

# Saint Francis Journal

## March 2024

A Loving Community, Serving God's Kingdom



“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” John 3:16-17 NRSV

“We’ve got this, with God’s help.” – St. Francis Episcopal Church, most Sundays, and other days

In the month of March we are largely in the season of Lent. This year it is not until the last day of March, Sunday, March 31, which is Easter Day and the beginning of the Easter season, that we live a liturgical post-resurrection life. Until that day we are in the liturgical season of Lent in an ongoing state of reflection, repentance, and seeing what life may look like if we were to live it abundantly - abundant life meaning living in Christ, that is living a life that is no longer in need of reflection or repentance. This is Kingdom of God living, of which we get glimpses of in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Kingdom of God living which happens on that great final day of Jesus’ return, when creation is remade and there is no more pain, sorrow, death, nor sin.

To make it to that final time, we are totally dependent upon the grace of God to see us through to that last day. We need to maintain our faith that the bad things we are going through will one day end and the good things we are going through will never end. We will, through our faith in Jesus, be judged, be saved, and not be condemned. God willing.

Until then, we ask that God allow us to be honest with ourselves and the poor choices we have made, that we may be repentant and forgiven. We ask God that the terrible things that happened out of our control may be remade and renewed. We pray that all creation will be in unity under God alone and that there be no divisiveness. We pray that we may be given the strength to forgive as well. For it is in true faith, true repentance, and true forgiveness that we are all freed to follow the commands of Jesus to love God and neighbor. That this will be a sign of Jesus’ having come, not war and division that may predate the coming, but the unification that happens on that day as we dwell in Jesus and each other, as Jesus dwells in both the Father and the Holy Spirit and they in Christ.

This Lenten season we are not only to reflect and repent then on the things we have done or left undone,

or the things we have done, known and unknown, but also the way life may look like when we are truly in the Kingdom of God. When we are truly subjects to God alone. In this dark liturgical season, while reflecting on what we need to change, do not forget to look up (with God’s help) and see the sun coming up on the horizon this coming Easter morning.

God’s Peace,  
Mitch+



### VESTRY

Lisa Kraus, Senior Warden (2024)  
Jeremy Cole, Junior Warden (2025)  
  
Doug Clark (2024)  
Nancy Earls (2024)  
Claire Hodges (2025)  
Gipsy Schneider (2025)  
Dan Amy (2026)  
Jay DeOrnellas (2026)  
Andy Wells (2026)  
Jane Johnson, Clerk

### CHURCH STAFF

The Very Rev. Mitch Tollett, Rector  
Dr. Cameron Rose, Director of Music  
Hailey Matthews, Children/Youth Director  
Carol Lanthrum, Parish Administrator  
Susan Kohler, Treasurer  
Alberto Cruz, Sexton



## AED Silent Auction Fundraiser was a Great Success!!

Thank you to everyone who donated and/or made purchases during our automated external defibrillator (AED) fundraiser. St. Francis has raised \$4,973, and a couple of remaining payments will put us over \$5,000. Well done parishioners! We will purchase AED units for the main building and the education building. There will even be money left over to cover installation expenses and for the purchase of bleeding control kits. Your vestry is grateful for your kind and generous hearts.

There are still T-shirts, DVDs and magnets available for sale in the Parish Hall.

Blessings,  
Lisa Kraus



Thanks for your donation of \$519 to the "Souper Bowl" for Church Under a Bridge Ministry!

**\*\*Church Under a Bridge still collecting packing blankets through the winter.\*\***

**They will also provide comfort for sitting on as the weather warms and the spring rains come.**

**Get them at Harbor Freight for about \$10**

**Sat. Mar. 2nd**

**\*Breakfast for All \* 8:30a  
Parish Hall**

**DOK Meeting \* 9a  
Adult Ed Rm**

**\*CUB Lunch Prep \*  
10a \* Ed Bldg**

**Weds in Lent  
Healing Eucharist at  
Noon**

**followed by  
Lenten Lunches  
provided by  
Daughters of the King**

**SOULFUL SANCTUARY SERIES**

**Spirituality Through Art**

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT



**Michael Brown**  
March 6, 2024 | 7 p.m.  
wood



**Ron Callahan**  
March 13, 2024 | 7 p.m.  
clay



**Casey Muze**  
March 20, 2024 | 7 p.m.  
drums



Join us at St. Francis

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

*Katherine Chapman (3/6)*

*Jacquelynne DeOrnellas (3/7)*

*John Glenn (3/8)*

*Wayne Yeargain (3/10)*

*Nancy Earls (3/14)*

*Laurie Barham (3/14)*

*Gay Barron (3/16)*

*Ginnie Boudreau (3/19)*

*Frank Barat (3/21)*

*Ann Bush (3/21)*

*Macy Cabell (3/22)*

*Patti Pinkerton (3/26)*

*Julian Tabri (3/28)*

*Todd Lestage (3/29)*

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

*Derik & Courtney Gray (3/14)    Andy & Michelle Wells (3/16)*

*John Ryu & Yonjoo Cho (3/27)*

## Young-at-Heart Food Deliveries

Still collecting shelf-stable food. Place in container in Narthex.

- Mac & cheese with cheese in pouches
- Canned vegetables, especially beans, as they are high-protein sources
- Canned soups and fruit
- Canned or pouched meats; canned pasta
- Shelf-stable milk is especially helpful to put on cereal
- Small containers of instant coffee; tea bags; hot cocoa mixes



\*\*\*\*\*

Young at Heart continues to collect nonperishable food items and monetary donations for the purchase of fresh meat and produce. Easily prepared foods that require few additional ingredients are greatly appreciated. We currently serve 24 individuals, some of whom have dependent family members. One of our main sources of food is the federal Senior Box Program, which provides local residents 60 years of age and older with a box of food and a block of cheese. Single-member households with a monthly income of \$1,632 and two-member households with a monthly income of \$2,215 may be eligible to participate. Please contact Lisa Kraus (903-920-3881) if you are interested in volunteering with this rewarding ministry or if you are interested in learning more about the Senior Box Program. Thank you for blessing us with your donations.

### Easter Sunday

March 31st

\*\*One Service at 10:45am\*\*

Bp. Jeff Fisher, Celebrant

Baptism & Confirmations

Reception/Playground Dedication



Out-to-Lunch Bunch at Bruno's Feb. 20th  
Next OTLB March 19th at 11:30a\* Location TBD

### Holy Week Schedule

#### Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24 8:30a & 10:45a

#### Lent Healing Eucharist/Lunch

Wednesday, March 27, Noon

#### Maundy Thursday

#### Foot Washing & Eucharist

Thursday, March 28, 6:30pm

#### The Way of the Cross

Friday, March 29, Noon

#### Good Friday Service

Friday, March 29, 6:30pm

### Serendipity

Dinner

at the Gagliano's

Saturday

March 23rd

6:00 — 8:00 pm



### Spring Forward

March 10th





St. Francis Episcopal Church  
3232 Jan Avenue  
Tyler, TX 75701  
Telephone: 903-593-8459

Email: [office@stfrancist Tyler.org](mailto:office@stfrancist Tyler.org)  
Web site: [www.stfrancist Tyler.org](http://www.stfrancist Tyler.org)

**facebook**

[www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler](http://www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler)



## WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS FOR MARCH

### Sunday

- 8:30 am Nursery available from 8:00 am—12:00 pm  
Rite I—No music
- 9:30 am Episcopal 101  
Adult Gospel Lectionary Discussion  
Children/Youth Sunday School
- 10:45 am Rite II—Traditional Music  
**Live-Stream on FaceBook & YouTube**
- 6:00 pm Yoga—Children's Ed Room

### Wednesday

- Noon **See Special Events for Holy Week Schedule**  
Healing Eucharist Service
- 12:30pm Lenten Soup Lunch
- 2:00 pm Grief Support Group—Parish Hall
- 2:00 pm God's Grace—St. Clare's
- 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary—March 3, 13, 20
- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary—March 27

### Thursday

- 5:00 pm Handbell Practice—Music Room

## Conversation on Race

Conversation on Race met in the Adult Ed Room on Sunday Feb. 11th at noon. Lunch was Alberto Cruz' pozole. Delicious! Our speaker was Greg Muckleroy who spoke on the Rosenwald schools in East Texas and the efforts to preserve the remaining buildings.

Our next meeting is March 10th at noon in the Adult Ed Room. We will be listening to and discussing parts of Martin Luther King's speeches and writings. Lunch is provided. Join us!

Got questions? See Roy Barron

## Youth Sunday School

Youth Sunday School for all ages above nursery age is happening every Sunday. Fr. Mitch will be leading with Hailey Matthews, and with other volunteers assisting as able.

Drop off your children at the nursery by 9:45. Fr. Mitch and a volunteer will walk them to the downstairs youth room. We will have music and discuss the lesson for that Sunday. Then the children can do a craft, play games, or talk more with Fr. Mitch about the lesson. At 10:30 we will bring the youth back to the nursery where the parents can pick up their children for home, or the 10:45 service, or left in the nursery until after the peace to then join the 10:45 service.

Volunteers are needed as they allow Sunday School to happen. Sign up in the hallway if you can volunteer when Hailey is unavailable.

Fr. Mitch and Hailey and the volunteers are looking forward to teaching Bible stories and spending time with the children of St. Francis Church.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."  
- Matthew 6:21 NRSV

When it comes to stewardship we all pledge the time, talent, and treasure that we know we can give. For what you and I pledge to support the ministries of St. Francis, we are thankful.

Please continue to give an extra \$5-\$10-\$20 in the offering plate for I do believe it has been an integral part of sharing out of our abundance.

So bring a friend: George, Abraham, Alexander, Andrew, Harriet, and some of their friends. Together we can continue to fully support the ministries of St. Francis!

Peace,  
Mitch+

## March Special Events

Sat. March 2, 8:30am

Breakfast for All

Sat. March 2, 9:00am

DOK Meeting

Sat. March 2, 10:00am

Church Under a Bridge Lunch Prep

Wed. March 6, 7:00pm

Soulful Sanctuary

Fri. March 8, 6:00-9:00pm

Primetimers at Christ Church

Sun. March 10, 12:00pm

Conversation on Race

Wed. March 13, 7:00pm

Soulful Sanctuary

Tues. March 19, 11:30am

Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Tues. March 19, 6:00pm

Vestry Meeting

Wed. March 20, 7:00pm

Soulful Sanctuary

Sat. March 23, 6:00-8:00pm

Serendipity Dinner at Gagliano's

Thurs. March 28, 6:30pm

Maundy Thursday Service

Fri. March 29,

The Way of the Cross—12:00pm

Good Friday Service—6:30pm

Sat. March 30, 10:00am

Easter Egg Hunt

Sun. March 31, One Service at 10:45am

Easter Service/Baptism/Confirmation

Reception & playground dedication follows