



# ST. AUSTIN CATHOLIC PARISH

*Served by the Paulist Fathers*

2026 Guadalupe Street  
Austin, Texas 78705  
tel 512.477.9471 • fax 512.477.9430  
[www.staustin.org](http://www.staustin.org)

BRINGING THE WORD OF GOD TO LIFE SINCE 1908



## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. Austin Catholic Parish, guided and served by the Paulist Fathers, is a dynamic, urban, Roman Catholic faith community of the 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.

## THE PAULIST FATHERS

The Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle was founded in 1858 as the first community of priests established in North America. They came to Austin in 1908 to establish St. Austin Catholic Parish, named to honor St. Augustine of Canterbury.

In addition to staffing St. Austin, the Paulists direct the [University of Texas University Catholic Center \(UCC\)](http://www.utcatholic.org), located at 2010 University Avenue. For more information about UCC activities and programs call 512-476-7351 or visit [www.utcatholic.org](http://www.utcatholic.org).

## MASS SCHEDULE

### SUNDAY MASSES

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

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday–Thursday 8 a.m., 5:20 p.m.  
*No 5:20 p.m. Mass Memorial Day through Labor Day and Mid-December through Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*  
Friday 8 a.m. or 8:15 a.m. with St. Austin School

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday 9 a.m.–7:30 p.m.  
Friday 9 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Sunday 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

## SACRAMENTS

### RECONCILIATION

Saturdays, 3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. or by appointment

### MATRIMONY

Couples should submit their request at least six months in advance of their desired wedding date. Information packets are available in the office or online at [www.staustin.org/wedding](http://www.staustin.org/wedding).

### BAPTISM

Parents must participate in a preparation class before baptism. Visit [www.staustin.org/baptism](http://www.staustin.org/baptism) for more information.

## PARISH STAFF

**Rev. Fr. Charles Kullmann, CSP, Pastor**  
ckullmann@staustin.org; ext. 328

**Rev. Fr. Rich Andre, CSP, Associate Pastor**  
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**Rev. Fr. Richard Sparks, CSP, Associate Pastor**  
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**Rev. Mr. Billy Atkins, Deacon**  
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**Rev. Mr. Dan Wright, Deacon**  
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**Jennifer Anderson, Director of Administration & Stewardship**  
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**Sharon Jones, Office Manager, Ethics & Integrity in Ministry**  
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**Pat Luck singer, Bookkeeper, Sacramental Records, Baptism & Wedding Coordinator**  
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**Pat Macy, Director of Social Justice Ministries**  
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**Tricia Salcher, Associate Director of Discipleship Formation**  
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**Berta Smoak, Director of Business & Finance**  
esmoak@staustin.org, ext. 301

**Fred Valle, Principal, St. Austin Catholic School**  
fvalle@staustinschool.org, 512-477-3751

**Marylynn Wesson, Director of Discipleship Formation**  
mwesson@staustin.org, ext. 320

For the safety of our youngest parishioners, please accompany your children at all times while on campus, including trips to the restroom during mass and to and from the nursery, faith formation classes and other parish events.

The Master said "all who take the sword shall perish by the sword" (Mt 26:52). It is the policy of St. Austin Catholic Parish, therefore, to not allow open carry of weapons of any kind on parish or school grounds, with the exception of those carried by on-duty law enforcement officers. Thank you for your understanding.



### Bishop Vásquez' Prayer Intention

For the Church, to proclaim the message of finding rest in the Lord especially in a world where being busy is mistaken as a sign of importance and success, we pray...

## THE UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC CENTER



2010 University Ave.  
512-476-7351  
www.utcatholic.org

### Summer Hours

#### Masses

Mon., Wed., Thurs., 12:05 p.m.  
Sunday, 12:30 p.m., 8 p.m.

#### Reconciliation

Mon. and Tues., 12:35pm p.m.

#### Adoration

Sun.-Fri. 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

#### Business Hours

Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

#### Follow us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/UniversityCatholicCenter](http://www.facebook.com/UniversityCatholicCenter)

## PLEASE PRAY

### For those in need of healing...

Kristen Wylie, Janet Reyes, Fr. John Ardis, Henry J. Alvarez, Fr. Larry Rice, Steve Macy, Jr., Fr. Bob Cary, Theresa Spalding-Hoffman, Barbara Smith, Beatrice Arrindell, Nancy Jones, Kathy Owen, Richard Milos, Elaine Stevens, Phil Pickerill, Eric Allmon, Lauren Lehtonen, Fernanda Keeler, Hattie Lovaaasen, Patricia Carillo, Joyce Duffy, Rebecca Macy, Colleen Gray, Patti Hoffman, Eleanor Milos, Andy Aguirre, Fr. Bob Michele, Mark Landers, and all those on our prayer blanket list



### For those serving in the military and in relief and peace-making activities...

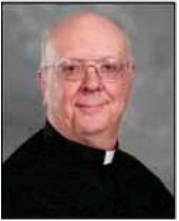
James Cimino, David J. Rodriguez, Nicholas Krepp, Zachary Bybee, Steven Metze, Walter R. Yosin III, Philip Huber, Javier Segovia, Chad Zinnecker, Michael K. Burgess

*If you or someone you know would like to be added to our prayers, please contact the parish office. Names are kept on our list for approx. 4 weeks unless otherwise requested. If you have updates on the health of those who need healing or on the activities of those employed by military and relief and peacemaking agencies, please send that info to [bulletin@staustin.org](mailto:bulletin@staustin.org) so we can keep our lists up to date. Thank you!*

### Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for July

That our brothers and sisters who have strayed from the faith, through our prayer and witness to the Gospel, may rediscover the merciful closeness of the Lord and the beauty of the Christian life.

## FR. CHUCK'S COLUMN



Have you ever reflected on our Parish Mission Statement? Yes, we have one. It is not that long and is conveniently printed on the front of the bulletin each week. You should read it.

Looking at it recently, I was surprised that it says nothing about proclaiming the Good News of the Gospel, or in other words, evangelizing. The Paulists have served this parish since its founding in 1908, and the Paulists like to talk a lot about evangelization, that is why I was surprised. The Parish Mission Statement does state that "... we strive...to manifest God's transforming love in the world....", which is pretty close to proclaiming the Good News of the Gospel. I guess.

As a Catholic parish, and especially as a Paulist parish, I would argue that we have a special obligation and responsibility to proclaim the Gospel to our area. We should be preaching, by example as well as by word, the Good News for God's love for us in Jesus Christ.

So how are we doing? This is not easy to measure. We cannot read people's hearts. But we do have some indications. People still come here to church. Every year we welcome in a few new members through the RCIA. Each year more children are Baptized, make their First Communion, and are Confirmed. Our St. Vincent de Paul and Thursday Outreach program reach out to many in need. And all of that is very good.

But there are a LOT of people we still don't touch. Perhaps we don't very convincingly proclaim Good News. A lot of people, due to the news media and the culture wars, associate religion with bad news, with a lot of rules and "thou shall not" statements. Although I think we generally present a fairly friendly, welcoming and accepting community, it takes a while to experience that.

I get the impression that some people don't feel any need for what we are selling. They are fairly content with their life, with their understanding of themselves and their place in the world, and don't see, or more importantly feel, the need for the Gospel. They don't see any need for religion in their life and do fine without it. They are basically good people and their lives are so full of stuff already that there isn't time and energy to add church to the list. Maybe our biggest obstacle to evangelization is busyness.

I encourage you to use every opportunity you have to do what our parish mission statement says: "to manifest God's transforming love in the world". God bless!

*Fr. Chuck*

## THIS WEEK

To see our upcoming events, please visit our website at [www.staustin.org](http://www.staustin.org) and click on the link in the upper right hand corner that says **Calendar**.

Visit [www.staustin.org/bulletin](http://www.staustin.org/bulletin) to read our bulletin online. Mass Intentions and some additional items are available online only.

## GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY

### Advertising Opportunity

Our parish Guide Book & Directory contains everything pertinent to our church: a list of all of our staff and their contact info, information on all of the various ministries, organizations, committees, activities, functions and events, and a complete directory of all registered parishioners. This book is direct-mailed to each family at no cost to our church—the cost is subsidized by local businesses that advertise in the Guide Book. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, please email Jennifer Anderson at [janderson@staustin.org](mailto:janderson@staustin.org), and we will pass on your contact info to the ad sales rep from Guide Book Publishing.

*Thank you for your help!*

## RCIA

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you or someone you know -

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Was baptized in another Christian denomination but is interested in becoming Catholic?
- Is a baptized Catholic, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults offers an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about the beauty and richness of the Catholic faith. Sessions begin by focusing on the tenets of Christianity, then on the teachings and experience of Church in order to prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. You are welcome to come with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. For information, please contact Marylynn Wesson at [mwesson@staustin.org](mailto:mwesson@staustin.org)

There is a separate program for children/youth. For information, please contact Tricia Salcher at [psalcher@staustin.org](mailto:psalcher@staustin.org)

### Is Jesus calling you to be a companion for a RCIA journeyer?

You need not be an 'expert' on Catholic theology - just a faith filled parishioner willing to share your Catholic life with someone who has answered God's call to join our community. If you are a fully initiated Catholic (Baptized, Confirmed, validly and actively participating in the Eucharist) who is at least 18 years of age, please contact Marylynn Wesson, [mwesson@staustin.org](mailto:mwesson@staustin.org) to find out how to be a Sponsor for someone who needs YOU in their life as they journey through the RCIA process.

"The harvest is plenty, but the laborers are few."



## STEWARDSHIP & DEVELOPMENT

### Offertory Collection July 1-2, 2017

<b>Total Received</b> .....	<b>\$25,552.38</b>
Cash & Checks .....	\$23,988.50
Direct Debit & Credit Cards .....	\$2,563.88
<b>Peter's Pence Collection</b> .....	<b>\$2,513.11</b>

### Annual Offertory Pledges May 1, 2017-April 30, 2018

*As of Mon., July 3., 2017*

<b>Total Pledged</b> .....	<b>\$1,322,389.00</b>
Total Received .....	\$988,282.00
Number of Families Pledging .....	309
<b>Total Gifts Without Pledges</b> .....	<b>\$73,993.00</b>
Number of Families Giving .....	317
<b>Total Loose Cash</b> .....	<b>\$97,320.77</b>

### Faithful to Our Mission Capital Campaign

*As of Mon., July 3, 2017*

<b>Total Pledges &amp; Gifts</b> .....	<b>\$5,072,083.62</b>
Total Received .....	\$4,378,660.46
Number of Families Participating .....	654



### Save Our Give By Text Number In Your Contacts Today!

To set up a text giving account, text the amount of your donation (using a dollar sign in front) and the proper fund code to **512-710-0972**. You will receive a link to register your personal information and credit card information the very first time you use this platform, and then your donation will be confirmed with a thank you text. Subsequent donations will be charged to the credit card on file. If you have any questions about using this feature, please email Jennifer Anderson at [janderson@staustin.org](mailto:janderson@staustin.org).

Sample donation text:

- “\$30 OFF” to donate \$30 to our weekly **Offertory** collection. (Do not include quotation marks.)
- “\$20 PIN” to donate \$20 to our **Persons in Need** collection.
- “\$25 CC” to donate \$25 to our **Capital Campaign**.

### Special Collections

#### July 9-10: Persons in Need

Our monthly collection for Persons in Need supports the work of St. Austin's Social Justice Ministry through the Thursday Outreach Program and the work of St. Austin's chapter of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The donations collected every month are split between these two ministries of St. Austin, and funds are used to provide direct services and support to families struggling in our parish and community. Your ongoing support of our Persons in Need collection is deeply appreciated. Thank you.

### GAP

#### Ongoing GAP Bible studies and discussions!

GAP – graduates and professionals in their 20s and 30s from St. Austin and the UCC – meets on **Sundays at 7:15 p.m. in Paulist Hall**. Most weeks, we'll have a lively discussion on a topic, plus a study of a Scripture passage from the following Sunday Mass. Please join us whenever you're available, and come early for dinner after the 5:30 p.m. Mass!

**July 9:** Softening our hearts to God's will; Matthew 13:1-23

**July 16:** Mini-retreat on the Holy Spirit; Romans 8:26-27

**July 23:** Wheat among the weeds; Matthew 13:44-52

**July 30:** Practical ideas for spiritual growth; Matthew 17:1-9

### ST. AUSTIN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

#### Kindergarten Teacher Position Available

St. Austin Catholic School has an opportunity for a fun, loving Kindergarten teacher. This position is full-time and begins with the 2017-18 school year. Ideal candidate will have experience in early childhood/elementary education, possess a love for children, excellent communication skills and ability to nurture children academically, spiritually and emotionally. Bachelor's degree and Texas state teaching certification required. A full-time teacher's aide is also employed in the kindergarten classroom. Salary commensurate with experience.



Please email resume and cover letter to Tiffany Sims [tsims@staustinschool.org](mailto:tsims@staustinschool.org).

#### Now Accepting Applications

##### Classes for ages 3 through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

To schedule a tour of our school or to inquire for more information please contact Kelley Berlin in our Admissions office at [admissions@staustinschool.org](mailto:admissions@staustinschool.org) or 512-220-73650.

## COMMUNITY LIFE

### Fr. Chuck's Summer Book Discussion

**Mondays, July 10-31, at 12 p.m. or 7 p.m.**

#### **Two Dogs and A Parrot: What Our Animal Friends Can Teach Us About Life**

**By Sr. Joan Chittister**

Are you a pet lover? Are you not? Either way, you're invited to this book discussion led by Fr. Chuck. Discussions are held **Mondays at 12 p.m. and 7 p.m. in Our Lady of Guadalupe Room**. Come to either time slot as your schedule allows. The first session will be **Mon., July 10**.

No sign up is required. A limited number of copies of the book will be available for purchase in the parish office soon! The book is also available on Amazon and other booksellers. **For the first session please read section 1, The Irish Setter.**

**About the book:** *Two Dogs and a Parrot* offers both heart-warming stories and thought-provoking reflections about sharing life with an animal companion. The relationships we form with animals—with dogs, cats, horses, birds, rabbits, and other pets—are full of joys and rewards. Our companion animals draw us out of ourselves and show us what it truly means to be alive. They teach us to accept life's struggles and to cherish its pleasures and the importance of being able to accept ourselves and respect others. They help us to find purpose and meaning in what we do, and to overcome challenges and setbacks. In our treasured animals, we observe varying degrees of excitement and play, of love and fear. And we realize their beautiful uniqueness, their sensitivities and strong sense of purpose.

**About the author:** Sr. Joan Chittister is an internationally known author and lecturer, and the executive director of Benetvision, a resource and research center for contemporary spirituality. She is past president of the Conference of American Benedictine Prioresses and the Leadership Conference of Women Religious. She currently serves as co-chair of the Global Peace Initiative of Women.

### Sunday Nursery Update

The Sunday Nursery is closed for the remodel of the first floor of the rectory, part of our renovation project funded by the *Faithful to Our Mission Capital Campaign*. We have received approval from the city to open the nursery again when the interior work is completed, as this area will be safe from the exterior work and the new bathroom construction that will continue throughout the following several months. We will reopen the nursery as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience as you "pardon our dust."

### Our bulletin advertisers are the best!

Our bulletin ads defray the expense of printing to our parish. It is a great way to support our parish and advertise your business. If you have thought about putting an ad in the bulletin or know someone that owns a business who might be interested, please contact Thomas Miner at 512-452-3413.

### Adventures in the Archives

The ongoing restoration and remodeling of the church brings back memories of when this beautiful worship space was built and dedicated. It's been almost 64 years since parishioners were invited to a Solemn Pontifical Mass on Fri., Sept. 25, 1953, at 7:30 p.m.

Here is what was published on Sept. 25 in the *Austin American*: "Members of St. Austin's Catholic parish will realize a dream of 10 years Friday at 8 pm. when they and their friends will attend the Pontifical High Mass in the new \$350,000 edifice at 20<sup>th</sup> and Guadalupe Streets.

"A crowd of 700 is expected for the dedication mass celebrated by the Most Rev. Louis J. Reicher, bishop of the Diocese of Austin."

Parishioners were also invited to an inspection of the new Church and an Open House at the rectory on Sun., Sept. 27. There were more than 370 signatures of guests attending the Open House – many of them were couples and families with children bringing the number of guests to well over 400.

This is how the church was described in a Sept. 27, 1953 article in *The Daily Texan*. "St. Austin's of Canterbury is built of white Austin stone, and has no extravagant designs in its exterior. The only decorations are two white crosses.

"A hand carved crucifix of pear wood is centered above the main altar of the new chapel. Comfortable, but simple design dominates the interior."

Assisting Bishop Reicher during the Mass were the Rev. Joseph Troy, CSP, pastor; the Very Rev. William Michelt, CSP, superior general of the Congregation of St. Paul; the Rev. Francis Sullivan, rector of St. Mary's Cathedral; the Rev. James O'Brien, chaplain of St. Edward's University. Serving as Deacons were the Rev. William Blakeslee, former pastor; the Rev. Edward Matocha, pastor of St. Louis Church; the Rev. Gerard Maguire, chaplain of the Newman Club and his assistant, the Rev. Robert Barrett.

### Mass for the Anointing of the Sick & Blessing of Prayer Blankets

**Mon., July 10 at 8 a.m.**



All are welcome at our monthly Masses for the sick on **the second Monday of each month**. If you, a friend or loved one are in need of prayer and would like a blanket to symbolize the support of a faith community with belief in the power of prayer, please contact the parish office. Please continue to pray for all those who have received prayer blankets.

The Prayer Blanket Ministry meets at St. Austin on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month. If you are interested in helping please contact Miriam Mellon at 512-888-1092 or Nancy Hrin at 512-914-6060 or TNEJS@aol.com.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### Raise Your Hand If You Live in Subsidized Housing

*Neeraj Mehta is director of community programs at the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.*

On the first day of Neeraj Mehta's housing-policy class in graduate school, his professor opened with what seemed like a simple request: "Raise your hand if you have ever lived in subsidized housing." Only three or four of the 40 students raised their hands. His professor then asked, "How many of you have lived in a house either you or your parents owned?" Most of the class raised their hands. "Congratulations," said his professor. "You too have lived in subsidized housing." Neeraj's professor went on to describe the two major types of housing assistance offered by the U.S. government.

Most of us are familiar with the first type of subsidized housing: public housing and housing-choice vouchers. These limit what a household pays for rent to 30 percent of their income, which is a common calculation for housing affordability. These programs are designed to primarily benefit households that earn 30 percent or less of the median income for an area. Congress allots about \$38 billion per year for these programs.

The second form of government-funded financial assistance for housing is the mortgage-interest tax deduction. This allows homeowners who itemize deductions on their taxes to deduct the interest they pay on their home loans. This deduction can be applied to both primary and secondary residences. Most households that benefit from the mortgage-interest tax deduction earn between \$100,000 and \$500,000 a year. This is the largest housing subsidy program in the country, and it costs the federal government upwards of \$100 billion a year. That's nearly **three times** what the government spends on housing subsidies for low income households!

While working for a nonprofit affordable-housing developer in Minneapolis, Neeraj witnessed the benefits provided by a stable, affordable place to live. Access to healthy, safe, high quality, and financially sustainable housing empowered people to be better parents, students, employees, and neighbors.

Unfortunately, he saw the flip side as well.

In most neighborhoods, the number of affordable housing units is a small percentage of the overall housing stock. When families cannot get into housing subsidized by government programs, they rent units offered via the private market, frequently paying much more than 30 percent of their income.

Paying more than 30 percent of their income puts these households at greater risk for eviction and renting units that provide substandard living conditions. They also experience other stressors: household members work another job or more hours to pay the bills and/or they divert money away from food, utility bills, and other expenses to pay the high cost of rent.

Have you ever lived in a house that you or your family owned? Did it surprise you to learn that your house is or was subsidized?

*Summarized from Sojourners, June 2017*

### Items Needed for Thursday Outreach

Thursday Outreach is in need of items for hygiene kits that we give out each Thursday to our homeless brothers and sisters as well as those who are returning to society from the criminal justice system.

We are in desperate need of new or gently used backpacks, new children's coloring books, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors and new socks for men and women. Please bring your donations to the church office during the week or after Mass on Sundays. Your contribution to this cause is greatly appreciated. Thank you, Pat Macy; pmacy@staustin.org

### Texas Catholic Pro-Life Spiritual Bouquet

St. Austin Catholic Parish and the parish Gabriel Project ministry dedicated a spiritual bouquet of Monthly Masses for Life to Bishop Joe Vásquez at the Texas Catholic Pro-Life Day Mass on January 28, 2017. Every month, an 8 a.m. Mass will be offered for the intention of "greater respect for all human life from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death." The next Mass for Life is **Tues., July 11**.

Please join us at Mass to pray for life. Prayer is of utmost importance in all we do on behalf of every aspect of life. Thank you and God bless!

*"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." - Matthew 18:20*

## WORSHIP AND SACRED MUSIC

There is need for ushers and greeters, altar servers (Grade 4 and up. Grade three servers will have a formation/training session in January 2018), readers and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. If you would like to participate "more fully" in the liturgy and help out at mass, consider becoming involved.



Our diocese and parish requires everyone who is involved in any liturgical ministry to complete the full process of EIM (Ethics in Ministry.) Parents of altar servers must also complete this requirement. This includes an application and attending a workshop. The complete requirements along with the online application and workshop dates in our area are listed on the Diocesan web site, [www.austindiocese.org](http://www.austindiocese.org).

Once this is completed you will need to e-mail Dr. John J. Hoffman at [jhoffman@staustin.org](mailto:jhoffman@staustin.org). He will contact you via e-mail and set up a time to meet with you for some training and formation. After this is completed you will be entered into the liturgical minister schedule.

Our greatest need right now is for many more ushers and greeters. We have so many visitors at the 5 p.m., 11:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. masses and are underserved by this ministry. We also need more altar servers. At many of our masses we have no altar servers or only one. Please pray for more folks to come forward to help out.



## DISCIPLESHIP FORMATION

### Faith Formation General Information

Registration for Faith Formation will begin in July. The calendar will be published the day that registration begins. Please check the bulletin, website and e-newsletter for the announcement of that date. In the meantime, please mark your calendars:

Confirmation Parent Meeting/Meet the Catechists for all grade levels:  
**Sun., Aug. 27 at 10 a.m.**

All Faith Formation classes for the 2017–18 year will begin **Sun., Sept. 10 at 10 a.m.**

### Confirmation Information

Confirmation is one of the Initiation sacraments. Confirmation is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit which brings an increase and deepening of baptismal grace and is meant to help your child continue on his/her journey with Christ. He or she is sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit and is strengthened for service to the Body of Christ.

Registration for Confirmation preparation will open up in July. The date for Confirmation is pending but is being planned for some time after Easter 2018. In order to receive the Sacrament, your child:

1. Must be baptized in the Roman Catholic Church.
2. Must have attended two continuous years of Faith Formation in a Catholic parish or a Catholic school program. There must be at least 80% attendance of the entire year of 9<sup>th</sup> grade and at least 80% attendance of the entire year of 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Additionally, attendance at any and all retreats outside of regular class meeting time is expected and mandatory.
3. Must be between the ages of 14 to 16 according to Diocesan policy. St. Austin Confirmation typically occurs during the 10<sup>th</sup> grade year.
4. Must regularly attend and participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.
5. Have at least one parent attend the Confirmation Parent meeting.

If your child will be preparing for Confirmation this next year or if you have any questions, please contact Tricia Salcher at [psalcher@staustin.org](mailto:psalcher@staustin.org). Please send your child's name, parents' names, and current email address.

### Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

A child who is in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and has been baptized in the Roman Catholic Church is eligible for preparation for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Both Sacraments will be celebrated in the spring of 2018. In order to celebrate and receive these Sacraments:

1. Children must have been enrolled in a Faith Formation program or Catholic school for one full year immediately preceding their second-grade year.
2. A child must enroll in Faith Formation or a Catholic school by **Oct. 1**.

3. A copy of the child's Baptismal Certificate must be turned into Tricia Salcher before the Reconciliation parent meeting in December. (TBA)
4. Students must have no more than 4 absences during the year.
5. There will be two required retreats. **Sun., Feb. 4** and **Sun., April 22**.
6. At least one parent will enroll and attend the 8 weeks "Building a Firm Foundation" parent class in the fall on Sundays from 10-11:15.
7. As the primary educators, parents, in conjunction with their child's Sunday formation classes, will participate in forming their child for reception of the Sacraments at home and will be given resources to aid them in this effort.

### Schedule of Events for First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation

Parent Orientation meeting for First Reconciliation and First Communion is **Sun., Nov. 12**

First Reconciliation is **Sat., Feb. 24 at 10 a.m.**

First Holy Communion is **Sat., May 5 at 10a.m.**

Catechists are needed for Kindergarten, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Please contact Tricia Salcher at [psalcher@staustin.org](mailto:psalcher@staustin.org).

### Adult Faith Formation Catechists Needed

Our children's faith formation isn't the only program that would benefit from those interested in passing on and sharing our rich and wonderful faith. If you feel called to share your time and talents with adults and are available to do so on Sunday mornings or Sunday nights, please contact Marylynn Wesson at [mwesson@staustin.org](mailto:mwesson@staustin.org) to discover the rewarding opportunities that await you!

### Adult Confirmation

Are you a baptized Catholic who has received First Holy Communion but was never Confirmed? We invite you to consider learning more about Confirmation! For information contact Marylynn Wesson at [mwesson@staustin.org](mailto:mwesson@staustin.org)



### Upcoming Holy Day of Obligation

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven, Solemnity

Masses are scheduled for **Aug. 15 at 8 a.m.** and **6 p.m.**

Liturgical Ministers are needed at both Masses. Sign up in the work sacristy.



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