

THE ST. FRANCIS BULLETIN

RECTOR SEARCH

Interest is high on who will be our next Rector. Unfortunately, not much has changed since the last newsletter. The Vestry continues to review the approved candidates' resumes as Senior Warden Doug Cooper receives them from the Bishop. From time to time, a Zoom interview is held. Discussion is ongoing within the search committee.

What also hasn't changed is the eight members of the vestry are committed to finding the right man to be rector of St. Francis. They recognize the magnitude of what they are doing.

Prayers are continually needed that God's will be accomplished in this endeavor. Pray for the gifts of

wisdom and discernment to be present in this process. Members of the vestry are Doug Cooper, David Norris, Jim Crandell, Michael Ready, Bill Palmer, Susan Rambin, Dinah Arce, and Christina Hatley.

We are grateful that Fr. Rogers Meredith is serving as Interim Rector, celebrating most Sundays and providing pastoral care as needed. We look forward to an occasional visit by one of our recent guest celebrants, although nothing has been scheduled.

If you have any pastoral need, do not hesitate to contact Fr. Rogers at holyaustin1959@gmail.com or call 970-629-8778.

SAFEGUARDING LOVED ONES IN NURSING HOMES

By Nancy Valk RTN, ALNC

I have had many relatives and friends who lived in nursing homes and, especially as a nurse, I am always saddened by how few of the other residents had any visitors, even family members. I have even heard relatives say they would just prefer to remember their relative "the way they were".

This is not only tragic for the family member's or friend's psychological well-being but also potentially for their safety. Nursing home residents without visitors are at greater risk of neglect or even abuse. With sometimes inadequate staffing and/or high nurse and aide turnover, it is important that people in a nursing home have someone who knows them to look out for them.

Here are 3 tips that can help safeguard a friend or relative:

1. Get to know the staff and tell them about your friend or relative, especially likes or dislikes. Visit at

different times or days in order to know the staff and when it is most convenient to talk with them.

2. Notice "red flags" like poor personal hygiene, unexplained injuries, weight loss, emotional changes, environmental hazards, etc.
3. Know who to contact if you see a problem. Especially if you have health care power of attorney for your relative or friend, ask about care conferences so that you can attend them. Such conferences usually cover how the resident is doing in terms of activity, possible pain, eating, mobility, etc. It is also crucial to know what medications have been ordered and given, especially the PRN (as needed) ones. For example, you may notice a change such as sleepiness or fatigue that can be helped with a medication change.

From <https://anglicansforlife.org/2022/06/10/safeguarding-loved-ones-in-nursing-homes/>

40 DAYS FOR LIFE PRAYER VIGIL

September 28 - Nov. 6

Where do we go from here now that Roe vs Wade has been overturned and Texas has outlawed abortion?

There is supply and demand. The supply of abortion has been outlawed and severely limited, but the demand has not been eliminated. We still need to be out in the community offering life-affirming options for women and families so that the abortion industry (which is still operating) doesn't convince or coerce them to go across state lines. There has also been a huge increase in abortion pills being sent through the mail (which is illegal, but very difficult to enforce the laws). We have a lot of work left to do to continue to build a culture of life.

Praise God, the Whole Woman's Health abortion facility on Duval Rd has closed!! However, Planned Parenthood, which has 4 satellite facilities (referral facilities) here in Austin, has stated that they are not going anywhere. They have become a travel agent for abortions across state lines, so they are still taking clients and selling abortions. We want to be there for these women and families, so for the north location, we

have shifted our vigil site to the Planned Parenthood on Burnet Rd & Research Blvd.

For the South Planned Parenthood location, we are still praying at the facility on South I-35, as they have stated they are staying open.

There is no telling how long PP or the South I-35 facility will last without their biggest profiting service, so we're continuing to monitor them. We've noticed their business hours have decreased. We want to pray that ALL these facilities are completely closed!

From Sept 28th-Nov 6th we will unite with hundreds of cities across the world for a simultaneous 40-day prayer vigil. Here in Central Texas at least 300 women have changed their minds and chosen life! To claim your prayer hour (and for other resources) visit CentralTexasCoalition.com, or call the Coalition for Life office at (512) 296-2071

Thanks so much. We are working on getting this message out to our church partners and volunteers to encourage everyone to keep building a culture of life. JOIN US - LET'S DO THIS!!

HYMNS

Musings by Kenneth Robertson

I am passionate about hymns. Hymns are poetry for the “people”. They are sung poems replete with mnemonic devices so that even the illiterate can sing them with gusto. Because hymns are “poetry for the people” doesn’t mean that they are mediocre poetry. Consider Abide With Me, a hymn penned by Scottish Anglican Priest Henry Francis Lyte. It is a prayer for God to stay with the speaker throughout life and in death. It was written by Lyte in 1847 as he was dying from tuberculosis. When the Victorian Poet Laureate Alfred Lord Tennyson said, on reading Abide with Me, that he “was deeply impressed by its solemn beauty; remarking that it wanted very little to take rank among the really perfect poems of our language.” And it is worth your while to learn the history behind each hymn, and the

life of Henry Francis Lyte reminds us. Hymns are sung throughout our journey, from birth to death — hymns have been sung over hundreds of generations. There are hymns of praise, thanksgiving, psalm-based hymns, hymns that meditate on Bible passages, and hymns for holy days. Special care is taken for selecting hymns for weddings and funerals. We sing hymns for our country (I nominate G. K. Chesterton’s “O God of Earth and Altar, Bow Down and Hear Our Cry”). There are hymns of petitioning God for our needs.

In his autobiography Surprised by Joy C. S. Lewis had this to say about hymns: “Hymns were (and are) extremely disagreeable to me.” When I first attended church as a new Christian in the 1970’s hymns were

also disagreeable to me — but I was there to worship God, not to be entertained or to feel good. Then one Sunday it happened. Praise my soul the King of Heaven transported me heavenward. I was praising my God and my King. I was echoing the Music of the Spheres. What is the Music of the Spheres? It is the music created by God's continual creation of all that is by His Love (agape). It is Aslan singing Narnia into existence. T. S. Eliot says it is "music heard so deeply That it is not heard at all, but you are the music While the music lasts" (Four Quartets, Dry Salvages V). Has anyone ever heard the Music of the Spheres? The Church Fathers believed that Moses heard it on Mt. Sinai. That the man Jesus heard it at his baptism. St. Augustine said in his Catechism that you cannot interpret the Bible without knowing about the Music of the Spheres (paging the Catechism class!). Nina Simone, as she sings "Children Go Where I Send You," hears someone say he doesn't know who Paul & Silas are. She says "You haven't been to a Bible meeting? Well you are in one now!" And then goes on singing. The Hebrew people always sang the Psalms with voice and harp (Psalm 150). The first Christian hymns go back to at least the 2nd century. St. Ambrose preached through hymns — they were how those who could not read could learn the Bible.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED

Amy Crandell

Many undoubtedly wondered why the newsletter is so late this month. I have lost my passion to create the St. Francis newsletter and have decided to step back from doing this volunteer task. To carry it on in the current form, one must be relatively familiar with Word or some other publishing software package. However, there is no reason it must carry on in this format. If you are interested in taking on the creation of the monthly newsletter, let me know.

I plan to produce the November and December newsletter and then stop whether or not someone else has volunteered to continue the "St. Francis Bulletin".

When I helped with worship in a nursing home, most in attendance were either in rehab or had full control of their mental faculties. A few did not and wandered around and spoke incoherently. But when "old-time" hymns (such as "I Come to the Garden Alone" and "What a friend we have in Jesus") were sung they'd sit down and sing every word perfectly. This tells us the hymns go deeper than our Reason, but into our souls. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. And the Holy Spirit works not only on individuals, but also when we gather together in His Name.

Hymns are part of our liturgy at church, or at home, or with children, or during a commute. Let them wash over you and penetrate into your soul. Sing gladly and enjoy them. Memorize them. Let your hearts soar heavenward. Pray them. This is the hymn I pray every day — when I wake and before sleep — an 8th century Irish hymn of petition. I close with two of its five verses.

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.*

5TH SUNDAY POTLUCK

October has 5 Sundays! Plan to bring something tasty to eat and stay for the 5th Sunday Potluck Luncheon after the 11:00 Service

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

5	Kevin Burnette Peter Nwachuku
6	Gideon Hatley
13	Ella Collins
28	David Norris
29	Doreen Robertson
30	John Hatley

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY

2	John and Christina Hatley
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CATECHISM CLASS

The Catechism Class continues to meet on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. In a couple of weeks, we will finish up discussion on the Lord's Prayer and move into a new section titled: "A Rule of Prayer: Scripture, Prayer and Worship. The class is structured such that you can join anytime. If you are not currently attending, please email, info@stfrancisaustin.org to receive the Zoom meeting notice.

ONGOING COLLECTIONS

We are still collecting items for the Trotter House (a pregnancy resource center) and for Mobile Loaves and Fishes.

Trotter House accepts:

- Diapers, bottles, teething, new or gently used clothing and toys
- Monetary donations can be made at: <https://www.betterunite.com/TrotterHouse-alwayson>
- For more information go to: <https://www.trotterhouse.org/>

Mobile Loaves and Fishes accepts:

- Toiletries (soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, almost any hygiene item)
- New or gently used clothing for adults and children
- Monetary donations can be made at: <https://give.mlf.org/give/138838/#!/donation/checkout>
- For more information, go to <https://mlf.org/>.

Place your donations in the downstairs nursery.

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, email info@stfrancisaustin.org

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you wish to make a remembrance, memorial or thank offering, consider donating for the altar flowers. Use an envelope from bookcase at the back of the Nave to enclose your donation. Fill the envelope front out as appropriate and place in the wooden box.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

St. Francis' **Operation Christmas Child** collection will begin this month, to give parishioners a little more time to donate and to give the children more time to prep and pack than in past years. **Donations will be collected beginning October 16th.** This is an exciting yearly event for the St. Francis youth. We look forward to packing boxes on November 13th. This is St. Francis's 21st year of participation!

How to get involved: Beginning October 16, we will be happy to accept your donations of toys and supplies at the table near the front doors of the church. Below are suggested donation items: St. Francis usually tries to focus on the 5-9 age group. We will have a detailed list available at church by the second week of October.

- A "Wow" Item - Doll (with accessories), soccer ball (with a pump), stuffed animal, clothing outfit, small musical instrument, backpack
- Personal Care Items
- School Supplies
- Clothing and Accessories
- Craft and Activities
- Toys

Alternatively, you may donate funds toward the purchase of gift items, or toward shipping costs for the boxes (OCC suggests a donation of \$10 per box for shipping). Please make checks out to St. Francis.

Learn more about this wonderful ministry [here](#).

Please contact Melissa Bernard with any questions and suggestions you may have at nelson440@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration!

READINGS FOR OCTOBER

10/2 16 after Trinity (Link)

- Habakkuk 1:1-6,12-13; 2:1-4
- Psalm 37:3-10
- 2 Timothy 1:1-14
- Luke 17:5-10

10/9 17 after Trinity (Link)

- Ruth 1:1-19a
- Psalm 113
- 2 Timothy 2:8-15
- Luke 17:11-19

10/16 18 after Trinity (Link)

- Genesis 32:3-8, 22-30
- Psalm 121
- 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
- Luke 18:1-8a

10/23 19 after Trinity (Link)

- Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22
- Psalm 84:1-6
- 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
- Luke 18:9-14

10/30 20 after Trinity (Link)

- Isaiah 1:10-20
- Psalm 32:1-8
- 2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11-12
- Luke 19:1-10

Notes on the readings:

- St. Francis follows the [1979 BCP Lectionary](#) for the lessons. We are in Year C.
- 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.
- On the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, the psalm is chanted during the 11:00 service. The pointing is based on the Cathedral Psalter and is available on our website.

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sundays

9:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Nursery is provided.

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

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for youth

10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

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

Tuesdays

7:00 - 8:15 p.m. Bible Study 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

1st Saturday, Oct 1

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

2nd and 4th Fridays, Oct. 14 and 28

7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Home Group/Bible Study in person at the McCowns' house.

2nd & 4th Sundays, Oct. 9 and 23

~12:45 - 2 p.m. Luncheon and Bible study in person at the church.

2nd & 4th Mondays, Oct. 10 and 24

6:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting via Zoom

3rd Monday, Oct. 17

7:00 p.m. Austin Chapter of the Readers of First Things meeting in-person and via Zoom.

3rd Friday, Oct. 21

Noon. Mothers' Prayer Group, in-person

4th Friday, Sept. 28

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

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



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

Interim Rector: Fr. Rogers Meredith

Interim Organist: Yunzhi Guan

Parish Administrator: Mark Rambin

Treasurer: Grady Collins

Vestry Officers

Senior

Warden

Doug Cooper

Junior

Warden

David Norris

Secretary

Jim Crandell

Vestry Members

Doug Cooper, Jim Crandell, Michael Ready

Christina Hatley, Bill Palmer,

Dinah Arce, David Norris, Susan Rambin

St. Francis Anglican Church

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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.