# THE FLAME

#### ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH



# A Letter from Fr. Guthrie

We have been trying really hard to come up with a Parish Mission that will end the Easter Season with a bang. A number of people in the parish have been meeting for several months to put together what we believe will be a solid, Spirit-filled time of prayer, reflection and celebration. Our theme is "Called, Renewed and Sent." If you stop to think about it, that's the Easter message. From the beginning of time God was preparing the world to accept salvation. He made the people of Israel His Chosen People and sent the prophets to

them in order to prepare them for the coming of the messiah. Then, when the time was right, Jesus Himself was born, grew up and preached salvation (with a little help from His friends, the apostles.) When Jesus was executed His followers thought that was the end of the story, but, as you and I know, He surprised the world by rising from the dead, thereby proving that He was the Messiah who had been promised to bring salvation. His apostles went out to all the world preaching the Gospel, and that work has continued to this very day. By virtue of our baptism all of us are called by God, renewed by the Holy Spirit and sent to preach the saving truth of that same gospel. The Mission will start at the Masses on Pentecost Sunday, 23-24 May — which is also Memorial Day weekend — and will continue through the following Monday and Tuesday. If you don't have plans to be out of town please plan on attending. Give the Holy Spirit a chance to call

you again, to renew and refresh your heart and to send you into the world as a transformed person. I hope to see y'all.

Faithfully yours,

Para Español ver página 4

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

Ministry Fair	2
Fill the Bus	2
Pastoral Care	3
Misión Parroquial	4
Feast of St. Joseph	5
Meet the Staff	6
Role of a Deacon	7
Calendar of Events	8











"We very often think of Jesus in the past tense, but he is risen from the dead. He is alive, he is now. He is in the present tense, in his body, the real body of Christ of which we are all a part... So we are in the presence of Christ here and now. Stewardship is about discipleship, about how to be active, alive parts of the Body of Christ,"

Bishop Larry Silva

### YOU ARE INVITED St Luke's Ministry Fair—

Annual renewal & recruitment of volunteers. Join us on weekend of May 16 or 17th for Mass and hear testimonies from parishioners. Following Mass visit our ministry booths in the parish courtyard view the many opportunities to be an active part of the Body of Christ. Enjoy food, games and fun for the kids & prizes!

#### LES INVITAMOS! Feria Anual de Ministeros—

renovación y reclutamiento de voluntaries en San Lucas. Únase a nosotros en Misa el fin de semana del 16 de mayo y 17 y escuchar testimonios. Después de la misa visite nuestros puestos ministeriales en el patio de la parroquia ver las muchas oportunidades para ser parte activa del Cuerpo de Cristo.



St Luke's March Stewardship theme, "Share the Load" included a project sponsored by St. Luke's Youth Ministry "Fill the Bus". The Second annual event held on March 15th, was a huge success! A bus-load plus some pickup trucks delivered clothing, household items, food, etc. to SeAM. Southeast Area Ministries (SeAM) is a humanitarian, nonprofit Ministry serving the needs of our Neighbors in response to God's love for us through our Lord Jesus. Christ.



"Pastoral Care of the Sick" is a very important and challenging Ministry. Acting in the person of Jesus Christ, in persona Christi, as a Priest, I value this Ministry of visiting with the Sick in the **Hospitals, the Nursing Homes** 

and the Homebound in our Parish, particularly for the purpose of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick. I'm thanking the Good Lord and our Pastor, Fr.Douglas Guthrie for the opportunity to accompany our Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) while visiting with the Sick in our Nursing Homes. Currently, I celebrate the Holy Eucharist once a month at Park Manor (every second Thursday) and at Clear brook Crossing (on the Fourth Friday). Recently, I visited the residents at Brookdale Place located on Scarsdale Boulevard as well. During my visits with the Homebound and the Sick in the Hospitals and Nursing Homes, I take time to listen to the sick person and the family mem-

bers before I pray with them. On one of my regular visits with the Homebound in our Parish, I ministered to a lady who had cancer and a serious infection in her left arm that caused her intense pain and heartbreaking distress. I played the guitar and sang a spiritual for her in Spanish. Her eyes lit up with relief and joy. She sincerely admitted that, although she strayed from Church and from the regular practice of her religion, she would like to make her peace with God. She then devoutly received the Sacraments of Reconciliation,

the Anointing of the Sick and the Holy Eucharist. The joy on her face was an unmistakable index of the peace and joy that flooded her soul in that Sacred, blissful and re-assuring encounter. Sickness, in God's providential design, serve to bring prodigals back to the Father and a renewed dedication to the Christian Faith. This learning experience has helped me deepen my understanding that in the sick, the old and the homebound, there is a tremendous powerhouse of spirituality that can be harnessed for the good of the whole church.

### Pastoral de los Enfermos de Padre Desy Daniels

Pastoral de los Enfermos "es un ministerio muy importante y desafiante. Actuando en la persona de Jesucristo, in persona Christi, como sacerdote, valoro este Ministerio de visitar con los enfermos en los hospitales, los asilos de ancianos y los inválidos en nuestra parroquia, en particular a los efectos de los sacramentos de la Reconciliación y la Unción de los Enfermos. Estoy dando gracias al buen Dios y nuestro Pastor, P. Douglas Guthrie por la oportunidad de acompañar a nuestros Ministros Extra-ordinaria de la Sagrada Comunión (EMHC) durante su visita a los enfermos en nuestros hogares de ancianos. Actualmente, celebro la Santa Eucaristía una vez al mes en Park Manor (cada segundo jueves) y en Clear Brook Crossing (en el cuarto viernes). Recientemente, visite en Brookdale Place ubicados en Scarsdale también. Durante mis visitas a los enfermos en los hospitales y hogares de ancianos, me tomo tiempo para escuchar a la persona enferma y los miembros de la familia antes de orar con ellos. En una de mis visitas regulares con un enfermo en casa de nuestra parroquia, ministré a una señora que tenía cáncer y una grave infección en el brazo

izquierdo que le causó un intenso dolor y la angustia desgarradora. Yo tocaba la guitarra y cantaba una espiritual para ella en español. Sus ojos se iluminaron con alivio y alegría. Ella sinceramente admitió que, a pesar de que se había alejado de la Iglesia y de la práctica regular de su religión, que le gustaría hacer las paces con Dios. Ella entonces devotamente recibido los sacramentos de la Reconciliación, la unción de los enfermos y la Santa Eucaristía. La alegría de su rostro era un índice inequívoco de la paz y la alegría que inundó su alma en ese Sagrado, encuentro



feliz y reasegurar. La enfermedad, en el diseño providencial de Dios, puede servir para traer hijos pródigos de regreso al Padre y una renovada dedicación a la fe cristiana. Esta experiencia de aprendizaje me ha ayudado a profundizar mi comprensión de que en los enfermos, los ancianos y los inválidos, hay una tremenda fuente inagotable de espiritualidad que se puede aprovechar para el bien de toda la Iglesia.

#### Una carta del P. Guthrie

Hemos estado tratando muy duro para llegar a una Misión Parroquial que pondrá fin a la temporada de Pascua con una explosión. Un número de personas en la parroquia se han estado reuniendo durante varios meses para armar lo que creemos que será un sólido tiempo, lleno del Espíritu de oración, reflexión y celebración. Nuestro tema es "Llamado, Renovado y Enviado." Si te paras a pensar, ese es el mensaje de Pascua. Desde el principio de los tiempos Dios estaba preparando al mundo para aceptar la salvación. Él hizo el pueblo de Israel su pueblo escogido y enviado a los profetas para ellos con el fin de prepararlos para la venida del Mesías. Entonces, cuando era el momento adecuado, el mismo Jesús nació, se crio y predico salvación (con un poco de ayuda de sus amigos, los apóstoles.) Cuando Jesús fue ejecutado sus seguidores pensaron que era el final de la historia, pero, como usted y yo sabemos, él sorprendió al mundo al levantarse de entre los muertos, demostrando que Él era el Mesías que había sido prometido para traer la salvación. Sus apóstoles salieron a todo el mundo a predicar el Evangelio, y que el trabajo ha continuado hasta nuestros días. En virtud de nuestro bautismo todos somos llamados por Dios, renovado por el Espíritu Santo y enviado a predicar la verdad salvadora de ese mismo evangelio. La Misión se iniciará en las misas del domingo de Pentecostés, 23 a 24 mayo - que es también el fin de semana del Memorial Day - y continuará hasta el siguiente lunes y martes. Si usted no tiene planes para estar fuera de la ciudad por favor planee asistir. Dale al Espíritu Santo la oportunidad de volver a llamarlo, para renovar y refrescar su corazón y que le envíe al mundo como una persona transformada. Espero ver a todos,

Fielmente de Ustedes,

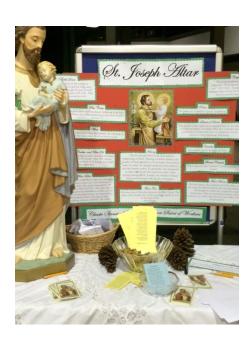


Our parish community celebrated the Feast of St. Joseph, the patron saint of the universal Church and workers, on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm Mass and the weekend of March 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>. An altar was decorated and dedicated to St. Joseph.

The tradition of building the altar to St. Joseph began as far back as the Middle Ages in gratitude to St. Joseph for answering prayers for deliverance from famine. The families of farmers and fisherman built altars in their homes to share their good fortune with others in need. One tradition entails begging for the supplies to build the altar. Construction of the altar must not incur "any expense nor any personal financial gain.









Donna Viramontes Business Manager



Marilynn Kiel Children's Ministry



Jose Valdez Director of Adult Ministry



C J McKarren Director of Youth Ministry



Dora Salazar Receptionist



Rocio Contreras Minitries Secretary



Cristina Garcia-Luense Litury & Music Director



Matt Kiernan Youth/Young Adults Ministry



Maria Segundo Parish Secretary



Maria Palacios Director Social Services



Jennifer Naaden ECHO Apprentice



Norman Mejia Facilities Supervisor



Yolanda Salazar Parish Bookkeeper



Coni Perez Director of Stewardship



Liz Beltran ECC Director



Rosie Ibarra Facilities Custodian

The role of a permanent deacon is to serve in the Archdiocese — some working in parishes and schools, serving as liturgists, homilists, catechists, ministers and administrators, while others commit to social ministries such as corrections services, special youth, hospital ministry, port chaplaincy and much more. They assist Bishops and priests at the celebration of the Eucharist, assist and bless marriages, preside over baptisms, funerals and other special blessings.

After six years of rigorous study and pastoral formation — begins the consecrated life in the Permanent Diaconate. A Deacon (if married) must balance their ordination with their "ordinary" lives, some as husbands, dads and breadwinners. A deacon's commitment to the Church is no small thing. For family men especially, it's a family commitment. "Everything is done in the context of marriage and family."

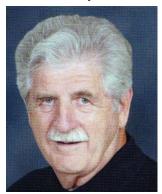
"Deacons share in Christ's mission and grace in a special way," according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church. "The sacrament of Holy Orders marks them with an imprint which cannot be removed and which configures them to Christ, who made himself the 'deacon' or servant of all."

#### Thanks to our Deacons and their families

who give so generously and unselfishly of their Time and Talents in service to others!

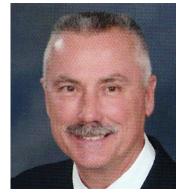
In response to the question:

#### "What do you like best about being a Deacon?"



**Deacon Al Birsinger** 

About 45 years ago Jesus touched my life and gave me a joy and peace that is beyond understanding. That joy and peace was and is so wonderful I wanted to share it with everyone. Being a Deacon gives me a greater opportunity to share the gift of Jesus and to see Jesus fill others with that Joy and peace.



**Deacon Jesse Tollett** 

I love everything about bringing God to others. People, even young people, have told me that "God is Good, All the Time" stays with them and reminds them God is there for them in their needs. People thank me for my homilies, but, I say thank God as it is He who is giving you what you need. Reaching out to those who are sick or at funeral vigils is another way I can bring people closer to God and educate them on our Catholic traditions, such as the rosary.



En respuesta a la pregunta:
"¿Qué le gusta de ser un Diácono?"

Deacon Adolfo Mejia

"SERVIR A LAS PERSONAS"

## SAVE THE DATES: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

"Gifted by God"

### WE INVITE YOU!

Annual Ministry Fair May 16 & 17th
Join us in the courtyard after all Masses

Unleash the POWER of Age
SENIOR 55+ INFORMATION FAIR
August 8, 2015
Cenacle Learning Center



ST LUKE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 20th to July 24, 2015

The Catholic Community St Luke the Evangelist 11011 Hall Road Houston, Texas 77089 (281)481-6816



NON PROFIT ORG
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
PEARLAND, TX
PERMIT NO. 110