A Message from Fr. Chuck

Dear Fellow Parishioners of St. Austin,

This is an exciting time in our parish’s history. I hope that you are pleased with and proud of our recently completed renovation project of the church. It came out really well, and we can all breathe a little easier that the front of our church is much safer (no falling stones!) much better looking, and more convenient with our handicapped accessible entrance on Guadalupe Street and of course the additional bathrooms.

All this is not just to look pretty and be more convenient, though. Fundamentally, we have gone through the expense and hassle of a renovation for the sake of being better able to do what our parish family is about: MINISTRY.

Your participation in the active life of our parish, whether through the music ministry, a liturgical ministry, faith formation, one of our many committees, the St. Vincent de Paul Society or Thursday Outreach, or in a myriad of other ways, is CRUCIAL.

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

I invite you to read this directory. Ask the Holy Spirit to help 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.

**Reconciliation (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.
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

Billy Atkins
Deacon
Ext. 318
batkins@staustin.org

Dan Wright
Deacon
Ext. 318
dwright@staustin.org
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Jennifer A. Anderson
Director of Administration & Stewardship
Ext. 325
janderson@staustin.org

Tara Cevallos
Principal, St. Austin Catholic School
512-477-3751
tcevallos@staustinschool.org

Kristen Dempsey Pasyk
Administrative Assistant to Director of Social Justice Ministries
Ext. 312
kdempseypasyk@staustin.org

Frank Garcia
Facilities Manager
Ext. 315
fgarcia@staustin.org

Sharon Jones
Office Manager, Ethics & Integrity in Ministry Coordinator
Ext. 303
sjeson@staustin.org
Pat Lucksinger  
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 Faith Formation (Children & Youth)  
Ext. 314  
psalcher@staustin.org

Elberta (Berta) Smoak  
Director of Business & Finance  
Ext. 301  
esmoak@staustin.org

Rachel Vaughn  
Director of Faith Formation  
Ext. 320  
rvaughn@staustin.org
Please note that some of our key support staff are omitted from this listing for their privacy and protection when assisting the public in our busy office in the UT West Campus neighborhood. For assistance with general questions or if you are not sure who to contact, please call the parish office and speak with one of our receptionists. Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP

Contacts:
Jennifer A. Anderson, Director Administration & Stewardship
Ext. 325, janderson@staustin.org

Pat Lucksinge, Bookkeeper
Ext. 322, 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 share your talents and gifts at St. Austin, this book is for you! Keep reading! You can also visit www.staustin.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory to explore your Spiritual 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 member 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 or stop by the parish office during business hours to pick up a form. Forms are also available in the brochure racks near the church doors. To update your contact information, send an email to Pat Lucksinger at plucksinger@staustin.org.

Ways to Give
If you are ready to make a financial commitment to support the mission and ministries of St. Austin Catholic Parish, Stewardship Pledge forms are available in the church brochure racks, in the parish office, and online at www.staustin.org/stewardship. You can also use the Give Online button on our website homepage to set up electronic contributions from home.
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Have you thought about planned giving to St. Austin? Information on Planned Giving is available on the Stewardship page of our website, as well!

For questions about your pledge or contributions to St. Austin, please contact our Bookkeeper, Pat Lucksinger, at plucksinger@staustin.org.

**ETHICS & INTEGRITY IN MINISTRY (EIM)**

**Contact:**

*Sharon Jones, Ethics & Integrity in Ministry Coordinator*

*Ext. 303, 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.

**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**

**Contact:**

*liturgy@staustin.org*

*Unless otherwise noted*

Each week, hundreds of people come to worship at St. Austin. Many parishioners serve as ministers to help facilitate our worship during the liturgies. As we join the endless prayer of thanksgiving in union with the whole Church, these ministries touch all who come to worship at our parish and assist the faith community in its public communal prayer. There are a variety of ways in which parishioners can become involved with the ministries of the Mass. Ethics and Integrity in Ministry compliance is required for each of these ministries.
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. In 2018-19, we are in great need of more greeters/ushers at all five of our weekend Masses. Please prayerfully consider serving in this ministry. We will arrange training at any point of the year.

Eucharistic Ministers (Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion)
Eucharistic Ministers assist the presider and concelebrants with the distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ at Mass. Eucharistic Ministers must be at least 16 years old and be fully initiated into the Roman Catholic Church (Baptism, Confirmation, Communion). In 2018-19, we especially need more Eucharistic Ministers at the 5 p.m. Saturday and 11:30 a.m. Sunday Masses. Training occurs in the fall and spring.

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 Reconciliation and Holy Communion. Parents of Altar Servers must be compliant with diocesan Ethics and Integrity in Ministry policy. Altar Servers must also be able to navigate the steps in the sanctuary. Altar Servers are trained each fall.

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). Lectors must also be able to navigate the steps in the sanctuary. Lectors are trained each fall.

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. Communion Outreach Ministers are trained each fall.

Contemporary Music Ensembles
Our ensembles focus on contemporary liturgical music for singers and instrumentalists at the 8:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Sunday Masses. Rehearsals for each Mass are held one hour in advance. Membership is open to all high school through adult parishioners. There is no audition. Contact Rudy Davenport at rudydaven@aol.com for more information.
**Choir**
The parish choir sings primarily at the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Mass during the academic year. 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.

**Instrumentalists**
Woodwinds, brass, string, and percussion instrumentalists with experience performing solo or in an ensemble are invited to contact liturgy@staustin.org for more information. Instrumentalists frequently accompany the assembly, the choir, the ensembles, 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.

**Liturgal Commission**
The Liturgical Commission meets throughout the year to plan liturgical seasons, to create special parish rituals, and to monitor the liturgical life of the parish. People interested in being considered for the Liturgical Commission should contact liturgy@staustin.org.

**Arts and Environment Committee**
The Arts and Environment Committee designs and implements the decoration of the sanctuary. People interested in being considered for the Arts and Environment Committee should contact liturgy@staustin.org.

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**Sacraments**

**Baptism**
Parents and Godparents seeking baptism for an infant or child under the age of 8 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).
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Generally, children age eight 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 & 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 Associate Director of Faith 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 Faith 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 Faith 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 to download a PDF copy. After completing and submitting the Wedding Request Form, our Wedding Coordinator will contact you.

**Marriage Convalidation**
Catholics 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 Faith 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 Faith 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 Faith Formation.

RCIA Team
If you feel called to assist with our RCIA program by facilitating discussions, leading reflections, or assisting with administrative duties, please contact our Director of Faith Formation. There are many facets to the RCIA process where your talents would be welcome!

Contacts:
Rachel Vaughn, Director of Faith Formation
Ext. 320, rvaughn@staustin.org

Tricia Salcher, Associate Director of Faith Formation (Children & Youth)
Ext. 314, 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. We also provide a class for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
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. 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, Judy Smith, at 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 Faith 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 Faith Formation for information.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

Ethics & Integrity in Ministry compliance is required of all volunteers in Faith Formation ministries.

**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.
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**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, Judy Smith, at davidjudy@austin.rr.com or 512-346-5402.

**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 Faith Formation.

**RCIA Team**
If you feel called to assist with our RCIA program by facilitating discussions, leading reflections, or assisting with administrative duties, please contact our Director of Faith Formation. There are many facets to the RCIA process where your talents would be welcome!

**Miscellaneous**
Safety monitors are needed to help direct parishioners 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 Faith 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.
**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. Spiritual Directors available through the parish are:

**Barbara Budde:** babudde@earthlink.net  
**Michael Flahive:** flahive.michael@gmail.com  
**Laurie Kertz:** lauriekertz@gmail.com  
**Sarah Ramos:** sramos.austin@gmail.com

For more information on Spiritual Direction, you may contact Michael Flahive as listed above, our Director of Faith Formation, or a member of our clergy.

**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 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 or email 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.

**Vocations**

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. More information is also available on our website at www.staustin.org/vocations and on the Diocese of Austin website https://godiscalling.me.

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

Councils and Committees

Finance Council
4th Mondays, 5-6 p.m.
Parishioners on our Finance Council analyze, review and provide recommendation to the Pastor on matters related to fiscal responsibility within the parish. Experience in business banking and finance, stewardship and fundraising, and business or tax law are helpful talents for the Finance Council. If you’d like to learn more about the finance council or offer your expertise, please contact financecouncil@staustin.org.

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 Pastoral Council functions in a manner consistent with 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; periodically review the parish mission statement; and develop and maintain long-range plans to implement the mission and communicate such plans to the parish as appropriate. The Pastoral Council is also 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.
**Property Committee**
3rd Wednesdays, 12-1 p.m.
The Property Committee meets monthly to review and advise the Pastor and parish staff on management of all of our parish properties, including our retail and parking as well major projects and maintenance of our parish and school facilities. Members share their professional experience in real estate development, business best practices, physical plant management, architecture, landscaping, and contract law. For more information or to offer your talents to this ministry, email propertycommittee@staustin.org.

**Ministries and Groups**

**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.

**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 or 512-441-6484 or Gavin Villareal at gavin.villareal@bakerbotts.com.

**Boy Scouts**
St. Austin sponsors Boy Scout Troop 34 for boys ages 11-17. For more information contact Ben Johnson at bensemail@austin.rr.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, email GAP@staustin.org.
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. Please visit www.staustin.org/knights to find out more. For membership information contact Richard Milos, Recruiter, at richardmilos@gmail.com or 512-731-1360 (call or text).

Outreach to the Homebound & Elderly
This is ministry of St. Austin currently in need of revitalization. The goal is to keep parishioners with limited mobility connected to the St. Austin faith community through telephone calls, visits, cards and even transportation to parish events as available. Ethics and Integrity in Ministry compliance is required. If you feel called to help the parish expand and grow our efforts to connect with our older adults, please contact Jennifer Anderson at janderson@staustin.org.

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 for more information.

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.
Volunteer Opportunities

Contact:
**Jennifer A. Anderson**, Director of Administration & Stewardship
Ext. 325, janderson@staustin.org
Unless otherwise noted

**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. On average, members of Martha Ministry serve about a dozen times a year.

**Media and Technology**
Parish Technology Volunteers work with our pastoral staff on website updates, graphic design and posters, social media feeds, YouTube video creation, and other parish communications. There is also the opportunity help establish homily recording and podcasts. Volunteers with network administration experience may be called on to help with our interoffice network and computers. Experience with these media areas is required, but this is a good way to update or expand your skills while serving your parish.

**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.

**Parish Event Planning**
From Blessing of the Animals to the Holiday Fair to Soup Suppers and 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.
Sunday Nursery
Our nursery is available on Sunday mornings from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to assist families with infants and children up to age 5 during masses and faith formation. Help from Ethics and Integrity in Ministry compliant volunteers are always needed to staff the nursery under parish employee supervision. Time commitment is flexible.

SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRIES

Contact:
Pat Macy, Director of Social Justice Ministries
Ext. 324, 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.

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 to 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. Classes typically meet on Monday evenings.

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.

Outreach to Persons in Need
Held once a week on Thursday mornings, Outreach to Persons in Need offers a welcoming, listening environment to anyone in need of assistance, no matter their ethnic, religious, economic or social background. Financial assistance with rent, utilities, work boots, clothing vouchers, food handler licenses, 7-day bus passes, TX ID/Birth certificates, or eye exams and glasses are available through a lottery system. Referrals to other community resources are also shared with those seeking help. 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 detailed 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 in need 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.
Contact:  
**Tara Cevallos, Principal**  
512-477-3751, 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 at www.staustinschool.org and learn more about our wonderful Catholic traditions and academic opportunities. For more information about admissions email admissions@staustinschool.org or please call the school office.

**Substitute Teachers**

Members of the St. Austin family with teaching and childcare experience are invited to apply as substitute teachers for St. Austin School. This is a great way for parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, retired educators, and those with a genuine love of children to connect to with our school community. Substitute teachers are responsible for executing teachers’ lesson plans, classroom management, and confidentiality and professionalism in working with children and school personnel. Compensation is per diem. Ethics & Integrity in Ministry compliance is required. To apply please submit cover letter and resume to Tiffany Sims at tsims@staustinschool.org.

**St. Austin Catholic School Alumni Association**

Our school has a rich legacy over 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 or 512-220-2873.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

Ethics & Integrity in Ministry compliance is required of all volunteers at St. Austin Catholic School.

**Academic Tutors**

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.

**Acknowledgements**

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