information.

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

The RCIA is a process of spiritual and educational formation to help you discern whether the correct spiritual path for you is to become a fully initiated member of the Roman Catholic Church. The RCIA team at St. Austin is here to help you, to encourage you and to help you discern if this is truly right for you. The RCIA program meets on Sundays, August–May. Please contact the Director of Discipleship Formation for information.

### **RCIA adapted for Children/Youth**

For children age seven and older who are not yet baptized Catholic but considering joining the church, we offer a process of formation and preparation called RCIA Adapted for Children/Youth. The class meets on Sundays during our regular Faith Formation year. For more information please contact our Associate Director of Discipleship Formation.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Married Sponsor Couples

Sponsor Couples are needed to assist with marriage preparation. For more information, contact our Wedding Coordinator.

### RCIA Sponsors

Parishioner involvement in the RCIA program is possible through the role of Sponsor. This companioning ministry has a 5 to 11 month time commitment, depending upon the needs of the particular initiate. The weekly commitment is on Sunday mornings, plus three Saturday retreats. This ministry requires the desire to accompany another through this rich experience, while at the same time growing in your own faith. For more information contact our Director of Discipleship Formation.

## DISCIPLESHIP FORMATION

### Contacts:

**Marylynn Wesson**, Director of Discipleship Formation

Ext. 320, [mwesson@staustin.org](mailto:mwesson@staustin.org)

**Tricia Salcher**, Associate Director of Discipleship Formation

Ext. 314, [psalcher@staustin.org](mailto:psalcher@staustin.org)

*The goal of catechesis is to put people in touch, in communion, indeed, in intimacy, with Jesus Christ. The initial conversion is to the Lord. Catechesis seeks to solidify and mature this first adherence.*

*General Directory for Catechesis, 80*

### Formation for Children and Youth

Age-specific groups meet for Faith Formation on Sunday mornings during the school year. In today's world all ages need a clearer understanding of the faith they profess and a working knowledge of teachings, prayers, faith stories and practices that support their faith. These class sessions are crafted to provide such knowledge, applicable to real life situations. Classes are offered to children and youth from pre-K through high school.

St. Austin welcomes all children and families as part of our faith community, and we especially want all children and families to feel welcome in our faith formation, religious education, and sacramental preparation and youth ministry programs. Please let us know if your child has unique learning needs so that we can work together to provide the best opportunities for her or him to grow in faith. This also includes special dietary needs that impact the reception of the Eucharist at First Communion. Please tell us what adaptations your child may need and what barriers need to be removed so we will be ready for her or him. Contact our Associate Director of Discipleship Formation.

### **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered year-round on Sunday mornings during the 8:45 a.m. Mass for children who have not made their first communion, together with a parent. After the Opening Prayer of Mass, children and parents are invited to go to a nearby room with volunteers who lead the Children's Liturgy of the Word. The Sunday readings are proclaimed in simple language, and the presider discusses the readings with the children using age-appropriate examples. Once a month a deacon or priest presides at Children's Liturgy. Children return to their families in the Church following the Creed. For more information or to volunteer, please contact our Children's Liturgy of the Word coordinator, Ms. Judy Smith, at [davidjudy@austin.rr.com](mailto:davidjudy@austin.rr.com) or 512-346-5402.

### **Adult Formation**

During the year there are various opportunities for adults to enrich and grow in their faith. Please refer to the St. Austin weekly bulletin and website for current information, dates and times for these offerings or contact the Director of Discipleship Formation.

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

The RCIA is a process of spiritual and educational formation to help you discern whether the correct spiritual path for you is to become a fully initiated member of the Roman Catholic Church. The RCIA team at St. Austin is here to help you, to encourage you and to help you discern if this is truly right for you. The RCIA program meets on Sundays from August-May. Please contact the Director of Discipleship Formation for information.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

### **Catechists & Substitute Catechists**

Catechists facilitate immediate preparation sessions for First Communion, First Penance or Confirmation and teach weekly religious education classes throughout the faith formation year (August through May). Training and resources are provided. This ministry is a great opportunity to learn more about your own faith as you share it with our children and youth.

Want to teach but have a limited schedule? Substitute Catechists step in as needed but may not have to be available every week.

Ethics & Integrity in Ministry compliance is required of all catechists.

### **Children's Liturgy of the Word Team**

Anyone with a love of children and God can be a part of our Children's Liturgy of the Word team! Team members serve once a month during the Sunday 8:45 a.m. Mass as a helper, song leader or presider. They receive weekly presider resources, ongoing training, and support. Team members must be at least 18 years of age and fully compliant with Diocesan Ethics and Integrity in Ministry policy. For more information please contact our Children's Liturgy of the Word coordinator, Ms. Judy Smith, at [davidjudy@austin.rr.com](mailto:davidjudy@austin.rr.com) or 512-346-5402.

## Miscellaneous

Safety monitors are needed to help direct families and ensure the safety of our children on Sunday mornings. Hospitality coordinators who can set-up and tend special events and receptions throughout the year are also needed. Contact the Associate Director of Discipleship Formation for more info.

## SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

### Small Christian Communities

An SCC is a group of people who come together in the most basic and personal unit of the parish. The community gathers in the available homes of its members, who discuss their lives in the light of the gospel and share their Christian faith through prayer and conversation. Within such gatherings there naturally arises a connection of acceptance and support through which the members learn, in a personal manner, the meaning of being the Church. For more information on our SCC's, visit [www.staustin.org/scc](http://www.staustin.org/scc).



### Spiritual Direction

Spiritual Direction is an opportunity to meet with a trained spiritual director on an individual basis to share and reflect on how s/he experiences God in day-to-day life through experiences, relationships and prayer – and to understand more deeply how God is inviting him/her to respond. The four spiritual directors available through the parish are:

**Barbara Budde:** [babudde@earthlink.net](mailto:babudde@earthlink.net)

**Michael Flahive:** [flahive.michael@gmail.com](mailto:flahive.michael@gmail.com)

**Laurie Kertz:** [lauriekertz@gmail.com](mailto:lauriekertz@gmail.com)

**Sarah Ramos:** [sramos.austin@gmail.com](mailto:sramos.austin@gmail.com)

### Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP)

CRHP is an ongoing renewal program for women of St. Austin. It is designed to bring members of our parish together in Christ. Renewal weekends are offered once a year, for parishioners by parishioners. These overnight weekends are held in Newman Hall and include group activities and interaction, prayer and reflections on a variety of subjects. The Renewal Weekends are FREE and are open to all parishioners. For more information visit [www.staustin.org/CRHP](http://www.staustin.org/CRHP) or email [CRHP@staustin.org](mailto:CRHP@staustin.org).





## **Masculine Spirituality**

*Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m.*

They didn't tell us when we were boys, but it turns out that life is no picnic. Somewhere around age 30 we men start figuring this out. This is a group that gathers to consider what it means to be a man walking in God's light. It is not an easy path, and each man's path is different. We often find that as a group we have greater wisdom than we do individually. If this sounds intriguing, come check it out. The conversation starts with some reading material and goes where it will. It always ends with prayer. For more information contact Joe Gieselman at [joegieselman@gmail.com](mailto:joegieselman@gmail.com).

## VOCATIONS

### **What is a vocation?**

Many people use the word *vocation* (from the Latin *vocare*, meaning "to call") in reference to the call to be a priest, sister, or brother. However, the Catholic understanding of vocation is much broader: every baptized person has a vocation—a call—to love and serve God. How you choose to live out that vocation is what each person must discern. Some feel called to live as single or married laypeople; others choose consecrated life and join a secular institute or religious community (as sisters, priests, or brothers); still others choose ordination as deacons or diocesan priests.

Fr. Rich Andre is an Assistant Vocation Director for the Paulist Fathers, the order of priests who serve at St. Austin Parish. If you are exploring a vocation of any kind, Fr. Rich would be glad to meet with you! Contact him at ext. 327 or [randre@staustin.org](mailto:randre@staustin.org). More information is also available on our website at [www.staustin.org/vocations](http://www.staustin.org/vocations).

## A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God, the source of  
creation and love,  
You invite each of  
us to serve you through the life  
which is your gift.  
May your grace  
encourage men and women to heights  
of holiness through service to the church  
as priests, sisters, brothers, and lay ministers.

Make me an  
instrument to encourage others  
to give of themselves and  
challenge me to do the same.  
Amen.

## COMMUNITY LIFE

### **Parish Ministries and Service Organizations**

#### **Pastoral Council**

*2nd Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m.*

The Pastoral Council acts in an advisory capacity to the Pastor. It is a representative body of the faithful whose focus is on the whole community. The Parish Pastoral PPC functions in a manner consistent with PPC norms of the Diocese of Austin. Council Members encourage and support the Pastor and offer the best advice possible on pastoral issues, plans, and activities; support the mission of the Paulist Fathers regarding the general policies that guide programs and services of the parish; prepare and periodically review the parish mission statement, develop and maintain long-range plans to implement the mission and communicate such plans to the parish as appropriate. The Pastoral Council is committed to the spiritual growth of its members and the wider parish community. Members of the Pastoral Council serve 3-year elected terms. For more information contact [pastoralcouncil@staustin.org](mailto:pastoralcouncil@staustin.org).

#### **Prayer Blanket Ministry**

*2nd & 4th Thursdays, 1:30-5 p.m.*

Prayer Blanket Ministry sews lap-size prayer blankets for parishioners and those we serve who are ill or experiencing a difficult time, and recipients' names are placed on a list to be remembered in prayer. Members meet on the second and fourth Thursday of each month in Our Lady of Guadalupe Room to work on Prayer Blankets or items for sale at the Annual Holiday Fair. Members iron, cut material, tie prayer blankets and other steps in the construction of a prayer blanket. Members come and go as their individual schedule allows. In addition to our Thursday work sessions, volunteers may also work at home. Instruction on blanket construction is provided. If you are interested in joining this ministry, please contact Miriam Mellon at 512-888-1092 or Nancy Hrin at 512-914-6060 or [tnejs@aol.com](mailto:tnejs@aol.com)

#### **Adult Volleyball**

*Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.*

All parishioners 18 years or older, regardless of skill level, are welcome. No commitment is necessary—we form teams with whoever shows up and play for a few hours. For more information please contact Mark Landers at 512-472-9663 or [mark@landersstudio.com](mailto:mark@landersstudio.com).

#### **Basketball for Men Over 30**

*Sundays, 5-7 p.m.*

We play full-court pick-up games with anyone who shows up, and no commitment is necessary. For more information please contact Will Godwin at [wgodwin@specialaudience.com](mailto:wgodwin@specialaudience.com) or 512-441-6484 or Gavin Villareal at [gavin.villareal@bakerbotts.com](mailto:gavin.villareal@bakerbotts.com).

### **Graduate & Professional Ministry (GAP)**

The Graduate and Professional (GAP) Ministry is a community of adults in their 20's & 30's, growing together in faith. This is a joint ministry of St. Austin Parish and the University Catholic Center. We gather as young adults and live out our Christian call to be in relationship with God, the Church, one another, and the world. We strive to grow authentically in our understanding of our Catholic faith and Christian discipleship, strengthening and deepening our Catholic identity, and discovering new ways to share the Good News. We respect diversity and encourage a wide range of viewpoints and interests in our membership. We work in collaboration with one another and the parishes to support and carry out our mission as well as collaborating with the wider Austin community. We strive to incorporate spiritual, social, and service activities on a regular basis in order to increase our faith, fun, and fellowship with one another and strive to accomplish our mission. We heartily welcome anyone who is a graduate student and/or young professional in their 20s and 30s to join us in our events and activities. For more info, contact Fr. Rich Andre, CSP, at [gap@staustin.org](mailto:gap@staustin.org) or ext. 327.

### **Knights of Columbus**

*1st Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m.*

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal service organization open to all male members of the parish over the age of 18. Members help with projects in our parish, school and community, support the clergy of the diocese and serve the handicapped. For membership information contact Richard Milos at [richardmilos@gmail.com](mailto:richardmilos@gmail.com) or 512-731-1360.



### **Paulist Associates**

*Monthly, 7-9 p.m.*

Paulist Associates is a national organization of men and women who spiritually support the Paulist apostolic commitment to evangelization, ecumenism and reconciliation. There are local chapters of the Associates in ten Paulist foundations, including Austin. Parishioners of St. Austin and the University Catholic Center make up the membership of the local chapter, as well as members from other parishes. The members meet monthly for prayer, study and discussion of the Paulist spirituality as it applies to their personal lives. Through their involvement as Paulist Associates, they spiritually support and are spiritually supported by the Paulist community. Contact UCC parishioner Kathleen Lossau at [klossau@austin.rr.com](mailto:klossau@austin.rr.com) for more information.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Contact:

**Jennifer A. Anderson**, Director of Administration & Stewardship  
Ext. 325, [janderson@staustin.org](mailto:janderson@staustin.org)

### Church Office Help

This is an opportunity to visit with fellow parishioners while helping to keep the parish office running. Volunteers prepare mailings or other parish materials, file paperwork, organize storage rooms, and participate in other ways specific to their talents. Requests for assistance are sent out via email as needs arise, so the commitment of your time is flexible.

### Martha Ministry (Funeral Receptions)

Martha Ministry volunteers prepare and serve a meal at the parish for family and friends of a deceased parishioner on the day of the funeral Mass. Once a funeral is scheduled through the parish office, volunteers are contacted via email to assist with meal preparation and service and reception set-up and clean-up. Volunteers donate food or their time and talent as available. Martha Ministry serves about a dozen times a year.

### Parish Archives

Volunteers meet as needed in our Archives office to file and document the parish's collection of news clippings, biographical articles, historical stories, photos and other records. Current projects include updating and cataloging the collection and informing the parish with anecdotes of interest. For information about donating parish historical documents, contact Mary Lou Gibson at [mgibson17@austin.rr.com](mailto:mgibson17@austin.rr.com).

### Parish Event Planning

From Blessing of the Animals to the Holiday Fair to Soup Suppers to receptions, parishioners are always needed to lend a hand planning, organizing and producing parish events. This is a work-hard-play-hard volunteer position. Previous experience with events is helpful but not required. Volunteers serve as available for each event request.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### Contact:

**Pat Macy**, Director of Social Justice Ministries  
Ext. 324, [pmacy@staustin.org](mailto:pmacy@staustin.org)

The mission of St. Austin's Social Justice Ministry program is to help parishioners recognize and respond to their Baptismal call to discipleship. Rooted in scripture and guided by Catholic social teaching, the program seeks to educate the parish about social ministry and provide the means by which individuals and the parish community can use their gifts to serve the poor and vulnerable and to work for justice locally and throughout the world.

The root of social ministry is the call to justice and charity. The parish must proclaim the transcendent message of the gospel and help:

- bring good news to the poor in a society where millions lack the necessities of life;
- bring liberty to captives when so many are enslaved by poverty, addiction, ignorance, discrimination, violence or disabling conditions;
- bring new sight to the blind in a culture where the excessive pursuit of power or pleasure can spiritually blind us to the dignity and right of others; and
- set the downtrodden free in communities where economic and moral forces leave people without real hope. (cf. Lk 4:18)

To find out more about the ministries listed below as well as other events, organizations and educational opportunities, please visit [www.staustin.org/socialjustice](http://www.staustin.org/socialjustice).

### **Gabriel Project**

The Gabriel Project is a volunteer ministry of the Diocese of Austin with a local facilitator at St. Austin that provides assistance to women and families in difficult or unanticipated pregnancies in a loving, unconditional, nonjudgmental manner. Volunteers, called Gabriel Project Angels, meet regularly with the expectant mother to help her identify, plan and set goals to obtain self-sufficiency. The relationship can last through the duration of the pregnancy, until the baby is 1 year old. To learn more about this ministry or become a Gabriel Project Angel, contact Carmen Adams at 512-417-8309.

If you or someone you know is in need of emotional, spiritual or material support, the Gabriel Project can help. Call the Gabriel Project help line any time at 512-236-1246 or toll-free 1-877-WeCare2.

### **JustFAITH**

JustFAITH is a 6-8 week justice formation process that explores Catholic social teaching and the Church's tradition to care for the vulnerable and different justice issues. It includes scriptural evidence and historical witness through films, books, discussions, speakers and hands-on experiences. These interactive classes are frequently led by recent graduates of the program.

### **Micah 6**

Micah 6 is a non-profit organization comprised of St. Austin and eleven other University area congregations which provide the volunteer staff and financial resources to support a bi-weekly walk-through food pantry. The pantry is located at University Presbyterian Church and serves persons in need on Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. The Street Youth Drop in center provides respite, a meal, and friendship each Sunday afternoon at University Baptist Church. For more information on Micah 6 or to volunteer to assist at the food pantry or other programs, visit [www.micah6austin.org](http://www.micah6austin.org).

### **Outreach to Persons in Need**

Held once a week on Thursday mornings, Outreach to Persons in Need offers a welcoming, listening environment, financial assistance with rent, utilities, work boots, clothing vouchers, food handler license, 7-day bus passes, TX ID/Birth certificate, or eye exam and glasses through a lottery system, and referrals to community resources. Training is provided. Ethics and Integrity in Ministry compliance is required. Monthly time commitment is flexible.

If you or someone you know in the Austin area needs assistance with any of the above listed item, please visit us on Thursday mornings. Our doors open at 9 a.m. Help is provided via a lottery system. For more information please contact the parish office.

### **St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP)**

Inspired by Gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, leads women and men to join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering in the tradition of its founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam, and patron, St. Vincent de Paul.

As a reflection of the whole family of God, Members, who are known as Vincentians, are drawn from every ethnic and cultural background, age group, and economic level. Organized locally, Vincentians witness God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice. The Society collaborates with other people of good will in relieving need and addressing its causes, making no distinction in those served because, in them, Vincentians see the face of Christ.

At St. Austin, Society members offer financial assistance during home visits. In addition, the Society is responsible for the parish-wide Christmas Basket Project, which provides food and gifts to more than 200 families in need each December. For more information on St. Austin's chapter, please contact [St.AustinSVDP@gmail.com](mailto:St.AustinSVDP@gmail.com).

# ST. AUSTIN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1911 San Antonio St., 512-477-3751, [www.staustinschool.org](http://www.staustinschool.org)

**Contact:**

**Tara Cevallos**, *Principal*

512-477-3751, [tcevallos@staustinschool.org](mailto:tcevallos@staustinschool.org)

Our parish school has been providing an exceptional Catholic education wrapped in our faith in the heart of downtown Austin since 1917. Our diverse student community, PreK 3 through 8th grade, comes from over 42 zip codes within the Austin area. St. Austin Catholic School prepares students to be Christ-centered, academically strong, moral community leaders. We are committed to creating life-long learners instilled in the Catholic traditions.

We invite you to schedule an appointment to tour our campus or visit our website [www.staustinschool.org](http://www.staustinschool.org) and learn more about our wonderful Catholic traditions and academic opportunities. For more information about admissions email [admissions@staustinschool.org](mailto:admissions@staustinschool.org) or please call the school office.

**St. Austin Catholic School Alumni Association**

Our school has a rich legacy 100 years in the making. We are seeking alumni and former parents to assist us in identifying and locating alumni and former parents of St. Austin Catholic School. To re-connect with St. Austin, please contact Bedina O'Neill, Director of Advancement, at [development@staustinschool.org](mailto:development@staustinschool.org) or 512-220-2873.

## Volunteer Opportunities

St. Austin Catholic School is always looking for qualified academic tutors to assist its students. If you are interested in sharing your gifts with a student, please contact Tara Cevallos at [tcevallos@staustinschool.org](mailto:tcevallos@staustinschool.org).

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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