

THE ST. FRANCIS BULLETIN

RECTOR SEARCH UPDATE MEETING

A Rector Search Update Meeting will be held on Sunday, Oct. 30 between the two services at about 10:35 a.m. in the Nave of the church. There will be an opportunity to ask questions.

What has happened with the search for the Rector since last May:

- Bishop Ryan Reed has forwarded five resumes of interested candidates for Rector.
 - Three are canonically resident in the Diocese
 - Two are from other ACNA Dioceses
- Doug Cooper forwarded these along to the members of the search committee.
- At least one Zoom meeting was held between the search committee and each candidate.

- The search committee meets at least twice a month for these zoom interviews and follow-up discussion.

The election process is a communication between the Bishop and the search committee from when the last Rector resigned until the Bishop approves the vote by which the next Rector is called.

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 search committee are Doug Cooper, Jim Crandell, Michael Ready, Bill Palmer, Susan Rambin, Dinah Arce, and Christina Hatley.

INTERIM RECTOR

We are grateful that Fr. Rogers Meredith is serving as Interim Rector, celebrating almost every Sunday and providing pastoral care as needed. We look forward to an occasional visit by a guest celebrant.

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

RECOMMENDED READING

Fr. Len Giacolone

From time to time while I was still with you, I used to recommend books that I thought might be either enjoyable or helpful to you in your spiritual journey. I have just recently finished two books that I thought might be in that category and wanted to pass them along to you for what my opinion might be worth.

[The Return of the Gods by Jonathan Cahn](#)

It will not come as a surprise to anyone that we are in turbulent times. But have you ever asked yourself why? There is, of course, one obvious reason that I pointed out to you on several occasions. We have invited God

out of our national life. But that begs the question: what happens when we do? Jonathan Cahn addresses that very question in his new book, [The Return of the Gods](#). Cahn uses as a premise the passage from Luke, chapter 11 that discusses the scenario of a demon being driven out of a person and who, failing to find another suitable place to inhabit, returns to its original place with seven other demons, more wicked than itself.

Cahn's contention is that the gods of ancient times were once driven out of the lives of people by the advent of Christ and the church. At the time, the lives of

individuals were filled with the Gospel and the life of Christ himself. But now that Christ has been driven out of our society, the gods of old (read demons here) have returned to their former places in the lives of mankind and have picked up where they left off two millennia ago. These demons have manifested themselves in precisely the same way in which they manifested themselves in former times.

What makes Cahn so interesting to me is his amazing research and attention to detail. If you have read any of his other works, you know what I mean. His ability to attach the ancient to the present through the history of the people of Israel to our American society with precise dates and times will captivate you. If you have read Cahn before you will want to read [The Return of the Gods](#). It's an interesting take on the Gospel story and makes sense for our times.

[Letter to the American Church by Eric Metaxas](#)

Eric Metaxas is the best selling author of [Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy](#). In that book, Metaxas chronicles Dietrich Bonhoeffer's struggle with the rise of Nazi Germany in the 1930's. In his latest book, [Letter to the American Church](#), the author draws parallels between the inability and/or unwillingness of

the church in Germany to see and to come to terms with Hitler and his goal of world dominance, and the present situation in our world with reference to the American church and the goal of world dominance by international (and American) globalists.

According to Metaxas, we find ourselves today in a very similar situation to the rise of Hitler. And while there may be no one individual who has that lead presence in the current globalist movement, the dangers are the same.

The real question for the church in our day is will it be prophetic or will it stay on the sidelines as it did ninety years ago? Will it rise to the occasion and challenge the evil in our society today and witness to the Gospel, or allow our religious freedom (and ultimately all of our freedoms) to be taken away? These are monumental questions for the American Church.

I wish I could tell you that I "enjoyed" reading [Letter to the American Church](#). I can't. But this is an important book and a message that not just the leadership of the church but the entire church as well needs to understand. We are running out of time to save the nation and the world. Are we up to the challenge?

ANGLICANS FOR LIFE

November is adoption month and Sunday November 13th is designated as Adoption Sunday. The following is from the national Anglicans For Life organization.

Adoption

God designed children to be raised in families. Many times, due to various circumstances, children are not able to be raised in their birth families, so they are in need of new, permanent families through adoption.

Though many people typically view adoption as a couple bringing a single, healthy, newborn baby into their families, adoption takes on many other forms as well. There are often sibling sets that need adoptive families. Many older kids need adoptive families. Many kids with special needs are in need of adoptive families as well. It is important as followers of Jesus that we remain open to what He is calling us to do and who He might be calling us to adopt.

There are three different types of adoption:

1. Domestic
2. International
3. Adoption from foster care

Open vs. Closed Adoptions

In an open adoption, birth families remain involved in the child's life through visits, phone calls, etc.

In a closed adoption, there is little to no contact between the child's adoptive family and his or her birth family.

Why Adopt?

Anglicans For Life believes there is no more uniquely Christian calling than that of adoption. Other faiths or moral teachings may share some aspects of the ethical life described in the Scriptures; they may agree that a moral person should be generous to the poor, enact impartial justice, not oppress the weak. But to care for

the orphan and fatherless, specifically through adoption, is irrevocably entwined with our understanding of what it means to be a Christian.

Adoption Options

1. **Snowflake Adoption**
In snowflake adoption, an adopting family is able to use the frozen embryos from another couple's in vitro fertilization process to achieve a pregnancy and give birth to an adopted child. Nightlight Christian Adoptions pioneered embryo adoption in 1997. Since then, 460 babies have been born and 1,100 families have donated embryos.
2. **Special Needs Adoptions**
Not all adoptions involve newborn babies. Many children in need of adoption have special needs, such as physical or mental disabilities, have been physically, sexually or emotionally abused, are groups of siblings who want to stay together, are older teens, or have been exposed to drugs or HIV. Adopting special needs children requires emotional

OCTOBER 30
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.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR STILL NEEDED

Are you looking for a chance to volunteer your time and talent for St. Francis. We are looking for a newsletter editor to begin in December with the creation of the January 2023 newsletter! Once you learn what to do, this takes about 4 hours each month to complete.

See Amy Crandell or Doug Cooper if you want to give this a try.

and spiritual resolve, but these children are especially in need of a loving home.

3. **Traditional Adoption**
Traditional adoptions involve working with an agency, lawyer, or humanitarian effort to legally adopt a child. Adoptive parents face their own challenges. The adoption process can often be long and frustrating. An adoption possibility can fall through, administrative delays are not uncommon, and the knowledge that women are choosing abortion, when they dearly want a child themselves, can be painful. But adoptive parents also know the joy of opening their hearts to a child in need of a home and creating a loving family.

Funding

Some adoptions can be costly. If God is calling your family to adopt, do not let cost be a barrier. Anglicans For Life has an adoption grant fund to help Anglican families offset some of those costs. (see Anglicans for Life website; anglicansforlife.org) There are other organizations that might be able to help as well. Many employers offer financial assistance for adoptions.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION

The 40th diocesan convention will be held on Nov. 5 at the Westin Dallas Southlake Hotel. Southlake is northeast of Fort Worth. Fr. Rogers Meredith will be our clergy delegate, and Jim Crandell will be our lay delegate. This year, there is a procession of the banners and Jim will carry our banner - that should be quite a sight to see!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Clifford Collins, Mark Rambin
- 9 Jane Cox
- 11 Katya Kristo-Reinking
- 12 Michael Adams
- 14 Bev Scheer
- 15 Don St.Martin
- 25 Steve McCown, Mary Boswell
- 27 Becky Hunt

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 22 David & Adriane Kristo-Reinking

NOVEMBER SERVICES

Tuesday, November 1 - noon. All Saints Day
Holy Communion

Thursday, November 24, 10:00 a.m.,
Thanksgiving Day Service.

CATECHISM CLASS

The Catechism Class continues to meet on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. We are now on the topic of prayer in general - having finished the Lord's Prayer and how to use scripture. The class is structured such that you can join anytime. If you are not currently attending and would like to join, please email, info@stfrancisaustin.org to receive the Zoom meeting link.

VESTRY NEWS

David Norris tendered his resignation from the Vestry and as Junior Warden due to the surgery to remove his thyroid and larynx. Talking will be a challenge. (Despite the heart attack after the surgery, he is recovering well enough to move to a rehab facility.) The Vestry will select someone to replace David in one of their upcoming meetings.

TIME CHANGE

Don't forget to set your clock back an hour when you go to bed on Saturday, November 5. Standard time begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday morning. We get back that hour we lost in March.

PLEDGE DRIVE

November is pledge drive month. During the first part of November, all St. Francis member households will receive a letter and pledge card in the mail. Please prayerfully consider your pledge for this next year and fill out a Capital Campaign and Pledge Card. You can leave in the offering plate or mail to the church. Pledge drives typically run until the first Sunday in December.

27 Marsha Crosby & Tom Rhyne

30 Glenn & Becky Hunt

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

VOTE ON NOVEMBER 8

Do not forget to research the candidates running for the many federal, state and city positions and to vote anytime between now and Nov. 8.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

St. Francis' **Operation Christmas Child** collection has begun and will finish up on November 13.

How to get involved: We will happily 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. There are detailed lists in the Narthex.

- 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.

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

READINGS FOR NOVEMBER

11/1 All Saints ([Link to readings](#))

- Ecclesiasticus 44:1-10,13-14
- Psalm 149
- Revelation 7:2-4, 9-17
- Matthew 5:1-12

11/6 21 after Trinity ([Link to readings](#))

- Job 19:23-27a
- Psalm 17:1-8
- 2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5
- Luke 20:27-38

11/13 22 after Trinity([Link to readings](#))

- Malachi 3:13-4:2a, 5-6
- Psalm 98:5-10
- 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
- Luke 21:5-19

11/20 Christ the King ([Link to readings](#))

- Jeremiah 23:1-6
- Psalm 46
- Colossians 1:11-20
- Luke 23:35-43

11/24 Thanksgiving Day ([Link to readings](#))

- Deuteron. 8:1-3,6-10,17-20
- Psalm 65:9-14
- James 1:17-18, 21-27
- Matthew 6:25-33

11/27 1 Advent ([Link to readings](#))

- Isaiah 2:1-5
- Psalm 122
- Romans 13:8-14
- Matthew 24:37-44

Notes on the readings:

- St. Francis follows the [1979 BCP Lectionary](#) for the lessons. We are in Year C. On 11/27, we move to Year A with Advent 1.
- 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 from the St. Francis Psalter, found at <http://stfrancisaustin.org/psalter>, which is based on the Cathedral Psalter.

NOVEMBER 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.

Tuesday, Nov. 1 - All Saints Day

Noon. Holy Communion

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 (not on Thanksgiving Day)

1st Saturday, Nov. 5

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

2nd and 4th Fridays, Nov. 11 and possibly 25

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

2nd & 4th Sundays, Nov. 13 and 27

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

2nd & 4th Mondays, Nov. 14 and 28

6:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting via Zoom

3rd Friday, Nov. 18

Noon. Mothers' Prayer Group, in-person

3rd Monday, Nov. 21

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

4th Thursday, Nov. 24, Thanksgiving Day

10:00 a.m. Holy Communion

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

Organist: TBD

Parish Administrator: Mark Rambin

Treasurer: Grady Collins

Vestry Officers

Senior

Warden

Doug Cooper

Junior

Warden

TBD

Secretary

Jim Crandell

Vestry Members

Doug Cooper, Jim Crandell, Michael Ready

Christina Hatley, Bill Palmer,

Dinah Arce, Susan Rambin, vacant position

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.org

*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.