



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

As we begin 2013, I want to wish every one of you a most blessed and Happy New Year. I am sure that the year will bring its challenges for all of us individually. It seems as though the challenges increase year by year. Resting and abiding in the Lord is the one sure way to lighten whatever challenges and difficulties may come our way.

With the new year there will be challenges for us as a parish that we have never encountered before. As you know, we have sold the property to its previous owners and are negotiating with them to lease back the property for a period of time. How long we will be at our present locale is not yet known. Of course, we are at the same time attempting to find another location which will be a permanent one for us. This is a matter for frequent prayer for me and it should be for you as well. I know God has a place for us. He just hasn't told us where that is. Because of our current situation, our Senior Warden, Mark Rambin, has suggested that we could use a more rapid method of communication than the current ones we use (pew sheet and newsletter). To that end, if you would like to be kept informed of what is happening on a timely basis, please send your email address to Mark at mrambin@msn.com. That way we can keep you up to date with where we are and what is happening. That being said, there are a number of things going on in January to keep us occupied. On Sunday, January 20, Bishop William Millsaps will be with us for Confirmation. We have had the bishop with us often over the years both for Confirmations and Ordinations which is a testimony to our spiritually active parish.

At this time I believe that we will have four adults and two of our young people who will be confirmed. These are always joyous occasions for our parish and I expect this to be one as well.

On January 27, I intend to baptize Gideon Hatley, the son of John and Christina Hatley, who are new members of our parish. This will take place during the 11:00 am service. Congratulations to the Hatleys on their new baby and his new life in God's kingdom.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will take place on Saturday, January 26, at 6:30 pm at the County Line on the Lake, 5204 F. M. 2222, just east of Loop 360. For the last several years we have been at Cannoli Joe's and I thought it might be nice if we had a change of venue this year. Our meal will feature all you can eat brisket, sausage and chicken with bowls of potato salad, cole slaw and beans served family style. Your soft drink will be included in the meal. If you wish to have an adult beverage you're on your own. Our dinner is open to any adult in the parish who has volunteered in any way for the church during 2012. I will have a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the meeting room shortly after the first of the year. If you are single you may bring a guest. I will have to provide a count for the restaurant so signing up is necessary. We do this each year just to let you know how grateful we are for your service to the whole community of St. Francis. I look forward to seeing you on the 26th.

There will be some Pro-Life activities in January as well. As you know, January 22 is the 40th anniversary of the infamous Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision. Many Pro-Life organizations are planning major observances to commemorate this tragic date in our history. The annual Texas Alliance for Life Rally will take place on January 26. More information on that later. We will probably be doing our parish sign-up for the spring campaign for 40 Days for Life sometime during the month. 40 Days begins on Ash Wednesday, February 13 and runs until Palm Sunday, March 24. As always I encourage as many of you as possible to sign up for prayer in front of one of the abortion clinics in the area.

Sunday School News

Younger Class

In 2013, the younger class continues with the curriculum titled **One Room Sunday School** published by Cokesbury. The first lesson is on the wise men from Matthew 2:1-12. It isn't often that the Feast of the Epiphany falls on a Sunday! The last three weeks of January begin a new unit titled **Living in the Kingdom** where the children will once again learn how Jesus taught his followers how God the Father wanted them to live. The first lesson of this unit is on John baptizing Jesus, 3rd chapter of Matthew, followed by how Jesus instructed his followers to pray by teaching what we know as the Lord's Prayer from Matthew, chapter 6. Finally, the last lesson continues in Matthew with the story on how Jesus's followers were instructed to not worry about what to eat or wear, but to trust in God and to live in obedience to his will and to follow the golden rule: "So whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them." Many thanks to Rebecca Hoard for leading this group! This class begins each lesson by attending the first part of the 9:30 service. The class size varies from a couple of students up to 12, when everyone comes.

Older Class

Doug Cooper leads this group as they continue in Year 2 of the **Teach Deep** curriculum titled **The Church**. The theme for the unit in January is *Images of the Church*. These 6 lessons of this unit explore the images used in the New Testament to describe the Church of Jesus. The richness of these analogies will help the class find out who they are and what God calls them to do. Topics in this unit include: *What's In a Name?*, *The Bride of Christ*, *The Body of Christ*, *The Flock*, *The Family of God*, and *The House of God*. This class varies in size from a couple of students up to 7, plus some friends who are invited.

Is the St. Francis Sunday school program on your prayer list? Please pray for the teachers, students and parents who are part of our Sunday school program.

Prayer Walk

Our first prayer walk in 2013 is on Saturday, January 5th. Since our state legislative session commences on the 8th, we have planned to walk and pray around the state capitol building. We'll be interceding for our state lawmakers so they will be filled with godly wisdom and courage as they make important decisions affecting our state and city.

Please join us at 9 am in the Parish House for coffee and opening prayer. We'll car pool and drive down to the capital. Wear comfortable clothing and sneakers and bring a heart burdened for the needs of our community. We conclude at 11 am.

If you have questions, please contact David and Kim Norris: austincityprayerwalk@hotmail.com or (281) 923-9028.

Epiphany Celebration

The Feast of the Epiphany is Sunday, January 6th. Epiphany is primarily observed by orthodox Catholic and Anglican Christians. Many Protestant believers do not understand the spiritual importance of this holiday; one of the earliest feasts celebrated by the Church. Epiphany commemorates the visitation of the biblical Magi to the baby Jesus. The significance behind the visit of the Magi is the revelation of Christ as "Lord and King." The Wise Men were the first Gentiles to publicly recognize the divinity of Jesus by way of their offerings of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Matthew 2:1-12

Epiphany is also referred to as Three Kings Day or Twelfth Night, the final day of the Christmas season. Traditional English celebrations include hot and spicy foods that recall the costly spices brought by the Wise Men. Wassail, a hot spicy mulled cider, fruitcakes, spice cakes, trifles and ginger cookies are some examples of the festive foods.

Anglicans for Life

There will be a meeting of Anglicans for Life on Sunday, January 13th, after the 11:00 service.

January 20th has been designated as national Sanctity of Life Sunday. This is the 40th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade and a special day to remember the better than 50 million lives lost due to this ruling. Please join us.

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



Birthdays

- 1 Audrey Woodgate
Collier Carsrud
- 5 Philip Crandell
Doug Cooper
- 6 Jerry Bordelon
- 12 Carol Lofland
- 17 Tom Matthews
- 18 Gayle Horn
- 19 Arthur Woodgate
Gary Horn
- 25 Barbara Rawson
- 29 Margaret Sikes
- 31 Ben Ellis

Anniversary

- 11 Grady and Michelle Collins
- 16 Michael and Peggy Presley
- 25 Brendle and Teresa Glomb



Organist: Paula Blaha
Servers: Ray Merrill, Ed Sandlin,
Arthur Woodgate and James Glomb

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 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

JANUARY 2013

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| 1 | NEW YEAR'S DAY | 16 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm |
| 3 | Evening Prayer, 6:30pm | 17 | Mothers Prayer Group, 1:30pm
Evening Prayer, 6pm |
| 4 | Games Night, 6:30pm | 20 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 96
1 Cor. 12:1-11 John 2:1-11
Sunday School
Confirmation, 11am |
| 5 | Austin City Prayer Walk, 9am | 22 | Anglican Rosary, 12 noon |
| 6 | <u>Morning Prayer and Holy Communion</u> ,
9:30 am and 11:00 am
Isaiah 60:1-6, 9 Psalm 72
Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12
Sunday School | 23 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm |
| 8 | Anglican Rosary, 12 noon | 26 | Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, 6:30pm |
| 9 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm | 27 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Nehemiah 8:2-10 Psalm 113
1 Cor. 12:12-27 Luke 4:14-21
Sunday School |
| 10 | Evening Prayer, 6pm | 29 | Anglican Rosary, 12 noon |
| 13 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 89:20-29
Acts 10:34-38 Luke 3:15-16, 21-
22
Sunday School | 30 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7pm |
| 14 | Vestry Meeting, 5:30pm | 31 | Evening Prayer, 6pm |
| 15 | Anglican Rosary, 12 noon | | |