



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

First Pro-Life Sunday Huge Success

Sunday, September 20, was the first Pro-Life Sunday at St. Francis. Yes, we have had pro-life activities in the past and we have contributed to pro-life activities around town and around the country. But we have never really had a specific day dedicated to Life.

We were blessed to have with us a group of students from the University of Texas, University Life Advocates, join us for lunch, an idea that sprung from our own Anglicans for Life group at St. Francis. In addition, two representatives from the Austin Coalition for Life were with us to explain and sign up volunteers for the fall campaign of 40 Days for Life. For 40 days, beginning September 23, volunteers will pray in front of two abortion facilities in Austin. Some volunteers are trained as sidewalk counselors who are able to assist women who are contemplating having an abortion. The ACL reps told us that they had more volunteers from St. Francis than a large Roman Catholic parish in southwest Austin. Thanks for stepping out to volunteer for this very important project in our city.

The University Life Advocates were represented by three young men and three young women from UT. Each talked a little about themselves and what they are doing school wise. Their leader, Caroline Camosey then gave a synopsis of what they are doing on the campus of the university to encourage people to rethink their position on abortion. We attempted to encourage them in their work since they are generally in hostile territory.

But I must tell you that I was encouraged to see these fine young people take a stand for truth. Thanks to Anglicans for Life and the men and women of the parish who prepared lunch for our guests. It was a great day for our parish.

Upcoming Events

As you well know our parish currently has two deacons. For the past eight months they have been under the supervision of Father John and me so that they might learn the ministerial ropes, so to speak. Part of their training is to preach the word of God during the liturgy. Therefore, beginning in October, both Deacon Tim Williams and Deacon Andrew Brummett will preach during at least one service each month. Bishop Millsaps has given them permission to preach and I have personally listened to them deliver a sermon. I was quite pleased with both the content and delivery of their sermons and I know that you will be edified as well.

In addition, Deacon Williams will lead a study on biblical interpretation on Tuesday evenings beginning October 6. There is more information on this in the newsletter further on. Also, Becky Hunt will lead a bible study for women beginning on October 1. There's also additional information in this newsletter as well as in the pew sheet. So, if you are looking for something to do this fall, there are at least a couple of options to think about.

Fall Food Drive

The annual fall parish food drive will begin on Sunday, October 4, the feast of St. Francis, and continue through the last Sunday of October.

From the Rector (continued):

The need for food contributions continues in the greater Austin area. The Storehouse in Pflugerville where the food the parish collected in May was taken had to close their doors recently for three days because they ran out of food. They have an unprecedented number of people requesting food, one of the very basic needs in life. St. Francis parishioners have been very generous with our food drives. Surely God has blessed you and will continue to do so since one can never out give the Lord. (Blessed is he that considers the poor, Psalm 41:1) Grocery bags will be placed in the back of church with a list of the items that are accepted by the Storehouse. Some of the items needed are canned goods, boxed food items such as pasta, dried foods such as beans and rice. Any questions, please call Nancy Giacolone, 243-8787.

Christian Education for Children

Praise be to God! Prayers are answered indeed. This year is off to a positive start!

Classes began with 5 in the teen class, 7 in the elementary aged class and 2 in the nursery. A warm welcome is extended to the Wathen family with three children in the younger class. It seems there are a couple of others in the wings who might join us.

The elementary area room was revamped for more children by removing the desk and the printer and rearranging the shelves. All the supplies were replenished and the shelves nicely arranged for the first day of classes. During the next month, this class will study a variety of Old Testament stories beginning with Noah, the Tower of Babel and several classes on Moses. The recurring theme through all the stories how God revealed himself to his chosen people and how they attempted to obey him. Each class includes prayer, song, an activity, and a feast.

The teenager class is ably led by Ellen Stults as they discuss the book of James. She is following

the Life Change Series study on this book. Each lesson goes into detail on a certain section with follow-up on how to apply what was said outside of the Sunday school class. Thanks to Ellen for doing this!

Thanks to Elaine Williams for organizing a team of women to watch the youngest ones in the nursery -- most are siblings of a child in the elementary class.

The St. Francis part of Operation Christmas Child project will begin during the month of October. For the past 8 years, our Sunday school has taken on this project of wrapping shoe boxes and filling them with items children around the world would appreciate. It has worked well for us to ask for donations of the items to fill the boxes. We ask that you purchase several of the same item -- several boxes of crayons, several small stuffed animals -- and bring to the church by November 15. The children and youth then pack the boxes and they are taken to a drop off location during the week. Expect a letter within the next couple of weeks with a list of items needed for the boxes.

Please continue to lift up our Sunday school program in prayer.

Amy Crandell
Christian Education Director for Children and Youth

Games Night

Mark your calendar, on the first Friday of every month, Games Nights is held at the parish house. Lest you think that that such social events have little redeeming value, remember that the world is in spiritual chaos. Developing and nurturing social relationships with other church members can provide the strength and courage needed to be the voice for our Lord out in the world. Each evening begins with a light and always interesting potluck dinner at 6:30 followed by an hour and a half of games. Sometimes one game is played by all, other times we have 3 or 4 games going. Come try us out!

Biblical Interpretation Class

Beginning the evening of October 6, at 7 pm, Deacon Tim will be teaching a class on the history of Biblical interpretation. The class will begin with a general introduction of the topic and proceed with a discussion of how Jesus and Paul interpreted Old Testament Scriptures. We will move into Patristic interpretation (including the monastic tradition and Lectio Divina). Time permitting, we will discuss interpretation in the Anglican tradition. Throughout the class we will look at various examples of Biblical interpretation and discuss them. The goal of the course is very simple – to help us become better Bible readers, which in turn will help us appreciate the amazing gift we have in Scripture. The course will be six weeks long and all are invited.

Brown Bag Bible Study for Women

Thursdays at Noon in the Parish Hall, beginning October 1, and running through November 12. We will be studying "Calm Women in Turbulent Times: A Study of Bible Women from the Time of Samson to Saul." Join us, and bring your brown bag lunch. Questions? contact Becky Hunt at 636-5442, or bhunt27@austin.rr.com

St. Francis Choir

Our choir practices most Sundays after the coffee hour for about a half hour. We sing during the 11:00 service when we have a song that is worthy as an offering to our Lord. The pattern seems to be about once a month. New voices are more than welcome! We have an enthusiastic group who would really like to sing in four parts. Please consider joining us.

Rector: The Reverend Len Giacolone
Senior Warden: Mark Rambin



Birthdays:

- 3 Byron Elliott
- 5 Kevin Burnette
- 12 Evelyn Lewis
- 13 Gayle Harrell
- 15 Andrew Brummett
- 18 Merry Nell Drummond
- 19 Harriette Scharff
- 23 Nita Reading
- 25 Carole Martin
Ed Sandlin
- 27 Suzan Stratton
Steve Lord

Anniversaries:

- 3 Len and Nancy Giacolone
Chris & Tricia Denslow
- 13 Ed and Katie Sandlin



Associate Rector: The Reverend John Stults
Organist: Paula Blaha

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

October 2009

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|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Bible Study for Women, 12 noon | 12 | <i>Vestry meeting 5:30pm</i> |
| 2 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i>
<i>Games night, 6:30pm</i> | 13 | <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 noon</i>
<i>Class on Biblical Interpretation, 7:00 pm</i> |
| 4 | <u><i>Holy Communion, 9:30 am,</i></u>
<u><i>Morning Prayer and</i></u>
<u><i>Holy Communion, 11:00 am,</i></u>
Genesis 2:18-24
Psalm 8
Hebrews 2:9-18
Mark 10:2-9
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am | 15 | Bible Study for Women, 12 noon |
| 4 | Feast of St. Francis, Fall Food Drive begins | 16 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i> |
| 6 | <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 noon</i>
<i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i>
<i>Class on Biblical Interpretation, 7:00 pm</i> | 18 | <u><i>Holy Communion, 9:30 am</i></u>
<i>and 11:00 am</i>
Isaiah 53:4-12, Psalm 91
Hebrews 4:12-16, Mark 10:35-45
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am |
| 8 | Bible Study for Women, 12 noon | 20 | <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 noon</i> |
| 9 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i> | 22 | Bible Study for Women, 12 noon |
| 11 | <u><i>Holy Communion,</i></u>
<i>9:30 am and 11:00 am</i>
Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
Psalm 90
Hebrews 3:1-6
Mark 10:17-31
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am | 23 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i> |
| | | 25 | <u><i>Holy Communion, 9:30 am</i></u>
<i>and 11:00 am</i>
Isaiah 59:1-19, Psalm 13
Hebrews 5:12-6:1, 9-12, Mark 10:46-52
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am |
| | | 27 | <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 noon</i>
<i>Class on Biblical Interpretation, 7:00 pm</i> |
| | | 29 | Bible Study for Women, 12 noon |
| | | 30 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i> |