



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

First of all I want to thank everyone who was involved in any way with the celebrations of Ordination and Confirmation. I am grateful, of course, to Bishop William Millsaps and Bishop Council Nedd for being with us over that weekend. It isn't possible to do ordinations or confirmations without a bishop. One of the things Bishop Millsaps said did strike me as important. The celebration of these and other sacraments is how we pass the church and the gospel to future generations. Therefore, they are extremely important in the life of any parish and in the life of the church at large.

I know that many of you spent a great deal of time preparing for these events. The cooking, the cleaning, the altar, the music, the video taping, the picture taking: all of these things were a necessary part of that weekend and I am proud and thankful for everyone's diligence in seeing that all went well. We have a great parish here at St. Francis.

March will seem somewhat tame by comparison with February. We are now in Lent and there should be a slower, more reflective and contemplative pace. If you have not availed yourself of some of the spiritual activities that are ongoing I would

encourage you to think about doing so. Every Tuesday at noon, the Anglican Rosary is prayed in our church. It only takes about one half hour. This might be a great Lenten devotion to practice.

If you were at the Lenten quiet day on February 28, you were taught the practice of Lectio Divina or Divine Reading. Try to spend some additional time on this to make this a continuous part of your life. Each Wednesday evening during Lent we pray the Stations of the Cross. You will recall that the Stations remind us of Jesus' passion and death and their necessity for our salvation. This Lent my reflections after the Stations will focus on the prayer that Jesus taught us, the one we call the Our Father. Last year our attendance on Wednesday evening was the best in my memory. Let's try to do even better this year. And don't forget Evening Prayer on Friday at 6:00 pm.

In addition to these public acts of prayer, our private prayer and acts of penance are also very important. For those of you who have Liturgical Calendars you will notice that we are called upon to fast and abstain during these days of penance. For most of us these concepts are so foreign that we tend to ignore them altogether. We know

From the Rector (continued):

that we are supposed to “give up something for Lent.” But the deprivation should be somewhat significant so as to remind us that we are doing penance and remind us of the reason why we are doing penance, Don’t waste another Lent. Try to enter into Jesus’ passion so that you may joyfully celebrate His resurrection

Our bible study on Romans continues on Tuesday evening. If you have not been able to make it thus far, it’s not too late. There’s plenty of material in Romans at every stage of its development to provide you with food for thought and prayer.

A couple of important reminders! On Sunday, March 8, we will begin Daylight Saving time for 2009. Please set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night. On Sunday, March 29, the annual Capitol 10k will be held and traffic through our neighborhood will be compromised once again. If I am not mistaken, 15th Street/Enfield Road will be closed to traffic for most of the morning. Please use either 5th or 6th Street to get to church on Sunday, the 29th.

PASSOVER SEDER

Saturday, April 4, at 5 p.m.

Saint Francis Parish Hall

Seating is limited to 46

If you are interested in participating in a Christian Passover Seder, RSVP with your name on the sign up sheet located on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. If you can help with the preparations for this traditional festival, please contact Wanda Stults.

Sermons Online

The sermons from both services are recorded and available on the church's web site. For those of you who would like a CD copy, please sign up on the list on the table below the bulletin boards in the parish house. For those who have ordered CDs, the copies are available on the same table. We are blessed with wonderful and extraordinarily gifted preachers in our church. Tell your friends that they can hear a sermon at anytime. Of course, we invite you to hear our Priests in person.

Making Palm Crosses

The Altar Guild will meet at 10:30 am on Saturday April 4th to make crosses for Palm Sunday. All Altar Guild members are requested to come and help make palm crosses. We also will do minor cleaning at that time for Easter. Since the major cleaning was done to prepare for the ordinations and confirmation services this will be a much easier chore.

Children and Youth Sunday School

New Sunday school classes are continuing for the children and youth of St. Francis each Sunday from 9:30 – 10:30 in the parish house.

If you have an interest in working with the elementary aged class, please let Amy Crandell know. She will fill you in on what we are trying to accomplish during Sunday school.

Thanks to all the parents who bring their children to Sunday school classes. New and returning students are always welcome. As always, please include our Sunday school in your prayers.

ANGLICANS for LIFE

A chapter of ANGLICANS FOR LIFE has been formed at Saint Francis with ten members. We will be meeting in March to plan our future and hope to add to our numbers. We strongly urge any and all who support the sanctity of life to come to this meeting. We need your ideas, your support and your prayers. Help us to make Saint Francis a church for life.

Please watch the pew sheet for date, time and place of this meeting.

New HOMEGROUPS Forming:

Going strong for over two years now, our three current home groups are ready to welcome anyone who wants to join them. Please contact **Claire Ducker, Joe McIlhaney, or Tim Williams** and inquire to what their group is doing this spring. A *brand new* home group is forming in the Hwy 290 West area; contact **Thomas and Laura O'Connor** if you are interested in joining them. If you want to host or facilitate a home group, or if you have questions about home groups, please contact **Father John Stults 830-833-5632**.

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



Birthdays

2	Mason Jensen
4	Andy Adkins Katherine Elizabeth Williams
5	Bobbie Kemp
7	Heather Pangle
8	Laura Hitt O'Conner J. P. Wathen
12	Pam Stephan Georganne McCullough
15	Shirley Ellis Warren Stewart Melissa Nelson Bernard
26	Jennifer Faught Melissa Elliott
29	Laura Elliott David Sikes
30	Victor Carsrud

Anniversaries

1	Larry and Eileen Cole
14	G.W. and Carole Martin
19	Miller and Elizabeth Hicks
21	Bill and Susan LaRoux



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

March

2009

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| <p>1 <u>Holy Communion</u>, 9:30 am, <u>Morning Prayer and Holy Communion</u>, 11:00 am,
Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 16
Romans 8:31-39 Mark 8:31-38
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i></p> <p>3 <i>Anglican Rosary</i>, 12:00 noon
Bible Study 7:00 pm</p> <p>4 Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm</p> <p>6 <u>Evening Prayer</u>, 6:00 pm Church
<i>Games night, 6:30pm</i></p> <p>7 St. Clare's Guild meeting, 10:30 am.</p> <p>8 <u>Holy Communion</u>, 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 16
Romans 8:31-39 Mark 8:31-38
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i></p> <p>9 Vestry Meeting, 5:30 pm</p> <p>10 <i>Anglican Rosary</i>, 12:00 noon
Bible Study 7:00 pm</p> <p>11 Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm</p> <p>13 <u>Evening Prayer</u>, 6:00 pm Church</p> | <p>15 <u>Holy Communion</u>, 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19:7-14
Romans 7:13-25 John 2:13-22
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i></p> <p>16 <i>Mother's and Grandmother's Prayer Group</i>, 11:00am</p> <p>17 <i>Anglican Rosary</i>, 12:00 noon
Bible Study 7:00 pm</p> <p>18 Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm</p> <p>20 <u>Evening Prayer</u>, 6:00 pm Church</p> <p>22 <u>Holy Communion</u>, 9:30 am and 11:00 am
2 Chronicles 36:14-23 Psalm 122
Ephesians 2:4-10 John 6:4-15
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i></p> <p>24 <i>Anglican Rosary</i>, 12:00 noon
Bible Study 7:00 pm</p> <p>25 Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm</p> <p>27 <i>Evening Prayer</i>, 6:00 pm</p> <p>29 Capitol 10k.
<u>Holy Communion</u>, 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51
Hebrews 5:1-1 John 12:20-33
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i></p> <p>31 <i>Anglican Rosary</i>, 12:00 noon
Bible Study 7:00 pm</p> |
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