

THE ST. FRANCIS BULLETIN

FROM THE RECTOR

Fr. Len Giacalone

June will be "Bishop's Month" in the Diocese of Fort Worth and at St. Francis. On June 1, the Diocese will hold its first election for a bishop in twenty-six years. Four outstanding candidates have been nominated for the office of Bishop-Coadjutor who will succeed Bishop Iker when he retires at the end of the year. We have been told that we will know the results of the election that day. If you are interested, I invite you to check out the candidates' biographical information as well as their written responses to questions on the diocesan website. Also on the website is a video tape of question and answer sessions that took place on Saturday, May 11. Each candidate spent about an hour answering questions from delegates about themselves and their plans for the diocese should they become the new bishop. I warn you, it will take you four hours to listen to them all. But it is well worth the time to see who might be the next bishop. Most of all, I would encourage you to pray, especially on that day, that the Holy Spirit enlighten the delegates to elect the man God has chosen to lead us for the next several years.

On Sunday, June 23, we will have Confirmation at St. Francis. Given Bishop Iker's present situation, I simply do not know who will be here to do Confirmation for us. Bishop Keith Ackerman, a retired bishop from the Diocese of Quincy, has been covering for Bishop Iker in the Fort Worth area. Whether or not he will come to Austin is something that I don't know at this point. But I do expect that we will have Confirmation nonetheless. This year there will be three of your fellow parishioners who will be confirmed: Ceecy, Bremond, and Reed Robinson. George Robinson will be received into the Anglican Church at that time. Please pray for them that the Holy Spirit will fill their hearts with His love and power on that day.

Sunday, June 9, is the Day of Pentecost. Our annual Pentecost Bar-B-Q will take place after the 11:00 am

service. The St. Polycarp Men's Guild will cook the meat for the feast and everyone will bring whatever else they wish to eat. That usually means the women of the church get to bring everything else. In fact, they usually take care of most of the meal preparation for these and all our Pot Luck lunches for which I am grateful. Because we are having a Pentecost lunch and one following the Bishop's visit there will be no Pot Luck on the last Sunday of June which would be our usual Pot Luck Sunday. Too much of a good thing is, well, too much.

A couple of things with regard to church etiquette. Over the years we have discussed the proper time for parents to leave church to bring their children for the communion blessing. Please do not leave until after the Consecration of the Eucharist. It is the most solemn moment of the service and there should be no distraction of any kind at that moment. Secondly, I would like to reiterate the diocesan policy with regard to intinction for communion. If you receive communion on the tongue, please leave the sacred host in your hand where I place it until I come with the chalice. Do not attempt to hand me the host or hold it up for me to take. Please leave it in the palm of your hand. Finally, I would like to state once again that the church is not a place for conversations. If some necessary business needs to be transacted, fine. But please save the rest for outside the church.

This will be the last newsletter until September. If you're going on vacation please enjoy yourself and be safe. But please also remember your pledges and that the church remains open and in need of your contributions even if you are away. This is especially true of the building fund. Even though we just received a remarkable contribution of \$70,000 to our building fund, we have a long way to go to pay off our debt. Thanks for your cooperation and your generosity.

DOES ABORTION AFFECT MEN?

BY SCOTT MILLER

That is a question people do not like to think about or even refuse to think about. After all, most believe it is none of the man's business because it is the woman's body. As well, if any consider the father at all, they believe they are glad that the abortion occurred and that they have no feelings of regret regarding the experience anyway. That last statement is a convenient way for the whole culture to dismiss the atrocities of abortion particularly as it relates to the fathers of the children. That is an opinion, a culturally correct opinion. Let me tell you my experience.

When my girlfriend aborted our child I was immediately filled with traumatic emotions that I could not explain or figure out. I had been told that the child wasn't a child, (it was a fetus) so any uncomfortable feelings I was having were obviously my problem, not the problem of the procedure. So, there was no reason to look at my emotional difficulties in the light of the abortion being the death of a child. I have found that the opposite is true. Once I looked at the abortion from the perspective of reality, that abortion took the life of my child, then my uncomfortable emotions made sense and I was able to sort them out from the perspective of reality.

What did I have to sort out? I had to sort out guilt for not defending the life of my child. I had to sort out shame for not taking hold of the responsibilities that I had for that child. I had to sort out the loss of growth I experienced that would have come had I risen to the occasion and taken on what I needed to face in order to let the child survive. I had to sort out the loss of relationship I experienced in the long run by not taking on those responsibilities when I was faced with them. I had to sort out the fact that I was hanging on to the child in my heart and would not let her go back to her Creator because I had never had the chance to be with her. I had to sort out the fact that I was bitter and angry that I was not warned about these repercussions when people were pushing for the

abortion and that I had to live with these repercussions for so long before being able to uncover their reality.

The guilt and shame of my involvement kept me quiet as did the apparent lack of concern of society as a whole for the dilemma I was in. I was left in a bitter isolated shell that I could not understand. I was drawn to substance abuse to deal with my tormented feelings which affected me and the people around me.

How has healing progressed in my life? I needed help, and that help did not come from the culture. The help came from the spirit of truth who gradually and gently lifted the veil off the things I was feeling and began to show me their source. I was able to begin to sort things out because I was enabled to look at them from the perspective of reality. The reality was that I had lost my child and I had been misled by being encouraged to believe that this abortion was simply a removal of a clump of cells and it was a helpful solution to the dilemma we were in. The belief that abortion is a benign experience that has no impact on people is a deception.

Abortion affects the fathers of the children. Jesus can help them. He has the ability to provide clarity, forgiveness and healing. He came to set the captives free and he will do that for the father of an aborted child. Jesus said that when we know the truth the truth will set us free. When we recognize the truth about what has happened in an abortion, we can begin to heal. It has been a long process but it continues to unfold as I yield myself to Him the Author of life and truth.

<https://www.menandabortion.net/index.php/2014/03/01/does-abortion-affect-men/>



Ascension Day is Thursday, May 30. At noon, a Holy Communion service with a homily will be held. All are encouraged to attend the service.

DIOCESAN NEWS

The Diocesan web page can be found at <http://www.fwepiscopal.org/>

Hope and a Future

<http://www.fwepiscopal.org/bishop/coadjutor.html>

PROFILES OF THE NOMINEES

The Rev. Christopher Culpepper

Rector, Christ the Redeemer, Fort Worth



[Video message from Fr. Culpepper \(YouTube\)](#)

[Q & A at the Candidate Forum \(YouTube\)](#)

The Rev. Joel Hampton

Rector, Holy Apostles, Fort Worth



[Video message from Fr. Hampton \(YouTube\)](#)

[Q & A at the Candidate Forum \(YouTube\)](#)

The Rev. Michael Fry

Rector, All Saints', Peachtree City, GA



[Video message from Fr. Fry \(YouTube\)](#)

[Q & A at the Candidate Forum \(YouTube\)](#)

The Very Rev. Ryan Reed

Dean, St. Vincent's Cathedral, Bedford



[Video message from Dean Reed \(YouTube\)](#)

[Q & A at the Candidate Forum \(YouTube\)](#)

PRAYER VIGIL

On May 31st, the good people of the Diocese of Fort Worth are invited/encouraged to pray for an hour - for the election of our new Bishop, for our hope and future, and for the advancement of the Kingdom of God.

You can pray at your home, office, Starbucks, anywhere you'd like! Feel free to "[sign up](#)" for an hour of prayer and see which churches will be open at various times. Some St. Francis members are praying from 7 to 8 p.m. Others are welcome to join from their home or at church.

BUILDING FUND UPDATE

(UPDATED FROM NOVEMBER 2018)

Mark Rambin

As most are aware, St. Francis incurred a \$605,000 mortgage to provide the funds needed to complete our current church building and grounds. This mortgage has a twenty five year term with monthly payments of around \$3,600 per month. Thanks to some generous special donations and the faithful monthly contributions of your building fund pledges, our current mortgage balance now stands at ~~\$508,000~~ **\$425,000**, placing us around ~~five~~ **eight** years ahead of our scheduled repayments and saving us many thousands of dollars in future interest expense! Thank you for your continued faithful support towards retiring this mortgage obligation.

NEW "HOME" GROUP

Last month, a proposal for a new "home" group was presented and enough interest was expressed that this will start. The group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 7:00 - 8:30 at the church. Perhaps, we will move to a home, but we may not. First meeting will be June 10.

The format of the meeting will to read and freely discuss the three Sunday Bible readings and the psalm. Regularly attending a group centered on Bible study is a wonderful way to grow closer to the Lord in fellowship with other believers. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Amy Crandell (in person or email info@stfrancisaustin.org).

ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

At the request of several parishioners, donations to St. Francis are accepted online. This includes your pledge to the operating fund. Go to <http://stfrancisaustin.org/> and click **Donate** at the top of page. This link takes you to another page with an explanation of the service charges we incur and where you can donate using PayPal, a Debit or Credit Card.

GARAGE SALE

St. Francis participated in the Northwood neighborhood garage sale on May 4. Thanks to Doug Cooper, Dinah Arce, and the many volunteers who helped out by contributing items or helping at

the sale. Over \$600 was contributed to the building fund. The next neighborhood garage sale will be October 12.

PENTECOST FEAST

June 9 is the Day of Pentecost. As has been the practice for many years, we will have a luncheon featuring the smoked, grilled and BBQ efforts of the members of the St. Polycarp's Men's Guild. If you want to eat something in addition to the meat, please bring a dish to share with others. One time we had only meat, and that was an odd meal.

LUNCHEON ON JUNE 23

In honor of the Bishop visiting St. Francis and for the confirmands, the members of the St. Claire's Guild will provide the food for a luncheon on June 23. Plan to stay after the service to enjoy the food and the company.

NO 5TH SUNDAY POTLUCK

There will be no potluck luncheon on the 5th Sunday, June 30. The next one will be in September.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY OPTIONS

- Receive the newsletter via e-mail with a printable version attached
- Pick up a printed copy on the table at the entrance to the church
- Have a copy mailed to your physical mail box (cost to the church is 50 cents)
- View newsletters on our website.

To change how you receive the newsletter, contact Amy Crandell in person or via e-mail.

ST. MICHAEL'S CONFERENCE

St. Michael's Conference is a 7-day conference at Camp Crucis in Granbury (June 16-22) where an intentional community of prayer, support, and education helps to form young Christians to be witnesses to the world of the Saving Power of Jesus Christ. The intention is not to do a "new thing", but to faithfully hand on what has been given to us - the Anglican expression of the Catholic Faith. All youth between the ages of 12 and 19 are highly encouraged to attend. See www.stmichaelsw.org or contact Fr. Joseph Francis at fr.josephfrancis@gmail.com for more information.

ASCENSION, PART I

Fr. Lee Nelson

A year ago in First Things, Abigail Favale wrote:

"I teach in a great books program at an Evangelical university. Almost all students in the program are born-and-bred Christians of the nondenominational variety. A number of them have been both thoroughly church-ed and educated through Christian schools or homeschooling curricula. Yet an overwhelming majority of these students do not believe in a bodily resurrection. While they trust in an afterlife of eternal bliss with God, most of them assume this will be disembodied bliss, in which the soul is finally free of its 'meat suit' (a term they fondly use)."

In the article, she posits that only a quarter of her students "affirm the orthodox teaching that we will ultimately have a body in our glorified, heavenly form."

The Church doggedly persists in teaching that, although we cannot see him, the Lord Jesus ascended bodily to the right hand of the Father. The meaning of this is actually quite simple: that having assumed a full human nature, he does not extract his true self from this reality, but will always and forever be God and Man joined in a personal union. Yet, this seems to be lost in the daily thoughts of contemporary Christians who hope merely for a disembodied existence in heaven, free from the confines of a body, becoming entirely spiritual. Gnostic heaven, as I call it, might be intriguing to some, but for the Christian, it obliterates all need for the Resurrection, either of the Lord himself, or of a general resurrection. It means that, even now, our bodies are inconsequential, not really who we are. No wonder bodily reconfiguration seems to now be the ideal of human freedom, the destruction of even the smallest of human bodies deemed a constitutional right.

We need to ponder the Ascension because in it we see our perfect end: life with God in the goodness of the beatific vision, which with our very eyeballs, though risen and redeemed, we shall see God. Christians will always believe that even though there is immense beauty in this world, we still, as Paul puts it "For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then, face to face." (1 Cor. 13:12) The tragedy of the modern world

is that we have reduced all existence to the things that we can see, touch, taste, and hear. But, the Gospel shows us that this is only part of the reality we inhabit. There is a whole world of things we can't see, things which are, in a sense, more real, not less. And we hope in a Savior who is both fully God and fully Man, who is seated at the Father's right hand, reigning in glory.

<https://www.christchurchwaco.org/post/ascension-part-i>

ASCENSION, PART II

"Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us?" (Romans 8:33-34 RSV)

Q: What does Jesus do for you as he sits at the Father's right hand?

A: Because Jesus intercedes for us as our great high priest, I may now boldly approach the Father and offer my confessions, praises, thanksgivings, and requests to him. (Hebrews 7:23-25) ([To Be a Christian: An Anglican Catechism](#))

Having contemplated the joy of a savior who shows us the fullness of redemption by ascending to the Father's right hand, we now turn to the Lord's ministry from the heavenly realm.

The New Testament teaches us that the ministry of Jesus at the right hand of the Father is primarily one of intercession. For Paul, the priestly intercession of the Son of God is the cause for our hope, allowing us to put away all thought of final condemnation, to bear up all manner of suffering in this life. The Letter to the Hebrews paints a picture of Jesus as the perfect priest, a mediator between God and man, "able for all time to save those who draw near to God through him." We can so easily become discouraged and full of fear. I have often been buoyed by the prayers of my brothers and sisters. I need to be reminded that my Lord and Savior pours out his life in prayer and intercession before the Father, and that it is this continual reality which makes the prayers of the saints possible. On the flip side, I forget to pray. I forget to ask people to pray for me. Consequently, I become bogged down in the presumption that comes from thinking that I can do all things through my own strength rather than in

and through the strengthening grace and help of Jesus.

We easily forget that the Christian life is one of dependence and inter-dependence. We rely on the priestly ministry of Jesus as well as the prayers and help of our brothers and sisters in this earthly pilgrimage, one in which love and sanctification often elude us. We can so easily feel abandoned and alone. Prayer shows us as we are made for communion, not only with God, but with each other. In the ascended Christ, we see both of these realities come together, Christ's intercession before the Father being carried out in two natures, one divine and the other human. As Saint Augustine puts it:

"No one ascended into heaven except Christ because we also are Christ: he is the Son of Man

by his union with us, and we by our union with him are the sons of God. So the Apostle says: Just as the human body, which has many members, is a unity, because all the different members make one body, so is it also with Christ. He too has many members, but one body.

Out of compassion for us he descended from heaven, and although he ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in him by grace."

That is the reason we address our prayers through Jesus. In Him by grace, we have ascended to the Father as members of His beloved body. When we make intercession for this world, we do so confident that our prayers are heard!

<https://www.christchurchwaco.org/post/ascension-part-ii>

SUMMER SUNDAY READINGS

6/2 Sunday after Ascension Day

- Acts 16:16-34
- Psalm 47
- Revel. 22:12-14,16-17, 20
- John 17:20-26

6/9 Pentecost

- Acts 2:1-11
- Psalm 104:24-31
- 1 Corinthians 12:4-13
- John 20:19-23

6/16 Trinity

- Isaiah 6:1-8
- Psalm 29
- Revelation 4:1-11
- John 16:5-15

6/23 1st after Trinity

- Zechariah 12:8-10, 13:1
- Psalm 63:1-8
- Galatians 3:23-29
- Luke 9:18-24

6/30 2nd after Trinity

- 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21
- Psalm 16
- Galatians 5:1, 13-25
- Luke 9:51-62

7/7 3rd after Trinity

- Isaiah 66:10-16
- Psalm 66:1-8
- Galatians 6:14-18
- Luke 10:1-12, 16-20

7/14 4th after Trinity

- Deuteronomy 30:9-14
- Psalm 25:3-9
- Colossians 1:1-14
- Luke 10:25-37

7/21 5th after Trinity

- Genesis 18:1-14
- Psalm 15
- Colossians 1:21-29
- Luke 10: 38-42

7/28 6th after Trinity

- Genesis 18:20-33
- Psalm 138
- Colossians 2:6-15
- Luke 11:1-13

8/4 7th after Trinity

- Ecclesiastes 1:12-14, 2:18-23
- Psalm 49:1-11
- Colossians 3:12-17
- Luke 12:13-21

8/11 8th after Trinity

- Genesis 15:1-6
- Psalm 33:12-15, 18-22
- Hebrews 11:1-16
- Luke 12:32-40

8/18 9th after Trinity

- Jeremiah 23:23-29
- Psalm 82
- Hebrews 12:1-14
- Luke 12:49-56

8/25 10th after Trinity

- Isaiah 28:14-22
- Psalm 46
- Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-29
- Luke 13:22-30

Notes on the readings:

- St. Francis follows the [1979 BCP Lectionary for the lessons](#) (We are in Year C) with the text read from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible.
- Each of the Sunday's readings is linked to the corresponding page on [LectionaryPage.net](#).
- The Sunday collects and text of the psalms are from the 1928 Book of Common Prayer.
- On the second and fourth Sundays, the psalm is chanted at the 11:00 service. The psalm pointing is based on the Cathedral Psalter and is a part of the [St. Francis Psalter](#) posted on our web site.

SUMMER CALENDAR

Sundays

9:30 a.m. Said Holy Communion
10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal (through June 23)
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion with music - on the first Sunday of each month, Morning Prayer is held, followed by Holy Communion.

Thursdays

7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

1st Friday

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Games Night

1st Saturday

9:00 a.m. Prayer Service for our Nation

2nd Sunday

3:30 -4:30 p.m. Hymn Sing at the Retirement and Nursing Center, 6909 Burnet Lane

3rd Monday in June and August

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Readers of First Things group meeting

3rd Friday

Noon Mothers' Prayer Group

June 9, Day of Pentecost Feast

~Noon, Feast after the 11:00 service

June 23, Confirmation

~Noon, Luncheon after the 11:00 service. Food will be provided

SUMMER BIRTHDAYS

June

1 Denise Gentsch
 5 Fr. Len Giacolone
 9 Fielder Dowding
 15 Charlotte Ready
 18 Nancy Jones, Robert Motl,
 RobinRuth Alexander
 19 Tai Gentsch
 20 Brendle Glomb
 22 Avery & Bailey Montalvo
 23 Bremond Robinson

July

2 Claude Bernard
 7 Roy Jones
 8 Julia Adams, Sue Orr
 12 Christina Hatley
 13 Carol Jacobs

14 Susan Rambin
 25 Robert Pigg
 27 Harriet Bernard
 28 Teresa Glomb
 30 Claire Ducker

August

3 Larry Cole
 10 Leanne Read, Tibet Pollard
 14 Nick Pollard
 15 Judy Reinhart
 18 Sally Looke, Phoebe Hughes
 19 Pete Reinhart
 20 Nancy Giacolone
 21 Dale Boswell
 24 Franklin Hunt
 27 Tessa Arce
 28 Keith Harrell

SUMMER ANNIVERSARIES

June

9 Mike and Charlotte Ready
 14 Pete and Judy Reinhart
 29 Lavanna and Jimmy Martin

July

2 Kevin and Patricia Burnette
 17 David and Kimberly Norris

August

4 Nick and Tibet Pollard
 5 Jim and Amy Crandell
 16 David and Jane Williams
 19 Robert and Burt Pigg
 22 Bill and Marilyn Palmer
 25 Randy and Sandy Scheer
 28 John and Eileen Goodrich



ANGLICAN CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA

ST. FRANCIS ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTIN

A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth
Diocese Office: 2900 Alameda St.

Fort Worth, TX 76108

<http://www.fwepiscopal.org/>

Bishop: The Rt. Rev'd Jack L. Iker, D.D

Rector: The Rev. Canon Len Giacolone

Music Director: Ralph Webb

Parish Administrator: Mark Rambin

Vestry Officers

Senior Warden **Junior Warden**

Donna Hunt

Jim Britt

Secretary

Dinah Arce

Treasurer

Grady Collins

Vestry Members

Missy Bernard, Dinah Arce

Jim Britt, Donna Hunt, David Kristo-Reinking

Doug Cooper, Jim Crandell, Michael Ready

Fr. Len Giacolone

St. Francis Anglican Church

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We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

stfrancisaustin.com

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ST. FRANCIS' MISSION STATEMENT

We are a community of believers in the Gospel of Jesus Christ whose mission it is to spread that Gospel in what we preach and in the way we live.

We are called to know the Word of God, to act on it in our lives and to share it with our brothers and sisters in the world.

We are determined to uphold the ancient faith of our ancestors in the Anglican tradition, to offer traditional Christian values based on the Holy Word of God and to be faithful witnesses to the person of Jesus in the Austin Community.

St. Francis parish is dedicated to the presence of Christ in the lives of the poor, the needy, the sick, to each other and to all those to whom Jesus comes to minister in his life on earth.

As a community of believers, we intend to entrust our growth in love, in faith and in resources to the generosity of God.