

THE BANNER



St. George's Episcopal Church

4301 North IH-35 | Austin, TX | www.sgchurch.org

January 2023



Epiphany

4301 North IH 35 • Austin, TX 78722

512.454.2523 • stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com

www.sgchurch.org

Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 10:30 am – 3:30 pm

Sunday Schedule

- 10:30 am [Holy Eucharist Rite II](#)
Online/In-person
- 11:30 am Coffee Hour (when Public Health levels support it)

The Rev. Matt Boulter
Rector

Dia Park
Music Minister

Jessica Morrone
Office Administrator

Jerri Thompson
Day School Director

Josh Beckham
Spencer Gordon
Mark Casstevens
Sandra Villalaz
Dale Curry
Brad Barcus
Brad Dieringer
Belinda McGhee
Frances Rickard
Ramón Treviño
Vestry

Brad Dieringer
Senior Warden

Dale Curry
Junior Warden

Samantha Stevens
Financial Secretary

Frances Rickard
Treasurer

Belinda McGhee
Clerk

Bridgette Beinecke
School Board Liaison

Mark Your Calendars

Wed 1/5 & 1/19 Wednesday
Weavings

Mon 1/09 Vestry Meeting [in church]

Sat 1/14 Women's Book Group

Sun 1/22 Annual Parish Meeting
[in Kleberg Hall at 12:30pm]

Mon 1/23 School Board Meeting

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Feast Days

- 1 **The Most Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
- 6 **The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
- 9 Julia Chester Emery, Lay Leader and Missionary, 1922
- 10 William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645
- 12 Aelred, Abbot of Rievaulx, 1167
- 13 Hillary of Poitiers, Bishop, 367
- 14 Kentigern, Bishop and Confessor, 612
- 17 Antony, Abbot in Egypt, 356
- 18 **The Confession of Saint Peter the Apostle**
- 19 Wulfstan of Worcester, Bishop, 1905

- 20 Fabian, Bishop and Martyr at Rome, 250
- 21 Agnes, Martyr at Rome, 304
- 23 Phillips Brooks, Bishop of Massachusetts, 1893
- 24 Frances DeSales, Bishop, Confessor, Doctor, 1612
Common of a Theologian II
- 25 **The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle**
- 26 Titus and Timothy, Companions of Saint Paul
- 27 John Chrysostom, Bishop and Theologian, 407
- 28 Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Friar, 1274
- 30 Charles Stewart, King of England and Scotland, 1649

Rector's Corner

A Time for Turning Over a New Leaf

Dear St. George's Family:

Even though we all know that, in reality, the new year begins on the First Sunday of Advent, nevertheless, I say: "Happy New Year!"

It is, truly a time for turning over many new leaves at St. George's. As I think about whence (or, "from where") We've come in the last four-plus months and whither ("to where") I hope and pray we are going, the following thoughts come to mind.

Over the past four months, since beginning as Rector of St. George's on September 1 of last year, so much has happened, including the following:

- We baptized our newest little saint into the Body of Christ;
- We held a stewardship campaign that was faithful and encouraging and fruitful;
- I led my first ever vestry meeting;
- We held a voter registration drive at Fiesta Market, one block south of our grounds;
- I led my first ever St. George's School board meeting;
- I "buried" four beloved friends, in two different services in the nave.
- We had a restful and contemplative parish retreat;
- I have met in the homes of dozens of parishioners, just getting to know them in their "natural habitat";
- We celebrated a festive Christmas season, with a notable and vibrant children's pageant;
- We went Christmas caroling in Mueller;
- We enjoyed a Fiesta at St. George's Court;
- We (as part of our Outreach) were a blessing to numerous partners in love & service;
- We installed new roofing on several of our buildings;
- We celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany with new friends and old at Casa Marianella;
- ... and so much more.

It's always dangerous to put out a list like that; no doubt I am forgetting many things. Please forgive me in advance. Still ... wow! That's a lot!

Most of all, we have grown in mutual love and trust, in Christ. I am humbled beyond words to be your rector.

Looking to the future, near term, in 2023, I am hopeful about the following areas:

- Welcoming & nurturing a new crop of vestry members;
- An encouraging & useful vestry retreat;
- Reaching out in thoughtful love to folks through book discussions & various gatherings & media;
- Making progress toward a children's ministry that meets real needs & attracts new, young families;



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- Continuing to grow the church organically and numerically (a necessary condition for the above bullet point, in my opinion);
 - Beginning to relaunch ministries (“Sunday operations”) old & new through recruitment and trainings this spring semester;
 - Making progress on our building & grounds, including faithful, prudent service to our homeless neighbors;
 - Building relationship with our surrounding neighbors & neighborhood association;
 - Training & celebrating a new group of confirmands this Fall;
 - Much, much, more.

That’s a lot! Thanks be to God for our Kingdom work together! Here’s to 2023!

Yours, faithfully in Christ,

Matt+

The Rev. Matt Boulter

The Feast of the Epiphany

With the Feast of the Epiphany, on Friday, January 6th, the 12-day season of Christmas draws to a close, and the church moves into the season of Epiphany. The Word *epiphany* comes from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, which means “appearing” or “revealing.” The season of Epiphany focuses on God’s self-revelation in Christ.

Christian tradition pays special attention to the gradual revelation of Christ’s nature as shown in three events: the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Jesus, and the Wedding at Cana where he performed his first miracle, changing water into wine. With each of these events, the circle of those who see and recognize Jesus for who he is

– God with us – grows larger. And

with this revelation, the promise of Christmas begins to be fulfilled, as the light of Christ enters the world: “Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you” (*Isaiah 60:1*). God is always making God’s-self known to us. The Season of Epiphany lasts until March 2nd this year with Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent.



Our traditional annual evening liturgy of Epiphany at **Casa Marianella** (821 Gunter Street) was a success and we were overjoyed to continue the tradition this year!

Women's Book Group

The St. George's Women's Book Club continues to meet. The next meeting of the women's book group will be Saturday January 14 from 3-5 p.m. at the home of Carolyn Moreau, 1908 Newning Ave. She has promised to bake her famous rosca de reyes, a very special treat. The book is *The Butterfly's Daughter* by Mary Alice Monroe, and we hope to see many of you there. Call or text with questions: Alice Nelson 512.924.1143 or Sarah Campbell 512.569.3081 We hope you can join us for interesting conversation and our book discussion. The Zoom invitation will be sent out to the group's email list prior to the meeting. To be added to the list, or with any questions, please contact Alice Nelson at mzlsnlsn@gmail.com with any questions. Happy reading!

For additional information about the Women's Book Club, especially their sponsoring the education of a young person from Guatemala each year, check out the information on the Get Involved section of our website: <https://stgeorgeaustin.squarespace.com/womens-book-group>.

Annual Parish Meeting

The 2023 Annual Meeting for St. George's will be on **Sunday, January 22nd**, the second to last Sunday of the month. This year's meeting will be **held in Kleberg Hall at 12:30pm**. At our meeting we will:

- Sing together, laugh together, and dream together;
- Review the past year (2022), and look forward to 2023;
- Give thanks for Josh Beckham and Brad Dieringer (senior warden), who are rotating off the vestry;
- Elect three vestry members (our recommended slate is Anne Banholdz, John Rickard, and Spencer Gordon, who is finishing an irregular term and beginning a new term!);
- Announce the new senior warden (Spencer Gordon has agreed to serve);
- Elect a new three-year delegate to Diocesan Council (Dale Curry has agreed to serve); and elect the new senior warden and alternates for the 2023 Diocesan Council;
- Hear oral reports from key areas of the church;
- Feast and fellowship! Please bring a dish to share for the pot-luck lunch, but don't let that keep you away; there is always plenty to go around!



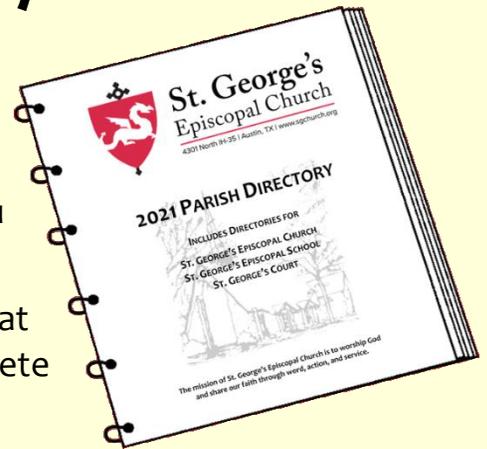
We hope to see you there!

2023 Parish Directory

It's time to prepare our 2023 Parish Directory! In order to make sure that you and your family are listed correctly, please do the following:

- Complete a [2023 Directory Information Form](#) – **EVEN** if you have no changes from last year's listing.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office, at 512-454-2523 or stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com. Please complete your form no later than **Sunday, January 29th**.



In-Person Worship

Our Sunday morning services continue to grow as we enjoy gathering in-person and re-connecting with our community even as we are still navigating the pandemic. We hope that you can join us! We are continuing to take measures to be safe, and our policies evolve as the situation changes. Masks are optional.

The 10:30 service continues to be accessible via both Facebook and Youtube, so if you don't feel safe coming back to in-person church just yet or can't make it every Sunday, you can still worship with us! Check out the links at <https://stgeorgeaustin.squarespace.com/online-worship>



Christopher House Bags



Delivery people needed! St. George's has a long-standing ministry of delivering hospitality baskets to the families of patients at Christopher House. As with everything else, the logistics of this have changed with the pandemic, but we continue to deliver bags, and we need more delivery people! To be a part of this ministry, sign up for one or more weeks on the [Christopher House page](#). A \$10 donation is requested per bag, and you can also add a note

and other goodies (nothing perishable). You can make the donation online via the [St. George's Donation Page](#) under Outreach, or by placing a check in the offertory basket (or mailing it to the church office) made out to "St. George's Episcopal Church," with "Christopher House Baskets" in the memo line. Then, contact Alice Nelson at mzlsnlsn@gmail.com to make arrangements to get a bag before your delivery week (often after church). Delivery includes no patient contact, and only brief outdoor and masked contact with a Hospice staff member.



Outreach

2022 ended in a joyful, generous burst of support for parish programs. We extend our deepest thanks to our faithful members whose enthusiastic support made these programs successful! A quick update:

Supporting EL BUEN SAMARITANO - St. George's raised an amazing \$4,352 to support Hands For Hope Thanksgiving meal kits and support families experiencing food insecurity. The intrepid Carolyn Moreau braved the cold and rain to help distribute turkeys, sides, bread, and pies to 1000 families on November 19th. On December 17th, eight St. George's members had a wonderful day serving the community by giving out meal kits to 500 families at the Las Posadas event. A total of 3,225 families were served by EBS including the Hands for Help at Thanksgiving, a cooked meal for disabled families, and HEB gift cards distributed through local partners! Thank you, St. George's, for your generosity and heart!



**HANDS FOR
HOPE**
EL BUEN
SAMARITANO



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Supporting St. George's Court and Casa

Marianella: Our generous parishioners donated 110 \$20 gift cards, enough to give a card to every resident of Casa and of the Court. The court cards were packaged in little felt stockings decorated by members at the retreat in November. On December 15 we enjoyed a communal feast between Court residents and members of our church. Financial donations were enough to buy the meat and paper goods for the feast and to hire a pianist to play Christmas music. Parishioners provided a bounty of side dishes, rolls and cookies. The spirit was festive, and the occasion provided a wonderful introduction to the court for many church members.

**Casa Marianella****St. George's
Court
Apartments**

St. George's Court is a ministry of St. George's Church built in the mid-1980s in collaboration with the Diocese of Texas and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. For more information about the Court, check out our community organizations page of the Church website: <https://stgeorgeaustin.squarespace.com/community-organizations>.

For updates on the events and initiatives at **Casa Marianella**, check out their website: <https://www.casamarianella.org/>.

Supporting our bishops' movement to get "souls to the polls." Widespread parish participation in the diocesan Health and Justice Advocacy Network voting initiative brought St. George's into first place in the category of number of voters as a percentage of Average Sunday Attendance. Our prize will be an ice cream social early in 2023, so watch for details about this opportunity for community fun.

These efforts were made possible by the generous and enthusiastic leadership provided by their coordinators. We all express sincere thanks to Carolyn Moreau for her leadership and relationship with El Buen Samaritano, to Andrea Sparks, for great publicity and announcements about the Christmas program, and for creating the "relationships, not transaction" attitude about the Court feast and opening this opportunity to so many of our members, and to Hollie Gordon for coordinating the voter drive, with reminders, follow up and the cute ice cream stickers on the Kleberg bulletin board. We are awed by and grateful for your commitment and leadership, for following through and making sure these projects happened. Thank you, Carolyn, Andrea and Hollie!

For more information about other OUTREACH events and opportunities, contact Alice Nelson (mzlsnlsn@gmail.com) or Sarah Campbell (cowmarket2@gmail.com). Or check out our Get Involved Page on St. George's webpage: <https://stgeorgeaustin.squarespace.com/outreach>.

2023 Altar Flowers/Candles Calendar



The 2023 Altar Flowers/Candles Calendar is available! If you'd like to donate altar flowers or altar candles in 2023, perhaps in honor of someone, in thanksgiving for a blessing in your life, or in memory of loved one, visit the [2023 Altar Flowers/Candles Calendar](#) or add your name to the calendar on the bulletin board in the north entrance of the church. Enter your name and dedication next to the week or month of your choice. **A donation of \$35** is requested. You can make your donation online or by check. To give electronically, visit the [St. George's Donation page](#), scroll down to "Designated Gifts" / "Altar Guild," and enter the amount of your donation. You may also make checks payable to St. George's, with "Altar Flowers/Candles" in the memo line, and place them in the offertory basket or mail them to the church office.

News from the School



Here it is, a new year to look forward to, and new beginnings in 2023. From the new roof, new fence, new toddler playground, new security features including classroom door locks and external cameras, to new ideas, and a new vision. This vision is where my focus now leads -- a stronger church and school connection.

I remember years ago when the school had a significant number of families who attended church here. This is the goal moving into this new year. I want to be a bridge for families who are searching for a church home. Through a stronger church/school connection, we can model the reasons why people seek out this type of fellowship.

In what creative ways can the church and the school be in fellowship together more? This is the question I'll be asking myself, and listening to others and Father Matt, as they present new ideas. I'm eager to see what awaits us.

Additionally, I'd like to give a big THANK YOU to Suzette Puckett, Jan Phillips, and Hye Na Lucy for their help with the school's Christmas Pageant. Their musical talent is always appreciated and brings the entire program together.

Happy New Year,

Jerri Thompson, M.Ed.
Head of School

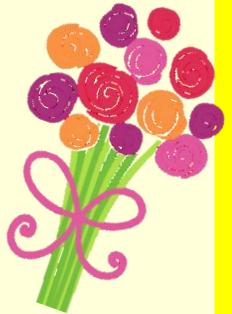


January Birthdays & Anniversaries



We wish the following parishioners a happy birthday:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Raleigh Landry (Jan 1) | Hye Na Lucy (Jan 17) |
| Ashley Carrera (Jan 2) | Lisa Wagner (Jan 18) |
| Mark Corcoran (Jan 3) | Cyrus Cormier (Jan 20) |
| Jackson Lucy (Jan 6) | Nora Kadas (Jan 20) |
| Andrea Sparks (Jan 8) | Vanamala Manohar (Jan 22) |
| Rebecca Brackin (Jan 11) | George Stuart (Jan 25) |
| Randy Parker (Jan 11) | Mary Parker (Jan 29) |
| Jan Phillips (Jan 13) | Bonita Snyder-Jones (Jan 30) |
| Madeleine Landry (Jan 15) | |



Best Wishes for a Blessed Year!

February *Banner* Deadline



The deadline for news for the February issue of *The Banner* is Thursday, January 26th. Please email news and articles you would like included in the next issue to stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com.

And I'll try very hard to get this next one out in a more timely manner. 😊



Links for Further Information

- [St. George's Church website](#)
- [St. George's Episcopal School](#)
- [The Episcopal Diocese of Texas](#)
- [The Episcopal Church, USA](#)

- [The Lectionary](#)
- [Camp Allen](#)
- [St. George's Court](#)
- [Episcopal Relief and Development](#)