

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF BISHOPS.

WASHINGTON – The president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, has issued the following statement in relation to the observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. “In recent years’ including last summer in Charlottesville – we glimpsed an appalling truth that lurks beneath the surface of our culture. Even with all the progress our country has made on the issue, racism remains a living reality. As our nation celebrates the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we are given an important time to recommit ourselves to the Gospel message he preached, that the sin of racism can be defeated by active love and the light of faith.

Our challenge is to bring Dr. King’s message into the present moment in a way that inspires lasting change. In a pivotal 1958 essay, he wrote that: ‘Along the way of life, someone must have the sense enough and the morality enough to cut off the chain of hate. This can only be done by projecting the ethics of love to the center of our lives.’

Breaking the chain of hate requires both courage and commitment. Sr. Mary Antona Ebo, a Franciscan Sister of Mary and the first African-American sister to march with Dr. King in Selman, exemplified these qualities. She told those gathered that: ‘I’m here because I’m a Negro, a nun, a Catholic, and because I want to bear witness.’ Sister Antona passed away on November 11 last year at the age of 93. She remained a bold and dedicated champion of civil rights throughout her lifetime, and her witness should inspire our own.

We pray in confidence that Jesus Christ will remind us all that he is the most powerful means to break the chains of hate that still bind too many hearts, a truth which lies at the center of Dr. King’s legacy.”

USCCB racism resources and information about the USCCB Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism can be found at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/racism/>

RCIA.

This week the RCIA class will be learning about the Fifth, Seventh and Eighth Commandments with Father Dennis, and Daniel Guy will be leading our prayer service. Please continue to pray for the Catechumens, Candidates and Sponsors as we approach the Easter Sacraments and as they continue their journey of faith together. If you would like further information, please contact Greg or Penny Payne 228-365-6348.

CCD

A **required meeting** for parents and students making their First Penance and First Communion this Spring will be held on **Thursday, January 25, at 6:00 p.m. at Nativity BVM School.** Babysitting will be available for those who need it during the meeting. Dates for these Sacraments are as follows: First Penance, Saturday, March 3, and First Communion, Saturday, May 12, both at 10:00 a.m. Thanks for your attendance at this meeting for these very important Sacraments for your child! If you have any questions, please feel free to call Barbara Ziz, [228-918-9778](tel:228-918-9778). CCD classes will be held at the regular time this week, 5:30-6:30, Wednesday, January 24.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon Jan 22	2 Sm 5:1-7, 10, Mk 3:22-30
Tues Jan 23	2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19, Mk 3:31-35
Wed Jan 24	2 Sm 7:4-17, Mk 4:1-20, Jn 15:9-17
Thur Jan 25	Acts 22:3-16, Mk 16:15-18
Fri Jan 26	2 Tm 1:1-8, Mk 4:26-34, Lk 10:1-9
Sat Jan 27	2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17, Mk 4:35-41
Sun Jan 28	Dt 18:15-20, 1 Cor 7:32-35, Mk 1:21-28



YOUR SUNDAY TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS

<i>Regular Collections</i>	\$	10,252.45
<i>Capital Improvement</i>	\$	325.00
<i>Nativity Elem.</i>	\$	654.00
<i>Maintenance</i>	\$	1,722.00
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	\$	371.00
TOTAL COLLECTION	\$	13,324.45

RELICS OF BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER AT NATIVITY

Through the efforts of Bishop Kihneman and as part of our 175th Anniversary, Nativity Cathedral is hosting a first-class relic of Blessed Stanley Rother until February 2018. Blessed Rother’s reliquary is located in the sanctuary of the cathedral for the weekend Masses and in the Marian Chapel for the weekday Masses. Blessed Stanley Rother grew up on a farm in Okarche, Oklahoma. Upon entering the seminary, he struggled academically having failed Latin. He accepted an invitation to attend Mount St. Mary Seminary in Maryland where he finished his studies and was approved for ordination. After serving 5 years in his local diocese, Fr. Rother went to Guatemala to serve the native Tz’utujil Indians for 13 years. By 1975, Guatemala was embroiled in a terrible civil war. Fr. Rother witnessed the assassination of many of his parishioners. Warned of imminent danger for his own life in 1981, he returned to the United States. However, he returned to Guatemala after only three months to be with his people. On the evening of July 28, 1982, three masked men entered the rectory and shot Fr. Rother to death. He was beatified in Oklahoma City on September 23, 2017. Please pay a visit to Fr. Rother’s relics and say a prayer for an increase in vocations.

BINGO MANIA

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday. The following families are scheduled for January 23rd: Terry (George & Cheryl), Theobald (Scott & Brooke), Tran (Kim & Hal), Vaughn (Melissa), Viglianco (Matthew & Robin) and Walli (John & Ashley). **REMEMBER! If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to secure a replacement.**

MAGNIFICAT SUBSCRIPTION

It is time to renew our Magnificat subscription for 2018. For those of you who subscribe through Nativity, please turn in your payment of \$34.95 to Jackie Hewitt at the rectory. Also, anyone not currently receiving the Magnificat, let us know if you are interested in receiving it. The deadline for this is **NO LATER THAN February 15th, 2018**

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS
Jan 27 4:00 pm I. Patrick Hall 2. Andrea Gilich 3. Ann Kavanaugh 4. Dale Dorcik 5. Sondra Ahern Jan 28 7:00 am 1. Danny Kavanagh 2. Colleen Kavanagh 3. Linda Stewart 9:00 am I. John Brauchle 2. Linda Bourgeois 3. Nora Ziz 4. Belinda Corley 5. Bobby Weaver 11:00 am I. Nanette Burke 2. Susan Toche 3. Sondra Williams 4. Johnny Williams 5. Robert Moniot 5:30 pm 1. Tricia Creel 2. Roland Creel 3. Mary Townsend	Jan 27 4:00 pm Rose Anne Kimbell Jan 28 7:00 am Jim Shugart 9:00 am Michael Kessler 11:00 am Peter Abide 5:30 pm Janice Fields CANTORS Jan 27 4:00 pm William Endicott/ Choir Jan 28 9:00 am Susie Portas 11:00 am Dennis Burke	Jan 27 4:00 pm McKinzy Mathis Cayden Canon Jan 28 7:00 am Makayla Pfarrer Wyeth Stewart Alex Stewart 9:00 am Morgan Newman Rhys Newman Rush Newman Tristan Davis 11:00 am Aidan Tarrant Annabelle Tarrant Brennan Tarrant 5:30 pm Samantha Sharplin Breanna Smith Dylan Mitchell

MASS INTENTIONS

	6:30 a.m.	8:00 a.m.
Mon Jan 22	Eileen McAuliffe	Andrew Cvitanovich
Tue Jan 23	Daminh Chuong	Maria Hoang Thi Khoai
Wed Jan 24	Kathleen Hebert	Patsy Smolcich
Thur Jan 25	Walter Blessey	Collins-Sims Fly.
Fri Jan 26	Jackie Gilich	Hebert/Bertha McDonnell
Sat Jan 27	8 Anna Jo Wentzell	4 Thomas Andrews
Sun Jan 28	7-Maria Hoang Thi Khoai	9:00 F.T.P.
11:00 am	Jackie Gilich	5:30 Ben Wimberly

PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS

Hugh Kavanaugh, Gwen Gee, Gerrie Weldon, Lehwmon Skrmetti, Buddy Pullen, Annette Luther, Macklin Holloway, Mary Wimberly, Kim Wilkerson, Pete Skrmetta, Candy Widener, Tiffany Whitehead, Lena Marchioni, Kay Lawson, Holly Hill, Georgia Bellais Dominick, Maxine Kiddinger, Marie Manning, Raymond Egers, Betty Hilton, Mary Lancaster, Mickey Bradley, Cheryl Terry, Gwen Gollotte, Greg Hotaling, Jack Joachim, Jr., Eugene LaCaze, Michael Zorich, and Karen Skremetta.

NATIVITY BVM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*Hoping to travel with family and friends? Nativity BVM School will be selling raffle tickets for the **ULTIMATE FAMILY VACATION**. Only 335 tickets will be sold/\$75.00 per ticket. The winner will receive \$1,000 spending money and \$4,000 in gift cards to either Disney Properties or Universal Properties or both. Additionally, donors have added a \$250 gas card and a set of family tshirts and totes to the prize package. Tickets begin to go onsale on January 22nd with the drawing taking place on March 29th. All proceeds will go into the school's Technology Fund. For more information please call the school or visit our website!

*Personnel from the dental office of Dr. Buddy Brice will help children understand good dental health through their presentation on January 23rd. Bippo the Hippo and his friends will be a great teacher, we know!

*Parents and Guardians preparing for First Penance and First Communion are invited to attend a meeting for the parents and children on Thursday, January 25th at 6:00 p.m. at Nativity School. Following a pizza supper, Fr. Dennis will meet with the adults while the teachers will have activities for the children. This meeting is for all second grade children in the elementary school as well as those in the religious education program or any children in gr. 3 and above who have not made these sacraments.

*Mark your calendars! The annual celebration of Catholic Schools Week will begin on Sunday, January 28th at the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral. Please plan to join us in prayer, song and celebration!

*The annual Nativity School Open House will be held on Sunday, February 18th from 11:00-2:00 p.m. All current, former and future children and families, as well as any parishioners, are welcome to attend!

STEBENVILLE-ATLANTA

Young men and women of Nativity Cathedral, from 8th grade to 12th grade, this summer we will be taking a road trip to a Steubenville Conference in Atlanta, GA. Steubenville Atlanta is a 3-day faith-filled and exciting adventure that includes gathering with thousands of other young people to enter into the mystery of their faith like never before! If you are interested in joining us, please contact Kristy Arguelles at 228-324-9934 or Fr. Colten Symmes at 228-374-1717.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 22 Men's Club (Special Meeting) 6:00 p.m.

Jan 23 Men of St. Joseph, 7:00 a.m. – SHC
 BINGO 5:30 p.m.

RCIA at 6:00 p.m., SHC

Jan 24 Cleaning Team "C"

CCD 5:30 p.m., SHC

School Advisory Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

Jan 25 Greenbriar Mass at 10:00 a.m.

First Communion meeting, 6:00 p.m.

MUSIC MINISTRY NOTES:

"A Wish List For The New Year" –

An increase in the membership of our Sanctuary Choir. - Growth in our Cathedral's Choral Society – "Gloria In Excelsis".

Sponsors for our 2018 Concert Series.

A new/gently used spinet or console piano for use in the classroom at Nativity Elementary and the removal of the quickly dying Upright Piano there now.

Continued good singing and responses by the congregation in our worship at Mass.

The Children's Choir will share in the 9:00 am Mass on Sunday, January 28th in celebration of Catholic Schools Week.

Rehearsals Resume:

Tuesdays – Gloria In Excelsis Chorale Society - 7:00 pm

Wednesdays – CCD Choir – 6:30 pm.

Sanctuary Choir – 7:00 pm

MUSIC FOR THIS WEEKEND

ENTRANCE HYMN

#544

OFFERTORY

#379

COMMUNION

#354

SENDING

#389