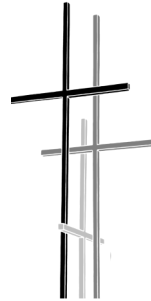


Saint Francis Journal

October 2025

A Loving Community, Serving God's Kingdom



"Here I Am Lord—Send Me"

I heard the Lord's voice, saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?'
Isaiah 6:8

Stewardship Season: A Call to Shared Leadership, Commitment, and Hope

These past months without a Rector have tested our resilience, and for many, highlighted just how much we rely on the steadfast commitment of a few. We are blessed by the dedication of our lay leaders, who, with grace and perseverance, have carried responsibilities far beyond what is sustainable for any small group. I see the fatigue in their eyes and hear the weariness in their voices—a testament not to weakness, but to deep love and service for this community.

As I reflect on these challenges, I must admit I, too, have felt hesitant when the call to leadership arises. The questions swirl: "Am I enough? Do I have the time, the energy, the gifts required?" Perhaps you have felt this way as well. It is natural to feel uncertainty and even fear when considering stepping forward. Yet, I am reminded that this church is not built by the efforts of a few, but by the collective spirit and faith of us all.

Friends, the strength and survival of our church depend on every one of us. It's not enough for a few to carry the load—our mission is collective. I encourage you to pray about your role in our church

family. Explore new ways to serve and connect. Reach out if you see a need. Volunteer for a ministry or share your talents. Let's commit to being present, involved, and responsible for the life and future of our church. When we rise together, united in purpose and love, there is nothing we cannot accomplish in Christ's name.

As we enter our season of stewardship, I hope we will see this as a call to action that goes beyond financial giving. Stewardship is the sacred responsibility of participating fully in the life of our church—by sharing our time, our talents, our ideas, and our presence. Whether you feel called to teach, to serve, to organize, or simply to show up and encourage others, your participation matters greatly. Together, we can lighten the load, renew our energy, and create a church that is truly a reflection of us all.

Thank you for your faith, your resilience, and your enduring love for St. Francis. I am hopeful that, as we move forward, we will find renewed unity and purpose. Let us support one another, celebrate each person's unique gifts, and step boldly into our shared future—trusting that God walks with us every step of the way.

May the Holy Spirit guide us, strengthen us, and inspire us to greater participation and commitment. Our church is not just a building—it is the living body of Christ, made up of each one of us. Let us keep it alive for generations to come

With gratitude and hope &
For His Sake,



Jay DeOrnellas
Senior Warden

VESTRY

Jay DeOrnellas, Senior Warden (2026)
Andy Wells, Junior Warden (2026)
Jeremy Cole (2025)
Claire Hodges (2025)
Lisa Kraus (2025)
Gipsy Schneider (2025)
Dan Amy (2026)
Dominique Lucas (2027)
Sallie McDaris (2027)
Carol Lanthrum, Clerk

CHURCH STAFF

Rector, In Transition
Dr. Cameron Rose, Director of Music
Carol Lanthrum, Parish Administrator
Susan Kohler, Treasurer
Alberto Cruz, Sexton

We want to know!

What are your concerns?
We want to answer your
questions, & hear your
suggestions!



Prayer for a New Rector

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayer 13, BCP, pg. 818



Sat Oct 4th

***Breakfast for All ***

8:30a

Men's Group * 9a * Join us!

CUB Lunch Prep *10a *



DOK Meeting * 9am *

Men, Women, Children

Welcome this Month

Presentation on

Anglican Rosary

by Susan Kohler

Meet in Sanctuary

Rosary Provided

Conversations Exploring Cultural Perspective

The October meeting is on Sunday, **Oct 19th (note change)** at noon in the Adult Ed Room. Lunch is provided.

Rabbi Katz will be speaking about Judaism.

Got questions? See Roy Barron



Newcomer's Lunch
Sun. Oct 12th * Noon
Parish Hall

Book Club
1st & 3rd Mondays
6:30p * Parish Hall



Blessing of the Animals



Sat. October 11th

10:30a—Noon

Fr. Rob Jerger, Officiant

Bring your critters
in a crate or on a leash!

We need your help with
setup, cleanup, &
Meeting our Neighbors!

We will be taking drone
footage for our church
rector-search profile



Out-to-Lunch Bunch
Tues. Oct 21 * 11:30am

October Serendipity
"in November"



Dia de los Muertos
Celebration

Sunday Nov. 2nd
9:30am & 12:00pm

Tacos after both services

See following article
sponsored by the Grief Support Group

CUB Coat Collection

Bring new or gently used &
clean coats to help those at
Church Under a Bridge
stay warm this
winter!



Hats, gloves, socks,
scarves, new/clean used tents.
Bring to Parish Hall by Nov 1st



Pastor Appreciation
Sun. Oct 19th * 9:30am
Come thank Fr. Odom
for serving as our supply priest!

Diocesan Council &
Vestry Elections



Sun. Oct 12th
9:30am * Sanctuary



National Night Out
Neighborhood Event

Tues. Oct 7 * 6-7:30pm

We need help with
setup, cleanup &
Meeting our Neighbors!

Thrive

Connection * Growth * Belonging



Sat. Oct 18th*6 to 8 pm
Youth Basement

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Rogan Jones (10/1)

Gerry Kuklewicz (10/1)

Molly Streufert (10/2)

Jewel McGraw (10/5)

Marva Gordon (10/7)

Courtney Gray (10/14)

Seth Wilson (10/18)

Charlie Hillis (10/27)

Paula Whitson (10/28)

Susan Kohler (10/29)

Mona Poe (10/30)

Dale Wright (10/31)

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Janice & Malcolm Teasdale (10/3)

Julie & Wayne Yeargain (10/3)

Dis de los Muertos “Day of the Dead” IT IS NOT HALLOWEEN!

Dia de los Muertos is a Mexican festival where families welcome back the souls of their deceased relatives for a brief reunion that includes food, drink and celebration. It is a blend of Mesoamerican ritual, Spanish culture and Catholic religion. The gates of heaven open on October 31st to allow children to return for 24 hours; adults return on November 2nd, All Soul's Day. Mexicans see a cyclical view of the universe, death being an integral part of life. The souls return to feast, drink, dance and play music with their loved ones. The living treat them as honored guests, visiting graves or setting up *ofrendas* (altars) in their homes.

Many symbols are used to welcome the deceased. *Ofrenda* often have 3 levels, representing heaven, earth and the underworld. The 4 four elements are included: water, wind earth and fire. Water is left in a pitcher to quench the thirst of the deceased. *Papel picado*, paper banners, represent the wind. Earth is represented by food, especially *Pan de Muerto*, Bread of the Dead. Fire is represented by candles, which help the deceased find their way.

Sugar skulls with the deceased's name on its forehead are placed on the *ofrendas*. These are colorful, friendly skulls, not like Halloween skulls. Bread of the Dead is a sweet roll topped with sugar and bone-shaped bread; they can be dunked in coffee or hot chocolate. Fruit, meats and other foods are also served. *Cempazuchitl* or marigolds, are orange flowers that grow in Mexico in the fall, and are used to decorate graves, and placed on paths to the *ofrendas* to guide the spirits to the altar, due to their potent smell. Copal incense is burned, symbolizing transformation from the natural world to the spirit world and taking prayers to heaven. *Calaca*, skeletons, symbolize death personified. *La Catrina*, a woman skeleton, is decorated in fancy clothes and a big hat with feathers, is the most famous. Monarch butterflies which overwinter in the mountains of Mexico are believed to hold the spirits of the dead, returning the dead to earth to visit their relatives.

Serendipity Celebration
Dia de los Muertos

Sunday, Nov. 2nd
9:30am & 12:00pm

Tacos & fixin's served after both services

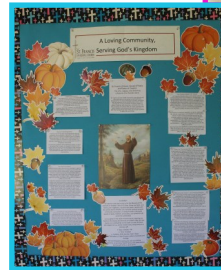
Bring pictures of a couple of your deceased relatives!
Tell us what made the person unique and interesting?
What were their hobbies? Were they good cooks or dancers or play an instrument? Did they like to travel? Could they tell good stories or jokes? Were they friendly or a grouch?
This is not an obituary! Reflect their personality!
The story should be short, fitting on 1/4 of a sheet of paper.
We will display the photos with the around the Parish Hall and talk with each other about what makes the person special!
...while we eat tacos!



Permanent Sign Honoring
Bitsy Wright Playground



Daisy had her baby girl - Ximena
Future playground user!



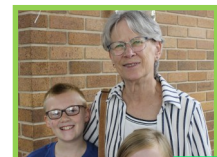
New St. Francis
Bulletin Board



New Blessing of the Animals
Banner

We will miss you!
Tristan, Sarah, Rogan & Justine Jones

Best of Luck at your new job, Sarah!
Hope you love upper New York State!! Brrrr!



Grandma
Laura
Jones



Clarks are adopted grans!



All Saint's Day Liturgy
Nov. 2nd

Names of parishioners who died this year will
be read at both services.

**We also want to read the name of ANY
deceased person that you want to honor.**
Record name to be read in the hallway

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

Email: office@stfrancist Tyler.org
Web site: www.stfrancist Tyler.org

facebook

www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler



WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS FOR OCTOBER

The Rev. Robert Odom, Celebrant

Sunday

- 8:30 am Rite I—No music
- 9:30 am Adult Gospel Lectionary Discussion
Children/Youth Sunday School * On Request
- 10:45 am Rite II—Traditional Music
Live-Stream on FaceBook & YouTube

Wednesday

- Noon Morning Prayer — Lay Led — Sanctuary
- 12:30 pm Bible Study — Parish Hall
- 2:00 pm Grief Support Group — Parish Hall
- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary

Thursday

- 5:30 pm Handbell Practice—Music Room



October Special Events

Sat. October 4

Breakfast for All - 8:30am
DOK & Men's Group Meeting - 9:00am
Church Under a Bridge Lunch Prep - 10:00am

Mon. October 6, 6:30pm

Book Club - Parish Hall

Tues. October 7, 6:00—7:30pm

National Night Out Neighborhood Event

Sat. October 11, 10:30am—noon

Blessing of the Animals Neighborhood Event

Sun. October 12

Diocesan Council & Vestry Election: 9:30am

Newcomer's Dinner: Noon

Sat. October 18, 6:00-8:00pm

Thrive—Youth Basement

Sun. October 19

Pastor Appreciation: 9:30am

Conversations Exploring Cultural Perspectives: Noon

Rabbi Katz, Speaker: Judaism

Mon. October 20, 6:30pm

Book Club - Parish Hall

Tues. October 21

Out-to-Lunch Bunch: 11:30a

Vestry Meeting: 6:00pm

Friends at St. Francis: I have been in a time of discernment and have officially entered the process with the Diocese of Texas. Since SFEC is without a priest currently, Dwyane and I are moving our membership to St. Clare's, our sister church. This will allow me to move forward in the process under the supervision of a priest. Currently, I plan on attending the IONA school for ministry just like Fr. Rob Jerger and Deacon Sheila Thrash. Dwyane and I love St. Francis and are still across the street and on the other end of a text or email! We won't be strangers!

Blessings, prayers and love, Kathy and Dwyane

Mission Statement

Why do we exist?

What is our purpose?

St. Francis is a community of Christians whose mission is to love one another, serving God's kingdom on earth through

- Developing discipleship through worship, prayer, education, and fellowship,
- Ministering to one another
- Offering ourselves as servants in God's world.

Vision Statement

The parish we aim to become

The vision of St. Francis is to

- Promote spiritual growth through education and worship,
- Reach out in service to the community,
- Increase diverse music ministries to create a joyful sound in celebration,
- Provide vibrant children's, youth, and campus ministries,
- Create a variety of ministries and programs for everyone.

Join the Chancel or Handbell Choir

Sing and/or Ring for the Holidays



Upcoming Events This Fall

Mark your Calendars!!

- National Night Out
Tues. Oct 7th
- Blessing of the Animals
Sat. Oct. 11th
- Council/Vestry Elections
Sun. Oct 12th
- Newcomer's Lunch
Sun. Oct. 12th
- Pastor Appreciation
Sun. Oct. 19th
- Dia de los Muertos
Sun. Nov 2nd
- Men's Turkey Smoke
Sat. Nov. 15th
- Parish Turkey Dinner
Sun. Nov. 16th

All these events require helpers

**Stewardship
Ingathering
Sunday
Nov. 16th**

