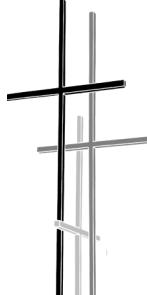


# Saint Francis Journal



## January 2026

**A Loving Community, Serving God's Kingdom**

*If thou but trust in God to guide thee*

*Hymnal 1982 #635*

### Trusting God's Plan for a Blessed New Year

Happy New Year, St. Francis family! As we begin 2026, we are reminded of the blessings and opportunities that a fresh calendar brings. Our vibrant parish community continues to grow in faith, friendship, and service. This January, we celebrate the spirit of unity that makes St. Francis a special place for all.

The Constitution and Cannons of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Texas provide the framework for how our parish operates, including the requirement to hold annual meetings. These governing documents ensure that every congregation maintains transparency, accountability, and shared decision-making, allowing members to participate in vital discussions and elections. By gathering each year, we honor these traditions and uphold the values that guide our faith community's life together.

We invite all parishioners to join us for our Annual Parish Meeting, scheduled for Sunday, January 11 at 9:30 AM. This important gathering is a time to reflect on the past year, share updates, and look ahead to our future together. Your participation helps shape the direction of our church and ensures every voice is heard. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this meaningful event! In October, we had our parish elections where we voted for new vestry members and council delegates. Therefore, we extend heartfelt gratitude to our outgoing

vestry members, whose dedication and service have guided our parish through another year. Thank you, Gipsy Schneider, Claire Hodges, Lisa Kraus, and Jeremy Cole. Their commitment has strengthened our community and helped us embrace new opportunities. As we say

thank you, we also warmly welcome our newly elected vestry members, Gay Barron, Sandra Dugan, Kathy Clark, Connie Wilson and Ann Bush. We look forward to their leadership and fresh perspectives as we continue our journey of faith together. Let's pray for them.

I'd like to re-introduce our Episcopal Diocese of Texas council delegates. These individuals represent St. Francis at the diocesan level, sharing our parish's voice and bringing back valuable insights from the wider church community, John Bridges, Dan Amy, Susan Kohler and Nancy Earls. Their role is vital in connecting us with the broader mission and ministries of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas. Council is the end of February and will be held in the Woodlands, Texas. Let's pray for them and the Episcopal Diocese of Texas.

St. Francis thrives because of the gifts and talents each of you brings. There are many ways to get involved—whether through worship, outreach, fellowship, or behind-the-scenes support. We encourage every parishioner to consider how your unique abilities can contribute to our shared vision. Face it, God, love and dedication to St. Francis got us through 2025 without a rector. We make a difference in the lives of others and

continue to build a stronger, more welcoming church family as we enter the new year.

The Rector Search Committee continues its diligent work in seeking our next spiritual leader. We are grateful for your prayers, encouragement, and trust throughout this process. What we can and can't divulge to our congregation is outlined by EDOT. Your understanding sustains the committee and inspires hope for the future of St. Francis. Updates will be shared as the search progresses, and we ask for your continued prayers as we discern God's guidance for our parish.

Let's pray for our Search Committee: Claire Hodges (Committee Chair), Dan Amy, Roy Barron, Laurie Barham, Kathy Clark, Sandra Dugan, Norma Gagliano, Courtney Gray, and Connie Wilson.

Thank you for your commitment, generosity, and faith. As we embark on 2026, let us celebrate our shared journey and look forward to new possibilities. Each person's contribution—big or small—helps shape the heart and vision of St. Francis Episcopal Church. May this year be filled with joy, growth, and the enduring love of our community.

For his sake



Jay DeOrnellas  
Senior Warden



## 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

### \*\*ANNUAL\*\*

### \*\*MEETING\*\*

**Sun. Jan. 11th**

**9:30am \* Sanctuary**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Come learn about our**

- 2025 accomplishments**
- Financials**
- Plans for 2026**
- Rector Search**

**Drone footage of  
Blessing of the Animals  
on Parish Hall TV**

**Your leadership needs your  
input, ideas & support**

**\*Sat Jan 3rd\***

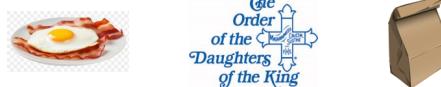
**\*Breakfast for All \* 8:30a**

**Men's Group \* 9a \* Join us!**

**DOK Meeting \* 9am \***

**\*\*All Women Welcome\*\***

**CUB Lunch Prep \*10a \***



**Thrive  
20 & 30 Somethings**

**Connection \* Growth \* Belonging**

**Sat. Jan 17th**

**6 to 8 pm**

**Youth Basement**

**Join us!**

**Conversations Exploring  
Cultural Perspective**

**\*Jan 11th \* Noon\***

**Speaker: Paula Shafer  
Director of  
Church Under a Bridge**

**Got questions? See Roy Barron**

**Serendipity Dinner**

**Friday, Jan. 23rd**

**6 to 8 pm**

**Main Dish: Gumbo**

**Sign up in Hallway**

**Appz \* Sides\* Desserts**

**Sponsored by**

**Bob & Maggie Taliferro**



**Book Club**

**1st & 3rd**

**Mondays**

**6:30pm**

**Parish Hall**

**Out-to-Lunch Bunch**

**Jan. 20th**

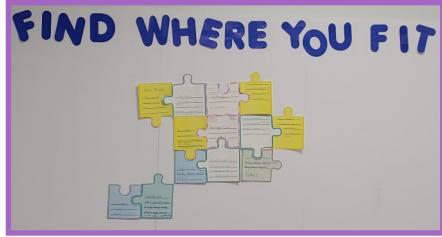
**11:30am**

**TBD**



**Ministry**

**\*Find Your Joy\***



**CHRCH  
It is not the same  
U**



**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

**John Ryu (1/2)**

**Sandra Dugan (1/8)**

**Pam Renner (1/8)**

**Buz Gagliano (1/16)**

**Lynn Scruton (1/17)**

**Cullen Edwards (1/19)**

**Galen Hayes (1/27)**

**Jeremy Cole (1/28)**

**Linda Wilcox (1/28)**

**JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

**Mike & Laurie Barham (1/5)**

## Decorating the Chrismon Tree



Followed by  
Christmas  
Tea Fun



Christmas Eve with Bp Fisher & a visit by former member Peg Corrie



Birthday Blessings  
Betty Taylor 102y  
Barbie Haynes 90y

Gerry & Polly  
Kuklewicz  
Married 57yrs

Barbie Haynes 90th Birthday—Pink & Barbie

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

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



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



## WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS FOR JANUARY

### The Rev. Robert Odom, Celebrant

#### Sunday

- 8:30 am Rite I—No music
- 9:30 am Adult Gospel Lectionary Discussion
- 10:45 am Children/Youth Sunday School \* On Request \*
- 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

## January Special Events

### Sat. January 3

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

### Mon. January 5, 6:30pm

Book Club - Parish Hall

### Sun. January 11, 9:30am

**Annual Meeting**

### Sun. January 11, 12:00pm

Conversations Exploring Cultural Perspectives

### Sat. January 17, 6:00pm

**Thrive Meeting—Youth Basement**

### Mon. January 19, 6:30pm

Book Club - Parish Hall

### Tues. January 20, 11:30am

**Out-to-Lunch Bunch—TBD**

### Fri. January 23, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Serendipity Dinner in Parish Hall

### Sat. January 31

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



#### **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.

## **VESTRY**

**Jay DeOrnellas  
Senior Warden (2026)**

**In Transition  
Junior Warden**

**Jeremy Cole (2025)**

**Claire Hedges (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!

