



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

First of all, welcome back from wherever you may have been this summer. If you had a vacation, I hope that you enjoyed it. If not, I hope that you can still sneak one in.

As most of you know, I spent part of the summer recuperating from my second surgery of the year. I want to thank you for all of your prayers for me and Nancy. I think that I am well and pray that I will continue to be. You may also pray that way if you feel led to do so.

SYNOD

I know that many of you prayed for the success of the Synod for the Episcopal Missionary Church that took place in July. Father Stults represented us at the Synod. It had been my intention to attend as well, but I simply was not up to making the trip at the time. There is a copy of the minutes of the Synod on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. I would encourage you to peruse them at your leisure. One important item that will affect all of us is that the Synod called for the election of a bishop for the Diocese of the Western States. After not having a bishop for the last ten plus years or so there seems to be an urgency to have a bishop for the diocese. I expect that there will be an election sooner than later. Therefore I would ask all of you to pray for that very special intention. One of the purposes for having a bishop out here is to help the diocese grow. We have a very large territory (everything west of the Mississippi River) but very few parishes. The new bishop will be charged with seeing that that changes. Please pray for the election. I will give you further details as they become available.

There are two important events coming up at St. Francis in September. First of all, you already have been told that we are doing a new parish photo

directory. Sign up for that is already underway. The dates for the actual taking of the pictures are September 7 and 8. If you have not already signed up please get that done. We would like as many of you to participate in the photo directory as possible. Of course, there will be a new parish roster printed in the directory. However, many people may not know who you are and having a picture of you in the directory will help others get to know you. Thanks to Phoebe Hughes, Sally Looke, Wanda Stults and Larry and Eileen Cole for working on this large and important project for our parish.

Secondly, on Sunday, September 9, a representative from the Austin Coalition for Life will be at St. Francis to provide information and help with the sign up for the fall campaign for Forty Days for Life. It is my understanding that ACL is attempting to cover all four abortion clinics in the area during this campaign. This is a huge task and many volunteers are needed to conduct silent prayer vigils outside of these facilities. Please understand that these prayer vigils are not demonstrations or protests but rather prayer. Over the last several years we have had a good deal of success encouraging women to keep their babies and to provide them hope and help in doing so. It's only one hour per week. Many of you can do that. Thanks to Rory Motl for coordinating this.

As long as we are on the subject of prayer, it is not too soon to begin praying about the November elections. Lately, it seems as though every election is the most important one of our lifetime, so I'm going to go out on a limb and say that this election is the most important one of our lifetime. Whoever leads this country for the next four years will have an extraordinary impact on our future, for good or not. We have been and are in a crisis and our human leadership is important.

More important is the divine leadership we can have if we only ask for it. I am aware of at least two national campaigns for prayer leading up to the elections. Both are forty day campaigns for prayer and fasting beginning at the end of September and ending on Election Day. Pastor John Hagee of San Antonio is leading one and the other will take place in Washington, D. C. itself with on-site prayer and fasting near the White House. I know you can find details of each of these on line if you wish. The important thing is that we all pray for our country during this time. I want to put in a special word about our Transformation Prayer group on Wednesday evening. A group of your fellow parishioners has been praying for our country almost every Wednesday evening for the past three years. The numbers have dwindled but we are still there and the need right now is great. Please consider joining us at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays. We say some prayers from the Prayer Book and have time for spontaneous prayer as well. In the end, prayer is the only thing that will save us.

Christian Education News

Calling all St. Francis youth!

Sunday school classes begin on Sunday, September 9 at 9:30 am. 5th graders and up will meet in the parish house with Doug Cooper to begin the adventure of Year 2 of the Teach Deep series. Those in 4th grade and below will meet in the church for 15 minutes of worship, then come over to the parish house for the first lesson in our study of Old Testament Stories with Rebecca Hoard.

Calling for Shoe Boxes

Have new shoes been purchased in your house? Do you wonder what to do with your shoe boxes? Why not add them to our growing stack in the east room of the parish house? The youth in the Sunday school classes will need 50 boxes by our Operation Christmas Child packing day on November 11. Last year, we didn't have enough boxes, so the call for boxes is going out earlier. At this writing, about 20 boxes have been donated. Look for an appeal for the items to go in the boxes in October.

Nursing Home and Retirement

2012 begins the 8th year a group has gone to the Retirement and Nursing Center at Burnet and Cul-len to sing, pray and read the Bible with the residents who gather in the dining hall. Back in 2004, a couple of the residents were members of St. Francis and the Sunday school students took this on as a service project. After these members passed on, a small group of adults continued the visits. A modified version of Morning Prayer is used with many more hymns sung than is typical at a worship service at St. Francis. The residents have a song book and many sing along. The visits are scheduled for the 5th Sunday of the month from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. More participation from St. Francis members is needed to join the 4-6 regulars who give an hour of their time. We are scheduled to go on September 30 -- please consider joining us. You will walk away knowing that you did the right thing by coming.

Ushers Needed

Saint Francis is in need of Ushers for the 9:30 am and 11:00 am church services. Service as an Usher is an important lay ministry of our Parish. By their service, the Ushers help to establish a welcoming and reverent atmosphere for worship, they assist in the orderly conduct of the service and they perform record keeping vital to the ongoing operation of the Parish. Saint Francis is in need of Ushers for the 9:30 am and 11:00 am services. If you are interested in Ushering please contact Bennie J. Ellis. e-mail, bellis2@austin.rr.com or call me, 512-707-9848.

Anglicans for Life

There will be a monthly meeting of Anglicans for Life on Sunday, September 16th, after the 11:00 service. We will meet in the Parish Hall and welcome all to join us.

Games Night

Games Night is not for kids only! Those who gather on the first Friday of the month are young at heart and enjoy a good laugh and great conversation. On the first Friday of each month (that is Sept. 7th this month), a fun-loving group gathers in the Parish House from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for a light pot-luck dinner and a couple hours of playing some rather unusual board games (although this month we will probably be in the nursery, due to the portraits being taken). If this sounds interesting to you, just come on down and join us!

Don't Forget To Have Your Picture Taken!

LifeTouch will be here on Friday, September 7th and Saturday, September 8th to take pictures of all of the members of Saint Francis. If you don't have an appointment, or if you have a change of address or other information, call Phoebe Hughes, 476-6216. We would love to have 100% participation for our new church directory to be published this fall.

September Potluck Luncheon

September has 5 Sundays -- plan to join your St. Francis friends for a tasty luncheon on September 30 after the 11:00 service. The food is always great and it is quite enjoyable to sit down for an extended conversation with those you usually speak to for a minute or two on a Sunday.

Rector: The Rev. Canon Len Giacalone
Senior Warden: Mark Rambin
Junior Warden: Keith Harrell



Birthday

4 Judith Bernard
6 Elijah Coley
7 Eileen Cole
15 Katie Sandlin
Michelle Collins
20 Kimberly Norris
22 Brian Hoard
25 Sheri Brummett

Anniversary

5 Mark and Susan Rambin
6 Steve & Angie McCown



Associate Rector: The Reverend John Stults
Organist: Paula Blaha
Servers: Ray Merrill And Ed Sandlin

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 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

SEPTEMBER 2012

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| 1 | Austin City Prayer Walk, 9am | 16 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Isaiah 50:4-9 Psalm 116
James 2:1-5,8-10,14-18 Mark 8:27-38
Sunday School |
| 2 | <u>Morning Prayer and Holy Communion</u> ,
9:30 am and 11:00 am
Deuteronomy 4:1-9
Psalm 15
Ephesians 6:10-20
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Sunday School | 17 | Mothers Prayer Group, 11am |
| 3 | LABOR DAY | 18 | Anglican Rosary, 12 noon |
| 4 | Anglican Rosary, 12 noon | 19 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm |
| 5 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7:00 pm | 20 | Evening Prayer, 6pm |
| 6 | Evening Prayer, 6pm | 23 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Wisdom 1:16-2:1,6-22
Psalm 54
James 3:16-4:6
Mark 9:30-37
Sunday School |
| 7 | Games Night, 6:30pm | 25 | Anglican Rosary, 12 noon |
| 7,8 | Photo Directory Pictures | 26 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm |
| 9 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
9:30 am and 11:00 am
Isaiah 35:4-7a Psalm 146
James 1:17-27 Mark 7:31-37
Sunday School
40 Days for Life sign up | 27 | Evening Prayer, 6pm |
| 10 | Vestry Meeting, 5:30pm | 30 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Numbers 11:4-6,10-16,24-29
Psalm 19
James 4:7-12
Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48
Sunday School |
| 11 | Anglican Rosary, 12 noon | | |
| 12 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm | | |
| 13 | Evening Prayer, 6pm | | |