

THE BANNER



**St. George's
Episcopal Church**

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

January 2022



Epiphany

4301 North IH 35 • Austin, TX 78722

512.454.2523 • stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com

www.sgchurch.org

Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 9:30 am – 2:30 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. Ann McLemore

Interim Rector

Dia Park

Music Minister

Mikail McIntosh-Doty

Office Administrator

Jerri Thompson

Day School Director

Josh Beckham

Rob Blech

Mark Casstevens

Ed Crawford

Dale Curry

Brad Dieringer

Hye Na Lucy

Belinda McGhee

Samantha Stevens

Vestry

Brad Dieringer

Senior Warden

Ed Crawford

Junior Warden

Samantha Stevens

Financial Secretary

Ashley Carrera

Treasurer

Belinda McGhee

Clerk

Bridgette Beinecke

School Board Liaison

Mark Your Calendars

Wed 1/5 & 1/19 Wednesday

Weavings

Mon 1/10 Vestry Meeting [in
church]

Sat 1/8 Women's Book Group
[next meeting 2/12]

Mon 1/17 School Board Meeting

Sun 1/30 Annual Parish Meeting
[in the church following
the 10:30 service]

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Feast Days

1 The Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ	18 The Confession of Saint Peter the Apostle
2 Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop and Theologian, 389	19 Richard Rolle, Walter Hilton, and Margery Kempe, Mystics, 1349, 1396, and c. 1440
4 Elizabeth Ann Seton, Monastic and Educator, 1821	21 Agnes and Cecilia of Rome, Martyrs, 304 and c.230
5 Sarah, Theodora, and Syncletica of Egypt, Desert Mothers, 4th-5th cent	22 Vincent of Saragossa, Deacon and Martyr, 304
6 The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ	24 Ordination of Florence Li Tim-Oi, First Woman Priest in the Anglican Communion, 1944
8 Harriet Bedell, Deaconess and Missionary, 1969	25 The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle
9 Julia Chester Emery, Lay Leader and Missionary, 1922	26 Titus and Timothy, Companions of Saint Paul
10 William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645	27 John Chrysostom, Bishop and Theologian, 407
12 Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot and Theologian, 1167	28 Thomas Aquinas, Friar and Theologian, 1274
14 Richard Meux Benson, Priest, and Charles Gore, Bishop, 1915 and 1932	31 Marcella of Rome, Monastic and Scholar, 410
17 Antony of Egypt, Monastic, 356	

Interim Rector's Corner

Dear St. George's Family:

Greetings,

Happy New Year! Yes, it is hard to believe that we are now in the year 2022! As of the 11th we are back to green altar linens and vestments as we enter into the season of Epiphany. And so we begin the business of the New Year, this new season! At the January vestry meeting the vestry passed a 2022 budget which will be presented at the annual meeting.



Sunday, January 30, is our annual congregational meeting which will take place immediately following the 10:30 service, in the church. By having the annual meeting in the church, those who attended church by virtual means can stay tuned and attend the meeting using the same virtual capabilities. Also, by hosting the annual meeting in the church, those present can see and hopefully understand better all the work that has been taking place at the church this past year and beginning of the new year. There has been some delayed maintenance that was sorely needing attention. The current vestry leadership and I felt it important to take care of these issues now rather than pushing them down the road for "others" to worry about for the future of the physical structures. Among this work was updating the Altar Guild room, which now has a new refrigerator that is more efficient in both space usage and energy.

Special thanks to Dale Curry and Elaine Hosage for all their work in the expansion of the Memorial Garden. Next time you are at the church take a few minutes to walk through the garden area. The landscaping around the south and north sides of the church have been manicured and now will no longer be drainage factors to the stained glass wood framing. Three new air conditioning/heating units have been installed in the church; these are incredible assets in moving air and moderating the temperature; the old system was beyond repair!

On the other side of the campus, work has started on the Wright House replacing the back door and areas where the wood was rotting and damage from the break-ins. Roof issues are also being addressed. The new school building is going through the final check list and should be ready for occupancy in February.

That is our "physical" part of church! On the human resource side; we all should be so grateful for the work that Mikail McIntosh-Doty is taking on as the new church office manager. Dia Parks is becoming more and more confident with our Episcopal liturgy offering her musical talents to our Sunday morning worship. This past Monday, at the January vestry meeting, our Eucharist honored the three vestry members that are rotating off: Rob Blech, Ed Crawford, and Samantha Stephens. A grateful thank-you to them and their three years of service. We also thank Hye Na Lucy for her time served! Our new candidates for vestry are Sandra Villalaz-Dickson, Ramon Trevino, Spencer Gordon and Brad Barcus.

Our 12-member search committee, chaired by Melissa Brackin, is moving along and doing their due diligence in the process towards presenting the vestry with a candidate(s) in the calling of a new rector for St. George's. We are all grateful for the time, energy and effort these folks are putting in, under the direction of the Holy Spirit. Please continue to hold them in your prayers, along with the priest that God is preparing for serving at and with the good people of St. George's.

Brad Dieringer, Spencer Gordon, Mary Stewart Miller, and Frances Rickard are the four delegates representing St. George's at the February 25, 26 Annual Diocesan Convention being held in The Woodlands. I will also be attending with them as Interim Rector. Being

that I am still canonically resident in the Diocese of Mississippi; I have seat and voice; but, no vote.

We have temporarily put a hold on coffee hour until Austin is out of Stage Five COVID-19 conditions. When the weather is nice, we can visit after church outside. In the church we are back to blocking off two rows of pews, leaving every third pew for seating. Communion is being offered to you in the pew, only using the hosts. I ask that you continue to wear masks during the service.

Ash Wednesday is still a way off: March 2. A lot will take place between now and then here at St. George's! So as we continue in 2022 let us offer our gratefulness to God for his love, his grace, and his patience with each and every one of us!

Faithfully,



The Rev. Ann McLemore

It's Official!

The Rev. Joel McAlister is being ordained to the Priesthood: A former member of the congregation, whom we've supported and helped cover his textbooks during his time in seminary, is about to be ordained to the priesthood. **Joel's** service for ordination will occur on **Friday, January 21st at 6:30pm**. There will also be a livestream available on the St. Francis Facebook page:

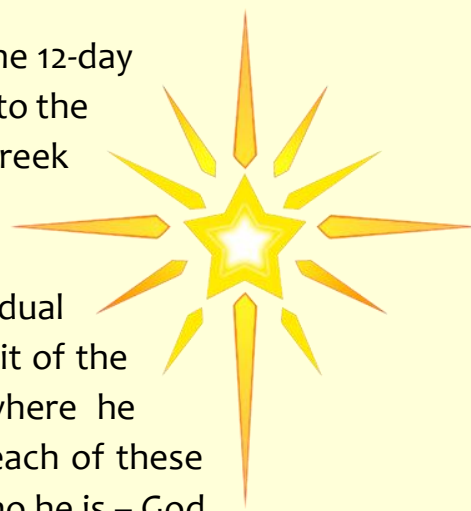
<https://www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler>.

Reach out to Joel for details: joelmc@gmail.com Or check out the pdf of the invitation [here](#). Together we lift Joel up in service to God! May he and his family receive many blessings on this new path. Alleluia!



The Feast of the Epiphany

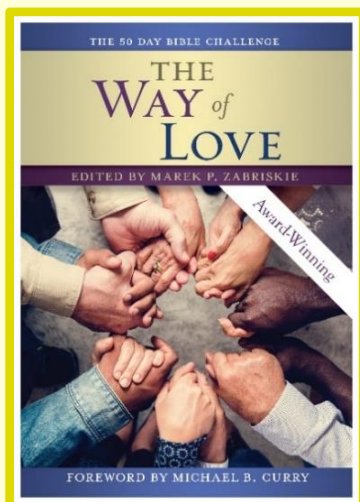
With the Feast of the Epiphany, on Wednesday, January 6th, the 12-day season of Christmas draws to a close, and the church moves into the season of Epiphany. The Word *epiphany* comes from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, which means “appearing” or “revealing.” The season of Epiphany focuses on God’s self-revelation 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 cancelled due to high levels of Covid spread in the community. We look forward to renewing this tradition next January. In the meantime, Suzette Puckett passed out Epiphany packets to those of us attending the church in person so that we can do our own Epiphany blessing of updating the lintel markings at our homes. For more information, contact Suzette at csHPuckett@austin.rr.com.

Wednesday Weavings



St. George’s adult discussion group continues to meet every other Wednesday. In January, we will again have both meetings via Zoom, as Austin is again in Stage 5. We will meet from **7:00 to 8:00 pm** on **January 5th and 19th**, for a discussion on the selected reading for the evening and Compline service.

We are continuing our study of *The Way of Love*, a Forward Movement publication edited by Marek Zabriskie. The book offers 50 meditations, each consisting of a Scripture reading, reflection, discussion questions, and prayer. The meditations are divided into seven sections based on seven spiritual practices for a Jesus-centered life: Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, and Rest.

Frances Rickard will send out the reading before each meeting, as well as the Zoom link, to the group’s email list. If you are not on the list and would like to receive the email, or if you have any questions, please contact Frances at fajrickard@gmail.com.

Women's Book Group

The St. George's Women's Book Club continues to meet. On January 8th, we met and discussed *Sing Unburied Sing* by Jesmyn Ward. On February 12th, we'll discuss *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell. All St. George's women are welcome to attend – even if you haven't read the book! 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 2022 Annual Meeting for St. George's will be on **Sunday, January 30th**, the last Sunday of the month. This year's meeting will be **held in the church immediately following the 10:30 service**. The reason for holding the meeting in the church is so that those who attended the service virtually may also participate in the Annual Meeting virtually. Since the church is equipped for transmission and filming it makes sense to go ahead and have this necessary, but short meeting in the church. Another reason for holding the Annual Meeting in the church is so everyone can see and learn about all the major repairs and work around the physical plant that have taken place, particularly over the past three months. The work was initially instigated because of the eight break-ins; however, the silver lining to all of this undertaking has been the discovery of areas that were long overdue for maintenance and/or replacement. There will also be a display of security options.



Those of you who are **heads of a particular ministry or group** (Wednesday Weavings, Women's Book Club, Altar Guild, Men's Group, etc.) please send a one or two paragraph summary of the group's activities and ministries throughout 2021. Please email to the office (stgeorgesAustin@gmail.com) **before January 18th if at all possible**.

One of the purposes of the annual meeting is to elect new vestry members, as Rob Blech, Ed Crawford, and Samantha Stevens will be rotating off after their three-year terms. A grateful thanks to them and for their service! At the meeting we will also approve Mary Stewart Miller to serve as the fourth delegate to the annual meeting, Diocesan Council, which will be held this year at The Woodlands, February 25-26. This is a three-year term. The other three delegates are the Senior Warden Brad Dieringer, Spencer Gordon, and Frances Rickard. Interim Rector, the Rev. Ann McLemore, will also be attending.

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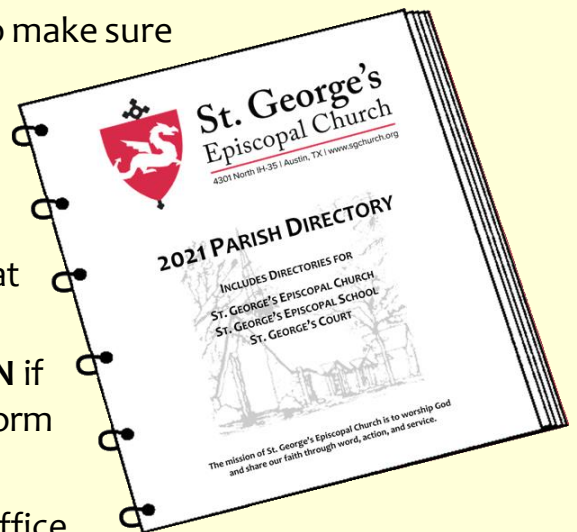
This meeting will be a time to review the budget for 2022 which has been approved by the Vestry; and hear reports from the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and Treasurer.

Please watch your email for a compilation of the reports the week of January 24th. Only the budget information will be printed out and available in church on the 30th.

2022 Parish Directory

It's time to prepare our 2022 Parish Directory! In order to make sure that you and your family are listed correctly, please do the following:

- If you were listed in last year's directory, **CAREFULLY** review your listing. If you need another copy of the 2021 directory, please contact the church office, at stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com or 512-454-2523.
- Complete a [2022 Directory Information Form](#) – **EVEN** if you have no changes from last year's listing (the form includes the option to indicate "no changes").



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 **Tuesday, January 25th**.

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 and social distancing are required; we are receiving communion only in the form of the communion host (no wine at this time); and in-person worshipers are asked to wear masks at all times.

The 10:30 service continues to be accessible via both Zoom and Facebook Live, 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>.

Nineteen Steps to Calling a New Rector

Just as there are 19 steps in the Wright House up to the Rector's Office, there are 19 steps for the congregation going through the process of preparing for and calling a new rector. The whole congregation is invited to be part of the process of each of these 19 steps, the ultimate goal being the arrival of a newly called rector on Step 19! The steps are:



- 1. The Rector announces that s/he is leaving.
- 2. Supply clergy lead worship; work out interim priest arrangement.
- 3. The Interim priest arrives; work out Interim Rector arrangement.
- 4. The Interim Rector arrives and begins transition work.
- 5. The congregation completes a survey provided by the diocese.
- 6. The results of the survey are shared with the congregation.
- 7. The Parish Profile Committee is formed and generates a Parish Profile.
- 8. When the profile is ready, the diocese approves it.
- 9. The Profile is circulated locally and nationally for six to eight weeks.
- 10. The Search Committee is formed and prepares for interviews.
- 11. The Search Committee reviews applications and holds interviews.
- 12. Zoom visits or (if safe and possible) in-person visits are held with the candidates.
- 13. The Search Committee narrows the list to one or two finalists and presents them to the Vestry.
- 14. Throughout the work of the Parish Profile and Search Committees, transition and interim work are taking place.
- 15. The Vestry reviews the name(s) from the Search Committee.
- 16. The Vestry votes to extend a call to one candidate.
- 17. A call goes out to the new Rector.
- 18. A Transition Team is formed to welcome the new Rector and his/her family.
- 19. The new Rector arrives.

Please attend the annual church meeting on January 30th, right after the 10:30 am service for more details.



2022 Pledge

Our stewardship season came to an end in November with Gratitude Sunday, but it's not too late to make a pledge to support St. George's in 2022! You can still place your pledge card in the offertory baskets or [pledge online](#). (If you have not received a pledge packet, please contact the church office at stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com.) For more information or to pledge online, visit the [Stewardship page](#).

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 baskets (except now they are **bags with handles**), 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

Special update from Carolyn Moreau about our efforts with El Buen's Turkey Drive:

St. George's raised \$1,940 for the Hands for Hope Thanksgiving event. A 1,800 local families were served as part of [El Buen's Hands for Hope \(H4H\) Food Equity and Access Campaign](#). The week of November 15th, 800 families of our partner organizations received vouchers to purchase Thanksgiving meal items, and on that Saturday 1000 families received Thanksgiving meal kits, including all of the essentials to cook a holiday meal, with enough to share with friends and family. Another 500 families will receive a meal kit in December at their other annual event, Posadas at El Buen!

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None of this would have been possible without the generous support of many parishes and organizations, as well as individuals. [Video: H4H's CEO, Dr. Murillo, thanks you for your support, click here to watch.](#)



If, like Carolyn here, you are interested in volunteering in person next year, reach out to <https://cerv.is/m?0244x210>.

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>.

2022 Altar Flowers/Candles Calendar



The 2022 Altar Flowers/Candles Calendar is available! If you'd like to donate altar flowers or altar candles in 2022, perhaps in honor of someone, in thanksgiving for a blessing in your life, or in memory of loved one, visit the [2022 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



Happy New Year All!!

I pray each of you had a festive Christmas balanced with enough quiet time to reflect on the past year and set goals for the New Year. After all, we all know that goal setting is a wonderful way to stay motivated and achieve more.

Here at St. George's School we have many goals. Starting this new semester, one of our goals is to pass our NAEYC accreditation visit. The assessors are scheduled to come sometime between January and March. And YES! We are ready!

I also have a new goal this semester. I will begin to post video blogs on our website. Each will be posted mid-month. I have one scheduled for each remaining month of school. I encourage you to share these with your friends. And don't worry, we'll be sure to remind you. Here are the upcoming topics:

January – School Readiness

February – Toilet Learning vs. Toilet Training

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March – Ages & Stages (Part 1: Birth – 3 years) & (Part II: 3-5 years)

April – Bonding, Attachment, and Separation Anxiety

May – Teasing, Bullying, and Power Play

Here's to the beginning of a great new year. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Respectfully,

Jerri Thompson, M.Ed.

Head of School

News from St. George's Court & Casa Marianella

Successful Christmas Outreach to our partners – St. George's Court and Casa Marianella !



Thanks to our very generous congregation, we were able to meet our goal of providing a grocery card for every resident of St. George's Court and for every resident of Casa Marianella. This amounts to a Christmas giving of over **\$3,500!** Thank you, each giving member of our church. It was a joy to share these gifts with the court at their annual Christmas party on the 15th and to present the cards in person to Casa Director Jennifer Long (a long-time St. George's church member) at the 10:30 service on the 19th of December. We truly appreciate the work of Andrea Sparks in coordinating of this project. It is inspiring to be part of such a congregation.

Alice Nelson and Sarah Campbell

The party with our colleagues at St. George's Court was a huge success on December 15th. Everyone was delighted to receive their individual stockings with the gift card. The interim rector, The Rev. Ann McLemore, and Senior Warden Brad Dieringer were also able to attend. As noted above the Church's annual celebration of Epiphany with Casa Marianella was cancelled due to pandemic levels, but we hope to join them again next January.

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/>.



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!

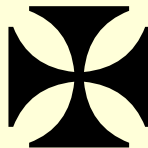


February *Banner* Deadline



The deadline for news for the February issue of *The Banner* is Monday, January 24th. 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](#)