



## The St. Francis Bulletin

### **FROM THE RECTOR:**

Holy Week and Easter Sunday may seem far away now, but I want to take a moment to thank everyone who had a hand in making it wonderful. Our church is relatively small by some standards but there is no less work that goes into these celebrations than in much larger congregations. During Holy Week, the Altar Guild has something to do almost every day and certainly for each of the services. Shirley Ellis and her crew worked diligently to have everything just right. Paula, Amy and the choir and musicians added so much to our worship experience. Our readers, acolytes and ushers also play a role in each service and we are grateful to them. Cassandra Watkins prepared a wonderful refreshment table after the 11 am service on Easter Sunday morning. I want to thank Father Stults and Deacon Williams for assisting me in these wonderful services. And my thanks to you as well for attending these beautiful remembrances of Our Lord's passion, death and resurrection. I don't know exactly how many of you attended each service (I suspect we have a count), but attendance was good and after being concerned about the weather on Easter, more people came to St. Francis on Easter Sunday than ever before. I know that I have left someone out that should be thanked. I always do. But no one does this for the thanks. You do it for the love of God and our parish. So, thanks to each and every one of you.

May 21 is Ascension Day. We will have a Holy Communion service at 12 noon. Ascension is one of those Holy Days that is often forgotten since it falls in the middle of the week and it is easy to wait until Sunday to go to church. Our liturgical calendar refers to it as a day of obligation. Unlike Roman Catholics who observe six Holy Days of Obligation during the church year, Anglicans are less

likely to think in terms of an obligation to attend a service on a particular day regardless of the feast, even Sunday. However, even our Book of Common Prayer references our obligations as a member of the church. In the Offices of Instruction on page 291 the question is asked "What is your bounden duty as a member of the Church?" The answer is, "My bounden duty is to follow Christ, to worship God every Sunday in his Church; and to work and pray and give for the spread of the kingdom." The prayer book sees our Sunday worship as an obligation. I would hope that we might see it as a privilege and a joy as well. The past several years we have had this celebration in the evening with less than outstanding attendance. I will try it at noon this year to see if it is more convenient for more members.

### **FOOD DRIVE DURING MAY**

Our Spring Food Drive begins May 1 and will continue through the whole month. Our friends at The Storehouse in Pflugerville are always in great need of non-perishable food to hand out to those in need. As Nancy mentioned last month, the need is great and increasing every day. Items that are needed include the following: canned meats and stews, packaged rice/beans, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, cereal, canned fruits/vegetables/beans, canned and packaged soups, powdered or evaporated milk, pop-top items such as tuna, beans and fruit. Please be as generous as you possibly can be. While every little bit helps we are looking for a lot. Every time you go to the store please try to think about the food drive. If you have any questions about this please contact Nancy, 243-8787.

**From the Rector (continued):**

Finally, I have a special prayer request. There are currently several members of our parish family who have lost their jobs. You may know some of them or not. Please pray for them. These are difficult times for many but very difficult for some. Please the Lord to give them the job they want.

**Saint Polycarp of Smyrna Men's Guild**

Come one, come all! The Saint Polycarp of Smyrna Men's Guild is firing up the grills for Pentecost Sunday. This, of course, happens to coincide with the fifth Sunday potluck dinner. Tongues of flame will alight on the many meaty morsels that will be offered up for your approval and consumption, and yes, there may even be a vegetable or two.

Please make plans now to attend, and all men of the parish who wish to showcase their grill skills, our finest hour is approaching!

Please see Father Stults and/or Ray Merrell, Sergeant-at-Arms, for details.

**Contributed by Fr. John Stults:**

Sally Looke and I were talking recently, and I was telling her about some of the resources that are available online for Anglicans. It's not unusual to fall into the thinking that besides the BCP, and perhaps the Anglican Missal (which I have one but can't find even though I promised Fr. Len I would so he could peruse it), we have few other books that are designed to aid us in our sanctification in an Anglican manner. Sally, in her usual wise manner, suggested I bring this information to the rest of you. Thank you, Sally.

I'd Googled "the hours of prayer" since it was part of my Lenten observance to pray the hours (Lauds, Prime, Terce, Sext, None, Vespers, and Compline) daily with as much regularity as possible. I have this 'somewhere' (also known as the black hole of my library both in the house and in the shed in boxes) but of course, couldn't lay hands on it. It's still 'somewhere,' probably nestled alongside The Anglican Missal. The upshot of this is a delightful discovery known as [www.CommonPrayer.org](http://www.CommonPrayer.org). You can find there at least two very helpful entries, The order for the Hourly Offices (compiled from Anglican Sources) and A Collection of Private

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Devotions for the Hours of Prayer, compiled by John Cosin, D.D., Bishop of Durham. These are now part of the public domain and may be reprinted. Cousin's Collection is a great book in many ways and I leave it to you to utilize it. It tells the "why" as well as the "how."

There are other books on the sight and I've printed these two and another for priests and made a manual for my use and benefit. I'm continuing my new practice of keeping the hours; by the way...our Lenten disciplines are not to be shelved once Lent is over. I find that stopping what I'm doing every three hours (when practical and without Pharisaical rigidity) really does allow me spiritual and mental refreshment the like of which I'd not experienced before. While I've followed fairly well the priestly directive of praying Morning and Evening prayer daily and maintaining a regular Quiet Time of Bible reading, study, and prayer; this is not a burden added but a pleasure enjoyed. For the technically-minded, Morning and Evening Prayer were created by the boiling down of the Hours of Prayer.

My other devotional readings have led me to accept the precept that the greatest sin of the modern Church is prayerlessness. How can one love, know, and thereby obey God when no time is spent in prayer to and with Him? The "saying of the hours" is a propitious methodology for doing what we should, but perhaps haven't, due to lack of a program.

Yours in Christ,  
John+

**Dear Members of St. Francis,**

The Facilities Committee presented a report from Mathias and Company at the last Vestry meeting. The report was a sample of properties that are currently available for our relocation. Most of the sample was for undeveloped land and the number of tracts available as well as their pricing is favorable to us. We have several good tracts that we can consider. Your Facilities Committee will continue its task and will keep you informed as it narrows down the search for our new property.

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As always, please feel free to ask questions of any of the Committee members. These are exciting times for our Parish and the best is yet to come.  
Sincerely, John C. Stults+, Chairman

### **Christian Education News**

Sunday school classes continue to meet each Sunday at 9:30 am in the parish house. The youngest class continues to learn Bible stories from the New Testament as well as lessons on selected Sacraments. During the last few weeks of classes, the class will hear about the Good Samaritan, Jesus as the Good Shepherd, the Pharisee and Publican, the Prodigal Son and end with a lessons on the Gifts of God. At the beginning of Lent, the children made mite boxes to collect coins around the house. As the children had agreed to purchase food for the hungry, this plan dove-tailed very nicely with the parish food drive. About \$20 of the children's favorite food will be added to the collection. Thanks goes to Susan Rambin for co-teaching this class with me.

Thanks to Mike Ready who worked with the teenage class for many weeks this past year and to Steve McCown who has committed to working with the class until the end of the year. Kudos to all the parents who bring their children to class each week. We have a group of parents who almost always have their children in Sunday school each week.

I am always looking for Sunday school teachers for either class. How long can be up to you. The curriculum and materials are supplied. Please speak to me if interested via email at amy\_crandell@hotmail.com, calling 452-7231 or speaking to me in person.

**Rector: The Reverend Len Giacolone**  
**Senior Warden: Mark Rambin**  
**Junior Warden:**

### **ANGLICANS for LIFE**

There will be a meeting of the Saint Francis Anglicans for Life chapter on Sunday, May 17th, after the 11:00 service coffee time. Everyone is invited to be there.



### **Birthdays**

- 1 Amy Crandell
- 8 Gabrielle Wathen
- 9 Tim Williams
- 11 Elizabeth Hicks
- 21 William Edward (Wes) Stults
- 26 C. J. Wright
- 29 Ben Brummett

### **Anniversaries**

- 10 Hoyt and Harriette Scharff
- 18 Brian & Rebecca Hoard
- 23 Chaille and Melissa Bernard
- 31 Keith and Gayle Harrell  
Ben and Shirley Ellis



**Associate Rector: The Reverend John Stults**  
**Organist: Paula Blaha**  
**Server: Ray Merrill and Arthur Woodgate**

### **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 Anglican Church

1408 West 9th Street  
Austin, Texas 78703

**MAY**

**2009**

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| <p>1 <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church<br/>Games night, 6:30pm</i></p> <p>3 <b><u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am, Morning<br/>Prayer and Holy Communion, 11:00 am,</u></b><br/>Acts 4:23-37, Psalm 23<br/>1 John 3:1-8, John 10:11-16<br/><i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish<br/>Hall</i></p> <p>5 <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 noon<br/>Bible Study 7:00 pm</i></p> <p>8 <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i></p> <p>10 MOTHERS DAY<br/><b><u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am and 11:00 am</u></b><br/>Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 66:1-11<br/>1 John 3:14-24, John 14:15-21<br/><i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish<br/>Hall</i></p> <p>11 Vestry Meeting, 5:30 pm</p> <p>12 <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 noon<br/>Bible Study 7:00 pm</i></p> <p>15 <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i></p> <p>17 <b><u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am and 11:00 am</u></b><br/>Acts 11:19-30, Psalm 33<br/>1 John 4:7-21, John 15:9-17<br/><i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish<br/>Hall</i></p> | <p>17 Anglicans for Life meeting, 12:30 pm</p> <p>18 <i>Mother's and Grandmother's Prayer<br/>Group, 11:00am</i></p> <p>19 <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 noon<br/>Bible Study 7:00 pm</i></p> <p>21 Ascension Day, Holy Communion, 12 noon<br/><b><u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am and 11:00 am</u></b><br/>Acts 4: 5-12. Psalm 98<br/>1 John 1:1-2:2, Luke 24:36b-48</p> <p>22 <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i></p> <p>24 <b><u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am and 11:00 am</u></b><br/>Acts 1:15-26, Psalm 68:1-20<br/>1 John 5:9-15, John 17:11b-19<br/><i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i></p> <p>26 <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 noon<br/>Bible Study 7:00 pm</i></p> <p>29 <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i></p> <p>31 <b><u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am and 11:00 am</u></b><br/>Acts 2:1-11, Psalm 104:25-37<br/>1 Cor. 12:4-13, John 20:19-23<br/><i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i><br/>PENTECOST Pot Luck Lunch</p> |
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