

THE ST. FRANCIS BULLETIN

FROM THE RECTOR

Fr. Len Giacalone

I hope that you all had a Blessed and Happy Christmas and that the coming year will be a prosperous one.

As is always the case, our Christmas celebrations were wonderful. The church looked great, the music was excellent and we had a good number of folks, both parishioners and visitors, who worshipped with us on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning. I want to thank everyone who made these celebrations possible. There is much preparation on the part of a number of people in order to make these things happen and I am grateful to them all.

There are a few things coming up in January both for the diocese and our parish that will be transitions. First of all, Bishop Ryan Reed will become the Fourth Bishop of Fort Worth at midnight, January 1, 2020. Bishop Iker celebrated his last public Mass on Christmas Eve at St. Vincent's Cathedral. Bishop Reed will be installed formally at the cathedral on Sunday, January 5, at a Solemn Evening Prayer service at 6:00 pm. This is not quite as big an occasion as was his consecration back in September, but Solemn Evening Prayer is beautiful and quite impressive in its own right. There will be a reception following the installation. One interesting item with regard to the installation is that Bishop Iker will present to Bishop Reed the crozier (bishop's staff) used by Bishop A. Donald Davies, the First Bishop of Fort Worth. It is more of a symbolic gesture but a somewhat meaningful one nonetheless.

More locally, we will have our annual parish meeting on Sunday, January 19, following the 11:00 am Holy Communion service. There will be the usual reports from the Senior Warden, the Treasurer, and of course

the Rector. More importantly, we will have an election for two new Vestry members to replace Dinah Arce and Missy Bernard, whose terms are expiring. Dinah has served as our Vestry Secretary, Chair of the parish's Audit Committee and alternate delegate to the diocesan convention. Missy takes care of our Sunday School and nursery and has also served on our Audit Committee.

Four of your fellow parishioners have expressed a willingness to stand for election for a three year term. They are Christina Hatley, Libby Ibañez, David Norris, and Bill Palmer. In the days ahead, I will get out some information on these prospective Vestry members so that you may choose wisely at the meeting. If you have ever served on a Vestry, you know how important these positions are. I am grateful to all of these folks for their willingness to be a part of the leadership of the parish. I hope that you all are as well.

January is Pro-Life month in the United States because of the Roe v. Wade decision of the Supreme Court, issued on January 22, 1973. This year we will observe Pro-Life Sunday on January 12 because of our parish meeting on the 19th. While we have made strides in combating the evil of abortion over the years, our opponents who have lost the ground have become more strident in their attacks on life. After all, it is costing them money. It's a threat to their livelihood. While the task may seem impossible at times, progress is being made. Never forget that our God is a God of the impossible. Many people who have been in the abortion industry have left the killing business and become pro-life advocates. There are a number of things going on this month and I'm sure that they will be discussed later in this newsletter. Never lose heart.

FIFTH SUNDAY POTLUCK

December is the final month of 2019 with five Sundays. Plan to bring something tasty to eat to share with other St. Francis members and friends after the 11:00 service on December 29.

ANGLICANS FOR LIFE

by Charlotte Ready

As we approach "**Pro-Life Sunday**" on January 12, it is a good time to reflect on what that represents. All life is a gift given by God. It is precious, no matter the age, economic circumstances, ethnicity, or disability. We are all of equal value in the eyes of God. Our mission is to stand up and protect the lives of the vulnerable, the unborn, the infirm, and the elderly. Here at St. Francis, we actively strive to fulfill that mission both individually and through various ministries including the Anglicans For Life ministry.

On the second Sunday of each month, there is a **Worship and Hymn Sing** from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. at the Retirement and Nursing Center on Burnet Lane. There is the **St. Claire's Guild** that provides meals for our parish families in times of celebration, need, illness, or loss. The Sunday School prepares Christmas boxes for children in need through **Samaritan's Purse**. Several parishioners provide transportation to and from church for services and activities for those who otherwise would be unable to attend. The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** provides shawls to people who are in need of comfort and prayer.

Our **Anglicans for Life** ministry has focused on the unborn. We do that through participating in the 40 Days for Life prayer campaigns in the fall and spring. We support Trotter House, a pregnancy resource center next to the UT campus, through baby supply drives; attending their annual fund raising banquet; and, at Christmas time, "adopting" a family in need. This year, we will be hosting a baby shower for them. Coming up on Saturday January 25th, we will be participating in the **Rally for Life** here at the Texas State Capitol. The next Anglicans for Life meeting will be after the 11:00 service on January 12th. Please consider supporting St. Francis's pro-life commitment by participating in one or more of these ministries and their activities.

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](mailto:amy@stfrancisaustin.org).

HOME GROUPS

St. Francis has three active home groups involving more than two dozen St. Francis members and friends. Each of the three groups meets at the host's home on the 2nd and 4th week of the month. If you are interested in attending one of these groups to see what they do or if you have any questions, please email info@stfrancisaustin.org or speak to hosts of the groups: Amy Crandell (Monday Jan. 13 and 27 located in Central Austin), Doug Cooper (Tuesday January 14 and Jan. 28 - located in Central Austin), or Steve & Angie McCown (Friday, Jan. 10 and Jan 24 in south Austin).

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

As Fr. Len stated in his article, the annual meeting will be on January 19 after the 11:00 service. At this meeting, reports will be offered by the Rector, Senior Warden and Treasurer. We will also elect two new members to the Vestry. As per our by-laws, to vote in the election, you must be over 18 and a St. Francis member who pledged in 2019.

JANUARY ANNIVERSARY

11 Grady and Michelle Collins

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Audrey Woodgate

4 Allan Parker, Maeryn McCormick

5 Doug Cooper

7 Tom George

19 Arthur Woodgate, Regina DeBord

31 Ben Ellis



St Gabriel's Conference

SOUTHWEST • GRANBURY, TEXAS

Join us Jan 30—Feb 2, 2020

When you want to learn Spanish, you go to an immersion program in Mexico or Spain. When you want to learn French, you go to France. And when you want to learn the Faith, you go to the immersion program called the St. Michael's Conference. But that was only for teenagers. What about you? Join us at St. Gabriel's Conference (ages 19 and up). It is an immersive community of formation in the Anglican tradition of the Catholic faith, meeting in conference for study, fellowship, and worship.

Details: The conference begins on Thursday evening, January 30, at Camp Crucis in Granbury. It is arranged so that a typical attendee will only need to take Friday off from work. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday will be occupied with praying the Daily Offices, Solemn High Mass, classes, devotions, group discussions, fun, food, fellowship, and more. The all-inclusive cost is \$199.

Registration: You can learn more at stgabrielsw.org. Registration for the 2020 conference began in Advent. Like them on their [Facebook page](#) and share with anyone interested.

14TH ANNUAL MEN'S CONFERENCE AND DINNER



...To equip the saints
for the work
of ministry,
for building up the
Body of Christ...
Eph. 4:12

The 14th Annual Men's Conference will be led by Bishop Reed. On February 7 and 8, Bishop Reed will share his vision for our diocesan men's ministry and teach them the divine importance of discipleship.

Conference Theme: Equip, Empower & Engage

Location: St. Peter & St. Paul Anglican Church, 3900 Morris Lane, Arlington, Texas 76016

Dates: 6 p.m., Friday, Feb. 7 thru 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 8.

Cost: \$15 for dinner on Friday, \$30 for the conference.

Registration will be available Jan. 1 at fwmensconference.com.

Bishop Reed offers the following questions for consideration:

- How can I deepen my discipleship?
- What role can I play in making disciples?
- How can I help my congregation be a disciple-making community?
- How can the leadership of men impact the Church in a positive way?

TEXAS RALLY FOR LIFE – 25 JANUARY 2020

Join with other St. Francis parishioners and thousands of Texans at the Texas Rally for Life on Saturday, January 25, at the Capitol in Austin. Show the media and our elected officials that Texas is PRO-LIFE! The 2020 Texas Rally for Life will commemorate the 47th anniversary of the tragic Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision in 1973, which made abortion legal throughout all nine months of pregnancy. In the wake of Roe, legal abortion in our nation has claimed the lives of more than 60 million unborn children and has hurt countless women and men.

If you want to attend the rally but are unable to participate in the march, contact either Charlotte Ready (512-422-5164) or Steve McCown (512-786-4844) to arrange for transportation to the assembly area just north of the Capitol Visitors Center.

We are looking forward to a great turnout from St. Francis!

Click the picture to open a larger version.

Schedule

1:00 PM

Meet at 14th and San Jacinto to march to the Capitol

2:00 – 3:00 PM

Rally on South Steps of Capitol

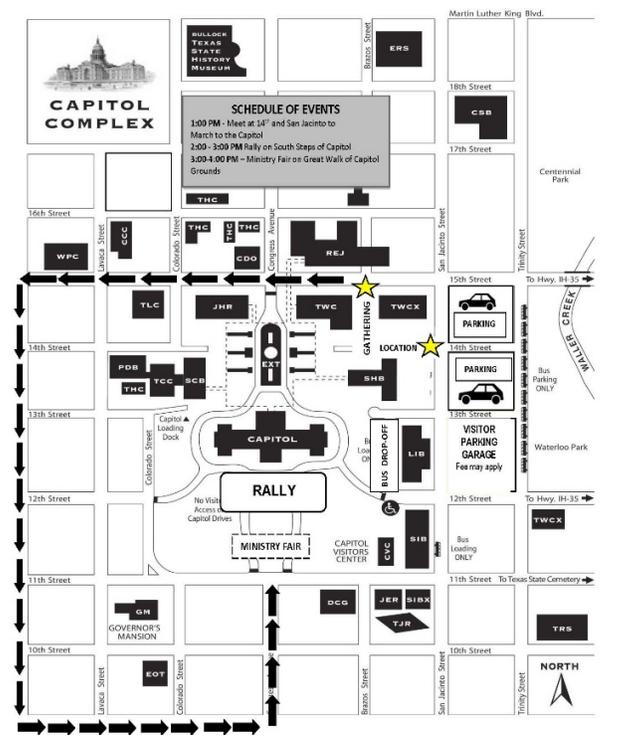
3:00-4:00 PM

Ministry Fair on Great Walk of Capitol Grounds

The map shows the location of the assembly area for the march and where you can park. **Look for the St. Francis banner** to find your fellow parishioners and march with them.



2020 Texas Rally for Life Map



Updated 07/09/19

More Information: TexasRallyforLife.org

512-477-1244



JANUARY SUNDAY READINGS

1/5 2nd Sunday after Christmas Day (link)

- Jeremiah 31:7-14
- Psalm 84
- Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a
- Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

1/12 1st Sunday after Epiphany (link)

- Isaiah 42:1-9
- Psalm 89:21-30
- Acts 10:34-38
- Matthew 3:13-17

1/19 2nd Sunday after Epiphany (link)

- Isaiah 49:1-7
- Psalm 40:1-11
- 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
- John 1:29-41

1/26 3rd Sunday after Epiphany (link)

- Amos 3:1-8
- Psalm 139:1-11
- 1 Corinthians 1:10-17
- Matthew 4:12-23

Notes on the readings:

- St. Francis follows the [1979 BCP Lectionary for the lessons](#). We are in Year A. The text at the service is from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible.
- Each of the listed 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.

JANUARY CALENDAR

Sundays

9:30 a.m. Said Holy Communion

Sunday School for Youth)

10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion with music.

On the first Sunday of each month, the service is Morning Prayer with Holy Communion

Thursdays

7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

1st Friday, Jan. 3

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

1st Saturday, Jan. 4

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

2nd Sunday, January 12

Pro-Life Sunday

~12:30 p.m. Anglicans for Life Meeting

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

2nd Monday, Jan. 13

6:00 p.m. Vestry meeting

3rd Friday, Jan. 17

Noon Mothers' Prayer Group

January 19

~12:30 p.m. Annual meeting

3rd Monday, Jan. 20

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

Friday, Jan. 24

6 p.m. Mobile Loaves and Fishes Truck Run

Saturday, Jan. 25

Texas Rally for Life

1 p.m. - March (start at 14th and San Jacinto)

2 p.m. - Rally for Life (south steps of the Capitol)

3 p.m. - Ministry fair (Capitol grounds)



MISSING PRAYER BOOK

Did you pick up a prayer book like this from the usher's stand in mid November, thinking it was yours?

If you have one, please check the inside pages. If it has someone else's name, please bring it back to the church. The owner is missing it. Yours is on the usher's table.



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 Ryan Reed

Rector: The Rev. Canon Len Giacolone

Music Director: Betty Lin Gallardo

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

3401 Oak Creek Drive
Austin, TX 78727

Phone:

512-472-7514

E-Mail:

info@stfrancisaustin.org

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

StFrancisAustin.com

Follow us on social media!

Facebook

[@StFrancisAustin](https://www.facebook.com/StFrancisAustin)

Instagram

[@StFrancisAustin](https://www.instagram.com/StFrancisAustin)

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.