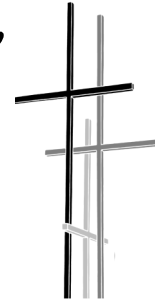


Saint Francis Journal

November 2025



A Loving Community, Serving God's Kingdom



For Everything God Created is Good



Sweet November

Grace and peace be with you, the members of St. Francis Episcopal Church. November is a month of sweet memories for me. On November 12, 2017, I was received, and John was confirmed here at St. Francis Episcopal Church. We are truly blessed to be a part of this parish community. I am thankful to the members of St. Francis for taking us under your wings to allow us to be a part of the various ministries here at our parish. I always tell people that the birth of my faith journey in the Episcopal Church started here at St. Francis.

I am a cradle Roman Catholic, which means that I have been Roman Catholic since I was a baby. My mother tells me that I was baptized at one month old. My Roman Catholic roots go back at least five generations. I do know that sometimes my Catholicism may bleed over into my discussions here at St. Francis. I will say that the Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) retreat program at my home catholic parish kick-started me into serving in various ministries in that church and continuing that mission of service of the church here at St. Francis. I will be forever grateful to Norma for allowing me to help assist with the Altar Guild.

One of the greatest gifts I receive every week is seeing and sharing communion with the members of our church. I have told some of the parishioners that they are my adopted parents and grandparents.

November is a sweet month because to me it is the beginning of the holiday season. A time of gathering with friends and family to be thankful for each other

and the wonderful food of Thanksgiving. I always look forward to the annual Turkey Smoke meal here at St. Francis. There is a lot of prep work that goes into the Turkey Smoke. The Men's Group comes together early on Saturday morning to light the fires and get the turkeys on the smoker. We are blessed here at our parish for Dan's parents, who provide their smoker for our annual turkey smoke. I hear that while the turkey's are smoking, the Men's Group is in fellowship and enjoying some good eats. The turkey is always delicious, and all of the various sides are so yummy!

Thanksgiving Day is one of my favorite holidays. I have a list of what I am going to prepare for the meal and the time each dish must go into the oven. While preparing the Thanksgiving meal, I have the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade on the TV in the background, and of course I love the National Dog Show that follows the parade.

What am I thankful for this year? I am thankful for the members of St. Francis. You are a phenomenal and dynamic group of people, that I get to call friends and family.

I leave you with this scripture verse from Timothy:

For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer. 1 Timothy 4:4-5

Your brother in Christ,

Jeremy Cole
Vestry Member



Stewardship
Ingathering

Sunday
Nov. 16th



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



*Daylight-Saving
Time Ends*

NOV 2nd

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 Nov. 1st

***Breakfast for All * 8:30a**

Men's Group * 9a * Join us!

DOK Meeting * 9am *

****All Women Welcome****

CUB Lunch Prep *10a *



Book Club

1st & 3rd Mondays

6:30p * Parish Hall



Out-to-Lunch Bunch
Tues. Nov 18 * 11:30am



Thrive
20 & 30 Somethings

Connection * Growth * Belonging

Sat. Nov. 15th * 6 to 8 pm
Youth Basement

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



Dia de los Muertos



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

It Is NOT Halloween !!

It is a Mexican celebration of family & loved ones who are no longer living except in our hearts.

Bring a picture of a deceased loved one & share remembrances & stories!

Tacos and fixins after both services

Sponsored by the Grief Support Group

Thanks & Gratitude
to our

Delegates to Diocesan Council

Dan Amy John Bridges
Nancy Earls Susan Kohler
&

New Vestry Members
Gay Barron Ann Bush
Kathy Clark Sandra Dugan
Connie Wilson



NO

Conversations Exploring Cultural Perspective

November December

Due to Holiday Scheduling Conflicts

Got questions? See Roy Barron

Turkey Smoke Men's Group
Sat. Nov. 15th
7a to ??



followed by

Smoked Turkey Luncheon

Sun *Nov 16th *Noon



Sponsored by the Men's Group
Signup for Sides & Desserts*Hallway

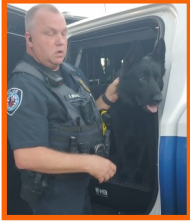
NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Peter Kohler (11/1)	Ellen Valentine (11/1)	Cindy Cornett (11/3)
Sallie McDaris (11/4)	Bill Deckard (11/8)	Dwyane Dunn (11/12)
Ann Uffner (11/12)	Alec Barat (11/14)	Jeane Brown (11/14)
Susan Fisher (11/16)	Jill Lestage (11/17)	Ray Grissom (11/23)
Lawrence Barat (11/27)	Frank Cabell (11/30)	

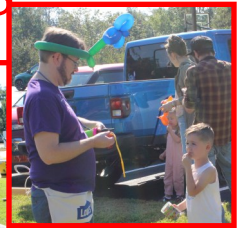
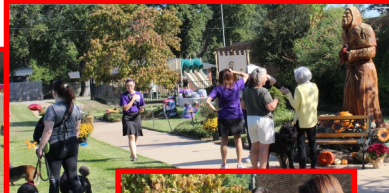
NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Maggie & Bob Taliaferro (11/3)	Gay & Roy Barron (11/5)
Jacquelynne & Kevin DeOrnellas (11/7)	Susan & Peter Kohler (11/10)
Kathy & Doug Clark (11/27)	

National Night Out



Blessing of the Animals



Rabbi Katz at 'Conversations'



****See Senior Warden's Comments about these Events on the following Pages****

Pastor Appreciation Thank You, Fr. Odom



We are blessed to have a faithful supply priest, who has nourished us and served us while we search for a new rector. We are grateful and honored.

Jay DeOrnellas, Sr. Warden

Successful Community Events at St. Francis Church

National Night Out and Blessing of the Animals Bring Community Together

National Night Out Welcomes Neighborhood Heroes

St. Francis Church recently hosted a vibrant National Night Out event that brought together a diverse group of community members and local heroes. The neighborhood warmly welcomed the Tyler Police Department, including their impressive K9 Unit, as well as the Tyler Fire Chief and Safety Officers. Attendees enjoyed classic refreshments such as hot dogs and lemonade, creating a festive and welcoming atmosphere that fostered connection and appreciation for those who help keep the community safe.

Blessing of the Animals: A Celebration of All Creatures

Following National Night Out, St. Francis Church held its highly anticipated Blessing of the Animals. This cherished tradition drew many local residents, families, and beloved pets. Pets Fur People, a dedicated animal welfare organization, joined the festivities, further highlighting the event's strong community spirit.

Father Rob Jerger led the blessing ceremony, offering prayers and good wishes to all attendees. The gathering included a delightful array of animals—many dogs, a few cats, and, for the first time ever, even beetles were brought to receive blessings. The inclusion of such a variety of pets underscored the church's welcoming and inclusive approach, embracing all creatures great and small.

Thank you, Fr. Rob!

Community Spirit Shines Bright

Both National Night Out and the Blessing of the Animals were resounding successes, thanks to the enthusiastic participation of the St. Francis Church community and their neighbors. These events not only strengthened bonds among residents but also celebrated the spirit of service, compassion, and unity that defines the neighborhood.



Jay DeOrnellas
Senior Warden

Conversations Group Hosts Rabbi Neal Katz for Insightful Luncheon Presentation

Rabbi Katz Discusses Jewish Biblical Interpretation and the Spectrum of Jewish Practice

A Luncheon of Learning and Community

The Conversations Group recently welcomed Rabbi Neal Katz of Temple Beth El in Tyler, Texas, to their latest luncheon event. Organized by Roy and Gay Barron, the gathering brought together many congregants and friends eager to learn from Rabbi Katz, who has served his congregation and the wider community for over 25 years.

“How Jews Read the Bible” — Rabbi Katz’s Perspective

Rabbi Katz’s presentation, titled “How Jews Read the Bible,” offered attendees a fascinating look into the interpretive traditions of Judaism. He began by highlighting that Jewish engagement with the Bible is rooted in both study and discussion, emphasizing a dynamic process rather than a static reading. Jewish tradition encourages questioning, debate, and exploration of multiple meanings within the sacred text.

Orthodox vs. Reform: Understanding the Differences

One of the program’s focal points was Rabbi Katz’s explanation of the differences between Orthodox and Reform Judaism, especially in relation to biblical interpretation. He explained that Orthodox Jews tend to view the Bible and accompanying rabbinic commentaries as divinely inspired and binding. Their approach is more literal and traditional, often adhering closely to established interpretations and religious law.

In contrast, Reform Jews, such as those at Temple Beth El, take a more progressive and evolving approach. Reform Judaism values historical context and personal conscience, encouraging individuals to interpret scripture in ways that resonate with contemporary life and ethical values. This openness to modernity and adaptation distinguishes Reform practice from more traditional forms.

An Engaged and Thoughtful Dialogue

Rabbi Katz’s reputation as an engaging and knowledgeable speaker was on full display. He invited questions from the audience, responding to each with both wit and depth of understanding. Topics ranged from biblical stories and interpretations to broader questions about Jewish life and community in modern America.

A Leader Beyond the Pulpit

Beyond his rabbinic duties, Rabbi Katz is well-known for his involvement in civic boards and his contributions as an author of many books. His commitment to both faith and community service has made him a respected figure in Tyler and beyond.

A Memorable Event for All

The luncheon, thanks to the efforts of Roy and Gay Barron, proved to be not only an opportunity for learning but also for fellowship among attendees. Rabbi Katz’s visit left a lasting impression, deepening the community’s understanding of Jewish tradition and the diversity within it.

Jay DeOrnellas
Senior Warden

St. Francis Nursery Rules

The St. Francis Nursery is offered to support families attending Sunday services. We are honored to welcome you and your child to our community. To ensure a safe and caring environment, please review and follow the rules below.

Eligibility

The Nursery is available for infants and children up to 4 years of age.

Arrangements

Parents or guardians must plan for Nursery care in advance, if possible.

Supervision Requirements

The Nursery must be staffed by two adults who have been approved by the Vestry. If two Vestry-approved adults are not available, the Nursery will not be open.

Availability

St. Francis will make every possible effort to have the Nursery available at appropriate times. There may be occasions when the Nursery is unavailable due to staffing requirements.

Contact Information

If you have any questions or wish to make arrangements for Nursery services, please contact:

Jay DeOrnellas: 903-504-2122

Lisa Kraus: 903-920-3881

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. It is our privilege to welcome you and your child to St. Francis.

Children's Sunday School

If you are interested in your elementary age children, or youth in middle and high school attending Sunday School, please contact Jay or Lisa as well. We could begin classes after the holidays if there is interest.



Jay DeOrnellas
Senior Warden

Ministry Fair

Sunday, November 16th

After 8:30am service

& 10:45am service



Wondering where you fit at St. Francis?

We've all had those moments where we wonder where we fit in the church. We are busy, preoccupied with life, but long to fit in some meaningful way. Sometimes we have to step out in faith to find where we fit.

Our church is not this building. It is each of us as an individual piece of the picture that makes up St. Francis, in relationship with each other, our community, and our God. Join us Sunday, November 16, 2025 between services and after the 10:45 service to find where you might fit for this next year. It is not about being busy. We all have enough to do. It's about asking God how he would like to use you this next year at St. Francis. We will have information available about pieces we need. Come and see where your piece might fit.

Kathy Clark, Ministry Fair Facilitator

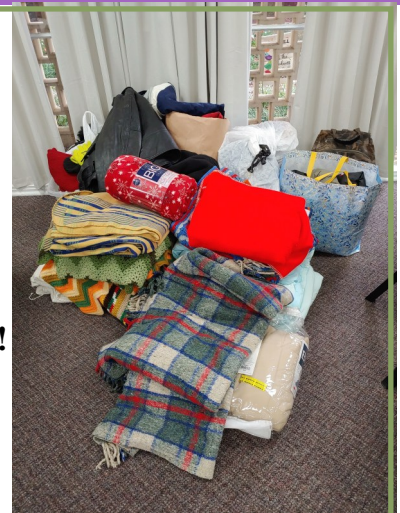


Notice the New
Curtains!?

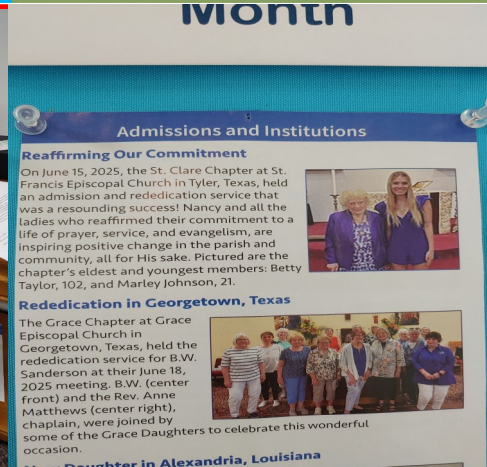
Trying to cut the noise in
the Parish Hall



Thanks for your
generous gifts
of warm clothing
to the
Church Under
a Bridge Ministry!
Roy, Doug &
Dominique



Christmas Child Shoeboxes available in the Parish Hall. Take a box, and the paperwork. Select a gender and age. \$10 needed for shipping & books. Bring them by **Nov. 16th** to church to be taken to Grace HS. Can also order online (easy peasy!)



Look whose picture is in the *Royal Cross*, the national magazine of the Daughters of the King !! It's Betty Taylor, our oldest member, and Marley Johnson, our youngest! Check out the bulletin board across from the office.

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Telephone: 903-593-8459

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

facebook

www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler



WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

The Rev. Robert Odom, Celebrant

Sunday

Nursery available on request

- 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



November Special Events

Sat. November 1st

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

Sun. November 2, 9:30am & Noon

Dia de los Muertos Serendipity

Mon. November 3, 6:30pm

Book Club - Parish Hall

Sat. November 15, 7am—??

Men's Group Turkey Smoke

Sat. November 15, 6:00-8:00pm

Thrive—Youth Basement

Sun. November 16
Stewardship Ingathering

Sun. November 16

Ministry Fair—after each service
Annual Smoked Turkey Luncheon—Noon

Mon. November 17, 6:30pm

Book Club - Parish Hall

Tues. November 18

Out-to-Lunch Bunch: 11:30a
Vestry Meeting: 6:00pm

Thurs. November 27

Happy Thanksgiving

Office Closed Thursday & Friday

Sun. November 30

Advent Begins

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

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!!

- Dia de los Muertos Sun. Nov 2nd
- Ministry Fair Sun. Nov. 16th
- Men's Turkey Smoke Sat. Nov. 15th
- Parish Turkey Dinner Sun. Nov. 16th

All these events require helpers

We want to know!

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



Stewardship Ingathering
Sunday
Nov. 16th

