



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

Sunday, April 5, is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. We will have our usual Sunday schedule at 9:30 and 11:00 am. Even though the day commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the feast also reminds us of the reason for this final coming into the holy city. By week's end, Jesus will have been crucified and so we read the passion, this year according to St. Mark. Mark is known for his brevity. But all of the essential elements are there. The passion, death and resurrection of Jesus are the foundation of our Christian faith and so Holy Week remembers them in detail.

Wednesday of Holy Week at 7:00 pm we will have our final Stations of the Cross for this Lent. The topic for the last meditation of my Lenten series on the Lord's Prayer will be "...But deliver us from evil."

April 9 is Maundy Thursday. As I have mentioned to you before the word Maundy comes from the Latin word "mandatum" meaning command, and refers to the Lord's command to His disciples to "do this in remembrance of me." After celebrating the Lord's Supper and its institution we strip the altar. Liturgically, the altar is a symbol of Christ Himself and thus the stripping remembers how Jesus was stripped of His garments before His crucifixion. Our service will be at 7:00 pm on Thursday.

Our Good Friday service will also be at 7:00 pm. During this service we will read the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John, pray for the church and the whole world and venerate the cross, the symbol of our salvation. Veneration and worship are not the same. We worship God alone. But the cross has such a unique place in our

Christian lives that it deserves special respect. We bow to the cross as we process into and out of church and as we approach the altar. Many people display the cross in their homes as a reminder of who they are because of Christ's sacrificial death. Especially on Good Friday, the cross of Christ has a prominent place in our liturgy.

The Solemn Easter Vigil will take place on April 11 at 7:30 pm. Ideally, it should take place after dark but if I start it too late no one would come and that would defeat the purpose, however liturgically correct it might be. In the ancient church this celebration was the place of the baptism of the catechumens who had been preparing to join the church for perhaps as many as three years. They took this step very seriously and no one was admitted to the church who was not thought to be ready by the community and who did not fully understand the consequences of what they were about to undertake. This service includes the blessing of the new fire, the blessing and lighting of the Easter candle, the Paschal Proclamation, the Liturgy of the Word that gives us a lesson in salvation history and the first announcement of the resurrection, followed by the first Easter Eucharist.

I want to encourage each of you to try to make all of these services. I realize that this may be difficult for some but the beauty of these services and what they commemorate far outweigh any inconvenience we might have to endure.

On Easter Sunday, we will have our celebrations of Holy Communion at 9:30 and 11:00 am. We always have wonderful attendance at these services and I hope that you will perhaps invite someone who may not ordinarily go to church to come with you.

From the Rector (continued):

Finally, because of the extensive schedule of Holy Week services we will not have our Bible Study on Tuesday, April 7. We will reconvene on April 14 at 7:00 pm.

Facilities Committee Meeting

Held on March 4th, 2009

Members present: Mark Rambin, John Hays, John Stults+

The purpose of the meeting was to proceed with the maximization of the current facility as an asset for expansion of the mission of St. Francis Anglican Church as defined in the Church's mission statement. It has already been proven to be patently clear that St. Francis cannot accomplish its mission at its current location. The Facilities Committee, in the execution of its duly appointed assignment, had listed the Church property for sale. The intent was to obtain the best usage dollar amount via the sale of the current property. The proceeds from the sale (in conjunction with a capital campaign) would be used for either the purchase of raw land and its development or the purchase and adaptation of an existing structure. The poor real estate market precludes a sale at this time. However, this option is still available if a buyer makes an offer in the best interest of the Church.

The need to maximize the current asset remains unchanged because the mission remains unchanged. The Facilities Committee continues the discovery process by exploring another option, namely, keeping the current property and turning all buildings into rental units. The existing property would become a profit center to offset the purchase and development of the new facility. Two architects have been interviewed for the renovation of the current buildings and grounds, and the Facilities Committee has begun a more detailed discussion with one of these on how to accomplish this in the most appropriate and cost-effective manner.

Respectfully Submitted,
John C. Stults+, Chairman

FOOD DRIVE

We are all aware of the current economy and the negative impact it is having on many lives. Almost daily there are reports of job losses, loss of one's home, and severe reductions in personal finances. All of this has resulted in a greater need for contributions of food to food banks and food pantries. Therefore, for those of us who still have the resources to give, there will be a food drive at St. Francis during the month of May to assist those who are in need of the very basics in life. The food that is collected during May will be delivered at the end of May to *The Storehouse* in Pflugerville. *The Storehouse* is a Christian organization that distributes food daily to those in need. Items needed are canned goods, boxed food items such as pasta, dried foods such as rice and beans. Please do what you can to make the food drive very successful keeping in mind the words of Jesus: "I was hungry and you gave me something to eat." Matthew 25:35. If you have any questions, please call Nancy Giacolone at 243-8787.

Memorials and Honorariums

Altar flowers add to our worship service. There was a time when our altar flowers were donated by one of our parishioners, however that is no longer the case and the cost of purchasing altar flowers is a monthly expense. The average monthly cost for flowers is \$197.00 and does not include the cost of flowers at Easter and Christmas. We all have loved ones that we would like to remember or honor with a memorial or an honorarium. Your contributions to the flower fund could honor the special people in your life and also assist in meeting the monthly expense of altar flowers. You can contribute to this flower fund by filling out a donation envelope and placing it in the collection plate or giving it to Nancy Critchfield-Jones or Angie McGown. If you want further information call Shirley Ellis at (512) 707-9848.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl group will meet on Saturday, May 2, 2009, at 10:30 a.m. 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.

ANGLICANS for LIFE

The Saint Francis Chapter of Anglicans for Life will be meeting in the Parish Hall on the third Sunday of each month after the 11:00 service coffee time. Our next meeting will be on April 19th. Please plan to join us.

Sermons Online

The sermons from both services are recorded and available on the church's web site. For those of you who would like a CD copy, please sign up on the list on the table below the bulletin boards in the parish house. For those who have ordered CDs, the copies are available on the same table. We are blessed with wonderful and extraordinarily gifted preachers in our church. Tell your friends that they can hear a sermon at anytime. Of course, we invite you to hear our Priests in person.

Making Palm Crosses

The Altar Guild will meet at 10:30 am on Saturday April 4th to make crosses for Palm Sunday. All Altar Guild members are requested to come and help make palm crosses. We also will do minor cleaning at that time for Easter. Since the major cleaning was done to prepare for the ordinations and confirmation services this will be a much easier chore.

Rector: The Reverend Len Giacolone

Senior Warden: Mark Rambin

Junior Warden: Keith Harrell



Birthdays

1	Susan LaRoux James Ogden LaRoux
4	Don Watkins
5	Paige Adkins
6	Elliott Wilkes
8	Micah Looke
9	Julie Rambin
10	Shannon Adkins
16	Graham Kinahan
17	Jason Kranzusch
20	Ray Merrill
21	Jim Crandell
22	Victoria Ruth Stults Samantha Wathen
23	Diane Darling Jace Phillips
24	Steve Ogden
25	Hoyt Scharff
26	Lorraine Pangle
27	G.W. Martin
28	Kim Kinahan
29	Miller Hicks

Anniversaries

3	Jack and Mildred Farris Roy and Nancy Jones
6	Karl David and Pam Stephan



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 Anglican Church

1408 West 9th Street
Austin, Texas 78703

APRIL

2009

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| <p>1 Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm</p> <p>3 Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church
<i>Games night, 6:30pm</i></p> <p>4 Seder Meal, 5:00 pm</p> <p>5 <u>Palm Sunday</u>
<u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am, Morning</u>
<u>Prayer and Holy Communion, 11:00 am,</u>
Mark 11:1-11a, Isaiah 45:21-25
Psalm 22:1-11, Philippians 2:5-11
Mark 14:32-15:47
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i></p> <p>7 <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 noon</i></p> <p>8 Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm</p> <p>9 <u>Maundy Thursday, 7pm</u>
Exodus 12:1-14a, Psalm 78:13-25
1 Cor. 11:23-32, John 13:1-15</p> <p>10 <u>Good Friday, 7pm</u>
Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Psalm 22:1-11
Hebrews 10:1-25, John 18:1-19:37</p> <p>11 <u>Solemn Easter Vigil, 7:30pm</u>
Genesis 1:1-2:2, Genesis 22:1-18
Exodus 14:10-15:1, Isaiah 55:1-11
Ezekiel 36:24-28, Romans 6:3-11
Matthew 28:1-10</p> | <p>12 <u>Easter Morning</u>
<u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am and 11:00 am</u>
Acts.10:34-43, Psalm 118:14-29
Colossians 3:1-4, Mark 16:1-8</p> <p>13 Vestry Meeting, 5:30 pm</p> <p>14 <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 noon</i>
<i>Bible Study 7:00 pm</i></p> <p>17 Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</p> <p>19 <u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am and 11:00 am</u>
Acts 3:12a,13-15,17-26, Psalm 111
1John 5:1-6, John 20:19-31
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i></p> <p>20 <i>Mother's and Grandmother's Prayer Group, 11:00am</i></p> <p>21 <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 noon</i>
<i>Bible Study 7:00 pm</i></p> <p>24 Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church</p> <p>26 <u>Holy Communion, 9:30 am and 11:00 am</u>
Acts 4: 5-12. Psalm 98
1 John 1:1-2:2, Luke 24:36b-48
<i>Children's Sunday School, 9:30 am Parish Hall</i></p> <p>28 <i>Anglican Rosary, 12:00 noon</i>
<i>Bible Study 7:00 pm</i></p> |
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