



St. Thomas Community Joyful for Pope Francis

As “Habemus Papam” was proclaimed from the balcony of St. Peter’s Square in Vatican City, the University of St. Thomas community waited with anticipation and celebrated the announcement of the new Pope Francis.

As many as 50 students, staff and alumni gathered in the Old Bookstore in Crooker Center and others gathered in small groups around St. Thomas.

The Rev. Michael Buentello, CSB, described a feeling of excitement on campus, one “filled with great jubilation.”

“It was as if the students were

waiting for a rock star to come on stage,” he said. “The movement of the curtain elicited great joy – ‘There’s the Holy Father, our spiritual father for all of us on earth.’ It was a joyous moment, a happy moment for all of us.”

Junior Jonathan Cruz, a biology student, brought the Vatican flag into the Old Bookstore for the occasion, and he said he was glad to be able to witness history on UST’s Catholic campus.

“I got to hear the bells ring on campus for more than five minutes,” Cruz said. “People were celebrating.

They were yelling, ‘We have a pope!’ and people started to hug each other. I don’t think people elsewhere would get to experience that in the same way as someone on a Catholic campus would.”

UST President Dr. Robert Ivany also expressed the occasion as joyful and hopeful.

“It’s joyful that we have a wonderful shepherd to lead our Church, who is so well respected by all those who know him, and hopeful that he will continue to lead us with renewed vigor, fresh insights and a deep love of our Lord,” Ivany said.



StThomasHouston



@StThomasHouston

Several UST faculty, students and alumni were interviewed by local media about papal events. Did you miss the coverage? See the news on UST’s Facebook and Twitter.

Experts Talk ‘Risk of Education’

What does it mean to be educated? Does attending top-notch schools, achieving outstanding test scores, participating in extra-curricular activities, and all that is commonly associated with a good education guarantee that one is educated? Experts, including University of St. Thomas’ Dr. Dominic Aquila, vice president for Academic Affairs, discuss whether education, as it is widely understood today, fully equips a young person for life. This discussion takes place at 6:30 p.m. on **March 20** in Anderson Hall 103.

Expert guest panelists include Keith Kiser, headmaster of St. Joseph Catholic High School, and Holly Peterson, religious education instructor at Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento, Calif., and adjunct professor at the University of San Francisco.

The event is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by the University of St. Thomas Office of Academic Affairs and Crossroads Cultural Center-Houston. For more information, call 713-823-2263.

Diplomat Discusses Foreign Service

University of St. Thomas’ Center for International Studies and the American Foreign Service Association in Washington, D.C., is deepening public understanding of U.S. diplomacy, and the Center will launch a new “Distinguished Diplomat” lecture series this month.



The inaugural lecture will be given by Ambassador John Negroponte, former director of national intelligence, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, and deputy secretary of state during President George W. Bush’s administration. The lecture will be held at 6:30 p.m. on **March 21** in the Grand Salon of La Colombe D’Or Ballroom, 3410 Montrose Blvd.

The partnership with AFSA will focus on the critical skills that foreign service officers deploy in the face of increasing global challenges to vital American foreign policy interests.

Step Up to Graduation



Graduation is around the corner, and UST has a one-stop shop for those of you ready to make the leap into the future. Graduating seniors and graduate students will have the opportunity to meet with the offices of Career Services, Registrar and Alumni Relations, and order class rings, graduation stationary, and caps and gowns. Mark your calendar for the event from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on **March 19** in Scanlan Room, Jerabek Center. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and light refreshments will be served from 4-6 p.m.

Join Alumni for ‘Taco Tasting’ Fundraiser



TWO SAINTS
and
TACO TASTING
PRESENTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The University of St. Thomas Alumni Association will host the 2nd Annual Two Saints and a Taco Tasting scholarship fundraiser at 7-9:30 p.m. on **April 18** at Saint Arnold’s Brewing Co., 2000 Lyons Ave.

Restaurants from around Houston will offer samples of their best tacos, and all attendees can vote for their favorite through the popular vote. Come enjoy all the delicious taco entries, view live entertainment and sample the full lineup from Texas’ oldest craft brewery. The event will also feature a silent auction with package themes related to tacos, beer and saints.

The event is 21 and up. Tickets are \$30, advanced purchase only. Register at www.stthom.edu/twosaints. For more information, email emeryh@stthom.edu.

NAIA Tourney

The men’s basketball team competed in the NAIA National Tournament in Kansas City, Mo., last week. This was the first championship appearance of its short four-year program. The Celts put up a good fight, but lost 70-68 to No. 13 seed Georgetown College of Kentucky.



UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS ATHLETICS



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UST Intercollegiate Athletics Launches New Website

The University of St. Thomas Intercollegiate Athletics launched its new microsite, ustcelts.com, powered by SIDHelp. The new microsite is a visual treat and is dedicated to all things related to UST Athletics. The Athletics site is a part of a larger project to revamp the entire UST website.

SIDHelp supports several university athletics websites across the nation. The site's layout and design is user-friendly and provides action photos to entice any sports fan.

Athletic Director and Men's Basketball Head Coach Todd Smith anticipates a great response from the community.

"Our new website will be the face of UST

Athletics and the first impression of our department for many people," Smith said. "Our fans, campus community, student-athletes and prospects will really enjoy coming to ustcelts.com and following the St. Thomas teams.

I really appreciate all the time and hard work so many people have put into the development of our new website."

Also, a welcome addition to the new microsite is the recruiting page, which is open to all prospective high school players. Inquiries will go directly to the coach of their preferred sport.

Visit ustcelts.com for information on the upcoming games and tournaments.

Enter Fight Song Contest to Show School Spirit

The Student Government Association decided UST has been without a fight song for too long and it is time for a change. SGA is holding a contest for the composition of a fight song to represent UST during sporting events. The contest is open to both current students and alumni and will run through April 3.

Contestants can submit videos of original fight songs that promote school spirit and distinguish UST from other schools and athletic programs. The winning song will become property of SGA and UST. SGA Director of Public Relations Dina Alkhamis encourages participants to submit hand signals along with a fight song.

The winners will be announced on **April 17**. The prize money includes \$250 for the song and \$50 for the hand signals. Contestants can submit videos and lyrics to sgapresident@stthom.edu.

For more information, contact the SGA President Jose Bolivar or visit the Facebook page, facebook.com/USTsga.



Events

Lenten Lecture Series

Dr. Charles Sommer will present "Word of God in Human Words: Biblical Interpretation from Vatican II to Benedict XVI" at 7:30 p.m. on **March 20** in Cullen Hall.



Anger Management

Learn how to control your anger from 12:30-1:30 p.m. on **March 21** in Levitt Room, Crooker Center. In this workshop, Counseling and Disability Services will address anger management and techniques to assist in keeping calm in frustrating situations.



Pinocchio – Italian Adult Tale

To commemorate the Year of the Italian Culture in the United States, see a free performance of "Pinocchio: Storia di un Burattino" at 7 p.m. on **March 21** in Jones Hall, 3910 Yoakum.



Holy Week

Students will have no classes during Holy Week, **March 25-30**. Masses will be held on campus, including Eucharistic Adoration in the Garden from 8:30-11:30 p.m. on **March 28** in Gueymard Memorial Garden.



Staff Appreciation Days

Staff members are invited to attend the Ice Cream Sundae and Bingo Social at 1-3 p.m. on **March 25** in Crooker Center; Nachos and Tacos Luncheon at noon on **March 26** in Scanlan; and "After School TV" Day at 1-3 p.m. in Cullen Hall on **March 27**. RSVP: rsvpmusic@stthom.edu.



Lebech Talks Feminism, Edith Stein in Lecture

An advocate for human dignity and the study of Abioethics, Dr. Mette Lebech will speak at the Fifth Annual Zambosco-Thomas Lecture, sponsored by the UST Women, Culture and Society Program, at 7 p.m. on **March 19** in Ahern Room, Crooker Center.

Lebech, a lecturer in philosophy from the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, will speak on "St. Edith Stein's Feminism." The new saint was the most important Catholic feminist speaker and writer in the German-speaking world.

The lecture is free and open to the public, with a reception to follow. For more information, contact Kathleen Haney, director, at 713-525-3193 or haneyk@stthom.edu.



Walk the Way of the Cross on Good Friday

UST community members are invited to walk the Way of the Cross in the heart of the city beginning at 10:15 a.m. on Good Friday, **March 29**. The procession will begin at the Chapel of St. Basil and



continue through the city, ending at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in downtown with a blessing by the Most Rev. Joseph A. Fiorenza, archbishop emeritus. Stops also include the UST White Memorial Plaza, Holy Rosary Catholic Church and Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, and will include readings and reflections.

The procession is sponsored by Communion and Liberation & UST Campus Ministry. Call 713-203-1566 for details and possible return transportation.

Catholic Educators Connect at Conference

The largest private-education association gathering in the nation, the National Catholic Educational Association Convention and Expo, will be held in Houston on **April 2** at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

UST will host a reception and dinner "A Salute to Catholic Education Everywhere" for Catholic educators and parish leaders on **April 1** on campus. The University will also have two booths at the conference: School of Education and GRACE Program at #950, and Center for Faith and Culture and Undergraduate Admissions at #1441.

For more information, contact Elsie Biron at ncea@stthom.edu or 713-525-3149 or visit www.ncea.org/convention.