



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

First of all, let me open the New Year with a prayer that the coming year will be filled with the Lord's blessings. Whatever the status of things seems to be, it is the Lord who blesses, protects and gives life. If you are making resolutions for the New Year, resolve to respond more fervently to the Lord's abiding invitation to become closer to Him.

There are a few things going on in January and early February of which you need to be aware. On January 7, those who participated in the Experiencing God class will reunite to evaluate the program and to share their thoughts and ideas about further study in that regard. Therefore, I am not making any announcement at this time about the Bible study on Romans. Since there is a pretty significant number of folks involved in Experiencing God, and the program seems to have been quite popular, I want to take the pulse of the group before proceeding. I also want to thank Gayle Horn and Tim Williams for leading two of the groups. I know that their time and commitment to the study was invaluable to their respective groups.

On January 24, Texas Alliance for Life will hold its annual Walk for Life to bring attention to the horrors of abortion and in our country and especially in our state. TAL is primarily an educational and political group that tries to get legislation enacted to protect the life of the unborn. There is a walk that usually begins at 2:00 pm and a rally on the south steps of the state capital at 3:00 pm.

Also on January 24, our annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will take place at Cannoli Joe's, 4715 U. S. 290 E. We will gather around 6:30 that evening and because Cannoli Joe's is a buffet you can pretty much begin eating when you wish. The parish will cover dinner and soft drinks. If you wish to have an adult beverage you're on your own. Anyone who has volunteered in any capacity at St. Francis during the past year is welcome to attend. A sign-up sheet will appear shortly. You must sign up if you wish to attend since I need to give the folks at Cannoli Joe's a count for the evening. This has become our way of saying thanks to all of you who contribute so much to the life of the parish.

From the Rector (continued):

The annual parish meeting will take place on Sunday, February 1 after the 11:00 am service. In order to vote at the meeting, you must be a pledging member of the parish during 2008, be presently a member of the parish, and at least 18 years of age. Always on the agenda for the meeting is the election of Vestry members and a financial review along with the approval of the annual budget. There will probably be additional items for consideration. It is important for you to be involved in this process. We need your input and your insight. Please plan to attend.

Congratulations to Andrew and Jessica Brummett on the baptism of their twin daughters, Anna and Erin, on December 28. It is always an honor for me to welcome new members into the Body of Christ. Please say a prayer for the girls as well as their parents.

Happy New Year!!!

Christian Education for Children and Youth



No classes will be held January 4th. We will start again on January 11, 2009.

Thanks to all the parents who bring their children to Sunday school. We welcome visitors anytime with open arms. Finally, please include the St. Francis Sunday school program in your prayers.



MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP

Please join our Moms' (and grandmothers') prayer time. We meet once a month on every **THIRD MONDAY** at **11 am** in the Fellowship Hall. A Scripture is read and then prayers are offered up on behalf of our families for a solid hour. It continues to be a privilege to work for our loved ones in this way. For further information, contact Wanda Stults: 830-833-5632

*May God Bless you with unspeakable joy,
not only in the world to come, but in this
world also.*

*May your path be bright and full of light
everywhere you go.*

*May God tell darkness that it must flee at
your command.*

*And, I pray your feet will never stumble
out of God's plan.*

May the desires of your heart come true.

*And may you experience Peace in every-
thing you do.*

*May Goodness, Kindness, and Mercy come
your way.*

*And, may you gain Wisdom and grow in
the Lord every day.*

Amen

St. Francis Choir

We are blessed with the wonderful voices in our St. Francis choir. We have a core group of singers who faithfully attend church and stay after for a short choir practice. Our choir members are Victoria Stults, Claire Ducker, Katie and Ed Sandlin, Tim Williams and Amy and Jim Crandell. Being able to consistently rehearse, even for a half hour a week, is paying off. We have moved from singing unison or two part music to three parts. We prepare the music and sing when the music is a worthy and acceptable offering to God's glory during the 11:00 service. Thanks to our organist, Paula Blaha for her leadership. More voices are always welcome!



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl group will meet on Saturday January 17, 2009, at 10:30 am in the Parish Hall. Anyone is welcome to join us in our ministry of knitting or crocheting shawls for our parish members in need. Please call C.J. Wright at 477-8686 if you have questions.

Rector: The Reverend Len Giacolone
Senior Warden: Mark Rambin
Junior Warden: Keith Harrell



Birthdays

- 1 Audrey Woodgate
- 4 Frances Gould
- 5 Philip Crandell
- 6 Doug Cooper
- 6 Jerry Bordelon
- 17 Tom Matthews
- 18 Elizabeth Kinahan
- 19 Gayle Horn
- 19 Arthur Woodgate
Gary Horn
- 21 Katherine Kirk (Stults)
- 24 Erika Denslow
- 29 Margaret Sikes
- 31 Ben Ellis

Anniversaries

- 23 Graham & Kimberly Kinahan



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

JANUARY

2009

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|----|---|----|---|
| 2 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church
Games night, 6:30pm</i> | 18 | <u>Holy Communion,</u> 9:30 am and 11:00 am
1 Samuel 3:1-10, Psalm 63:1-8
1Cor. 6:11b-20, John 1:43-51
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i> |
| 4 | <u>Holy Communion,</u> 9:30 am, <u>Morning Prayer</u>
<u>and Holy Communion,</u>
11:00 am,
Jeremiah 31:7-14, Psalm 84
Eph. 1:3-6, 15-19a, Matthew 2:13-
15, 19-23 | 19 | <i>Mother's and Grandmother's Prayer
Group, 11:00am</i> |
| 6 | <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 pm</i> | 20 | <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 pm</i> |
| 7 | <u>Experiencing God</u> , 7:00 pm | 23 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i> |
| 9 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i> | 24 | TAL Walk for Life, 2:00 pm |
| 11 | <u>Holy Communion,</u> 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Isaiah 42:1-9, Psalm 89:20-29
Acts 10:34-38, Mark 1:7-11
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish
Hall</i> | 24 | Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, 6:30 pm. |
| 12 | Vestry Meeting, 5:30 pm | 25 | <u>Holy Communion,</u> 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Jeremiah 3:21-4:2, Psalm 130
1 Cor. 7:17-23, Mark 1:14-20
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i> |
| 13 | <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 pm</i> | 27 | <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 pm</i> |
| 15 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i> | 30 | <i>Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</i> |
| 17 | <i>Prayer Shawl Group, 10:30am</i> | | |