



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

Confirmation

Many of you were present for Confirmation with Bishop William Millsaps on October 23, when the bishop celebrated the Laying on of Hands for five of our members, Rory Motl, Morgan Tamez, Mary Lauren LaRoux and Samantha and Gabrielle Wathen. It was a beautiful celebration and there were many hands in the preparation for the event; the Altar Guild (which included Ben Ellis), the Choir, and the Women of St. Francis who prepared the food for the reception afterwards. A special thanks is due to Bishops Millsaps for traveling from Tennessee to be with us and confirm our members. I appreciate every one of you who work so hard to make sure that celebrations of this type go smoothly. I've never been disappointed thanks to the diligence with which all of you pitch in and help. Thanks so much.

Thanksgiving Day

We will celebrate the Holy Communion on Thanksgiving Day at 10:00 am. This is a beautiful way to begin the day and to take the opportunity to thank God for His blessings on us individually, on our families, and on our nation. Most everyone observes Thanksgiving in one way or another. Oftentimes it is simply with a big meal in the afternoon followed by a football game featuring the Dallas Cowboys. For many it's simply a four or five day weekend away from work. I encourage you to try to get back to the roots of this celebration. It was, of course, a day set aside to remember how God had blessed the first European settlers of this land. Giving some time to God on this day will not interfere with anyone's plans. Come join us for worship in the morning.

Christ the King

In many jurisdictions the last Sunday of the liturgical year is the Feast of Christ the King. Our own liturgical calendar places it on the last Sunday of October. The 1928 BCP doesn't commemorate it at all. Because we use the three year lectionary cycle at St. Francis the readings for the last Sunday of the liturgical year lend themselves more properly to this feast.

The feast was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 when the rise of secularism in Europe was causing many in the church to doubt the authority of Christ as the rightful king of the universe in favor of some secular authorities and dictators who were assuming power at that time. Anglicans and Lutherans have also added it to their worship calendars. It was established to bring to mind Christ's headship not only over the church but over all creation, an authority of service rather than oppression and dominance. We don't have much to do with kings in this country and so the imagery of kings and kingship is a bit foreign to us. But the Scripture is replete with images of God and Jesus as King and reminds us that we are servants of the Most High God, not His equals. The Book of Revelation calls Jesus King of Kings and Lord of Lords and St. Paul reminds us that one day every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. It is therefore quite appropriate that we continue to celebrate this feast in the face of the ever increasing march of secularism and other forms of denying God. It is also important for Christians to be a bit more vocal about whom they acknowledge as their Lord and King in this world.

From the Rector (cont.)

All Saints

November 1st is the Feast of All Saints and a day of obligation according to our calendar. I will celebrate Holy Communion at 12 o'clock noon on that day for those of you who wish to observe the feast. This feast does not perhaps have the solemnity of other days of obligation since it does not apply directly to Our Lord. However, the church has for many centuries tried to acknowledge in a meaningful way all those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. And we will do so this year.

Sunday School for Youth

Lots of activities are planned for the youth in Sunday School for November.

The elementary aged students will complete the Old Testament portion of this year's lessons, fill the boxes for Operation Christmas Child, and start the lessons for Advent.

We are drawing to a close on a long unit on Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and soon will add a couple of stories on Joseph. If you haven't read Genesis from beginning to end, I would encourage you to do so. These Old Testament patriarchs were truly challenged to carry out God's plan for Israel -- not all that different from the challenges our contemporary society faces. Thanks to Rebecca Hoard, Martelle Wathen, Cassandra Jenson, Missy Bernard and Kim Norris who are alternating working with the older kids. I think the older students like the variety of different teachers. Splitting the class is much easier on me, and the kids learn more as well.

November 20th is our shoe box packing day for Operation Christmas Child. Both the teen and the younger class will gather together to assemble the boxes. See the article below for more details.

November 27th is the first Sunday in Advent. The students will assemble Advent wreaths and learn about the Old Testament prophecies of the coming of the Messiah. We will start thinking about the Christmas Pageant to be held on December 18.

The youth class continues their unit titled Jesus on Jesus with lessons on Jesus saying he is the bread of life, the door, the good shepherd and the resurrection and the life. Doug Cooper continues to lead the class, with Wanda Stults filling in for him on one day. Thanks to both.

Thanks to all the parents who bring their charges to Sunday school and to all of you who continue to pray for the Sunday School program at St. Francis. Keep it up. Prayers are always good.

Amy Crandell

Operation Christmas Child

By the time you are reading this newsletter, you should have received a letter from me on behalf of the youth in the Sunday School classes at St. Francis. Since 2002, we have packed shoe boxes for the Good Samaritan's program called Operation Christmas Child. Your help is needed to provide the contents for the boxes or to make a donation toward the organizer's recommended donation of \$7 per box. This is a great program that performs a wonderful ministry for children around the world. Check out their website at <http://www.samaritanpurse.org>. If you have donated items or money in the past, please continue to help us out again. If you are new to St. Francis, please consider helping out. It is easy to do. Items for the boxes are needed by November 13th, as we are packing boxes on November 20th.

Anglicans for Life

There will be a meeting of Anglicans for Life on Sunday, November 20th. We meet in the Parish Hall after the 11:00 am coffee hour.

Please join us to see how we at Saint Francis are joining with others, both locally and nation wide, to support the sanctity of life.

Christmas Poinsettias

The First Sunday in Advent is November 27th. For the 12 days of Christmas the church will be beautifully decorated with poinsettias. If you wish to make a donation for the poinsettias as a remembrance or a memorial please put your donation for poinsettias in the collection plate or give it to Nancy Critchfield-Jones or Angie McCown. Envelopes for this purpose are located on the table in the back of the church. Be sure you write the names of the persons to be remembered or memorialized on the envelope.

Thanks,

Shirley Ellis
Altar Guild Director

Rector: The Rev. Canon Len Giacalone
Senior Warden: Mark Rambin
Junior Warden: Keith Harrell



Birthdays

3 Mark Rambin
Polly Sowell
8 Rory Motl
9 Walter Hutson
Mary Ogden
11 Meredith Stults
12 Michael Adams
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
29 Thomas Pangle
Ian Robert Hoard

Anniversary

30 Glenn and Rebecca Hunt



Associate Rector: The Reverend John Stults
Organist: Paula Blaha
Servers: Ray Merrill and Arthur Woodgate
Ed Sandlin and Philip Crandell

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 2011

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|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | <i>All Saints Day, Holy Communion, 12 noon</i> | 16 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7:00 pm |
| 2 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm | 17 | Evening Prayer, 6pm Church |
| 3 | Evening Prayer, 6pm Church | 20 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Ezekiel 34:11-17 Psalm 95:1-7
1 Corinthians 15:20-28 Matthew 25:31-46
Sunday School for Children
Anglicans for Life, 12:30pm |
| 4 | Games Night, 6:30pm | 21 | Mother's Prayer Group, 11:00 am |
| 5 | Austin City Prayer walk, 9am | 22 | Anglican Rosary 12 noon |
| 6 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am,
<u>Morning Prayer and</u>
<u>Holy Communion</u> , 11:00 am
Amos 5:18-24, Psalm 70
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13
Sunday School for Children | 23 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm |
| 8 | Anglican Rosary 12 noon | 24 | <u>Thanksgiving</u>
Deuteronomy 8:1-3, 6-10, 17-20
Psalm 65:9-14 James 1:17-18, 21-27
Matthew 6:25-33 |
| 9 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm | 27 | <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>
<u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Isaiah 64:1-9a Psalm 80:1-7
1 Corinthians 1:1-9 Mark 13:24-37
Sunday School for Children
<i><u>Feast of Christ the King, 12:30pm</u></i> |
| 10 | Evening Prayer, 6pm Church | 29 | Anglican Rosary, 12 noon |
| 13 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Zephaniah 1:7. 12-18 Psalm 90
1 Thessalonians 5:1-10
Matthew 25: 14-15, 19-29
Sunday School for Children | 30 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm |
| 14 | Vestry Meeting, 5:30pm | | |
| 15 | Anglican Rosary, 12 noon | | |