

2010 Lumen Gentium Recipients

Theresa Alvarez

St. Joseph Parish, Rockdale

Theresa is a spirit-filled parishioner who has a great love of Christ and the church. She is the current DRE of the parish, but also assists on the RCIA team and baptismal preparation classes in Spanish. She approaches her work at the parish less as a job and more as a vocation of service in her love for God and her neighbor. If there is a task that needs to get done in the parish, one can always count on Theresa.

Trina Alvarez

St. Michael Parish, Uhland

Trina is truly committed to her parish and her faith. For more than 23 years she has volunteered in a wide variety of ministries. She has been a catechist, a coordinator of the CRE program; she cleans the church/hall, decorates the altar, served on the Finance Council and is an extraordinary minister of holy Communion.

Joe and Amy Babin

St. John Parish, Fayetteville

Joe serves as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and usher. He is a member and officer of the Knights of Columbus, serves on the St. John's Cemetery Board, and assists in many other ways. Amy serves as a secretary/administrative assistant at the parish and is the youth minister and a catechist. She is a member of the Catholic Daughters of America. She also prepares the church for various liturgical seasons.

Nancy Baker

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, College Station

Nancy's commitment to the parish knows no bounds. She attends daily Mass. She is an active member of the RCIA team, the baptism preparation program and the marriage preparation program. She leads the Communion ministry for the sick and homebound. She is a diocesan-approved spiritual director. She undertakes all of these activities with great devotion, prayer and commitment. With her husband, Deacon Ted Baker, she is also a member of the Diocesan Diaconal Formation Program. She is a fount of wisdom and knowledge to prospective candidates and their wives.

Maria Balandran

Sta. Teresa Parish, Bryan

Maria is the coordinator of breakfast groups and church bazaars. She is a catechist, serves on the pastoral council and is always willing to volunteer. She is a wife, mother of four children and a grandmother.

Charlie Ballew**St. Joseph Parish, Bryan**

Charles Ballew is best described as a witness of Our Lord in every aspect of his life. He is a Knight of Columbus, usher, extraordinary minister of holy Communion and helps whenever called upon for any church or school function. He is reliable, a solid worker and a man of leadership qualities that leads others to Christ by his words, character and actions. With his charismatic style, his presence invites and encourages others to step forward and accept their role in building the Kingdom here on earth.

Robert and Lorene Balzer**St. Mary Parish, Ellinger/Hostyn Hill**

Robert serves as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion, lector, usher and also serves on the finance council. He is very active in the Knights of Columbus. Together, Robert and Lorene "Lolly" have been the chairs for the annual parish festival for the last three years. She is in the Altar Society, the Council of Catholic Women. She is an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and lector. They both give example in word and deed of living their Catholic faith.

Irineo and Rosa Banda**St. Monica Parish, Cameron**

Irineo and Rosa serve as sacristans, lectors and extraordinary ministers of holy Communion and visit homebound members of the parish weekly. Whenever there is something in need of repair around the parish, or money is needed for a project, they work very hard to make sure the funds are raised. They donate numerous volunteer hours to the parish throughout the year. They take seriously the call to live as Christ in the world today. Through their kindness, generosity and humility, they truly set a wonderful example for others.

Bill and Mary Kay Bedortha**St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Horseshoe Bay**

Bill and Mary Kay are strong supporters of the Paulist Fathers, including the UCC Endowment Fund, the Paulist Open and Paulist Associates. They are active members of the St. John's/St. Paul's Conference of St. Vincent de Paul. Their emphasis on family has included volunteering as catechists. Bill has served on the pastoral council chairs the building committee. He is an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus. Mary Kay chairs the environment committee, is the Secretary for the St. Vincent de Paul Conference and a member of the choir.

Jim and Joann Benton**St. John Vianney Parish, Round Rock**

Jim and Joann have been members of St. John Vianney since its inception. Jim has served as usher, extraordinary minister of holy Communion, chair of the Pastoral Council, Grand Knight and District Deputy of the Knights of Columbus. He was also instrumental in building the church pavilion. Joann has served on the finance council where she stated the St. Matthew's Ministry for counting the parish collections. She has also been a lector, on the stewardship committee, an RCIA sponsor and a youth RCIA teacher.

Leonard and Sylvia Bindel
St. Peter Parish, Goldthwaite

Leonard and Sylvia have been devoted and vital parishioners for more than 30 years. They have unselfishly served on the parish council for many years. Sylvia has been the secretary of the council for numerous years. They have also served on the building committee and organized fundraisers for a new sanctuary and remodeling of the parish activity center. Both are sacristans and extraordinary ministers of holy Communion. They are both involved in maintaining the church environment during all phases of the liturgical year.

Michael and Amy Bohensky
St. Mary Parish, San Saba

Michael and Amy joined our parish in the spring of 2009. They are both employed by the San Saba Independent School District; Michael is a middle school principal and Amy is a high school English teacher. Michael is the parish DRE. Amy is a catechist. Michael serves our parish as lector. Amy is an extraordinary minister of holy Communion. They have shown dedication in these lay positions and are always ready to help where needed. They are the parents of three young daughters.

Leonard Brinkman
St. Mary Parish, Wimberley

Leonard "Len" loves the Lord and demonstrates his love on a daily basis by his exemplary life of service. Over the last 15 years he has served in a variety of capacities including leadership roles. He is currently director of the finance council, co-director of the ACTS ministry, leader of the Knights of Columbus and ushers. In addition, he has led several fundraising activities including the parish festival, fish fries during Lent and other dinners.

Bernadette Cay
Holy Cross Parish, Austin

Bernadette is a woman of deep faith who works quietly for the Lord. She is very committed to parish life. She always places her time and talents at the disposal of the parish. She is a catechist, a lector and an extraordinary minister of holy Communion. She takes charge of cleaning the vestments and sacred vessels regularly. Bernadette is a woman who allows her faith to dictate what she does. She tries to follow in the footsteps of her parents, James Edward and Eva Marie Mosby who established the parish.

Don Collier
St. Helen Parish, Georgetown

Don has been a past or current member of the church building committee, pastoral council, finance council, Diocesan Building Commission, Diocesan Strategic Planning, Parish Administrators Training and Eagle's Wings Retreat Center. He is a devoted Catholic and strives to follow in the footsteps of Christ.

John Cooke**St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Austin**

John has been an active and engaged parishioner from its beginning. John was the driving force behind bringing Christ Renews His Parish to the parish. John helped initiate the building committee and continues to give guidance and direction toward the completion of the new sanctuary. He is deeply spiritual and committed to his faith, family and parish community. He is a reflection of the light of Christ to our world and church.

Larry and Pat Crochet**St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Kingsland**

Larry Crochet is a deacon. Pat, his wife, was president of the Ladies' Club. She led the liturgical commission for many years. Both of them have been faithful daily Mass and Sunday Mass attendants. They often take the leading role in fulfilling the tasks need to be done in the parish. They have dedicated a lot of time and energy in serving the parish.

Ana Desantiago**Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center**

Ana has been an employee of Cedarbrake for 14 years. She truly takes pride in her job as head-housekeeper. It is safe to say Cedarbrake is one of the cleanest retreat centers around because of her leadership. Beyond her strong work ethic is a faith to match. Ana truly loves the Catholic Church and the priests who visit Cedarbrake. She welcomes them with open arms. She goes above and beyond her required work schedule and offers to help on weekends and evenings, when needed.

Linda Erwin**St. Thomas Parish, Hamilton**

Linda Erwin is tiny, but mighty in her desire to serve the Lord and her parish. She is always willing to do whatever is needed. Linda has become a one-woman "Altar Society." She also serves as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and takes communion to the sick in their homes, the hospital and in nursing homes.

Cecelia Fuller**St. Joseph Parish, Elk**

Cecelia, or as she is called, "Sweetie," is a very active parishioner. She is always in charge of the kitchen at parish celebrations and does an outstanding job. She is always available to take charge of any situation or need that comes up in the parish or community.

Stephen and Diana George**St. William Parish, Round Rock**

Stephen is a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus and has served as Grand Knight and presently serves as treasurer. He is a Scout Leader and has served on the Pavilion Building Committee. Diana oversees the Art and Environment Committee including all of the floral arrangements for the church. She has co-chaired Vacation Bible School, liturgy with children, and has been a catechist for many years. Together, they serve on the St. William Buildings and Grounds Committee and put in many volunteer hours in manual labor around the parish campus.

Bill and Marlene Glade

St. John Neumann Parish, Austin

Marlene and Bill have been long-time supporters of Catholic schools, especially St. Michael's Catholic Academy, St. Gabriel's Catholic School, San Juan Diego Catholic High School and the Cathedral School of St. Mary. Both have been parishioners of St. John Neumann since 1998, are members of the Bible Study group and are members of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem. Marlene is a member of the 2010 Bishop's Gala Committee, a past member of the fundraising committee that upgraded computers at St. Mary's Cathedral School, a member of the Mary and Martha Guild, a volunteer at St. John Neumann Gift Shop, and a member of the finance council. Bill is a professor emeritus for the department of economics at the University of Texas and an extraordinary minister of holy Communion.

Robert Glasgow

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Pflugerville

In 1987 Robert volunteered to assist the priest in the sacristy. As time went on, he took on the ministry and began engaging in more sacristan responsibilities of a parish quickly approaching 3,200 families, sometimes working 10-hour days. Over the years, Bob has developed a ministry that included part director of liturgical ministries, part altar server coordinator, part Master of Ceremonies, and a number of other essential sacristy and church tasks. Bob continues to assist in bringing the light of Christ to the community through well-organized liturgy.

James and Kay Halfman

St. Michael Parish, Burlington

Jimmy and Kay have been married for 30 years. They have two grown sons who are active in the parish. She is an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and member of the Altar Society. She helps with the cleaning and decorating projects around the church. He is on the pastoral council, a song leader during Mass and is always ready to help with projects around the church and rectory.

Ashley Haustein

University Catholic Center, Austin

Ashley is a senior at the University of Texas at Austin. During her years at the University Catholic Center, she was a dedicated leader, an extraordinary minister of holy Communion, a member of Mu Epsilon Theta, involved with mission trips and STRONG. She devotes herself to the UCC community by sharing her gifts and talents. She has been a phonathon leader, the UCC's largest fundraiser. Through her leadership and involvement, she has ensured quality ministry will continue at the university.

Melissa Hayes

St. Peter Catholic Student Center, Waco

Melissa has exhibited a remarkable sense of Christ-like love and leadership in coordinating RCIA for two years as the Catholic Center's first student DRE. She gave her time and academic breaks to help with the Easter liturgy and Confirmation. She has become an icon of selfless love and dedicated service.

Alvin Hernandez**Good Shepherd Parish, Johnson City**

Alvin has been an inspiration to most of the parishioners. Being a historic parishioner, he has worked very hard in the maintenance and protection of the church's property and environment. He is the current chair of the parish council.

Antonio Hernandez**Sta. Julia Parish, Austin**

Tony Hernandez has been a member of the parish since age 12. As a young adult, Father Joe Znotas designated him as the liaison between Sta. Julia and the Association of Community Organizations on Reform Now (ACORN). He also served two years as president of the parish council. He is a member of the choir, the Knights of Columbus and has helped with the annual jamaicas for the last 35 years. He has also served as a catechist working with confirmation classes for the last 15 years.

Thong Hoang**Holy Vietnamese Martyrs Parish, Austin**

Thong has been in charge of the liturgy committee for many years. The parish is grateful for his commitment to his faith and love for the community.

Eugene and Martha Hosek**Church of the Assumption Parish, West**

Eugene and Martha have been parishioners for 53 years. They have a daughter and two grandchildren. They are members of the 50-50 Club and St. Anne's Altar Society. He is a Knight of Columbus. Martha is a Catholic Daughter, a Diocesan Council of Catholic Women member and the recorder of the Clerical Endowment Fund.

Bob and Pat Jolley**St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Lampasas**

Bob and Pat live in Evant, which is a 60-mile round trip to the church in Lampasas, but the distance has not diminished their dedication to the parish. Pat was coordinator of the food pantry from 2003-2009. She has been instrumental in procuring several grants to help fund the pantry and for much-needed renovations. Pat also served as coordinator of the extraordinary ministers of holy Communion. She also is a fourth-grade catechist. Bob is a volunteer groundskeeper and works in the kitchen on Thursdays, making and serving breakfast burritos. He is an extraordinary minister of holy Communion, past member of the finance council.

Lacadia Calla Jones**Sacred Heart Parish, Elgin**

Lacadia, known as Calla, is a dedicated and dutiful Guadalupana. She visits the sick and prays the rosary at wakes for the deceased. She is in charge of the funeral meals. She collects donations for different church events. Whatever is needed, Calla gets on her phone and gets people involved. She was instrumental in starting Sunday breakfasts, which proved to be a very successful fundraiser for the parish.

Ben and Zita Kahlig**Church of the Visitation Parish, Westphalia**

Ben and Zita have been lifelong members. Ben served as pro-life chair for many years, as lay representative on the Diocesan Bishop's Synod, as church trustee, parish council, Catholic Life Insurance Agent, the choir, Altar Society, St. Michael's Society and Knights of Columbus. Both work and support the parish youth. They also donated the church's carillon chimes that play The Angelus daily and seasonal hymns for the entire community to be reminded of God's presence.

Emil and Alice Kasper**St. Patrick Parish, Hutto**

Alice assists with the art and environment. She shares her creative ideas in arranging and designing. Emil assists his wife and readily keeps the church grounds mowed. Both serve during liturgy, Alice is an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and Emil greets and welcomes people as they enter the church for Mass. They humbly and faithfully serve the church community with their quiet and consistent presence.

Judith Koke**H.L. Grant Catholic Student Center, San Marcos**

Judith has been an active, contributing member of the Catholic Student Center for more than 20 years. She trains the lectors and extraordinary ministers of holy Communion and is responsible for scheduling them. She is also a lector and extraordinary minister of holy Communion. She supports student activities, volunteering to provide food or other necessary help. Judith has been a member of the advisory committee, helping to make important decisions about the Center.

Janice Kotch**Holy Rosary Parish, Frenstat**

Janice believes in getting the job done and doing it right. Despite fighting cancer for the last three years, she continues to be very active. She has served as a catechist and extraordinary minister of holy Communion. She is secretary of the parish council and has served in that position for 14 years. She has been secretary of the Altar Society for 23 years, and is an active member of KJZT. Janice was the chair of the stained glass window project and she solicits prizes and gets the raffle tickets printed for the annual parish bazaar. Currently, she is the chair for the upgrading lighting project in the church.

Gary Kuhlmann**St. Joseph Parish, Mason**

Gary has been on the pastoral council for more than 18 years and is currently on the finance council. He also serves on the scholarship committee. He is a lector, extraordinary minister of holy Communion, money counter and leads the rosary before Mass. He has helped in church cleaning, served as the parish contact person with the diocese and the builder during the planning and construction of the new hall. He has also served on the cleanup committee for the Mexican Dinner and Spring Fest fundraisers.

Gale Kwiatkowski
St. Mary Parish, Brenham

It is not an exaggeration to assert that Gale is the heart of the parish community. She has served as parish secretary for 28 years and has faithfully carried out her work in loyal support of the many priests and pastors who have stood in the ranks of parish leadership. She is a very devoted, prayerful woman and a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She joined the parish in 1965 after marrying her husband, Theodore Kwiatkowski, who is a life-long resident of Brenham. She is a member of the perpetual adoration program, the DCCW and St. Mary's Prayer Line.

Clarence Lambrecht
St. Anthony Parish, Bryan

Clarence is a lifelong member of the parish. He lives out his baptismal call daily and in many ways. As sacristan he has setup for Sunday and funeral Masses for more than 15 years. He is a lector, extraordinary minister of holy Communion and catechist. His dedication to prayer and willingness to help those in need are truly inspiring.

Joe and Veronic Laubert
St. Martin Parish, Tours

Joe is very involved in the Catholic Life Insurance Group in the parish. Joe and Veronic take care of any need the parish may have. The parish is grateful for their dedicated service.

Enrique and Bertha Lopez
Cristo Rey Parish, Austin

Enrique and Bertha's exuberant zeal to answering their baptismal call to service makes them an outstanding example to others. Their relentless and fervent dedication to the parish's religious education program assists in the realization of much-needed income to reduce the costs associated with the program.

Juan and Santos Lopez
Sacred Heart Parish, Waco

Juan and Santos have been directors of the Diocesan Cursillo movement for more than 18 years. They are both lectors and extraordinary ministers of holy Communion. Their leadership and love for the faith is inspiring to the entire community.

Cecil and Anna Machalek
St. Mary Parish, Temple

Cecil and Anna are lifetime parishioners. From the time when their children attended St. Mary's School, they both could be counted on to help, no matter what was asked. At present, Anna serves as treasurer of the Altar Society, lector and extraordinary minister of holy Communion. Cecil is an usher. Both assist in caring for the altars and do an outstanding job decorating the church and even outdoors for special occasions. They have made service to the parish a priority in their life.

Manuel and Lidia Martines

Church of the Resurrection, Emmaus Parish, Lakeway

Manuel and Lidia Martines are present in supportive and leadership roles in various ways among both the English-speaking and Spanish-speaking members of the parish. Indeed they have been instrumental in building bridges that help transcend the barriers of language and culture. Always for them the foundational question is, "How can we help?" Then, they just set about doing it in the context of faith formation, parish projects, evangelization efforts, welcoming and doing whatever is needed in support of the people of the parish.

Jennifer McGregor

St. Stephen Parish, Salado

Jennifer McGregor is a special person who shines as a wife and working mother of two children who shares both her time and talent with the youth. She has been the lead catechist for confirmation as well as high school youth minister for many years. She is both an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and a lector. She invites others into Catholic stewardship and promotes the Gospel message in everything she does. She has recently become a member of the pro-life committee.

Margie Medugno

Holy Family Parish, Copperas Cove

Margie has generously shared her time and talents as a catechist for the last 10 years. She teaches twice weekly and has assisted in establishing a two-year confirmation program. Margie also serves as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and volunteers weekly at the parish office. She is always the first to volunteer for any and all parish activities.

John Mendoza

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Austin

In addition to being an active member of ministry groups such as Men's Ministry and ACTS, John is always ready and willing to serve. He alone, maintains the parish website and is responsible for all web communication to the parish community. His commitment to this ministry enables the parish to communicate, invite and reach out to the community and spread God's message. He is a generous and giving parishioner who always attends major events and special liturgies.

Helen Meyer

St. Mary Catholic Center, College Station

Helen Meyer, along with her late husband Burney, served as a hospitality minister for many years. Because the parish serves a large student population, this ministry is especially important as each semester brings hundreds of newcomers to Mass. Burney passed away in 2003, and Helen remains a steadfast and caring presence to students, permanent parishioners and visitors. Described as a "gentle soul," she is loving, appreciative and always puts others and their needs ahead of her own. Possessing a rare combination of spirituality and spunk, Helen is young at heart and reflects the welcoming love of Christ to all who come through the church doors.

Jim and Charlene Meyer
Holy Trinity Parish, Llano

Charlene serves as a lector, a cantor, a member of the Ladies Altar Society and DCCW Western Council. She is also an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and a Communion minister to the homebound. She has been CSA coordinator for several years and is presently on the Pastoral Council. Jim served as usher, is on the finance council and is a member of the Knights of Columbus. They participate in adult education classes, are active in parish fundraising, and are an asset to the parish family. They have been married for 58 years.

Virginia Michael
St. Peter the Apostle Parish, Austin

Virginia serves as the leader and coordinator of the parish Christian Education Program. She is known and recognized as a very devout and sincere Catholic woman, who combines a ready sense of humor with a strong sense of Christian dependability. Virginia enjoys the highest respect of the parishioners and is known for her generosity in every aspect of her personal and spiritual life.

Albert Michalewicz
Sacred Heart Parish, Lott

Albert is a lifelong parishioner. For the last 23 years he has been president of the Sacred Heart Cemetery Association. He maintains the cemetery and donates all material and labor. He also maintains the records, negotiates the selling of lots and coordinates internments. He is active in church activities and rarely misses Mass, either weekend or weekdays.

Lucy Mihatsch
St. Joseph Parish, Cyclone

Lucy has been involved in the DCCW for many years, serving in many capacities. She is a past president of the Temple Deanery and has held offices in the parish altar society. She has been chair of St. Joseph Bereavement Committee for more than 20 years. Lucy has been a catechist, aide and helper. She has taken care of the church altar and church linens for the last 10 years.

Margaret "Peggy" Miller
St. Thomas More Parish, Austin

"Peggy" has been a catechist for more than 24 years. She also serves on the Prayer Line, Bereavement Committee and as a gift shop volunteer. Peggy was a recent kidney donor to a fellow parishioner she had never met but heard about through the parish Prayer Line. Peggy believes God placed in her heart the call to donate a kidney and never questioned that call to be a living donor. Her life is an inspiring example of Christ' love. Her faith and trust in God gives witness to the community and no matter the challenges to her life personally, she continues to wholeheartedly share her gifts.

Richard Milos**St. Austin Parish, Austin**

Richard has been a consistent go-to person whenever help is needed on any project in the parish. He approaches every task with an infectious joy, from taking all of the parish mailings to the Post Office, to setting up, cooking, serving and cleaning up at receptions, to conducting Knights of Columbus sports competitions for school children and much more. Richard consistently and joyfully responds to his baptismal call to live as a disciple as he models Catholicism with a smiling face, open arms and an ever-present “yes.”

Betty Moreno**Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Temple**

Betty is a wonderful wife and mother of two children. She is a professional educator and uses her talent as a catechist. She is a lector and an extraordinary minister of holy Communion. For many years she has prepared children and youth for their first Communion and confirmation. She takes seriously her personal growth in her faith and has attended ongoing formation for years as catechist and attended an ACTS Retreat. She is a warm, caring and loving person striving to love God and her neighbor with all of her being.

Ray and Vicki Nazzario**St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Waco**

Ray and Vicki give generously of their time and talent to their children, their community and their parish. Both are catechists, help with the seasonal decoration for the church and are members of the Altar Society. Ray is a member of the Men’s Club breakfast team. Vicki is also a member of the St. Mary’s Women’s Guild and the Bereaved Ministry Group. They are very active participants in the annual festival and coordinate the youth activities for it.

Paul and Linda Neault**St. Paul Chong Hasang Parish, Harker Heights**

Paul and Linda are extraordinary ministers of holy Communion, lectors and greeters. They bring holy Communion to the homebound and to the residents in local nursing homes. Paul is a sacristan and an active member of the Knights of Columbus. Linda is active in the Ladies of Charity. They organized an adult study program for four years that was well attended. They also organized Parish Pilgrimages to Lourdes, Fatima, Ireland and the Holy Land. Their dedicated service has truly been an example of living the Gospel.

Bill Pantel**St. Jerome Parish, Waco**

As a faithful servant for more than 15 years, Bill lived out the church’s call to evangelization and service. Bill was a dedicated usher and choir member for many years. His joyful spirit and tireless dedication were inspiring for all those who served alongside him. Every Sunday parishioners and fellow ministers looked forward to seeing Bill as his joyful spirit brightened everyone’s day with the light of Christ. Every Monday morning, come rain or shine, one could find Bill at the parish offices where he counted collections; he was dependable and faithful. As Bill struggled with poor health at the end of his life, he never wavered in his commitment to serve Christ’s church. Bill’s life was truly an example for all lay people.

Amelia Perez

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Taylor

Amelia is a lifelong parishioner and has shown her commitment to the parish as a member of the Guadalupanos, the Altar Society, the prison ministry, the Grupo de Evangelización Emmaus. She is active in the Cursillo movement. She also attends daily Mass. She has helped with Sunday breakfasts, jamaicas and other fundraisers.

Anita Perez

San José Parish, Austin

Anita was the pastoral council president for two years. She also has been in charge of children games for the annual jamaica. She is a great friend of public and religious education. She has worked many years for the Austin Community College and spearheads the Ven Conmigo classes for Spanish-speaking children.

Beatriz Perez

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish, Granger

Beatriz has been a catechist for 28 years. She not only taught a grade level, but also helped older students, who had missed out on sacraments to be prepared and to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confession or Communion. She has been an extraordinary minister of holy Communion for 25 years. She assists those in need by collecting and distributing clothing and food items. She began this ministry 28 years ago. She is a member of the Altar Society and has taken care of the church's altar linens for the last 10 years. She is most proud to be a member of the Crusillo Movement.

Gabriel and Teresa Quinones

Christ the King Parish, Belton

Gabriel is an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and lector for the Spanish Mass. Gabriel and Teresa both belong to the Our Lady of Guadalupe Association (Guadalupanos); Gabriel has been elected to a third term as vice president. They work diligently and both participate financially in parish fundraisers. They are members of the Cursillo movement and a great example of what a Christian family should be.

Earnest and Maria Ramirez

Sta. Rosa de Lima Parish, Andice

Earnest and Maria have two daughters. Earnest is the Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus, an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and former finance council member. He is honest and sincere in his daily dealings with people. He gives 100 percent support to the church and he is a good ambassador of the parish wherever he is. Maria is the rectory housekeeper. Though she is paid for the job; she does it with much love and care.

Sr. Joan Reisch, SMIC**St. Theresa Parish, Austin**

Sr. Joan came to Austin more than 30 years ago on a Franciscan mission to the former Holy Cross Hospital in East Austin. She served on the nursing faculty of the University of Texas and as the Nurse Manager at the Austin State Hospital. As a member of St. Theresa and the co-founder of the parish Nursing Ministry, she organizes workshops on pastoral concerns ranging from end-of-life issues to autism. She assists the Bereavement Committee and Early Bird Taco Ministry to the homeless and writes weekly bulletin nursing tips. She helps lead the outreach to bring Eucharist during weekly visits to both the Travis County jail and juvenile center.

Edward Reyes**St. Joseph Parish, Marlin**

Edward has been a parishioner for more than 30 years. He has been involved in the Movement of Cursillos of Christianity, attending one of the first Cursillos in the U.S. He is active in all events at the parish. He serves as an officer in the Knights of Columbus and as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion. He is in charge of the yard maintenance at the church and frequently helps the clergy in liturgical services that require Spanish. He is a polite, caring and loving person to all he meets. He is always ready to lend a helping hand.

Bea Rios**St. Paul Parish, Austin**

Bea has been active in the Ladies Club and the Guadalupe Society. She has been a faithful sacristan and extraordinary minister of holy Communion, and she has brought the Eucharist to the homebound and to nursing home residents consistently for many years. She is also a woman who is greatly admired for her honesty, her humility, her kindness to others, and her willingness to help people in any way she possibly can. She is a woman whose faith is evident in all that she does.

Marcelo Rodriguez**St. Martin de Porres Parish, Dripping Springs**

Marcello has served on the parish staff, pastoral council, RCIA team, and as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion. For a number of years, he has overseen the care of the grounds, church and other facilities. Currently, he is a catechist for the children's catechumenate and is involved in other sacramental preparations as well. All of his service has been on a volunteer basis and is a strong testimony to his faith and love of God.

Pat Roeder**St. Luke Parish, Temple**

Throughout the years, Pat has been actively involved in many ministries and still continues to serve as a lector, extraordinary minister of holy Communion and is involved with the music ministry. She is especially committed to coordinating and ministering to those who are homebound, those in nursing homes and hospitals in ensuring they receive the Eucharist every week. Her love for music and her vast knowledge about the Catholic faith are evident when one speaks to her. She truly spreads the word of God to those who come in contact with her. She is a blessing to the community.

Marion and Maria Ryan
St. Joseph Parish, Killeen

Marion and Maria both enjoy working and ministering at the grass roots level. Their endeavors foster community life where everyone has the opportunity to share, and in turn, show appreciation of volunteers. Marion, an electrical contractor, has volunteered his expertise along with his company's resources to meet any need the parish may have. Marion, a member of the building commission, helped to lead volunteers in the conversion of the previous rectory into classrooms for religious education. Maria is an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and enjoys bringing the Eucharist to the homebound. For the last two years, Marion chaired the yearly festival and increased volunteerism and revenues beyond previous years.

William and Nell Schneider
St. Margaret Parish, Giddings

William and Nell have been members since 1999. William is a Third Degree member and officer of the Knights of Columbus, an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and usher. Nell has been president of the Altar Society for two years. She is an extraordinary minister of holy Communion, on the flower committee, and is one of the three volunteers who count the parish collections on a weekly basis. They participated in the Christ Renew His Parish (CRHP) program.

Don and Diane Sherman
St. John the Evangelist Parish, Marble Falls

Don has been the chairman and Diane the secretary of the finance and building committee for the last 10 years. In the last five years, Don has also been a dedicated adult altar server, an extraordinary minister of holy Communion, a key organizer of many retreats for the parish and the deanery, and a member of the Fall Festival committee. In the last five years, Diane has been co-director of the parish's RCIA program, member and leader of adult formation, sacristan, an extraordinary minister of holy Communion, lector, the co-chair of the Mardi Gras Gala, a Fall Festival committee member and a key organizer of many retreats for the parish and the deanery. Diane is also a trained spiritual director for the diocese.

Becky Sierra
St. John the Evangelist Parish, San Marcos

Becky coordinates the youth group leaders very effectively. Working together, they lead a sizable group of youth in spiritual, service and social activities. Becky also works full time at the Texas Catholic Conference. She is a blessing to the parish community.

Mary Silva
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Martindale

Mary is a lifelong parishioner. She is an extraordinary minister of holy Communion, a member of the Legion of Mary and in the choir. Her dedication is a gift to the parish community.

Elizabeth Swick**St. Mary Parish, Mexia**

Elizabeth is very devoted to the parish. She is now sacristan, a member of Ladies Altar Guild and RCIA sponsor. She shines with the light of Christ.

Roland and Linda Trevino**St. Albert the Great Parish, Austin**

Roland and Linda give wholeheartedly; encompassing Martha and Mary in one. They are tirelessly on call: setting up the church for daily Mass; serving as extraordinary ministers of holy Communion; assisting the art and environment committee in the arduous work of decorating the church; diligently helping the office staff with numerous projects; and too many other acts of charity to count. In all of their work, they never seek the limelight or praise; they slip in quietly, do the work, and then slip out just as quietly. They are genuinely Christ-like in all that they do and always manage to see Christ in others.

Richard and Bonnie Turek**Sacred Heart Parish, Austin**

Richard and Bonnie are longtime parishioners. Richard has been a faithful usher at the Saturday Mass for more than 30 years. Bonnie has served in many church committees, including the religious education committee. For 38 years she has cared for the sacred linens used at Mass.

Jimmy Urbanowsky**Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Gatesville**

Jimmy is a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus who supports the parish by “falling out” when needed. He maintains the church and grounds in various ways with his expertise, time and equipment. If someone needs help, he is always available. Since his wife, Janie became ill, he has become her caretaker. Before Mass, Jimmy can be found greeting everyone with his smile and handshake. Jimmy demonstrates the light and love of Christ on a daily basis to all who meet him.

Michael and Monique Urtado**St. Mary, Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Lago Vista**

Michael and Monique have been parishioners for 11 years. They have been married for 20 years and have two natural born children and two adopted children from Columbia. Their oldest son attends Holy Family Catholic School. Michael and Monique serve the parish as extraordinary ministers of holy Communion, lectors, teachers of religious education, volunteers with St. Vincent de Paul Society and Oktoberfest chairs for five years. They also coordinate and host the annual Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass and dinner. They are always willing to offer their help when requested. They have also been involved with the Ladies of Charity, St. Vincent de Paul Stores and hospice. Michael is an active member of Knights of Columbus.

Blanca Vasquez**St. Ignatius, Martyr Parish, Austin**

Blanca is on the liturgy committee and serves as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion, lector, sacristan and coordinates the Spanish Mass. She is an indispensable member of the Christ Renews His Parish retreats, helping to train the leaders serving on the parish steering committee. She also assists with translating English text to Spanish for the various liturgies and the bulletin. She strives to live her faith and pass it on to others, beginning with her children and reaching out to the rest of the community.

Angel and Rosa Villa**St. Margaret Mary Parish, Cedar Park**

Angel and Rosa joined the parish in 1998. Angel is a member of the technology committee and leads the Spanish ushers. He also works with the Spanish lectors to ensure the readings are proclaimed with reverence and conviction. Rosa is a catechist, a trainer for the Ethics and Integrity Ministry program in Spanish and teaches baptismal preparation class. They are passionate about their Catholic faith. To their children, grandchildren and the parish family, they are a wonderful example of faith in God and each other.

Margarita Villareal**St. Francis on the Brazos Parish, Waco**

Margarita is a long-time member of the parish. She has been a guide and a companion for the children of the church for many years. Her loyalty and love to the parish and children are inspiring. Her dedication and support to the church makes her a great role model to follow.

Thomas and Gloria Villarreal**St. Ann Parish, Somerville**

Thomas and Gloria have been parishioners for more than 30 years. They have served for the last 15 years as the primary operators of Sunday evening charitable bingo. They work without pay to raise funds for the parish. Gloria serves as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion. Thomas has donated his time and labor to build items such as gazebos, flower pedestals and signs for the church. They also volunteer at the convent and the Ecumenical Day Care Center.

Marie Villegas**St. Ferdinand Parish, Blanco**

Marie has been a long-serving parishioner and the co-coordinator for the Hispanic community in the parish. She works hard in bringing different and diverse individuals and groups together in the service of God and community.

Greg and Marla Wallace**St. Ann Parish, Rosebud**

Marla worked as a volunteer bookkeeper for 18 years. She is a lector, music minister, finance council member and pastoral council member. She has been a member of the St. Ann Ladies Guild for 30 years and served the last 10 as president. Gregory is always supportive of Marla. Gregory travels for work but actively participates in all the major parish activities and helps when needed.

Joe and Ruthy Wittenburg
Good Shepherd Parish, Lometa

Joe and Ruthy have worked tirelessly most of their lives for the parish. Their ministries have included altar servers, numerous years on both parish and finance councils, religious education, maintenance and cleaning the grounds, hall and church. They have also done bookkeeping, taken care of altar linens and robes. They are lectors, extraordinary ministers of holy Communion, hospitality ministers, hosts for celebrations and they help with funeral meals.

James Wostarek
Sacred Heart Parish, La Grange

James serves the parish as sacristan and an extraordinary minister of holy Communion for the homebound. He assists at Mass at Care Inn Nursing Home and does repairs in and around the church. He has been an usher for almost 30 years. He has been a Knight of Columbus for 51 years and a member of the Holy Name Society for 39 years, holding several offices, and is currently president. He was a member of Sacred Heart School Board and the pastoral council. He is very supportive of Catholic education.

Norman and Tracey Zetka
St. Paul Parish, Smithville

Norman and Tracey have been married for 51 years. They have two children and three grandsons. Tracey is Altar Society president, an extraordinary minister of holy Communion assisting with nursing homes and the homebound, a catechist and a member of the National and Austin Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. She is also treasurer of Society 69 of Catholic Family of Fraternal of Texas (KJZT). Norman volunteers his time as parish finance officer, is active in the Knights of Columbus Council 4868 serving as treasurer and Grand Knight. Norman has also volunteered for a number of years as the co-chair of the annual bazaar.