



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

I told you last month that I would let you know if the two great upcoming events for January were rousing successes. It seems that they were. First of all, the first annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at County Line on the Lake was enjoyed by all. We had about 40 people eat as much Bar-B-Que as they possibly could. I think everyone had a great time and the general consensus is that we should do it again. So we will.

Secondly, the photography for the Parish Directory went off without a hitch. Forty-seven members of our parish had their portraits taken and will appear in the directory. That isn't everyone by a long shot. I guess some folks are just camera shy. With the set up process, proofing the first draft and getting the final copies of the directories back to us, I anticipate that it will be around Easter before you actually have them. That's a guess on my part so don't hold me to it. Except for proofing the first draft it's out of my hands.

This is a big project and a number of people helped to get it all done. Wanda Stults and Nancy Jones hosted the two days of photography. Merry Nell Drummond helped call parishioners to remind them of their appointments. Don Watkins kept the web site sign-up sheets running smoothly. My wife, Nancy, suggested much of the format and provided much of the material for the layout of the part of the directory for which we are responsible and Pam Stephan actually put it together on hard copy and disk for the people at Lifetouch. I think you'll be pleased with the results.

Congratulations to Brian and Rebecca Hoard on the baptism of their newest son, Ian Robert. It has been my privilege to baptize all three of their

children and it was amazing to have to the other two around the font as I baptized Ian. On Sunday, March 4, I will baptize Tristan Jensen, the latest arrival for Nathan and Cassandra Jensen. We haven't had any baptisms for a while and it's nice to be able to celebrate these great events in the life of the church.

Congratulations also to Andrew Brummett and Jessica Bartik who will be married in Dallas at the Chapel of the Cross on March 10. As many of you know Andrew is studying for the priesthood in the EMC at the Dallas Theological Seminary. We all wish them the greatest happiness as they begin their married life together in the service of the Lord.

Lent is now in full swing and I hope that everyone is taking it seriously. Along with my preaching series on the beatitudes, you will have the opportunity to take advantage of extra worship services. On Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm during Lent we will pray the Stations of the Cross to remind us of just what our salvation cost our Savior. To pray the Stations of the Cross meditatively takes some effort. I believe that the version of the Stations that we use (there are dozens of them) allow one to experience the Way of the Cross with the heart as well as the mind and provide the opportunity to get in touch with our sinfulness and sorrow for our sinfulness in a very special way. On Friday evenings at 5:30 pm Fr. Stults will lead Evening Prayer. This is done every Friday of the year not just during Lent.

But if you're looking for another opportunity to worship the Lord during this prayerful and penitential season Evening Prayer on Friday is another possibility. However you choose to observe Lent this year, remember, the goal is to move closer to God. If that is your focus then Lent will be good this year.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

The classes for St. Francis children and youth continue each Sunday from 9:30 -10:30 am in the Parish House. We currently have 11 children from the age of 2 to 16 attending class. Thanks is given to the adults who lead or have led a class of the youngest generation in 2007: Bill and Claire Ducker, Jim Crandell, and Julie Rambin.

The teenagers continue to study the lectionary lessons each Sunday. The ensuing discussion always seems to raise some interesting questions for the adult leader as teenagers can have a unique way of discussing the lessons. The children 5th grade and under gather together for Godly Play. They hear the story for each Sunday and with ensuing discussion. Depending on the number of children who attend, they stay together or divide to work on their own activity for the day. Most seem to choose an art or clay project that usually expresses their thoughts on the story. Some choose to hear one of the other stories again. At the end of class, they join together for prayers and a snack. We have been doing these Godly Play lessons since last September and have quite an assortment of lessons and activities relating to the lessons.

As briefly mentioned last month, the children have taken on the project of adopting two active soldiers for the next several months. The plan is for our soldiers to receive a letter from one of the children each month and a care package as often as we can send one. The children could use help with the care packages. Below are items that the soldiers could use. Please pick out an item or two and bring them to the parish house. When we have enough to fit in a box, we will pack up the items and mail them off.

This will be an on-going project for the next few months, so not everything is needed at once. Thanks in advance for helping out.

FOOD & FOOD RELATED ITEMS:

- Ready To Eat Tuna or Chicken Salad kits
- Individual Microwave Soups

- Breakfast-type foods and drinks
- Instant & regular coffee, filters, powdered creamer, sugar packets
- Instant hot chocolate packets
- Campbell 's chunky soups, chicken, beef, etc.
- Fast Food Hot Sauce Packets
- Individual packets of Trail Mix, Beef Jerky, Slim Jims, peanuts, pretzels, cookies, sunflower seeds and canned nuts
- Canned chips or potato sticks
- Cereal bars, granola bars, Energy Bars
- Gold Fish Crackers
- Pre-sweetened powdered drinks, Kool-Aid, Gatorade
- Lil Debbie snacks, brownies, cakes - no icing.
- Packs of candy, gum, Twizzlers, tootsie rolls, Skittles, sweet tarts

PERSONAL ITEMS & HYGIENE ITEMS:

- Antibacterial wipes, lotion, sunscreen, travel size toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, soap, shampoo, tissues, Gold Bond powder
- Eye drops (cleaning kind-in plastic bag)
- Baby Wipes
- Facial Soap
- Kleenex
- Band Aids, cough drops, dental floss, combs, chapstick, lip balm, q-tips, nail clippers, disposable razors, shaving cream, toilet paper
- Athletes foot creme, foot powder, boot Odor Eaters - no aerosol bottles
- Paper, pens, postcards, envelopes
- Feminine products.
- AT&T Military Worldwide Phone Cards (can be purchased at <https://thor.aafes.com/scs/default.aspx>)

ENTERTAINMENT:

- Gently used DVDs and CD's
- Disposable Cameras
- Handheld electronic games
- Puzzle, Word Game & Crossword books
- Magazines, local papers, comics, paperbacks - mystery, action, drama, science fiction
- Games, Chess, Checkers, Dominoes, Parcheesi, Yahtze, Uno, Cribbage, Puzzles, Cards, Nerf toys

MISCELLANEOUS

- Holiday decorations
- Blank greeting cards
- Wrap around sunglasses
- Film (35 mm)
- Ziploc bags, Styrofoam cups
- Glasses wipes
- Battery Operated Fans, Misty Mates

PROHIBITED ITEMS:

Obscene articles (prints, paintings, cards, films, video-tapes, etc), Any matter depicting nude or seminude persons, pornographic or sexual items, or nonauthorized political materials, Bulk quantities of religious materials contrary to the Islamic faith. Items for the personal use of the addressee are permissible, and Pork or pork by-products.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Through this new ministry, shawls knitted or crocheted by members, are given to recipients at times of illness, to the elderly, those in hospitals, etc. They begin and are given with prayer and love. Anyone who knits, crochets, or would like to learn and be a part of this ministry, please call Pheobe Hughes at 476-6216.



MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP

All mothers and grandmothers of the church are invited to attend the mothers' prayer group, held in the Parish Hall. The group spends an hour on the second Monday of every month at 11 a.m. praying for their families. For more information, call Kay Francis at (512) 868-1092.

SEDER DINNER

If you want to participate in a Passover Seder, please contact Wanda Stults by Thursday, March 8th.

Rector: The Reverend Len Giacalone
Senior Warden: Mark Rambin
Junior Warden: Keith Harrell



DONATIONS FOR EASTER FLOWERS

To make a Memorial of Remembrance contribution for Easter flowers, please use the new donation envelopes available on the back table in the church. These envelopes have a space to note how you wish the acknowledgment to appear in our Order of Worship. Place your check in the envelope and place in the collection plate on Sunday, or give your envelope to Altar Guild members Angie McCown or Nancy Critchfield-Jones. These envelopes may be used throughout the year.



Birthdays

- 2 Mason Jensen
- 4 Andy Adkins
- 5 Bobbie Kemp
- 7 Heather Pangle
- 8 Laura Hitt
- 12 Pam Stephan
Georganne McCullough
- 15 Shirley Ellis
Warren Stewart
- 17 Patrick Doane
- 26 Jennifer Faught
Melissa Elliott
- 29 Laura Elliott
David Sikes

Anniversaries

- 1 Larry and Eileen Cole
- 4 Bob and Mary Ogden
- 14 G.W. and Carole Martin
- 19 Miller and Elizabeth Hicks
- 21 Bill and Susan Laroux



Associate Rector: The Reverend John Stults
Organist: Sylvia Kelley
Server: Ray Merrill

Newsletter Submissions

Any parishioner that has news of any kind they would like to share with everyone is welcome to send it in writing to Erika Denslow at 640 B Lakeside Dr., Wimberley, TX 78676 or to her e-mail address (triciadenslow@yahoo.com). If received by the 20th, it will appear in next month's newsletter.

St. Francis Episcopal Church

1408 West 9th Street

Austin, Texas 78703

MARCH

2007

2	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m. Games Night, 6:00-8:30 p.m.	14	Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.
4	<u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 a.m., <u>Morning Prayer and Holy Communion</u> , 11:00 a.m., (Gen. 15:1-12, 17-18), Psalm 27, Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 13:22-35 <i>Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.</i>	16	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m.
7	Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.	18	<u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m., Joshua 5:9-12, Psalm 34 2 Cor. 5:17-21, Luke 15:11-32 <i>Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.</i>
9	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m.	21	Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.
11	<u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., Exodus 3:1-15, Psalm 103:1-11 1 Cor. 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9 <i>Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.</i>	23	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m.
12	Mother's Prayer Group, 11 a.m. Vestry Meeting, 5:30 p.m.	25	<u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m., Isaiah 43:16-21, Psalm 126, Philippians 3:8-14, Luke 20:9-19 <i>Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.</i>
		28	Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.
		30	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m.