



Saint Francis Journal

November, 2022



A Loving Community, Serving God's Kingdom



MORE THAN ENOUGH

Grace and peace be yours in abundance through knowledge of God and Jesus Christ our Lord!

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”
- Matthew 1:23b NRSV

This November is a season of endings and beginnings. We are ending our stewardship season and the season of Pentecost and beginning the season of Advent.

More Than Enough is the theme of our stewardship season this year. During this time, we have listened to sermons, read weekly meditations, and prayed over our pledge cards - committing our labor to the continued work of the church. Through your contribution, you are first and foremost giving thanks to God for all you have received and offering a portion of it back to God through the Church in gratitude. You are also saying that you believe in the mission and ministry of St. Francis. For these gifts, we are grateful. Remember that even though the season may be over, giving is year-round.

The season of Pentecost is a long season and is sometimes referred to as ‘Ordinary’ time because the weeks after Pentecost are numbered. Remember - Pentecost is the day we celebrated the Holy Spirit being poured upon the Apostles. This anointing was for the Apostles to continue Jesus’ work and spread the Good News to the world. Like the summer season, the season of

Pentecost is associated with growth, and ends on the Last Day of Pentecost, also known as Christ the King Sunday. This year the Last Day of Pentecost falls on November 20th.

The Sunday following the Last Day of Pentecost we begin a new liturgical year with the First Sunday of Advent. The First Sunday of Advent falls on November 27th this year. There are four Sundays in the Advent season. We concentrate on the Gospel of Matthew, with 2023 being year “A” of three –year liturgical cycle. Advent is a time in our world where the days get shorter and we head towards Christmas. It is a time when we anticipate the coming of Jesus. We use an Advent wreath in the church to mark off the weeks, lighting one more each Sunday until, on Christmas Eve, we light the center Christ candle.

In these endings and beginnings, we have the end of one liturgical cycle and the beginning of another. We move from seeing what God has provided through the people and resources to applying those gifts to further the Kingdom on earth. We end a season of growth and begin a season of anticipation, a season of Emanuel, of God with us.

God's Peace,
Mitch+



New Vestry Members & Diocesan Council Members Elected

Vestry (2023-2026)

Jeremey Cole

Claire Hodges

Gipsy Schneider

Council Delegates 2023

Jay DeOrnellas Dwyane Dunn

Lisa Kraus Carol Lanthrum

Congratulations & Thanks

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Mitch Tollett, Rector

The Rev. Joel McAlister, Curate

Dr. Cameron Rose, Director of Music

Sheila Thrash, Children/Youth Director

Carol Lanthrum, Parish Administrator

Susan Kohler, Treasurer

Alberto Cruz, Sexton

VESTRY

Pat Sarubbi, Senior Warden (2022)

Sheila Thrash, Junior Warden (2022)

Marley Johnson (2022)

Sara Back (2023)

Todd Lestage (2023)

Paul Streufert (2023)

Doug Clark (2024)

Nancy Earls (2024)

Lisa Kraus (2024)

Kathy Dunn, Clerk

A Word from Joel...



Inheritance

We may not realize it, or we may not think about it often, but the faith we possess today is something that has been influenced by others. Have you had someone in your life that inspired you to faith? There are those saints that have come before us, that have lived before us, that we inherit so much from. If you think about the church building that we worship in, for example, it is a physical building that we have inherited from the community of St. Francis that came before us. We are able to have a space to worship in because of the faith and commitment of others. It is a physical manifestation of the dependence we experience on others, not just those that are across the pew from us on Sunday, but the Saints that have already entered into glory! Let us be thankful for all those whose faith supports us, especially all the saints in heaven.

Blessings,
Fr. Joel+



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, Nov 5th, at **8:30am**
Parish Hall

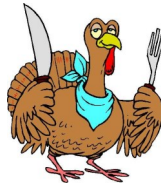
Church Under a Bridge Prep
Saturday, Nov. 5th
Education Building



DOK Meeting
Saturday, Nov. 5th, 9am
Adult Ed Room

CPR Training
Mon. Nov. 7th 4:30 to 7 pm
Education Building

Men's Turkey Smoke
Sat. Nov. 5th * after Breakfast
All Church Turkey Luncheon
Sun. Nov. 6th * Noon



Congratulations to our newest
****American Citizen****
Alberto Cruz

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Peter Kohler (11/1)
Dwyane Dunn (11/12)
Alec Barat (11/14)
Christian Pierce (11/25)
Sheila Thrash (11/26)

Cindy Cornett (11/3)
Laura McAlister (11/13)
Jill Lestage (11/17)
Allison Ridley (11/25)
Lawrence Barat (11/27)
Frank Cabell (11/30)

Jacob Hartman (11/6)
Jeane Brown (11/14)
Lorene Arnold (11/18)
Margaret Faulk (11/26)
Isaac Stone (11/29)

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Allison & Ryan Ridley (11/2)
Gay & Roy Barron (11/5)
Carole & David Barnes (11/9)
Mary & David Hood (11/14)

Pam Renner & Galen Hays (11/3)
Jacquelynne & Kevin DeOrnellas (11/7)
Susan & Peter Kohler (11/10)
Kathy & Doug Clark (11/27)

AS YOU, I AM A BELOVED CHILD OF THE MOST HIGH GOD!

Dear St. Francis, Tyler,

When I was invited to write a message to introduce myself, I thought this an honor and a simple enough task. Wait. An honor, yes. Simple, no!

As a Postulant for Bi-vocational Priesthood in the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, I am a senior at the Iona School for Ministry in Navasota, Texas, based at Camp Allen, near Houston. Who I am now bears little resemblance to who I used to be, though it is at the core of the Lord's calling now. Christ Church, Tyler, is my beloved sending church and you are my beloved interning church this year!

This is who I was. Raised in Dallas, my parents moved to East Texas after I graduated from high school. Leaving for the University of Texas at Austin, then to Pratt Institute, NY, to study architecture, I had the great opportunity to study in Rome and at New College, Oxford. Since the age of 5, I kept a diary, drew buildings, and loved books. Through a passion for art, architecture, history, and literature, I knew that I was right where God would have me. For twenty years, I lived in NYC, Oxford, and Italy, 1981-2001. Becoming sick with an auto immune illness, I would need to stop working for a time. Traveling to Europe, especially Italy whenever possible, I began the journey of writing *THE ECOLOGY OF ARCHITECTURE*. I rested, healed, and chaired a Board of Directors. The book became a textbook at Harvard, University of Texas, and for most American universities with a curriculum on Sustainability. I went on to lecture and consult for the City and State of New York, the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Museum of Design, the American Institute of Architects to name a few. Getting engaged, we moved to Maryland. I landed positions with the US Green Building Council and the Governor of Maryland right before 9/11 happened. Communication shut down immediately in NYC and Washington, DC. Many people I knew died in the Twin Towers and the Pentagon.

Everything ceased. The government, the funding, the jobs, the engagement. Instead of moving mother to the East Coast which felt so dangerous then, I moved back to Texas. The story of Ruth had much influence on that decision. Who I used to be was centered on bricks and mortar, adventure, accomplishment. The years I spent helping my mother are a testimony to God's revealing the truly important parts of life. Caring for her, hearing stories I never knew. These days, God shows me successes disguised as blessings!

God changed me into who I am and will mold us into who we are to become. God has called me to teach, to write, to priesthood. Being a student in the priesthood is a liminal, threshold, kind of space. I continue to be molded, more than I could have imagined. The pandemic added difficult challenges. This year I get to be with you all, to serve with Fr. Mitch as your intern, to learn what God will reveal, to make a difference as God would have it. Not bricks and mortar, but hearts, minds, and souls. To see a great clarity of the Lord, now and then, with deep gratitude.

I hope you'll write to me if you like, I'd love to know who YOU are!

Gratefully in Christ,
Laura Claire Zeiher



In honor of beloved friends, family, and parents, Eric and Claire Dennard.
All Saints Day, November 1, 2022

Fall Harvest Food & Toiletries Drive through the month of November

Conversations on Race is sponsoring a Fall Harvest Food Drive. Canned goods and shelf-stable food are being collected for the food pantry at the East Texas Cares Resource Center. The Resource Center provides services to all marginalized members of our community. Church Under a Bridge and Young at Heart are collecting new, unopened toiletries for distribution in December. Toiletries will be included with the December lunches delivered to CUB and in Christmas stockings included with December food pantry deliveries performed by Young at Heart volunteers. We will target socks collection in the spring as other groups target socks in December.

Look for the collection boxes in the Parish Hall. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, put 'Fall Harvest' in the memo line. Please contact Lisa Kraus (903-920-3881 or cabell.family@yahoo.com), or Sandra Dugan (228-332-4591 or sjdugan628@gmail.com) with questions or comments.

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www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler



November Special Events

Sat. November 5, 8:30 am
Men's Breakfast

Sat. November 5, 9:00 am
DOK Meeting

Sat. November 5, 10:00 am
Church Under a Bridge Lunch Prep

Sat. November 5, 10:30 am
Men's Turkey Smoke

Sun. November 6, Noon
All-Church Turkey Luncheon

Mon. November 7, 4:30 pm—7 pm
CPR Class

Sun. November 13, Noon
Conversation on Race

Tues. November 15, 6:00 pm
Vestry Meeting

Sun. November 20, 9:45 am
Worship Ministry Training

Thurs. Nov. 24 & Fri. Nov. 25
Happy Thanksgiving
Office closed

WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

Subject to change due to COVID restrictions

Nursery available from 8:00 am—1:00 pm

Sunday

- 8:30 am: Rite I—No music
- 9:30 am: Adult—Gospel Discussion—Adult Ed Room
Children—Sunday School—Children Ed Room
- 10:45 am: Rite II—Traditional Music
Broadcast Live on Facebook
- 6:00 pm: Yoga—Children's Ed Room

Wednesday

- Noon: Noon Eucharist & Bible Study
- 2:00 pm: Widows Support Group—Parish Hall
- 2:00 pm: God's Grace—St. Clare's
- 7:00 pm: Choir Practice—Sanctuary (except Wed. Nov. 23)

Thursday

- 5:00 pm: Handbell Practice—Music Room (except Thur. Nov. 24)



Fall Back

**Sunday
November
6th**