



# NEWSLETTER

Here you're among friends!



## From the President's Desk

### "To Give or Not to Give?" That Is the Stoplight Question

We've all been there. You're driving along, minding your own business, when the light turns red and, poof! there's someone on the corner with a cardboard sign. Suddenly you're having a full-blown moral debate with yourself before the light even turns green.

*"Should I give them a dollar?, Should I look straight ahead and pretend I'm studying the clouds?, Will God grade me on this?"*

Let me ease your mind: God is not standing there with a heavenly clipboard, and checking boxes. Many of us are on fixed incomes. Some of us are on *very* fixed incomes, fixed so tight they squeak. Taking care of your own needs is not selfish; it's part of wise stewardship. Even Scripture reminds us that our giving is measured by the heart, not the amount: "For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has..." (2 Corinthians 8:12).

But here's the part we often forget: Giving isn't just about money. In fact, some of the greatest gifts can't fit in a wallet: volunteer your time to help others, smile at someone who's having a rough day, bring joy to our parish community, call someone who may be lonely, share your talents (and yes, baked goods count as talents!) or offer a prayer sometimes the most powerful gift of all.

If you decide to give someone a dollar, wonderful. If you don't, a quick prayer ("Lord, please help this person, and please turn the light green") all count.

So don't feel guilty. Give when you can, pray when you can't, and don't beat yourself up either way."

Art Dominguez

### December Meeting Announcement

Our December Senior Pals meeting will forego the regular order of business and instead be dedicated entirely to our Annual Christmas Party! This year's meal will be catered by the Adriatic Café. Please note that attendance is limited to members who have already paid, as the number of plates have been pre-purchased. We are delighted to welcome The St. Anthony of Padua Church Youth Choir as our entertainment for the celebration. We look forward to sharing an afternoon of fellowship, camaraderie, and the warm spirit of the season with each of you.

## Advent Donation Drive A Chance to Share the Joy



The holiday season is a time of giving, and St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church is once again hosting the Advent Donation Drive. This year's collection day will be Sunday, December 14, 2025, from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the St. Teresa Center, 7985 Bay Branch Drive, The Woodlands. This joyful tradition brings together parishioners and community members to provide much needed gifts and essentials for local charities and outreach groups. Here's how you can participate:

- **YES to Youth:** Cleaning products (detergents, toilet bowl, surface cleaners and individually wrapped snack foods for kids.
- **Missing Pieces Support Group:** Calming/herbal teas, personal journals, premium chocolate bars.
- **Honduras Mission:** New underwear and shoes for children and adults, plus men's work pants.
- **Knights of Columbus:** Coats (new or gently used) for all ages and genders.
- **Loving Choice Pregnancy Center:** \$20/\$25 Walmart gift cards or items from their Amazon Wish List.

Important Reminder: Gift cards must be placed in the Mass collection basket or delivered to the Parish Office receptionist. For safety, please do not hand gift cars directly to Donation Drive volunteers.

### Why it Matters

The Advent Donation Drive is more than a collection, it's a chance to embody the true spirit of the season. By contributing, we help ensure families near and far experience comfort, dignity, and joy\ at Christmas.

Whether you bring a coat, a journal, or a gift card, your generosity makes a real difference. Let's show the strength of our Senior Pals community by participating wholeheartedly. Together, we can brighten lives this Advent season.



## Set Sail on a Mediterranean Adventure!

May 2<sup>nd</sup> thru May 12, 2026

Join Senior Pals friends Linda Saucedo and Elaine Wilson for an unforgettable journey across the sparkling Mediterranean Sea! This 10-day voyage begins in Naples, Italy, and return to Civitavecchia (Rome), Italy aboard the elegant **Enchanted Princess**. Imag-

ine strolling ancient streets, savoring authentic cuisine, and sharing the beauty of Europe with your fellow Senior Pals. It's all waiting for you! For details and booking, contact:

**Debbi Davis - Debs Tours and Cruises**

**Phone: (214) 784-9685**

**Be sure to mention:**

**Group TN4/Deb & Linda's Europe Getaway.**

## Senior Pals Officers 2025/2026

President	Art Dominguez
Vice-President	Cathy Landry
Treasurer	Linda Saucedo
Secretary	Carla Chambers
Membership	Gladys Gordon
Trip Committee	Martha Britton
Ambassador	William Lessman
Program Chair	Joan Sabino
Raffle	Sharon Bowen
Newsletter	Art Dominguez
Hospitality	Open
Happy Hours and Luncheons	All Senior Pals Members
For more information, feel free to call or Text: Art Dominguez at (281) 622-7703 or email us at <b>seniorpals@ap.church</b>	

## Senior Pals Spotlight: A Holiday Invitation from Linda & Michelle

Our very own **Linda Saucedo** and **Michelle Tyrell** are lending their voices to a beloved community tradition this December! As proud members of the Montgomery County Choral Society, they invite all of us to join them for a magical evening of music and fellowship at the upcoming holiday concert:

### *The Many Moods of Christmas*

- **Date & Time:** Saturday, December 13, 2025 at 7:00 PM
- **Location:** First Methodist Conroe, 4308 W. Davis St, Conroe, TX 77304
- **Artistic Director:** Jim Kritikos

This timeless celebration will feature Robert Shaw's cherished arrangements of classic carols, performed alongside a live instrumental ensemble of local musicians. Audience participation is warmly encouraged—so don't be shy about joining in the singing!

**Tickets:** Adults: \$20, Seniors: \$15, Students: \$5  
Tickets are available now at **MCChoral.org**.

## Senior Pals Meeting Schedule 2025/2026

December 13, 2025

January 10, 2026

February 14, 2026

March 14, 2026

April 11, 2026

May 9, 2026

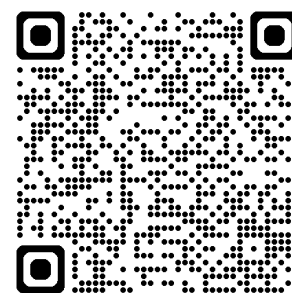
June 13, 2026

Meetings are from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at Sheltz Hall

For more information you can read our newsletter at:

**ap.church/seniorpals**

or scan the QR code below:



## A Merry Christmas & Happy New Year Message From the Senior Pals Board Members & Committee Chairs



As we prepare to celebrate this blessed Christmas season, your Senior Pals Board and Committee Chairs send you heartfelt wishes for peace, comfort, and joy. This year has reminded us that our group is more than numbers, it is a family of hearts. In fact, the love, compassion, and faith shared among our members have grown even deeper. It is not strength in quantity, but **strength in heart**, that makes Senior Pals the warm and welcoming community it is. As we enter the New Year, may Christ's light guide your steps, may His peace fill your home, and may His joy renew your spirit.

From all of us in Senior Pals leadership:

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

We look forward to another year of fellowship, friendship, and faith. Cherishing



# PALESPUZZLE

## Spot the Differences

What's different about the picture on the right? Answers on the back page.



HAPPY

BIRTHDAY

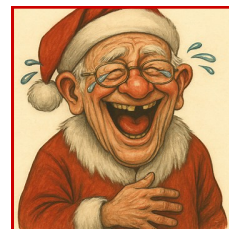
### December Birthdays

Anne Ullirch	12/01
Joan Welsh	12/02
Lynda Woodruff	12/05
Gloria Garcia	12/07
Gloria Clark	12/13
Gay Elder	12/17
Stella Borromeo	12/18
Cathy Landry	12/21
Collette Reinhardt	12/23
Rita Ballas	12/26
Pat Roberts	12/28
Gloria Maguire	12/30
Rubert Weynand	12/30

### Who shares their birthday with...

Woody Allen	12/01
Britney Spears	12/02
Walt Disney	12/05
Judie Dench	12/09
Emily Dickinson	12/10
Frank Sinatra	12/12
Taylor Swift	12/13
Nostradamus	12/14
Steven Spielberg	12/18
Ava Gardner	12/24
Humphrey bogart	12/25
LeBron James	12/30
Anthony Hopkins	12/31

### Grandpa's December Jokes



- ⇒ My doctor said I should start running. I told him, "At my age the only running I do is out of patience."
- ⇒ I bent down to plug the Christmas lights, and my back lit up brighter than the tree!
- ⇒ I hung my compression socks by the fireplace and Santa filled them with Bengay and batteries!
- ⇒ I told the grandkids I used to ride with Rudolph. They asked, "Was that before of after the invention of snow?"

### Senior Pals Theater and Luncheon Holiday Update

As we enter the Christmas holiday season, both **Senior Pals Theater** and our monthly **Luncheons** will take a short break in December. This pause gives us all a chance to rest, reflect, and celebrate the festivities with family and friends. But don't worry, January brings fresh beginnings! We will return with a brand new classic film and an Italian luncheon to kick off the new year in style.

#### January Luncheon

**Location:** Pallotta's Italian Grill, Shenandoah

**Address:** 27606 I-45 N (Frontage Rd)

**Date & Time:** Thursday, January 22 at 12:30 PM

We look forward to starting the year together with great food, and wonderful company.

## Classic Homemade Eggnog

A rich and creamy holiday favorite. Perfect for sharing with friends or sipping by the fire.

### Ingredients (Serves 4–6)

- 4 large eggs, separated
- 1/3 cup sugar, plus 1 tbsp for egg whites
- 1 pint whole milk
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1¼ oz bourbon (*optional*)
- 1¼ oz dark rum (*optional*)
- 1 tsp freshly grated nutmeg



### Directions

1. In a mixing bowl, beat egg yolks with 1/3 cup sugar until thick and pale.
2. Stir in milk, cream, bourbon, rum, and nutmeg until well combined.
3. In a separate bowl, beat egg whites to soft peaks. Add 1 tbsp sugar and continue beating until stiff peaks form.
4. Gently fold egg whites into the yolk mixture to create a light, frothy texture.
5. Chill before serving. Garnish with a sprinkle of nutmeg or cinnamon.

### Notes

- **For added safety**, cook the eggnog base by tempering the yolks and heating the mixture until thickened.
- For a **non-alcoholic version**, simply omit the bourbon and rum.
- Serve with whipped cream, cinnamon sticks, or a dash of holiday cheer!

## Spot The Differences Clues

### Eagle Eye

1. Who did “he” forget thought bubble
2. “Jose” is missing from the box under desk
3. “Josy” instead of “Josh” on the toy box
4. “May” instead of “Matt” on the gift box
5. Candy cane is missing in front right of the image

### Detective

6. Stripes on the right stocking of elf are thinner
7. Santa’s right ear is under his hat
8. Green light bulb on upper left window is red
9. Nipple on bottle in the floor is missing
10. Pencil behind the elf on Santa’s desk is missing
11. Ball on the bottom left is a different color

### Sleuth

12. Button over the main elf’s belt buckle is missing
13. Front left tire under the red toy truck is missing
14. The toy elf on the floor by the table has eyes
15. The leg of the toy doll in the bin behind the small elf is inside the bin

### Sherlock Holmes

16. Elf on top of the toy pile is missing left ear
17. Window on the second story of the house in background is lit.
18. Small elf standing by the toy box has different right eye
19. The bug above the sign that says “Josy” is missing.

## Senior Pals Mission Statement

To foster a community of faith-minded seniors seeking to forge meaningful friendships withing a small group setting. Aim to foster a sense of belonging for seniors of all faiths and provide opportunities for seniors to share their life experiences and interests. Through group activities, volunteering, and supporting one another, we aspire to instill a strong sense of community and provide comfort to those in need. Our forum serves as a trusted space for seniors to make new friends, explore new places at their own pace, and discover exciting events happening in our vibrant community.