



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

After a long hot summer, (I hope it's after) we are resuming many of the activities that we suspend during the summer, including the parish newsletter.

First of all, congratulations to Thomas and Laura Hitt O'Connor who were united in marriage at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral on June 28. It was a beautiful ceremony and reception and from what I hear they are enjoying the beginning of their married life together.

Down to business. It's time to crank up our adult education for the fall. I have spoken to some of you about doing a study of Paul's letter to the Romans. However, I think that I'm going to postpone that until January. I have mentioned to you in church on Sunday that we as a parish need to do some discerning about our future. I have asked you to fast and pray for that very thing. But the discernment part can and perhaps should be done corporately. Therefore, I have decided to redo Experiencing God with as many people as are willing to participate. Experiencing God is a thirteen week study based on the premise that God is always at work around us and that we are capable of learning how God is working and capable of joining Him in that work. We frequently ask God to bless what we are doing. However, that's like asking God to

be your co-pilot. If God is your co-pilot you're in the wrong seat.

I know that God has a plan for the future of this parish. Right now I don't know what it is, nor do I believe anyone else does—at least for sure. We need to find out what God is doing and work with Him so that our future will be secure and blessed.

We will begin on Wednesday evening, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. The beauty of Experiencing God is that there is time for daily prayer and study as well as a weekly sharing of what God has done in your life and what God may be doing in our lives together. You will need to sign up for this since I will need to order materials for the study. For those of you whom I told we would be doing Romans, please be patient and join us for Experiencing God. I promise we will do Romans in January.

GAFCON/LAMBETH

Over the summer months Anglican leaders from around the world have met first in Jerusalem and then in England to discuss the current situation in the Anglican Community. From what I have been able to learn just from reading about these meetings, they appear to have been an extraordinary waste of time and money.

The GAFCON meeting in Jerusalem issued a statement that is little different from

From the Rector (continued):

any statement issued by orthodox Anglicans at previous meetings. While I'm sure someone is trying to put a pretty face on this year's Lambeth Conference, there was so little agreement on anything other than the fact that they all claimed to be Anglicans, they need not have bothered.

This is quite disturbing to say the least. One quarter of the bishops invited to Lambeth chose not to attend. Unprecedented! These bishops are rightly saying that they are already out of communion with the liberal north. The bishops of TEC and the Anglican Church of Canada continue on the same destructive path while the Archbishop of Canterbury tries to hold on to what has already ceased to exist. What I don't know is why those who say they are not in communion with revisionists still maintain that they are in the Anglican Communion. I'm sure we will hear more about this although I don't know how much more I can take.

COMBINED GUILDS

The members of St. Clare's Guild and the Altar Guild are invited to a special business meeting on Saturday, September 6th, at 10:00a.m. in the Parish Hall.

The placement and functions of the items on the altar, along with the Liturgy, will be explained by Father John Stults.

This is a rare and important opportunity for all of us to reaffirm our faith and learn "why we do what we do". Even if you are a lifelong participant in our form of worship, it's good to refresh your understanding of this ancient and holy rite.

There will be a brief meeting afterward with fellowship and refreshments.

All Parish women are encouraged to attend.

The Anglican Rosary

The Anglican Rosary will be said or chanted on Tuesday evenings at 6 PM beginning on September 9th, in the church. The rosary is another tool to help us in our commitment to pray to God. Reasons to use the rosary: it breaks the period of prayer into small segments making it easier to focus and pay attention to the prayers being spoken. It engages our sense of touch. By including the body and giving it a part in our prayer it keeps the body from drawing us away from our intention to pray. The sensation of the fingers touching the beads keeps our minds from wandering, the sound of the words being prayed engages our sense of hearing, the rhythm of the spoken prayer or chant leads us gently and naturally into stillness and peace. It encourages us to continue to pray until the end is reached and our time with God is honored. When praying, the rosary gives us periods of silence between the prayers; allowing us to come closer to the doorway into the silence in the heart of God.

Beads will be provided for use if you do not have any. Please come on Tuesdays and pray the rosary, ...allow God to enter deep into your mind, heart and soul.

If you are interested and want more information please contact Evie Lewis at 512-852-8766 or email texasevie@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENT

Those who were honored with the Hawaiian party would like to give a heartfelt thanks to all who came and partied with us! > Ellen, Meredith and Callie

Games Night

Lest you think that Games Night is only for children -- let it be known that there are more adults coming on the first Friday of each month than the younger generation. The evening begins at 6:30 pm with a potluck dinner. Soon after, the group decides to play a board game for the next 1 1/2 hours. The evening is always pleasurable with plenty of laughs exchanged. This is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship with other St. Francis members.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Beginning in June, the Prayer Shawl Ministry Group will meet on the first Saturday of each month at Seattle's Best Coffee House at the corner of Windsor and Exposition. We will meet at 11:00 a.m.

Anyone interested in joining this group is welcome. This group knits shawls with prayer for anyone who would benefit from their warmth and comfort. For more information, please call Phoebe Hughes at 476-6216.

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



Birthdays

- 2 Diane Lazelle
- 7 Eileen Cole
- 15 Katie Sandlin
- 22 Brian Hoard
Bill Reading
- 25 Sheri Brummett
- 28 Marion McIlhaney
Nathan Jensen

Anniversaries

- 5 Mark and Susan Rambin
- 6 Steve & Angie McCown
- 9 Clif and Merry Nell Drummond



Associate Rector: The Reverend John Stults
Organist: Paula Blaha
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 Tricia 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

SEPTEMBER

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| 1 | Labor Day | 15 | Vestry Meeting, 5:30 pm |
| 5 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i>
<i>Game Night, 6:30 pm</i> | | Mother's and Grandmother's Prayer Group, 11:00 am |
| 6 | St. Clare's Guild and the Altar Guild meeting, 10:00a.m. in the Parish Hall | 17 | <u>Experiencing God</u> , 7:00 pm |
| 6 | Prayer Shawl Ministry Group will meet on the first Saturday of each month at Seattle's Best Coffee House, 11am | 19 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i> |
| 7 | <u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am, Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, 11:00 am,</u>
(Ezekiel 33:7-11), Psalm 119:33-48
Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 18:15-20
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i> | 21 | <u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am and 11:00 am</u>
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i>
Jonah 3:10-4:11
Psalm 145:1-8
Philippians 1:21-27
Matthew 20:1-16 |
| 10 | <u>Experiencing God</u> , 7:00 pm | 24 | <u>Experiencing God</u> , 7:00 pm |
| 12 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i> | 26 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i> |
| 14 | <u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am and 11:00 am</u>
Ecclesiastics 27:30-28:7, Psalm 103
Romans 14:5-12, Matthew 18:21-35
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i> | 28 | <u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am and 11:00 am</u>
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Psalm 25:1-14
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:28-32
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i> |