



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

First of all, a very happy and blessed new year to all of you! It is my prayer that the Lord will enrich each of you with His grace and gifts in 2011.

Thanks to everyone who had a hand in the Christmas festivities. Nothing works here without everyone pitching in. Speaking of pitching in, it has been our custom for the past few years to thank everyone in a practical way for their volunteer efforts during the year. This year we will return to Cannoli Joe's for our appreciation dinner. Believe it or not, we're not doing this because I'm Italian. The Vestry thought it was a great place to have it and so we will be there again this year. The date is January 22 at 6:30 pm. You know the rules. If you volunteered for anything at the church during 2010 you are eligible to attend. Your meal and soft drinks will be covered and a cash bar is available. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall shortly. I need to give them a count by the 20th. Thanks to all of you for your efforts.

Also on the 22nd, Texas Alliance for Life is sponsoring their annual Rally for Life on the south steps of the Capitol Building. The rally begins with a march starting at 4th and Guadalupe at 1:00 pm and continues down Guadalupe and up Congress to the Capitol.

If you can't do the walk, you can assemble at the Capitol. The festivities at the Capitol begin about 2:00 pm. This is one of the many opportunities we have to show our position on this issue. For a city this size, there should be 50 to 100 thousand people participating instead of the few thousand that usually show up. I know not everyone can do everything but if you aren't doing something in this matter, you should be.

Our own Pro-Life series will begin on Tuesday January 18 at 7:00 pm. The format is fairly simply. There will be about a fifteen minute video presentation followed by discussion and Q and A. This series covers all sorts of life issues ranging from abortion to euthanasia. It is my contention that even though most of us are pro-life, many pro-lifers are woefully under informed on so many levels. This course will provide you with the ammunition you need for this fight.

One more pro-life note. Justice for All will be returning to the UT campus in February. I am not sure of the exact dates but I will let you know as the time approaches. As many of you know, St. Francis has supported JFA for many years. They are a front line organization in the battle to make "abortion unthinkable one person at a time." I am proud of our association with them and all our pro-life partners.

Continued from the Rector:

As you know, the EMC is the only continuing Anglican church with an official pro-life stance as an organization. Our Anglicans for Life group at St. Francis has decided to support the Pro-Life movement locally in the coming year. We will split our contributions between the Austin Coalition for Life and the Austin Pregnancy Resource Center in 2011. From what I know these organizations are usually strapped for cash and we will be able to make some difference for them in the new year.

The annual parish meeting will take place on Sunday February 6 after the 11:00 am Holy Communion service. Please plan to be there.

Prayer Walk

January 8th is our first prayer walk scheduled for 2011. Please join us at 9 am in the Parish Hall. We have coffee and opening prayer before we carpool and head downtown. We will walk and pray along 7th Street. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a heart burdened for the transformation of our Austin community. Tell a friend; bring a friend. All our welcome! For more information, please contact David and Kim Norris at (281) 923-9028 or austincityprayer-walk@hotmail.com. Hope to see you then!

Anglicans For Life

There will be a regular meeting of Anglicans for Life on Sunday, January 16, after the 11am service in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Christian Education News

Writing this the day after Christmas (yes, I know it was late), I cannot help but to reflect on the past month. Each year, the children in the Sunday school act in the Christmas Pageant. Last year was the first time any of the children were willing to speak at all in several years. I had new hope of what they could do in the future. With nearly every child now attending school and nearly all reading, I decided that any child in school should have a speaking role and wrote a script I thought the children could handle. I declared to the children that everyone would have a speaking part and asked the parents to help their child(ren) learn the part. The pageant was part of the [Sunday school lesson](#) for three weeks and by the end, I was pleased with what these children were able to do. I was happy to include the children who attend Sunday school with Baraka each afternoon in the pageant this year -- this was the first pageant they had ever participated in (one did manage to go through the [dress rehearsal](#), but couldn't bring himself to perform). Next year, I will better know what these children can be expected to do. With the limited time and attention of the children, over rehearsing has never been a problem with the St. Francis. Thanks to the parents who helped their children learn the lines.

Sunday school starts up again [on January 9th](#). The elementary aged students move from the [Old Testament](#) stories to the [New Testament](#). During January, the children will read, study, and have activities on sections from Matthew (the [Mustard Seed](#) and the [Unforgiving Servant](#)), followed by two

from Luke (the Lost Sheep and the Forgiving Father). I am looking forward to teaching the children again after the **Christmas** break. It is quite different from what I do between 8 and 5 each day and appreciate the privilege of working with the children.

I plan to continue returning to church each afternoon to repeat the lesson with the children of parents attending the Baraka service. Children who first attend Sunday school are so delighted to learn about God that I find it refreshing to tell and use the stories in the Bible to let them know about God.

Thanks again to Ed Sandlin for working with the youth class the last few weeks of 2010. They did a whirlwind study Colossians and Philemon in four weeks. Mike Ready is refreshed and prepared to work once again with the youth in January. He thinks a study of the **church fathers** is in order. I am not sure even I remember the details and the sacrifices Christians before us made. It is nice to get a historical perspective of what happened in our church to help keep us focused on what is important.

Please keep the Sunday school program for the youth in your prayers.

Rector: The Reverend Len Giacolone
Senior Warden: Mark Rambin
Junior Warden: Keith Harrell

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

The sign-up list was cleared and the dates for 2011 written in. Since this was done the week before Christmas, not many noticed and only a few Sundays are filled in. Please consider when you would like to bring the food for the coffee hour and sign-up.



Birthdays

1	Audrey Woodgate
4	Frances Gould
5	Philip Crandell Doug Cooper
6	Jerry Bordelon
17	Tom Matthews
18	Gayle Horn
19	Arthur Woodgate Gary Horn
24	Erika Denslow
25	Barbara Rawson
28	Cornelia Wood
29	Margaret Sikes
31	Ben Ellis

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

January 2011

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|----|---|----|---|
| 4 | Anglican Rosary 12 noon | 17 | <i>Mothers and grandmothers prayer group</i> |
| 5 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7:00 pm | 18 | Anglican Rosemary, noon |
| 6 | Evening Prayer, 6 pm Church | 18 | Pro-Life Series, 7:00 pm |
| 7 | Games Night, 6:30pm | 19 | Transformation Prayer, 7pm |
| 8 | Austin Prayer Walk, 9am | 20 | Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church |
| 9 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am,
<u>Morning Prayer and</u>
<u>Holy Communion</u> , 11:00 am,
Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85
2 Peter 3:8-15a, 18
Mark 1:1-8
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am | 22 | Appreciation Dinner, 6:30 pm at Cannoli Joe's |
| 10 | Vestry meeting, 5:30 pm | 23 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am,
2 Samuel 7:4, 8-16
Psalm 132
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am |
| 11 | Anglican Rosary 12 noon | 25 | Anglican Rosary 12 noon |
| 12 | Transformation Prayer Group, 7:00 pm | 25 | Pro-Life Series, 7:00 pm |
| 13 | Evening Prayer, 6pm Church | 26 | Transformational Prayer, 7pm |
| 16 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am,
Isaiah 65:17-25
Psalm 126
1 Thessalonians 5:12-28
John 1:6-8, 19-28
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am | 27 | Evening Prayer, 6:00 pm Church |
| | | 30 | <u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 am and 11:00 am,
Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-20
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 am |