



PARISH SUPPORT

MASS DEDICATIONS

- DEC. 19**
5:00pm.....In memory of Thomas Shrader
- DEC. 20**
8:30am.....In memory of Mary Finn
10:00am..... In memory of Edward Schramel
10:30am..... In memory of Dcn. Boyce Foreman
12:15pm..... In memory of Enrique Mendez
5:00pm..... For Emmaus Catholic Parish
- DEC. 21**
8:30am..... In memory of Juliette Romano
- DEC. 22**
8:30am..... In memory of Harold Resnick
- DEC. 23**
5:30pm..... In memory of Brian Harlan
- DEC. 25**
9:00am.....For peace on earth and
unity among all people

To request a special mass intention for Emmaus Catholic Parish or Queen of Angels Chapel, contact the parish office, (512) 261-8500.

BAPTISMS

WELCOMING OUR NEWLY BAPTIZED

Edgar Martinez, Jr.

WEEKLY REFLECTION



December 20, 2015 - 4th Sunday of Advent

“For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy.” (Luke 1:44)

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading each Sunday, do you “leap for joy”? If not, don’t blame the lecturer or priest; rather, look inside yourself. Do you prepare for Mass each week or do you just show up and expect to be entertained?

Weekly Stewardship Report

December 13, 2015:.....	\$47,951
Fiscal YTD Offertory:	\$902,855
PLC Loan Balance:.....	\$1,282,520
Church Loan Balance:.....	\$4,159,171
Mortgage payments (principal/interest) on above loans:	\$46,708/month



Second Collections at Emmaus

Benevolence: First Sunday of the month
Parish Life Center: Fourth Sunday of the month

Retirement Fund for Religious - Dec. 26-27

Next week’s special collection, on the Feast of the Holy Family, supports maternity homes for the Diocese of Austin: Annunciation Maternity Home in Georgetown and Our Lady of the Angels Maternity Shelter in Temple, and the Pro-Life Activities Office of the Diocese of Austin. Please be generous.

Buy SEED Program Gift Cards and Help Emmaus

Support Emmaus Every Day by purchasing SEED (gift) cards from Emmaus and using them just like cash when you shop. Purchase cards for groceries, gasoline, dining, gifting. You receive the full value, and Emmaus gets an added percentage from the retailer. That amount adds up for Emmaus and helps us pay parish expenses without any extra expense on your part. Available for a long list of retailers and in various denominations, SEED cards are sold at the parish office Monday through Friday and in the Emmaus narthex before and after masses on Saturdays and Sundays. For more information, visit emmausparish.org/seed.

2015-16 FYTD SEED Gift Card Program: \$16,173
2014-15 FYTD SEED Gift Card Program: \$31,481

Amazon Smile Program

Do you shop online at Amazon.com? If you’ll use the link on our website, Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase to Emmaus Catholic Parish. Visit emmausparish.org/amazon-smile for details, and bookmark the link for your future purchases.

Randalls Good Neighbor Program

Randalls offers customers a way to support their favorite church, school, or other non-profit organization. Through the Good Neighbor Program, Randalls shoppers can link an organization’s account number to their Remarkable card, and that organization will receive a percentage of sales made. The more people who link their card to the organization’s account number, the more money the organization will raise. Emmaus Catholic Parish’s account number is 9-2-8-1. Please visit your local Randalls and request that your card be linked to our number.

iDonate Noncash Giving

Your noncash items could represent thousands of dollars to our church - plus a garage you can park in, cleaned out drawers, and no more monthly storage unit fees! The iDonate online giving system allows our church to process and liquidate many kinds of quality noncash donation, including electronics, vehicles, stocks, and gift cards! Visit emmausparish.org/idonate for a list of items and further details.

Planned Giving

Discover ways to use your resources to make a lasting impression on those you love and the causes you believe in. For information about how to include Emmaus Catholic Parish in your will or estate plan, please call the parish office.

Demonstrate Your Thankfulness this Season

Each holiday season, Emmaus anticipates and relies on a seasonal increase in contributions. It is through the donations of every individual and family in the congregation that we are able to carry on our work now and throughout the year. If you need a convenient way to make recurring contributions or plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, we encourage you to check out our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up around the holidays, you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions. To set up a recurring giving schedule, visit us online at emmausparish.org/egiving. Or if it’s easier, complete a paper authorization form and return it to the church office. Thank you for your generosity and support!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

All items on the calendar are scheduled at Emmaus Catholic Parish with the exception of those marked as Queen of Angels. PLEASE NOTE: Changes may have occurred in the schedule between print deadlines and the bulletin distribution. Please refer to the Parish Website for the most current calendar listings.

SUNDAY, December 20

4th Sunday of Advent

1:30 PM CLUB 10:14 Gingerbread House Decorating Great Hall

MONDAY, December 21

St. Peter Canisius

9:00 AM Jazzercise Café & Youth Space
 10:00 AM Bright Horizons Great Hall
 11:00 AM Spiritual Book Club PLC Lounge
 12:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Pastoral B1
 5:15 PM Jazzercise Café & Youth Space

TUESDAY, December 22

9:00 AM Jazzercise Café & Youth Space
 9:30 AM Al-Anon Pastoral B1, B3, B4
 5:15 PM Jazzercise Café & Youth Space
 6:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul Society Q of A Chapel
 6:00 PM Great Christian Texts Discussion Rm 205
 7:00 PM Men's CRHP-Spanish Pastoral B1
 7:30 PM Legion of Mary Rm 206

WEDNESDAY, December 23

St. John of Kanty

9:00 AM Jazzercise Café & Youth Space
 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous Pastoral B1

THURSDAY, December 24

10:00 AM Game Day Q of A Chapel
 12:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Pastoral B1

FRIDAY, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord

12:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Pastoral B1

SATURDAY, December 26

St. Stephen

9:00 AM Jazzercise Café & Youth Space



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC? For adults interested in learning more about becoming Catholic through RCIA, visit the parish website or call the parish office.

NEW TO THE PARISH? Email newcomer@emmausparish.org or call the parish office to register to attend a Welcome & Registration Event.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION - To learn more about Sacramental preparation for Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation, or Marriage, visit the parish website or call the parish office.

THE ROSARY is prayed at 9:00 AM, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at Emmaus, 8:30 AM on Wednesdays at Emmaus, 4:20 PM on Saturdays at Emmaus, and at 9:15 AM on Sundays at Queen of Angels.

PERPETUAL ADORATION is available 24 hours a day in the St. John of the Cross Adoration Chapel. To sign up for available hours, visit emmausparish.org/adoration, or call Michelle Ford, (512) 261-4992.

PARISH OFFICE: (512) 261-8500; Monday-Friday, 9 AM-4 PM; Sunday, 8 AM-12 noon

NURSERY: The Nursery is available at Emmaus for the Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, and 12:15 PM masses. The nursery may be available for other designated parish events if advertised and a minimum number of children are registered. For such designated events, you must specifically request childcare by calling the parish office at least 72 hours in advance.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Fridays (10 days in advance), 12 noon, communications@emmausparish.org

MASS ANNOUNCEMENTS: Thursdays, 12 noon, communications@emmausparish.org

LOST AND FOUND at Emmaus is located on the ledge at the left hand side of the narthex (near the SEED table). Any valuable items are taken to the parish office.

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES are available for your use during mass. Pick one up in the sacristy.

ALTAR FLOWERS/MASS DEDICATIONS: To order altar flowers or to dedicate masses at Emmaus or Queen of Angels, please call the parish office.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES: If you know someone who is struggling and could use our support, or would like to receive Holy Communion in their home, please call the parish office. A complete listing of Social Outreach offerings is available on the website.

EMMAUS' RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY is committed to the preservation of human life and the human spirit through education on Respect Life issues and programs. As part of Respect Life, the Gabriel Project assists with Crisis Pregnancies, and Project Rachel provides hope and healing after abortion. Further information is available on the website or by contacting the parish office.

TO MEET WITH A PRIEST, to request Anointing or a visit for an ill loved one, or to arrange a blessing of a pregnancy or your home, please call the parish office.

TO REQUEST EUCHARIST for the facility- or homebound, please call the parish office. We ask that you allow 48 hours for arrangements to be made.

HEALTHCARE VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATES CLINIC: (512) 263-0265

LADIES OF CHARITY: (512) 791-5750

LAKE TRAVIS CRISIS MINISTRIES: (512) 266-9810

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: (512) 576-1744

PARISH NEWS

Christmas Mass Schedule



Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Mass in Church •

4:15 PM Mass in PLC

6:00 PM Mass

8:00 PM Spanish Mass •

• Mass to be preceded by
Children's Nativity Play

Christmas Day

12:00 AM Midnight Mass

9:00 AM Mass

10:00 AM Mass at Queen of Angels Chapel

CLUB 10:14 invites all parish elementary-age children and their parents to come decorate **GINGERBREAD HOUSES** this Sunday, **Dec. 20**, 1:30-3:30 PM in the Great Hall. Please bring a candy decorating item to share (M&Ms, red hots, etc.). Cookies and hot chocolate will be served. **[RSVP through CLUB 10:14 on The City]**

LAS POSADAS dramatizes Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of a place for the Christ Child to be born. Everyone is invited to participate in the Novena, a nine evening celebration of Las Posadas, which takes place in host homes and involves the participation of neighbors and parishioners. For locations of the neighborhood Posadas, please pick up a flyer from the west narthex racks. The celebrations continue nightly through **Dec. 24** with the Gran Posada at Emmaus. On Christmas Eve, we'll begin at 7:30 PM with the children's nativity play prior to the 8 PM Spanish Mass, followed by *Arrullo*, a lullaby to the infant Jesus, and fellowship in the Great Hall.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES - The Parish Office and Nursery will be closed **Dec. 24 - Jan. 3**. In case of an emergency and you need to reach a priest, please call the rectory at (512) 261-3209. Merry Christmas, everyone!

EIM WORKSHOPS in both English and Spanish have been scheduled at Emmaus for January. Please visit emmausparish.org/eim for the dates and information on how to register.

Charitable donations are an excellent way to reduce your tax burden for the year while doing something for the greater good. As you finalize your year-end tax planning for your family or business, we'd like to remind you that donations to Emmaus Catholic Parish may qualify as **TAX DEDUCTIBLE CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS**. Whether your donations are to the general offertory, the building fund, benevolence, gifts of stock, or donations to our annual gala, gifts received in the parish office by **Dec. 31**, 2015, will be applied to this current calendar year. All of us at Emmaus appreciate all the contributions you have made this year to your parish!

MAKE SOME MAGIC WITH US! Sponsorships, reserved tables, and general admission tickets go on sale online beginning **Jan. 1** for *Magic 'til Midnight*, Emmaus' 2016 Gala. We invite you to join us on Saturday, Apr. 16, for a magical evening of fun and fellowship, to include a cocktail hour, seated dinner, live auction, diamond jewelry raffle, dancing, casino games, and special surprise entertainment. Proceeds raised through this event will help make possible the work that Emmaus Catholic Parish does in the Austin community. Attire is "nice church clothes" to glamorously formal; black tie optional. (Of course, if you prefer, dress to the theme as a magician, his lovely assistant, or even their rabbit!) Sponsorship benefits and non-sponsor table and ticket offerings are detailed on the website, biddingforgood.com/emmausgala/mtm. We look forward to having you with us for this magical evening!



SOCIAL OUTREACH

The generosity of the Emmaus parishioners is overwhelming! Thank you to everyone who participated in the **ADVENT GIVING TREE** this year. Because of you, eight local charities are able to help so many more people throughout the year and especially during this Christmas season. Emmaus would especially like to acknowledge the time and efforts of Lindsay Christensen and Charlene Lowe, who selflessly champion this entire project year after year. We also must thank our "Giving Tree Angel," who stepped up as Lindsay and Charlene were taking down the tree. This generous parishioner gathered all the remaining tags and wrote a check to cover all of the items! Thank you, all, for making someone's Christmas brighter.

COMFORT FOR THE GRIEVING DURING THE HOLIDAYS -

As we celebrate Christmas, many of our hearts are filled with warm memories and anticipation. For persons who have experienced the loss of a loved one, this can be a difficult time. Often we may wonder what we can do or say that will bring comfort to a grieving friend, but there are several things we can do for and with them. First, remember there isn't a right thing to do or say that will make the pain go away. We need to be willing to simply be a continuing presence in his/her life. It can be a great comfort to a friend if we just sit quietly and are willing to listen. The pain of loss creates a deep and abiding loneliness and this is magnified when the grieving feel separated from others. Second, take your cues from the friend. If he/she needs to cry and feel sad, we need to be with him/her without trying "to cheer him up." When he or she needs to hear words of comfort, be ready to speak them. Third, remember the friend in our prayers and let him know that we are praying for him. —Submitted by Dianne Bliss, RN



Emmaus' **MOBILE LOAVES & FISHES** ministry is working with area churches to help those less fortunate. St. Thomas More Parish runs a truck every second Thursday of the month, 5:30-7:30 PM. To participate, contact Maria Soo through the Mobile Loaves & Fishes group on The City. In addition, Lake Hills Church (11521 Bee Cave Rd.) has both truck and make-ready teams available. Come for training on Dec. 21, 5-8 PM at Lake Hills Church (5 spaces available); more dates for training will be available in January. You will be making meals and going out on the truck. Please contact Whitney Wiseman for more information on the Lake Hills Church program, (512) 899-8333, wwiseman@lhc.org. **[Join Mobile Loaves & Fishes on The City]**

The **SOS GUARDIAN ANGEL EDUCATION FUND** (GAEF) needs your help in making the dream of an education possible for many impoverished children in the rural areas of Guatemala. Every child deserves the right to education and the opportunities that follow. Help us give these children hope and dignity through education! Your donation to GAEF will be invested 100% in programs for the education of Mayan children. GAEF is a 501(c)3 organization and all gifts are tax deductible. To donate and for more information, please visit: GuardianAngelFund.org. GAEF was also represented on Emmaus' Advent Giving Tree this year. Thank you for your support.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Luisana Cayetano, Jenny Zuar, Larry Hays, Clark Hanley, Dominga Gauna, Hannah Rempel, Christine Brown, Telma Ferrari, Debbie Claudine, Valsa Abraham, Benito Ramos, Jr., Margarita Diaz, Walter May, Christo Family, Cedric White, Lloyd Patrick, Patrick Family, John Totte, Maria Rivera, Mary Ann Kelly, Jim Mastrian, Martin Kennedy, John Madden

EN ESPAÑOL

Para noticias en español, por favor recoja un boletín de noticias disponible en los revisteros al lado de la sacristía en la iglesia.

20 de diciembre 2015 - 4o domingo de adviento

"Te digo que tan pronto como llegó a mis oídos la voz de tu saludo, saltó de alegría la criatura que llevo en el vientre." (Lucas 1:44)



Quando escucha la lectura de las escrituras y el Evangelio cada domingo, ¿usted "salta de alegría"? Si no es así, no culpe al lector o al sacerdote sino que mírese a usted mismo. ¿Se prepara para la misa todas las semanas o solo llega a la iglesia esperando que lo entretengan?

LAS PREGUNTAS MÁS FRECUENTES DE LA PARROQUIA DE EMAÚS

¿INTERESADO EN SER CATÓLICO? Para los adultos interesados en aprender

más acerca de convertirse Católico a través de RICA, visite el sitio web de la parroquia o llame a la oficina parroquial.

¿NUEVO A LA PARROQUIA? Escriba a newcomer@emmausparish.org o llame a la oficina parroquial para registrarse para asistir a un evento de Bienvenida y Registro.

PREPARACIÓN PARA LOS SACRAMENTOS: Para obtener más información acerca de la preparación sacramental para el Bautismo, la Reconciliación, la Eucaristía (Comunión), la Confirmación, o Matrimonio, visite el sitio web de la parroquia o llame a la oficina parroquial.

ROSARIO (en inglés) se reza a las 9 AM, de lunes a viernes en Emaús, a las 4:20 PM los sábados en Emaús, y a las 9:15 AM los domingos la capilla Reina de los Ángeles.

LA ADORACION PERPETUA esta disponible a la 24 horas en La Capilla de Adoracion. Para anotarse para las horas disponibles visite emmausparish.org/adoration, a Michelle Ford, al (512) 261-4992.

OFICINA PARROQUIAL: (512) 261-8500; Lunes-Viernes, 9 AM-4 PM; Domingo, 8 AM a 12 del mediodía

GUARDERÍA (CUIDADO DE NIÑOS): La Guardería está disponible en Emaús para las Misas de Domingo 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM y 24:15. La guardería puede estar disponible para otros eventos particulares si esta anunciado, y un número mínimo de niños están registrados. Para estos tipos de eventos particulares, usted debe solicitar específicamente el cuidado de su niño(s) llamando a la oficina de la parroquia al menos 72 horas de anticipación.

FECHA TOPE PARA BOLETÍN: viernes, a las 12 del mediodía, escriba a communications@emmausparish.org.

OBJETOS PERDIDOS (Lost & Found) en Emaús se encuentran en la cornisa en el lado izquierdo del nártex (cerca de la mesa donde se venden las tarjetas de regalos). Los objetos de valor se llevan a la oficina parroquial.

DISPOSITIVOS DE AYUDA AUDITIVA están disponibles para su uso durante la misa. Coja uno en la sacristía.

FLORES PARA EL ALTAR/DEDICACIONES EN LA MISA: Para pedir flores para el altar o para dedicar Misas en Emaús o la capilla Reina de los Ángeles, por favor llame a la oficina parroquial.

OPORTUNIDADES DE AYUDA: Si conoces a alguien que está batallando y necesita nuestro apoyo, o le gustaría recibir la Santa Comunión en su casa, por favor llame a la oficina parroquial. Una lista completa de recursos sociales está disponible en el sitio web.

EL MINISTERIO RESPETO A LA VIDA de Emaús está comprometido a la preservación de la vida humana y el espíritu humano a través de la educación sobre temas y programas de Respeto a la Vida. Como parte de Respeto a la Vida, el Proyecto Gabriel asiste con embarazos en crisis, y el Proyecto Rachel ofrece esperanza y sanación después del aborto. Más información está disponible en la página web o comunicándose con la oficina de la iglesia.

PARA HABLAR CON UN SACERDOTE, por favor llame a la oficina parroquial.

PARA SOLICITAR LA EUCARISTÍA para una hospitalaria o para personas que se encuentran confinadas en su casa, por favor llame a la oficina parroquial. Le pedimos que espere 48 horas para que se hagan los arreglos.

NOTICIAS DE ÚLTIMA HORA EN ESPAÑOL DE EMAÚS ¿Sabía usted que puede ver la página web de Emaús en español? Visite emmausparish.org. En la parte inferior de cada página hay un enlace para ver la página en español.



Have you "moved in" yet?

The City allows us to:

- interact in small groups
- learn about different ministries
- interact with ministry members
- share stories of hope and healing
- get to know our parish family members
- connect with people with similar interests
- stay up to date on events for your group/ministry/faith formation class
- build community and share faith, not just on Sundays, but anytime, anywhere

www.emmausparish.onthecity.org

FOCUS ON MINISTRY

Missing something? Volunteer for your church!

DECORATING THE CHURCH

Contact Harry Kilman, harry.kilman@emmausparish.org, (512) 261-8500 x 406
 Help Harry green the church for Christmas! We'll gather on Monday, Dec. 21, 10 AM-2 PM. (Additional decorating will be done as needed on Tuesday and Wednesday.) Bring your tools and a willingness to serve. We are seeking four team leaders to oversee the set-up of the tree, sanctuary decorating, the narthex tree, and the outdoor crèche. Thank you for your generous spirit!



FAITH FORMATION

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES for children and youth will not be held **Dec. 17-Jan. 9**. The Faith Formation team wishes all children, parents, and catechists a blessed Christmas.

Outcry students are encouraged to plan now for the **DIOCESAN CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE (DCYC), Jan. 29-31** in Waco. The theme this year is "Restless." St. Augustine of Hippo, doctor of the Church, teaches us about the power of conversion, forgiveness, and God's love. We are excited to announce that this year's theme is inspired by his quote: "for you have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you." We are also asking for his intercession as we plan this year's conference. St. Augustine, pray for us! Download an Outcry permission form at emmausparish.org/outcry and submit with your payment of \$150 by Jan. 10 to be included in this year's conference. **[Join Outcry on The City]**



ACROSS THE DIOCESE

BLUE CHRISTMAS MASSES will be offered on **Dec. 24** at St. Martin de Porres Parish, 26160 RR 12 in Dripping Springs, at 6:30 PM, and at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 9500 Neenah Ave in Austin, at 9 PM and. These Masses are for those who struggling or sad during this festive time of year.

Come join us for our next **COURAGEOUS CONVERSATION** on Tuesday, **Jan. 5**, 6:30-8:30 PM at St. Thomas More Catholic Parish, 10205 FM 620. We will discuss the continued shootings of blacks by law enforcement and the actions we can take to undo racism. The meeting will be in the Parish Activity Center (PAC) which is the second building on the left as you enter the St. Thomas More campus.

Gabriel Project Angels are volunteers who work with those in need of emotional and spiritual support due to an unplanned pregnancy. There is a need for angels across the diocese. The next **GABRIEL PROJECT ANGEL TRAINING** will be held at St. Paul Parish in Austin on **Jan. 9**, 9 AM-5 PM. For more information, contact Mary Helen Russell at (512) 949-2488.

The next **TOGETHER ENCOUNTER CHRIST (TEC) RETREAT** will be held **Jan. 16-18** at Eagle's Wings Retreat Center in Burnet. The retreat is specifically designed for juniors in high school to young adults in their 20s and is focused on the Paschal Mystery of Christ. The cost for the weekend is \$100 and includes two nights, meals, and supplies. For more information, contact Jennifer Kodysz at (512) 949-2467 or jennifer-kodysz@austindiocese.org.

MARY HOUSE CATHOLIC WORKER OF AUSTIN, INC., is celebrating 25 years of service to indigent, critically, and terminally ill people **Jan. 16** at 2 PM at St. Ignatius Martyr Parish in Austin. Bishop Joe Vásquez will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for all the thousands of people who have volunteered their time and talent and other gifts to create the only such shelter in the state of Texas. There will be a reception after the Mass.

The annual Mass celebrating the legacy of **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.** will be celebrated **Jan. 17** at 9:30 AM at St. Mary Cathedral in Austin. Bishops Joe Vásquez and Daniel Garcia will concelebrate the Mass.

A **HEALING HEARTS RETREAT** for women who have suffered any kind of sexual trauma will be held **Jan. 22-24** at Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Belton. The cost is \$135. For more information or to register, call Beverly Collin at (254) 780-2436.

Join Catholics from across the state to promote a Culture of Life on **TEXAS CATHOLIC PRO-LIFE DAY, Jan. 23**. Prayer begins at 7 AM at Planned Parenthood at 201 E. Ben White in Austin and then all will proceed to St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Austin at 9 AM. Mass with Bishop Joe Vásquez begins at 10 AM, and lunch will be available after Mass. Busses will be available to join the March for Life, which starts at 1 PM in downtown Austin at 18th Street and Congress Ave. to join the Rally for Life at the Capitol at 2 PM. Buses will return to St. Vincent de Paul at 3:30 PM from the southeast corner of the Capitol at Brazos & 13th streets. T-shirts and bus tickets are on sale now! For full details, visit austindiocese.org/offices-ministries/offices/pro-life-activities-and-chaste-living-office/texas-catholic-pro-life-day.