



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

Bob Ogden, 1925-2008

All of you know by now that Bob Ogden died on April 15. He had suffered over the past two or so years with a variety of ailments including lung cancer. Nancy and I were able to be with him and Mary on a number of occasions during his final struggle. He died peacefully, at home, and with his family. No one could ask for anything better.

Bob touched a lot of lives during his. At his funeral which packed our little church to overflowing, there were continuing tributes to Bob's generosity, his humor, and, in fact, his whole life. No one doubts that Bob will be missed.

Our prayers should continue for Mary, Susan and Steve, and the rest of Bob's family, as we should continue to pray for all those in our parish who have experienced the loss of someone dear to them. It is never easy to lose someone you love. With the support of the Christian community, it is possible to go on.

National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 1, is the 57th annual National Day of Prayer. It is also the feast of Our Lord's Ascension. We will have a Holy Communion service at 7:00 pm and there will be special prayers for our country during the service. I would like all of you to plan to attend. We are at a crossroads in our nation's history and many question whether or not we are now on a downward slope in our journey as a nation after two-hundred thirty-two years. While there is no specific reference to God in the Constitution of the United States, there is no question that the founders of our nation believed that God had impressed upon them the sacred duty to make a new nation and to honor Him in that founding. For many years this nation followed the path set out by the founders. But we have lost our way. Franklin Graham has said that we are no longer a Christian country. That should be fairly obvious to any but the most casual observer. The future of this country depends on whether or not we can again turn to the Lord who is gracious, merciful and just. Please join me on May 1st to offer prayers to God for our country.

Just as a refresher course, I need to say a few things about our worship. First of all, the church building should be a place of prayer. Obviously there may be a need to communicate with someone within the sanctuary. That should be done in a quiet and respectful manner, especially if there is someone in the church trying to pray. Secondly, there is a starting time for both services on Sunday, 9:30 and 11:00 am. It is insulting to God and rude to your brothers and sisters to show up after the service has started, and especially after much of the service has already been conducted. I understand why there may be an occasional tardiness because of traffic or other such unforeseen occurrence. Some people make a habit of being late and that needs to be corrected. Thirdly, is there really any need to be going in and out of church during the service? This is disruptive and distracting. Please take care of what ever needs to be done before you come.

Baptism

On Sunday, May 11, it will be my honor to baptize Katherine Elizabeth Williams at the 11:00 Holy Communion service. Please come and celebrate this great occasion with Tim and Elaine.

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP

All mothers and grandmothers of the church are invited to attend the mothers' prayer group, held in the Parish Hall. The group spends an hour on the second Monday of every month at 11 a.m. praying for their families.



St. Francis Choir

Inviting all singers! There is enough interest that a choir can be formed at St. Francis again. The plan is to rehearse weekly after the late service beginning April 6 and to sing every few weeks during the 11:00 service. All interested singers are invited to join the choir. Amy and Jim Crandell are spearheading this effort.

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble!
The name of the God of Jacob protect you! May He send you help from the sanctuary, and give you support from Zion.
May He remember all your offerings, and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices. Selah.
May He grant you your heart's desire, and fulfill all your plans.
May we shout for joy over your victory, and in the name of our God set up our banners.
May the Lord fulfill all your petitions. Now I know that the Lord will help his anointed; He will answer him from His holy heaven with mighty victories by His right hand.
Some take pride in chariots, and some in horses, but our pride is in the name of the Lord our God.
They will collapse and fall, but we shall rise and stand upright.
Give victory to the king, O Lord; answer us when we call.

-Psalm 20

Games Night

Lest you think that Games Night is only for children -- let it be known that there are more adults coming on the first Friday of each month than the younger generation. The evening begins at 6:30 pm with a potluck dinner. Soon after, the group decides to play a board game for the next 1 1/2 hours. The evening is always pleasurable with plenty of laughs exchanged. This is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship with other St. Francis members.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

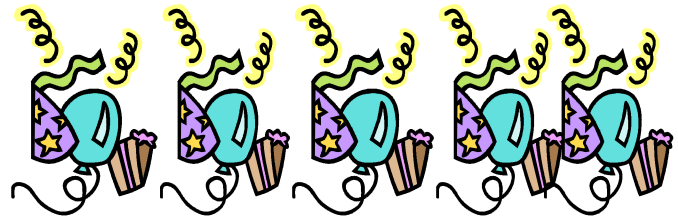
The Prayer Shawl Ministry Group will meet on the first Saturday of every month, at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Anyone interested in joining this group is welcome.

The Prayer Shawl group knits and crochets shawls with prayer and love to be given to anyone who could benefit from the warmth and comfort they bring. If you know of anyone you would like to see receive one, please call Phoebe Hughes at 476-6216.

Rector: The Reverend Len Giacolone

Senior Warden: Mark Rambin

Junior Warden: Keith Harrell



Birthdays

May

- 1 Amy Crandell
- 9 Tim Williams
- 11 Elizabeth Hicks
- 21 William Edward (Wes) Stults
- 26 C. J. Wright
- 29 Ben Brummett

Anniversaries

- 10 Hoyt and Harriette Scharff
- 12 Gary and Kay Francis
- 18 Brian & Rebecca Hoard
- 31 Keith and Gayle Harrell
Ben and Shirley Ellis



Associate Rector: The Reverend John Stults

Organist: Paula Blaha

Server: Ray Merrill

Newsletter Submissions

Any parishioner that has news of any kind they would like to share with everyone is welcome to send it in writing to Tricia Denslow at 640 B Lakeside Dr., Wimberley, TX 78676 or to her e-mail address (triciadenslow@yahoo.com). If received by the 20th, it will appear in next month's newsletter.

St. Francis Episcopal Church

1408 West 9th Street
Austin, Texas 78703

MAY

2008

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| 1 | Ascension Day, National Day of Prayer.
Holy Communion, 7:00 pm
Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47
Ephesians 1:15-23
Mark 16:9-15, 19-20 | 12 | <i>Prayer Shawl Ministry Group</i> , 11:00 a.m |
| 2 | <i>Evening Prayer</i> , 6:00 pm Church
<i>Game Night</i> , 6:30 pm | 12 | Vestry Meeting, 5:30 |
| 4 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Acts 1:8-14
Psalm 68:1-20
(1 Peter 4:12-19)
John 17:1-11
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am
Parish Hall</i> | 16 | <i>Evening Prayer</i> , 6:00 pm Church |
| 9 | <i>Evening Prayer</i> , 6:00 pm Church | 18 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Genesis 1:1-2:3
Psalm 150
2 Cor. 13:5-14
Matthew 28:16-20
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish
Hall</i> |
| 11 | MOTHER'S DAY
<u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am, <u>Morning
Prayer and Holy Communion</u> , 11:00 am,
Acts 2:1-11
Psalm 104:25-37
1 Cor. 12:4-13
John 14:8-17
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am
Parish Hall</i> | 18 | Parish Bar-B-Que after 11:00 am service. |
| | | 23 | <i>Evening Prayer</i> , 6:00 pm Church |
| | | 25 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Isaiah 49:8-18
Psalm 62
1 Cor. 4:1-13
Matthew 6:24-34
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish
Hall</i> |
| | | 30 | <i>Evening Prayer</i> , 6:00 pm Church |