

# Summer 2026 Capital of Grace

## **Preface:**

What does it mean to live well, not just to succeed but to become someone worth being inspired by? This is the question we asked at closing branch retreat. Too often we accept the modern version of life reduced to achievements, appearances, and individual goals. But under all of this we hear a deeper call: To live for something beyond ourselves and to do it with others. From Fr. Gonzalo's talk on brotherhood we do not hear the shallow life of convenience but a demanding, honest, and purposeful way of living. The kind that challenges rather than flatters, that supports without enabling weakness, and that calls each person to be higher. It's about recognizing that no one is meant to walk alone, and that real friendship carries responsibility. To be your brother's keeper.

What would LG 300 say when formed next semester? If they looked back at this generation would they be proud of our accomplishments? The Covenant Mass was a reminder of everything we are called to live. As LG 29 said: "To seek God's will for each one of us according to our personal mission and state of life. Our most effective apostolate will be the sanctification of pure lives, the fulfilling of our mission and the service of those entrusted to our care." The people entrusted to our care are our brothers. To keep them and transform their hearts with Mary. As free firm and priestly men.

## **Resolution:**

This summer we strive to raise 850,000 minutes (14,167 hours) of adoration and service to match the \$850,000 needed to make a down payment on a branch house.

This commitment inspires 3 things in us

1. Responsibility - We want the branch to reflect the same internal discipline and order we wish for ourselves. In a world full of disarray, we hope to provide beauty and stability to those around us, the firmness in our commitments to men that others can rely on. We seek not only to do the dishes of our brothers, but to truly be "our brother's keeper", to support our community when the weight of the world burdens our brothers. Our commitment to 850,000 minutes gives us a definite responsibility to uphold, a visible sign of the invisible virtue we desire.
2. Brotherhood - Brotherhood offers us the path to achieve this sense of duty and commitment as a branch. Amidst the disorder of the world, we also see the great heroism of our brothers. When our commitments falter, our brothers extend the helping hand we need. Only in recognizing the relentless support of the heroes among us do we find the inspiration to also serve as men for others. In watching the progress of our branch and our brothers, their efforts will compel us to strive for more.
3. Sanctity - Through this sense of responsibility through brotherhood, we hope to build lives of sanctity that impact not only the branch but community around us. Through holiness at home, we hope to return with greater strength and more potent zeal to transform the University of Texas at Austin into a place of grace.

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## Practicals:

This capital of grace demands sanctity not scrupulosity. Although we find it valuable to break the habit of home life through adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, we do not require this adoration to happen during exposition with a monstrance. Prayer before a tabernacle, at your local parish, or at a nearby shrine all contribute to our capital of grace and count towards our minutes. The sole requirement is the presence of the Eucharist.

Additionally, service hours may also count towards our minutes. Whether you serve at a food bank, hospital, or local parish, any time spent towards service can and should be recorded as a contribution to the capital of grace.

Finally, we believe two uses of technology will be critical to the success of this capital of grace.

1. Website - All accumulated minutes over the summer will be tracked through a website. Once you complete minutes, you can submit them online and watch the number change in real time as we progress toward our goal.
2. Whatsapp - Regular updates will be sent in the SUM Whatsapp group chat. We also encourage sending personal updates and screenshots to encourage your brothers to reach our goal.

***“Always work according to God’s will and only according to it!” - Fr. Franz Reinisch***