



# PARISH SUPPORT

## MASS DEDICATIONS

- DEC. 5**  
5:00pm..... In memory of  
Charlie & Zenia Kitowski
- DEC. 6**  
8:30am..... For Julie Kocurek  
10:00am..... In memory of Annie Sierra  
10:30am..... For Emmaus Catholic Parish  
12:15pm..... In memory of  
Maria Cadenas Villega  
5:00pm..... For the Van Chau Family
- DEC. 7**  
8:30am..... In memory of Kay Kane
- DEC. 8**  
8:30am..... In memory of Marge Lutz
- DEC. 9**  
5:30pm..... For the Van Chau Family
- DEC. 10**  
8:30am..... In memory of Mack Lafargue  
9:30am..... In memory of  
Los Legionarios Difuntos
- DEC. 11**  
8:30am..... In memory of Vidal Martinez

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**  
Ella Marie Poehlmann, Barrett William Bayless,  
Bowen Ryan Bayless

**WEEKLY REFLECTION**



**December 6, 2015 - 2nd Sunday of Advent**  
*“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...” (Philippians 1:9-10)*

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that, during this season of endless buying, we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need.

Weekly Stewardship Report	
November 22, 2015:.....	\$43,999
November 29, 2015:.....	\$39,210
Fiscal YTD Offertory:.....	\$803,428
PLC Loan Balance:.....	\$1,282,520
Church Loan Balance:.....	\$4,159,171
<b>Mortgage payments (principal/interest) on above loans: .....</b>	<b>\$46,708/month</b>



**Second Collections at Emmaus**  
Benevolence: First Sunday of the month  
Parish Life Center: Fourth Sunday of the month

**Retirement Fund for Religious - Dec. 12 & 13**  
The Retirement Fund for Religious provides support for thousands of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Please be generous in next weekend's special collection.

**Respect Life Baby Bank Campaign**  
Many thanks to all who contributed through the Baby Bank Campaign. Emmaus parishioners donated \$2,660.82 for the benefit of the Diocesan Pro-Life Projects and Parish Gabriel Project.

**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](http://emmausparish.org/seed).

2015-16 FYTD SEED Gift Card Program: \$13,115  
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](http://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](http://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](http://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 6 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM	RCIA Adapted for Children-English	PLC Lounge
9:00 AM	KofC Country Breakfast	Great Hall
10:30 AM	RCIA Adapted for Children-Spanish	Rm 206
1:45 PM	Divine Mercy Immaculate Conception Gathering	Pastoral B1,B3,B4
3:00 PM	Preparacion de Temas	Rms 205 & 206

## MONDAY, December 7 - St. Ambrose

9:00 AM	Jazzercise	Café & Youth Space
9:30 AM	Emmaus Moms Sacred Dwelling	Rm 205
9:30 AM	Epic: A Journey through Church History	Q of A Chapel
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
6:30 PM	Boy Scouts	Great Hall
7:00 PM	Women's CRHP-Spanish	Pastoral B1
7:00 PM	Baptism Class-English	Multi B & C
7:00 PM	Baptism Class-Spanish	Rm 206
7:00 PM	The Great Adventure Bible Timeline Study	Rm 203
7:30 PM	Men's CRHP	Pastoral A1/Library

## TUESDAY, December 8 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00 AM	Jazzercise	Café & Youth Space
9:30 AM	Al-Anon	Pastoral B1,B3,B4
9:30 AM	33 Days to Morning Glory	Multi B
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 203
6:30 PM	JustFaith	Multi B
7:00 PM	Men's CRHP-Spanish	Pastoral B1
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts	Rm 205
7:30 PM	Legion of Mary	Rm 206

## WEDNESDAY, December 9 - St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

9:00 AM	Jazzercise	Café & Youth Space
5:10 PM	Preparacion para los Sacramentos	Multi B & C
6:00 PM	Summit Discipleship Group	Narthex
7:00 PM	Narcotics Anonymous	Pastoral B1
7:00 PM	ESL Classes	Rms 201-206

## THURSDAY, December 10

8:00 AM	Men's Scripture Study	Q of A Chapel
9:00 AM	Jazzercise	Café & Youth Space
10:00 AM	Game Day	Q of A Chapel
10:15 AM	Overeaters Anonymous	Rm 205
12:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous	Pastoral B1
1:00 PM	Bright Horizons Staff Meeting	Multi B & C
5:15 PM	Jazzercise	Café & Youth Space
6:30 PM	Parenting Support Group	PLC Lounge
7:00 PM	RCIA	Multi B & C
7:00 PM	Spanish Prayer Group	Youth Space

## FRIDAY, December 11 - St. Damasus I

5:45 AM	Men of Emmaus	Great Hall
9:00 AM	Jazzercise	Café & Youth Space
12:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous	Pastoral B1

## SATURDAY, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

5:00 AM	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration	Church/Great Hall
7:15 AM	33 Days to Morning Glory Consecration	Church
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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:communications@emmausparish.org)

**MASS ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Thursdays, 12 noon, [communications@emmausparish.org](mailto: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

## Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Saturday, December 12**  
**Emmaus Catholic Parish**

Beginning at 5 AM ~

- Las Mañanitas featuring mariachis and Emmaus' OLG Dance Troupe
- Mass
- Reception in the Great Hall

Everyone welcome. Please join us for this very special celebration!



The **SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY** focuses on the Virgin Mary being conceived without sin. The holy day of obligation will be celebrated with the following liturgies:

- Monday, **Dec. 7:** 6:30 PM Vigil Mass (Emmaus) & 8 PM Vigil Mass (Spanish-Emmaus)
- Tuesday, **Dec. 8:** 8:30 AM & 12 PM (Emmaus); 10 AM Mass (at Queen of Angels Chapel)

**Emmaus' Parenting Support Group - for not so traditional parents - invites you to join them for STRESS REDUCTION FOR THE HOLIDAYS**, Thursday, Dec. 10, 6:30-8 PM in the PLC Lounge. Sometimes being a non-traditional parent offers special challenges. Whether you're a single or two-parent household, co-parents sharing custody, grandparents raising a grandchild, or other non-custodial family member raising school-aged children (grades K-12), this self-help family and peer support group is here to help. The parish nursery may be available for those who call the parish office at least 72 hours in advance to reserve. [RSVP through Parenting Support on The City.]

CLUB 10:14 invites all parish elementary-age children and their parents to come decorate **GINGERBREAD HOUSES** on 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.**]

Emmaus has contracted Guide Book Publishing for our **GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY**, which is updated and delivered to parishioner homes annually. The book, which includes information on the ministries of Emmaus as well as contact information for your fellow parishioners, is provided at no cost to our church. Local businesses will be solicited by Guide Book Publishing to advertise in the book. If you own or manage a business and would like information about advertising, please contact Dixie Howell, (210) 317-5204, dhowell20@satx.rr.com by December 12.

**NAME BADGES** are in! If you requested name badges at our November Welcome & Registration Event by indicating on your registration form, you can pick them up in the narthex. At Emmaus, they are located on the east windowsill as you walk in the main entrance. Let's get acquainted! If you did not order a name badge but would like to, you can do so via the parish website.

**HELLO! YOUR PARISH IS CALLING!** One of the ways you can be an active part of Emmaus Catholic Parish (including Queen of Angels Chapel) is by volunteering your time to help us reach out to sponsors and auction donors for our annual gala. This is the largest fundraising event of our parish, with proceeds benefiting our 75+ ministries. Please read on to discern what you can do, and be ready to experience the gift of working with fellow parishioners for a common goal!

- **Are you eager to grow and learn, but worried that you don't have experience?** No worries! We are looking for learners - not experts!
- **Is your time limited?** Of course it is! We understand that you're already giving time to your parish, school, work, life. You set your schedule and tell us how much you can do! Can you carve out an hour? Eight hours? One hundred hours? Two weeks? Four months? No gift of time is too small, but all gifts are so appreciated!
- **Are you afraid you won't know anyone?** Well here's your chance to make new friends. Or consider inviting some of your friends to volunteer with you. We can provide many opportunities to spend time with your friends while doing some very important "work" for your parish. Seriously, this could be a fun thing!
- **Pick up the phone and ask your questions!** Call Paula at the parish office, (512) 261-8500 x 204, or email [events@emmausparish.org](mailto:events@emmausparish.org). [**Join Team Gala on The City**]

## SOCIAL OUTREACH

Our **ADVENT GIVING TREE** is now in the narthex at Emmaus. Please choose tags from the tree, purchase the requested items or gift cards, and return the unwrapped items with the tags attached. For your convenience, gift cards are available for purchase from the SEED table or the parish office. At Queen of Angels Chapel, an Advent Giving Tree provides opportunities to purchase requested gifts in support of families in need through the St. Vincent de Paul program. Thank you for your help in bringing holiday cheer to those less fortunate.

On behalf of the Ministers of Meat, we want to thank everyone for sharing their time and talents with us to make the second **COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING MEAL** a wonderful success. With everyone's help, over 260 meals were served and 135 meals were picked up/delivered! The atmosphere in the Great Hall was truly "thankful," and it was awesome to see so many individuals and families (including youth) working so hard to ensure everyone was welcomed and attended. A special thanks to Sr. Elizabeth, Jennifer Richard (decorations), the Knights of Columbus, and the Lake Travis High School "Baking for Benefits Club" for your contributions. Each year we meet so many new families and faces and we are humbled by everyone's generosity. The spirit continued Friday as we delivered well-needed food to Mobile Loaves and Fishes, which then made its way out to feed our own Austin homeless and hungry. The Ministers of Meat provide BBQ and catering for special Emmaus events and are always looking for new people to join with us. We invite you to join the Ministers of Meat group on The City. May God bless you and your families!  
— Tyler & Marijo Marcoux and Ed & Michelle Ford

## FOCUS ON MINISTRY



Missing something? Volunteer for your church! Our Liturgical Ministries especially need your help during the holiday season when we welcome additional visitors to our parish and when our parishioners often travel and are unavailable or are simply overextended by trying to cover all masses. If you are here for the holidays, please raise your hand for your parish family!

- **Altar Servers** - We need trained Altar Servers of all ages!
- **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** - More masses, more visitors, more need! Please consider signing up for additional duties.
- **Greeters** - This doesn't require training, only a smile and a welcoming attitude! This is a great opportunity for families to serve together, and only takes 20 minutes before mass to help welcome people to Emmaus!
- **Ushers** - Again, with more people in the pews, we need more Ushers to help.
- **Musicians** - Raise your voice and augment our choirs! The holiday season is a great time to sing with a choir without the long term commitment. Opportunities for children and adults!

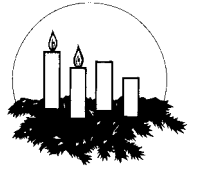
Training is provided for all those new to a ministry. If you can help but don't know where to start, contact the Parish Office and we'll put you in touch with the right person. Thank you for your generous spirit!

## EN ESPAÑOL

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

**6 de diciembre 2015 - 2o domingo de adviento**

"Esto es lo que pido en oración: que el amor de ustedes abunde cada vez más en conocimiento y en buen juicio, para que discernan lo que es mejor..." (Filipenses 1:9-10)



Los brillantes avisos comerciales nos pueden cegar en nuestros valores de servicio y distorsionar nuestras necesidades y deseos. Es importante que, durante esta temporada de un sin fin de compras, recordemos que cada uno de nosotros también tiene la necesidad de devolverle la mano a Dios y a aquellos que lo necesitan.

### 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.emmausparish.onthecity.org)

### FAITH FORMATION

Attention Outcry students: If you are planning to be confirmed this year, you must turn in all **CONFIRMATION PAPERWORK** by **Dec. 15**. Download the Confirmation Application from [emmausparish.org/confirmation](http://emmausparish.org/confirmation) and assemble all required documents by the deadline. Only complete application packets will be accepted.

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](http://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]**

We are in need of **DCYC DRIVERS AND/OR CHAPERONES** to transport the students to and from DCYC **Jan. 29-31** and inspire them in their faith. Drivers/Chaperones must be EIM complaint. Drivers must be insured and at least 25 years old. Chaperones must be at least 21 years old. All others will be considered students. For more information, contact Matt Scruggs, [outcry@emmausparish.org](mailto:outcry@emmausparish.org). **[Join Outcry on The City]**

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Erin Nixon, Diana Villalba, Maurice Kirkpatrick, Zulli Cedeño, Ahilyn Escalante, Renee Iovine, Beverly & Larry Rosson, Luisana Cayetano, Familia Vences, Ruth Jacobi, Mary & George Ruiz, Julie Kocurek, Moreno Family, Matt Bowers, Braxton Murray, Aida Ferrera, CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH TEAM 11, Jenny Zuar, Larry Hays, Clark Hanley, Dominga Gauna, Hannah Rempel, Christine Brown, Telma Ferrari, Debbie Claudine, Valsa Abraham, Benito Ramos, Jr., Theresa Ramos, Margarita Diaz

### ACROSS THE DIOCESE

A Day of Spirituality, **WHEN TWO SEASONS COLLIDE: GRIEF AND THE HOLIDAYS**, will take place **Dec. 8**, 9:30 AM-2:30 PM at Eagle's Wings Retreat Center in Burnet. Join us for an in depth understanding of grief and how it affects the whole person: physically, spiritually, emotionally, family dynamics and socially. We will review the stages and/or the feelings of grief; how the holidays can trigger grief and how you can use the holidays for healing. Presenter: Lori Burdick; Cost: \$35 per person; light breakfast and lunch is included. To register visit [ewrc.org](http://ewrc.org). Preregistration is required.

The annual **HEART OF JESUS MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT** will be held **Dec. 18-20** at Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Belton. This retreat is for Catholic men (ages 17 to 40) with an openness to a priestly vocation and at varying stages of discernment. The weekend will include silence, prayer, meals and talks by priests and seminarians. This is a great opportunity to spend time with other men who are seeking God's will for their life. Come discover the key to your identity as a man and your vocation in the Heart of Jesus. For more information, visit [austinvocations.com](http://austinvocations.com) or contact the Vocations Office at (512) 949-2430.

The **ST. THOMAS MORE GIFT SHOP** is open to the public on Tuesday, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9 AM-2 PM. We offer a variety of Advent and Christmas gifts and all the Catholic gifts you may need to

celebrate your joyous occasion of Baptism, First Communion, Marriage, etc. We are located at 10205 RR 620 North in Austin between 2222 and 183. The gift shop is located in our Preschool Building near our Family Center.

The Filipino community of the Austin Diocese invites all to the celebration of **SIMBANG GABI**, **Dec. 15-23**. This is a Christmas Novena Mass tradition in the Philippines. Masses are set for Dec. 15 at 7 PM at St. Elizabeth Parish in Pflugerville (special intention will be for married couples); Dec. 16 at 7 PM at the Seton Medical Center Williamson Chapel in Round Rock (special intention will be for the unborn); Dec. 17 at 7 PM at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Austin (special intention will be for single people); Dec. 18 at 7 PM at the Seton Medical Center Williamson Chapel in Round Rock (special intention will be for the sick and elderly); Dec. 19 at 7 PM at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Cedar Park (special intention will be for youth); Dec. 20 at 7 PM at St. Albert the Great Parish in Austin (special intention will be for pregnant women); Dec. 21 at 7 PM at St. Louis Parish in Austin (special intention will be for immigrants); Dec. 22 at 7 PM at St. Paul Parish in Austin (special intention will be for grandparents). Bishop Daniel Garcia will celebrate the final Mass on Dec. 23 at 7:30 PM at St. Albert the Great Parish in Austin (special intention will be for children). For more information, visit "SimbangGabiAustinTX" on Facebook.