



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

All Saints' Day

“Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us put away all that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles and run with perseverance the race marked out for us” (Hebrews 12:1). The great cloud of witnesses to whom the author of the Letter to the Hebrews refers is the reason for our celebrating this great feast of the church. These are the men and women who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. They are the ones who have taken up their crosses and followed Jesus. They are the ones whose lives most clearly reflected His. And because of their faith and perseverance the church honors them collectively on this day. It is not necessarily easy to embrace the thought of imitating the lives of “saints” plural. So we frequently attach our thoughts to one or another of these witnesses whose life may have special meaning for us because of what they said or did. But since we cannot possibly honor them all individually, the church sets out this one day every year to honor them all. Regardless of how each of us may choose to venerate saints or any particular saint, it is a practice the church has long considered worthy of imitation. If you do not have a particular saint who inspires you by his or her life to follow the Lord in a particularly impressive way I would suggest you find one. The great cloud of witnesses is cheering you on.

November 1 is also the final day of Daylight Saving Time this year. On Saturday, October 31, please turn your clocks back one hour before you go to sleep. For those of you who can actually sleep an extra hour there is that additional blessing on All Saints' Day.

Election Day

Tuesday, November 3, is an election day. This year we are voting on eleven amendments to the state's constitution. I realize that constitutional amendments are not the most exciting thing to draw potential voters to the polls and that some of these things are nearly unintelligible to the majority of voters. But not voting shouldn't be an option. If you surrender your right to vote, you allow the few to rule. That is never a good thing in a democratic republic. Check out what's on the ballot and vote on Election Day if you have not already done so during early voting.

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 26, is Thanksgiving Day. As is our custom, we will celebrate Holy Communion that morning at 10:00 am. In difficult times it is sometimes not easy to come up with something for which to be thankful. But that should not be the case. Look around you. Your life, your family, your friends are reasons to give thanks, just for starters. I'll bet that if you spend some time in prayer you can come up with lots of blessings you may never have thought of before now. Why don't you plan on joining us on Thanksgiving morning before the other festivities. You will be blessed if you do.

Invitation to Prayer

On Wednesday evenings a number of your fellow parishioners are gathering to pray. We are praying for forgiveness, the transformation of our city and country, and asking God to manifest His presence in a unique and powerful way among us. I know a lot of people have their plate full already but you are cordially invited to join us.

From the Rector (continued):

Pledge Drive

As you are already aware, we are in the midst of our annual pledge drive for 2010. Please make out your pledge card and return it by the end of November. You may drop it in the collection plate, mail it to the church, or give it personally to our Treasurer, Don Watkins. Thanks, as always, for your generosity.

Evening Prayer

Each Friday at 6 pm, Evening Prayer is offered in the church. This simple, but beautiful service is a unique way to begin the weekend. The service is said, but the canticles are sung, without accompaniment. The lessons read are the appointed lessons for the upcoming Sunday from the 1928 prayer book. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Potluck Luncheon

There are five Sundays in the month of November which means a Potluck Luncheon on the 29th of November. Please plan to bring something tasty to share with the other St. Francis members and friends after the 11:00 service.

5th Sunday Nursing Home Visit

A small group from St. Francis has periodically visited the Retirement and Nursing Home on Burnet Lane for the past few years. At first, this was an outreach project for the children in the Sunday school program to visit a couple of St. Francis members who were then living at the home and to share songs and prayers with the other residents as well. Later, the youth decided to have another outreach project. The residents and the activity director so appreciated the visits, that a small group consisting of Claire Ducker, Amy and Jim Crandell and Martha Freeman now represent St. Francis on the 5th Sunday. We sing 12-15 hymns, pray and read from the Bible. We could use more participation from St. Francis. It is only an hour -- from 3:30 to 4:30 on the 5th Sunday. Please consider joining us.

Sunday School News



Thank you for prayers

for our Sunday school program! We continue to have a faithful group of parents who ensure their charges are in Sunday school. The class for the youth has 6 students in grades 7-11 who are working their way through the New Testament book of James. Their leader, Ellen Stults reports that the discussions are interesting and enlightening to all. The younger class consists of 7 children from age 4 to the 5th grade. We are wrapping up the lessons on a select number of Old Testament stories. All Saints' Day is the exception where we will discuss saints in general and specifically St Peter. Two of the lessons will be devoted to David from the Old Testament. On the first Sunday in Advent, we will discuss the Old Testament prophecies on the coming of the Messiah. This group is really eager to learn and a blessing to work with.

Thanks to Elaine Williams for organizing a group of women to staff the nursery during Sunday school.

Both classes will take a break to wrap and pack the Christmas boxes on November 15. Thanks to everyone who has responded by bringing items for the boxes as well as donating money that Operation Christmas Child asks to help send the boxes around the world. Please consider making a donation, either monetary or in kind to help us out.

The St. Francis Sunday school program is an extension of what is taught at each student's home. Pray for the families of our students that the lessons will inspire lots of discussion, more Bible reading and prayers involving the whole family.

Amy Crandell
Christian Education Director for children and youth

Bread: The Staff of Life

The St. Francis Parish October Drive to help restock the StoreHouse Food Bank in Pflugerville, will culminate on Sunday, November 1, All Saints Day, with refreshments after the 11 am service.

Many thanks to all of you who participated in this project to assist those who lack many of the basic necessities in these trying times.

Please join your fellow parishioners and give thanks to God for our many blessings.

Anglicans for Life

There will be a meeting of Anglicans for Life on Sunday, November 15th, after the 11:00 coffee hour. We will meet in the Parish Hall. Our goal is to help protect the lives of the unborn through work with young people, particularly college students, and by standing up for our beliefs in our everyday life. We invite everyone to join us.

Brown Bag Bible Study for Women

Thursdays at Noon in the Parish Hall, beginning October 1, and running through November 12. We will be studying "Calm Women in Turbulent Times: A Study of Bible Women from the Time of Samson to Saul." Join us, and bring your brown bag lunch. Questions? contact Becky Hunt at 636-5442, or bhunt27@austin.rr.com

Rector: The Reverend Len Giacolone

Senior Warden: Mark Rambin

Junior Warden:



Birthdays:

3	Mark Rambin Polly Sowell
9	Walter Hutson Mary Ogden
11	Meredith Stults
12	Elizabeth Brummett Michael Adams
13	Thomas O'Conner
15	Donald St. Martin
16	Madeline Phillips
17	Jan Triplett Martelle Wathen Kerry Manning Adams
22	William Henry Hoard
25	Steve McCown
27	Rebecca Hunt
28	David Norris
29	Thomas Pangle Ian Robert Hoard
30	Gordon Kinahan

Anniversaries:

30	Glenn and Rebecca Hunt
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Associate Rector: The Reverend John Stults

Organist: Paula Blaha

Server: Ray Merrill and Arthur Woodgate

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

November 2009

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| 1 ALL SAINTS' DAY, Daylight Saving Time ends
<u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am,
<u>Morning Prayer and Holy Communion</u> , 11:00 am,
Ecclesiasticus 44:1-10,13-14, Psalm 149
Revelation 7:2-4, 9-17, Matthew 5:1-12
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am | 15 <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am
and 11:00 am
Daniel 12:1-13, Psalm 16
Hebrews 10:31-39, Mark 13:14-23
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am
Anglicans for Life |
| 3 Adult Education, 7pm | 16 Mother's and Grandmother's Prayer Group,
11:00 am |
| 4 Prayer Parish, 7pm | 17 Adult Education, 7pm |
| 5 Bible Study for Women, 12 noon | 18 Prayer Parish, 7pm |
| 6 <i>Evening Prayer</i> , 6:00 pm Church
<i>Games night</i> , 6:30pm | 20 <i>Evening Prayer</i> , 6:00 pm Church |
| 8 <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am,
1 Kings 17:8-16, Psalm 146
Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am | 22 <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am,
Daniel 7:9-14, Psalm 93
Revelation 1:1-8, John 18:33-37
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am |
| 9 Vestry Meeting, 5:30 pm. | 25 Prayer Parish, 7pm |
| 10 Adult Education, 7pm | 26 <u>THANKSGIVING DAY</u>
<u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am,
Deut. 8:1-3,6-10,17-20, Psalm 65:9-14
James 1:17-18, 21-27, Matthew 6:25-33 |
| 11 Parish Prayer, 7pm | 27 <i>Evening Prayer</i> , 6:00 pm Church |
| 13 <i>Evening Prayer</i> , 6:00 pm Church | 29 <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am,
Zechariah 14:4-9, Psalm 50:1-6
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-31
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am
<i>POTLUCK</i> |