



## The St. Francis Bulletin

### **FROM THE RECTOR:**

#### *Confirmation*

On Sunday, October 23, The Right Reverend William W. Millsaps, Presiding Bishop Emeritus of the Episcopal Missionary Church, will be here to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. I wrote about confirmation last month before I knew the exact date so I will not repeat any of that information. However, it is a major event to have a visit from the bishop and I hope that everyone will try to be here for his visit. As always, there will be a reception after the service for the confirmands provided by St. Clare's Guild and an opportunity to talk with the bishop if you have never done so before.

#### *A Response*

The recent wildfires in the central Texas area were devastating to a great number of people in and around Austin. Many organization and ministries throughout the area were on the scene trying to help people, many of whom lost everything. The Salvation Army is always in the midst of responses to disasters like these and the Vestry has voted to send a donation to them to assist them in these efforts. A number of our parishioners were very close to these fires. None of them suffered any real loss. For that, we are grateful to God. Please continue to pray for these people and if God puts it on your heart to make some kind of personal response, please do so.

#### *Fifth Sunday Potluck*

October has five Sundays and on the fifth Sunday of the month we always have a Pot Luck lunch following the 11:00 am Holy Communion service. Some of our recent Pot Lucks have been less well attended than in the past. This is a great opportunity to spend some time over a meal with some other parishioners who perhaps you may not

talk with very often. I realize that there may be other commitments from time to time, but please consider joining us for some food and conversation on October 30.

#### *40 Days for Life*

Even though the fall campaign for 40 Days for Life has begun, I'm sure that your presence at one of the abortion clinics in the area would still be appreciated, if you have not already made the commitment for this fall. If you are not familiar with 40 Days for Life, it is a prayer vigil, twelve hours per day, seven days per week, this fall beginning on September 28 and ending November 6. Each person is asked to spend one hour in prayer at one of three abortion clinics in Austin. Sidewalk counselors are available all day long to speak with women who are contemplating having an abortion. Since 40 Days began in Austin, hundreds of lives have been saved and the number is in the thousands nationwide. Many of the women who have decided to keep their babies have said that it was simply our prayerful presence in front of these clinics that helped change their minds. In speaking with the sidewalk counselors, these women discover that they have other choices and simply need the encouragement to choose life rather than ending their pregnancy. Organizations like the Austin Pregnancy Resource Center are there to help. St. Francis proudly sponsors both 40 Days for Life and APRC. In addition to your financial and prayer support, volunteer opportunities are available at both of these organizations. As I have mentioned to you before, the Episcopal Missionary Church is officially Pro-Life. Please take the opportunity to think about your personal response to this extremely important question in our country and city

### **Sunday School for Youth**

I had the opportunity to transport Adonette and Christian to Sunday on September 11. The level of excitement expressed by these two was comparable to a young child waiting on Christmas Day. Neither slept very well the night before and both woke up at the crack of dawn to be ready to go at 8:45 when I knocked at their door. Neither could stop talking in the car both to church and on the way home. Such excitement about Sunday school is contagious and a blessing to the other youth and the adults involved in Sunday school.

Classes began with the expectation that the younger class would have 11 and the youth class 3 students. By the end of the month, most have shown up at least once. Thanks to the parent(s) of the 7 families involved who made sure their charges came to Sunday school.

The youth class is being ably led by Doug Cooper. Using a curriculum titled Teach Deep, the students have finished a set of lessons on studying the life of Jesus and will move into a unit on three of the parables and then begin a 7 week session on what Jesus said about himself. The lessons provide food for thought for everyone involved.

The younger class starts out in the church service, exiting to the parish house at the announcements. For about 15 minutes, the class is combined for the opening activities and the Bible story. The group then divides by readers and non-readers for activities that relate to the story. I am pleased that five adults willingly said "YES!" when asked to be in a rotation to led the older group. Thanks to Martelle Wathen, Missy Bernard, Rebecca Hoard, Cassandra Jenson, and Kim Norris for helping out. I am leading the younger group. Following the layout and activities from One Room Sunday School curriculum and with input on the overall theme from Fr. Len, the lessons in October will be on the Genesis stories of Jacob and Esau from chapters 25, 27 and 28. Each class ends with prayers and a snack, followed most Sundays by a trip to the playground.

Sunday school and church activities only make up a small portion of the life of these children and youth -- for many it is only this one hour on most

Sundays. It is my hope and expectation that prayers, Bible reading and discussions of God are major activity in every home. The parent is still the primary instructor on the child's religious instruction with Sunday school serving as an important supplement to the home instruction. Our parents need your prayers.

Please pray for the children and youth of St. Francis. They are the future of our church. There are so many competing forces for a young person's attention both now and when they leave home. Pray that they develop a rock solid faith that will not waiver as they reach adulthood.

Amy Crandell

Youth Sunday School Director

### **Fifth Sunday Potluck**

Have you ever noticed that October has 5 Sundays more often than not? This means a Fifth Sunday Potluck Luncheon. Plan to bring something tasty to eat and share with other St. Francis members and friends on October 30 after the 11:00 service.

### **Retirement and Nursing Home Visit**

St. Francis is moving into its 7th year of volunteering at the Retirement and Nursing Center on Burnet Lane. On Oct. 30, a small group will sing, pray and read from the Bible in what the center calls a worship service. Between 3:30 and 4:30, we sing 12-14 songs with the residents -- some of whom join us quite enthusiastically! Select prayers and canticles from Morning Prayer are used, along with the Bible readings for that Sunday. The residents were delighted when Leanne and Kyle Read's grandchildren came to help last July. I think that most do not see young people very often and truly any new face is a joy to these folks. Anyone is welcome to join us at 6909 Burnet Lane -- we would love for this small group to get larger!. Any questions, ask Claire Ducker or Amy Crandell.

### **Operation Christmas Child**

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty,

natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ.

November 20 will mark our 10th year of participating with Operation Christmas Child. Do you have extra shoe boxes? Many purchase new shoes this time of year and the boxes **with a separate lid** that once held women's or children's shoes will be very useful when we pack the shoe boxes. Bring to the east room of the parish house and add to the growing stack outside the nursery door.

Expect the annual letter from the youth this month asking for donations of items for our boxes. We depend on the St. Francis parishioners to supply the contents of our Christmas boxes.

### **Anglicans for Life**

There will be a meeting of Anglicans for Life on Sunday, October 16th. We meet in the Parish Hall after the 11:00 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.

### **Women's Meeting**

Saturday, Oct. 22, has been scheduled for the fall meeting of the women of St. Francis Parish at 10 am. There will be a brief report from each Committee Chairwoman on projects undertaken in the past year, and for plans and goals for the future. Please join these dedicated women to learn more about the life of your church, and to enjoy the fellowship of your fellow parishioners.

**Rector: The Rev. Canon Len Giacolone**

**Senior Warden: Mark Rambin**

**Junior Warden: Keith Harrell**



### **Birthdays**

- 5 Kevin Burnette
- 8 Mary Sanders
- 13 Gayle Harrell
- 15 Andrew Brummett
- 19 Harriette Scharff
- 25 Carole Martin  
Ed Sandlin
- 27 Suzan Stratton
- 28 David Norris

### **Anniversary**

- 1 Rev. Robert and Barbara Rawson
- 3 Len and Nancy Giacolone  
Chris and Tricia Denslow
- 7 Robert and Rory Motl
- 12 Robert and Peggy Geiler
- 13 Ed and Katie Sandlin



**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

## OCTOBER 2011

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|----|---|----|---|
| 2  | Austin City Prayer Walk, 9am  | 16 | <b><u>Holy Communion</u></b> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am<br>Isaiah 45:1-7                      Psalm 96<br>1 Thessalonians 1:1-10      Matthew 22:15-22<br>Sunday School for Children Mon. 10/17                   |
| 3  | <b><u>Holy Communion</u></b> , 9:30 am,<br><b><u>Morning Prayer and</u></b><br><b><u>Holy Communion</u></b> , 11:00 am<br>Isaiah 5:1-7                      Psalm 80<br>Philippians 3:14-21      Matthew 21:33-43<br>Sunday School for Children | 17 | Mother's Prayer Group, 11:00 am   |
| 4  | Anglican Rosary 12 noon   | 18 | Anglican Rosary 12 noon   |
| 5  | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm  | 19 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm  |
| 6  | Bible Study for Women, 12 noon<br>Evening Prayer, 6pm Church  | 20 | Bible Study for Women, 12 noon<br>Evening Prayer, 6pm Church  |
| 7  | Games Night, 6:30pm   | 23 | <b><u>Holy Communion</u></b> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am<br>Exodus 22:21-27                      Psalm 1<br>1 Thessalonians 2:1-8      Matthew 22:34-46<br>Sunday School for Children<br>CONFIRMATION, 11 am       |
| 9  | <b><u>Holy Communion</u></b> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am<br>Isaiah 25:1-9                      Psalm 23<br>Philippians 4:4-13      Matthew 22:1-14<br>Sunday School for Children   | 25 | Anglican Rosary 12 noon   |
| 10 | Vestry Meeting, 5:30pm  | 26 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm  |
| 11 | Anglican Rosary, 12 noon  | 27 | Bible Study for Women, 12 noon<br>Evening Prayer, 6pm Church  |
| 12 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7:00 pm  | 30 | <b><u>Holy Communion</u></b> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am<br>Micah 3:5-12                      Psalm 43<br>1 Thessalonians 2:9-13,17-20<br>Matthew 23:1-12<br>Sunday School for Children<br>Pot Luck Lunch, 12:30pm |
| 13 | Bible Study for Women, 12 noon<br>Evening Prayer, 6pm Church  |    |   |