

THE ST. FRANCIS BULLETIN

FROM THE RECTOR

Fr. Len Giacalone

The newsletter usually takes a break for the summer (July and August), so this will be the last one for a while. Bishop Ryan Reed will be here on the first Sunday of June for his annual visitation. This will be the first year that we will have no confirmations, receptions, or reaffirmations. He will be here only for the 11:00 am service but may be here in time to greet those of you who choose to go to the 9:30. That's his plan. After the service there will be a BBQ lunch with the bishop for anyone who would like to join in. You must sign up for that because we will be purchasing the lunch and we need to know how much to buy. If you plan to attend, make sure that you sign up. Thanks.

Liturgically, we are now in the time after Trinity. The liturgists who came up with this weren't very creative. But that is also true of the TEC and the Roman church. TEC lists these Sundays in the liturgical calendar as the Sundays after Pentecost and the Roman church calls it Ordinary time. That's unfortunate because even though we have no major feast to celebrate in this time, this season of the year which now runs until Advent opens up for us in the lectionary the vast majority of St. Mark's Gospel. As you know, Mark is the shortest of the four Gospels. But most scholars believe that it formed the basis of the other Synoptics (Matthew and Luke), and perhaps to some extent, even John. One major feature of Mark's Gospel is the Messianic secret. In the Gospel, Jesus attempts to hide the fact that he is the Messiah and Savior of the world until he is ready to reveal it to his disciples and later to everyone else. Mark signals to us that he is not very successful in this, at least in keeping secret the marvelous works of his ministry. Those he tells not to say anything about what has happened to them, make these miracles known far and wide. It does not

seem unreasonable from our perspective that if the Lord had done such wonderful things for us, we would probably want to share it with everyone. But in fact that's the point. The Lord has done great things for us and now the secret is out. We may not have experienced personally some of the things about which Mark writes (the miracles, healings, etc.). But we have all received from his grace the gift of salvation. And, it's no longer a secret. It is supposed to be shared with everyone. Mark's Gospel is part of the church's official "testimony" about the Lord Jesus. But each of us has his or her own testimony about "what the Lord in his pity has done for you" (Mark 5:19). The whole reason for the Gospel is that it is to be shared. So during this time after Trinity, pay careful attention to the testimony of St. Mark and compare it with your own personal experience of what the Lord in his mercy has done for you. Then share it.

We have now successfully completed another year of Sunday School for our children. I want to thank Missy Bernard, Doug Cooper, and Sue Orr for their very significant contribution to the faith life of our children. Religion classes for our youth are absolutely essential for building a foundation for the future. Without it many of our young people would be lost. Thanks so much to all of you.

Speaking of Doug Cooper. Our Senior Warden will once again represent us in the annual Texas Alliance for Life Walk for Life on June 19. There is still time to help sponsor Doug for the very necessary fund raiser for TAL. He will be taking pledges and/or contributions after the services on Sunday. Please help if you can.

Fr. Len can be reached at Rector@stfrancisaustin.org

COVID-19 INDUCED FAMINE

Written by Deacon Georgette Forney, AFL President

In Genesis 41, we read the story of Joseph being called to interpret Pharaoh's dreams. In them, God reveals that for seven years there will be an abundance of crops in Egypt, which will be followed by seven years of famine.

Joseph helps the Pharaoh realize that he needs to do some long-term planning, so that when the famine strikes, Egypt will have enough resources stored up to feed the citizens during the food shortage.

As I read this story, the word famine jumped off the pages of Scripture, and I realized that in many ways people in churches have experienced something of a spiritual, pastoral, and fellowship famine during these last 12 months with the COVID-19 restrictions.

Depending on where your church is in the United States, this unique famine can range from being really awful or just a slight inconvenience. But, in both situations, we need to look at how this spiritual famine is impacting people. Is a malaise setting in amongst the laity at your church, or do you sense people are anxious to get back to worship, ministry, and outreach?

Recognizing that, unlike in Joseph's day, no one had time to prepare or plan for our current crisis, I applaud how churches were able to adapt to the unusual circumstances and move to virtual services. But now I believe we need to think strategically about how our churches can plan to re-start life-affirming ministry.

Anglicans for Life has identified six different ideas, any of which are easy to implement at your church, to re-energize efforts to end abortion in your community.

- 1. Ensure that your local pregnancy center can offer women ultrasounds.** They can be used not only to confirm a pregnancy, but also to help the mother see the development and humanity of her child.
- 2. Enlist the testimonies of women and men who have lost children to abortion to help the next generation understand the grievous impact it has on everyone involved in the abortion decision.** Each story not only acknowledges the deep loss of our children but also highlights the power of God's redemption and forgiveness for those wounded by abortion.
- 3. Be intentional to educate your parish family about life topics.** Bring in guest speakers, share

AFL's YouTube videos featuring speakers from previous SUMMITs, plan a movie night using one of the many pro-life films available, use AFL's *Project Life* curriculum, which is an 8-week video study that provides an overview of all the life topics we address, or start a book club focused on reading books that have life-affirming messages.

4. Prepare to provide life-affirming ministry for the variety of needs that COVID-19 has created.

Some states are reporting an increase in the number of abortions in 2020, so as a community outreach consider offering an abortion after-care program that helps people begin the grieving process, while recognizing their need to seek God's forgiveness. Grief ministry will also be needed for all who have had loved ones die of COVID-19 or for those who were not able to be with them at the end or even attend or hold a funeral for them. Loneliness and isolation have also increased, so establishing a visiting angel ministry (even over the phone or through ZOOM) can help re-connect people. Invite new moms to a morning program that features a simple message with lots of time for fellowship.

5. Build a spirit of life-affirming advocacy into your church's activities.

Start with educating those in your church about the sanctity of life by using Scripture to form a foundational understanding of God's value of life, so the laity are equipped to answer why they believe life is sacred and to advocate for all life.

6. Finally, the most timeless idea ever suggested – build an army of life-affirming prayer warriors.

Every church that emphasizes the importance of prayer to protect life has seen God move in mighty ways to answer. Your group can also join the 40 Days for Life campaign in praying to close abortion clinics in your community or state. Prayer can be done corporately or individually, at home or in front of clinics. Additionally, AFL offers a quarterly prayer calendar, a daily Prayer for Life, and pro-life litanies. We are also now posting a daily prayer on our social media outlets, which you can share with others. While we all recognize that abortion is truly a spiritual battle between God and Satan, good and evil, we often place more emphasis on what we do in the flesh rather than in the spiritual realm. Emphasizing the importance of prayer reminds us who our enemy really is—and the mighty power of our God!

While most of us in the western world have never actually experienced a real famine, I believe that, in

addition to the spiritual famine being felt in churches, many people are struggling with an emotional famine. This reality is another reason why the Church has a critical role to play in preparing God's people (the Church) to use the ideas above to minister to the emotionally hurting. The difficult circumstances that so many have experienced in the last 12 months have

unfortunately led people to making bad choices, and they now require help, healing, forgiveness, and intervention.

<https://anglicansforlife.org/2021/03/17/covid-19-induced-famine/>

BBQ LUNCH ON JUNE 6

As Fr. Len mentioned in his article, Bishop Reed is coming to St. Francis for a pastoral visit on June 6. To welcome him and to provide an opportunity for members of the congregation to meet him, the St. Polycarp's Men's Guild will sponsor a BBQ sandwich picnic lunch on our grounds after the 11:00 service. In order to have the right amount of food, please sign-up either [online here](#) or physically on the printed list in the Narthex. The hope is that many will stay. Bishop Reed is a very friendly and easy going man. You should consider meeting him!

WALK FOR LIFE

Once again, Doug Cooper is volunteering to represent St. Francis in the annual Walk for Life on June 19. Texas Alliance for Life (TAL) protects the fundamental right to life of all innocent human beings. TAL promotes respect for their value and dignity from the moment of conception until natural death. 80% of the proceeds support pro-life education, defending pro-life policies in the courts, and promoting the Choose Life license plate to support infant adoption. 20% of the proceeds promote compassionate alternatives to abortion through grants. He is looking for sponsors from St. Francis to help his team "Anglicans for the Helpless" reach the \$2000 goal. You can sponsor him [online](#) or by signing up at the church in-between services.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

- 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 the current cost of a stamp)
- View newsletters on our website.

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

ADULT CATECHESIS CLASS

Anyone is welcome to join the ongoing Adult Catechesis Class. Held via Zoom on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m., the class uses the book [To Be a Christian An Anglican Catechism](#). You actually can participate fully without the book. The book's format is a series of questions and during each session 3-4 questions are covered. So far, about 9-11 people are participating with Doug Cooper facilitating the conversation.

AMAZON SMILE

Don't forget that St. Francis is registered as a charity with Amazon. A portion of your Amazon purchases can be donated to St. Francis. To set this up, click this link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-2564742>

and St. Francis will be set as your charity. Then, each time you go to Amazon, enter Smile.Amazon.com in the address line. This is an easy way for the church to get some extra funds. This is working!

ONGOING COLLECTIONS

St. Francis has ongoing drives to support our outreach projects with the Trotter House and Mobile Loaves and Fishes. Consider donating to one or more of these causes - bring something to church each time you come!

Trotter House

- Diapers of all sizes
- Baby clothing (even gently used)
- Children's toys (even gently used)

Mobile Loaves and Fishes Clothing Drive

- Gently used or new clothing for men, women and children
- New toiletries - as toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo, lotion

Bring your items to the table in the entry hall.

11:00 SERVICE IS RESTARTED

On May 23, the 11:00 service was added back into the schedule. It was good to see faces of some folks who were unable to attend the 9:30 service consistently or at all for the past year. It was more wonderful to be able to sing the prayers and other portions of the service after so many months of saying the words. Things are almost back to normal!

9:30 SERVICE LIVESTREAM

The 9:30 service will be livestreamed on Facebook as long as someone watches it. We continue to have viewers who are not members and live a fair distance away tune in to the service. The recording will continue to be uploaded to the website, as long as it is being viewed over the course of the next week. Anyone who has the link can watch the livestream - you don't need to be a member of Facebook to view the service during the livestream. The URL is facebook.com/stfrancisaustin/live

COFFEE HOUR IS RESTARTED

On May 23, the coffee makers were cleaned out and fresh coffee and half and half purchased in time for folks to enjoy a cup of coffee or a bottle of water after each service. For this first week and maybe next, packaged snacks were provided. If you are interested in providing snacks as was done before March of last year, the sign-up list is updated for the rest of 2021 and is on the coffee table. Over 6 months of Sundays are available to host.

CAN YOU PROVIDE A RIDE?

St. Francis has members living in south and central Austin who would like to attend the 11:00 service, but no longer drive. If you would be willing to join a team of folks to give a ride to one of these members on a rotating basis or as a backup, please contact Charlotte Ready.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

As is the custom at St. Francis, Sunday school classes youth take a break from the Memorial Day weekend through the Labor Day weekend. May 23 was the last day of classes for this school year. Everyone can look forward to classes starting again on September 12. Thanks to all the parents who made sure their children were in Sunday school this year.

2021 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE

Congratulations to Harriet Bernard on her upcoming graduation from the Classical Studies Academy at Austin High School. Harriet started attending St. Francis as a kindergartener in 2008 and has faithfully participated in Sunday school classes since then. Her next move is to attend Texas State University as a psychology major. Her parents are Missy and Claude Bernard.

SUMMER ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

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

- 5 Jim and Amy Crandell
- 22 Bill and Marilynn Palmer
- 25 Randy and Sandy Scheer
- 28 John and Eileen Goodrich

Birthdays

June

- 5 Fr. Len Giacolone
- 9 Fielder Dowding
- 13 Lonnie Griffin
- 15 Charlotte Ready
- 18 Nancy Jones
- RobinRuth Alexander
- 22 Avery & Bailey Montalvo

July

- 2 Claude Bernard
- 7 Roy Jones
- 8 Sue Orr
- Julia Adams
- 9 Madeleine Hatley
- 12 Christina Hatley
- 14 Susan Rambin
- 27 Harriet Bernard
- 30 Claire Ducker

August

- 3 Larry Cole
- 9 Susan Jones
- 10 Leanne Read
- Tibet Pollard
- 15 Judy Reinhart
- 18 Phoebe Hughes
- 19 Pete Reinhart
- 20 Nancy Giacolone
- 24 Franklin Hunt
- 27 Tessa Arce
- 28 Keith Harrell

READINGS FOR THE SUMMER

6/6 1 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- Genesis 3:1-21
- Psalm 130
- 2 Corinthians 4:13-18
- Mark 3:20-35

6/13 2 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- Ezekiel 31:1-6, 10-14
- Psalm 92
- 2 Corinthians 5:1-10
- Mark 4:26-34

6/20 3 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- Job 38:1-11, 16-18
- Psalm 107:-3, 23-32
- 2 Corinthians 5:14-21
- Mark 4:35-41

6/27 4 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- Deuteronomy 15:7-11
- Psalm 112
- 2 Cor. 8:1-9, 13-15
- Mark 5:22-24, 35b-43

7/4 5 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- Ezekiel 2:1-7
- Psalm 123
- 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
- Mark 6:1-6

7/11 6 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- Amos 7:7-15
- Psalm 85:7-13
- Ephesians 1:1-14
- Mark 6:7-13

7/18 7 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- Isaiah 57:14b-21
- Psalm 22:22-30
- Ephesians 2:11-22
- Mark 6:30-44

7/25 8 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- 2 Kings 2:1-15
- Psalm 114
- Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16
- Mark 6:45-52

8/1 9 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
- Psalm 78:14-25
- Ephesians 4:17-25
- John 6:24-35
-

8/8 10 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- Deuteronomy 8:1-10
- Psalm 34:1-8
- Ephesians 4:25-5:2
- John 6:37-51

8/15 11 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- Proverbs 9:1-6
- Psalm 147
- Ephesians 5:15-20
- John 6:53-59

8/22 12 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-25
- Psalm 34:15-22
- Ephesians 5:21-33
- John 6:60-69

8/29 13 after Trinity

([Online text link](#))

- Deuteronomy 4:1-9
- Psalm 15
- Ephesians 6:10-20
- Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Notes on the readings:

- St. Francis follows the [1979 BCP Lectionary](#) for the lessons. We are in Year B.
- The text read at the service is from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible.
- Each of the listed Sunday readings is linked to the corresponding page on [LectionaryPage.net](#).
- The Sunday collects and text of the psalms are generally from the 1928 Book of Common Prayer.

SUMMER CALENDAR

Sundays

9:30 a.m. Holy Communion in-person, live streamed and recorded. Healing prayers at the altar rail follow the service

9:15 a.m. Nursery is provided.

10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion in-person, with healing prayers after the service.

Tuesdays

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Home Group. Meeting online via Zoom.

Wednesdays

7:00 - 7:30 p.m. Catechism class via [Zoom](#)

Thursdays

7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer in-person in the church and via Zoom

2nd and 4th Sunday

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Home Group. Meeting via Zoom.

2nd and 4th Friday

7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Home Group. Meeting in-person at the McCown's house.

1st Saturday

10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Prayers for the Nation in-person in the fellowship hall and via Zoom

3rd Monday in June

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Readers of First Things group online meeting. Contact Karl Stephan at kdstephan@txstate.edu to join the online meeting via Zoom or come in person to the fellowship hall.

3rd Friday

NOON to 1:00 p.m. Mother's Prayer Group in-person only in the fellowship hall

4th Friday

4:30 p.m. Mobile Loaves & Fishes Make Ready Team in-person at St. Louis Catholic Church, Social Ministries Building

5:30 p.m. Food Truck Run, in-person, starts at St. Louis Catholic Church

Note on the calendar:

- To join any of the meetings or services held via Zoom, email info@stfrancisaustin.org.



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 Ramin

Treasurer: Grady Collins

Vestry Officers

Senior Warden **Junior Warden**

Doug Cooper

Jim Britt

Secretary

Jim Crandell

Vestry Members

Jim Britt, Donna Hunt, David Kristo-Reinking

Doug Cooper, Jim Crandell, Michael Ready

Christina Hatley, Bill Palmer

Fr. Len Giacolone

St. Francis Anglican Church

3401 Oak Creek Drive
Austin, TX 78727

Phone:

512-472-7514

E-Mail:

info@stfrancisaustrin.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.