

THE BANNER



St. George's Episcopal Church

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

March 2022



Lent

4301 North IH 35 • Austin, TX 78722

512.454.2523 • stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com

www.sgchurch.org

Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Sunday Schedule

- 10:30 am [Holy Eucharist, Rite II](#)
- 11:15 am Coffee Hour (when covid levels are low)

The Rev. Ann McLemore
Interim Rector

Dia Park
Music Minister

Mikail McIntosh-Doty
Office Administrator

Jerri Thompson
Day School Director

Ramón Treviño
Sandra Villalaz-Dickson
Brad Barcus
Dale Curry
Brad Dieringer
Spencer Gordon
Belinda McGhee
Vestry

Brad Dieringer
Senior Warden

Dale Curry
Junior Warden

Samantha Stevens
Financial Secretary

Ashley Carrera
Treasurer

Clerk

Bridgette Beinecke
School Board Liaison

Mark Your Calendars

- Tue 3/1** Choir Meet-up
- Wed 3/2** Ash Wednesday
[Eucharist & Distribution of Ashes at both Noon & 7 PM]
- Mon 3/8** Vestry Meeting
- Wed 3/8** Lenten Series [on your own]
- Sat 3/12** Women's Book Group
- Sun 3/13** Daylight Saving starts; filling of SAFE bags
- Mon 3/14** School Board Meeting
- Tue 3/15** Choir Meet-up
- Sun 3/20** Blessing and send off of SAFE bags
- Sun 3/27** St. James' Lenten Tea
- Tue 3/29** Choir Meet-up

[St. George's Events Calendar](#)

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Feast Days

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 David of Wales, Bishop, c. 544 | 18 Patrick of Ireland, Bishop and Missionary, 461 |
| 2 ASH WEDNESDAY | 19 Saint Joseph |
| 3 John and Charles Wesley, Priests, 1791, 1788 | 21 Thomas Ken, Bishop, 1711 |
| 7 Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs, 202 | 24 Oscar Romero, Archbishop and Martyr, 1980, and the Martyrs of El Salvador |
| 9 Gregory of Nyssa, Bishop and Theologian, c. 394 | 25 The Annunciation of Our Lord Jesus Christ to the Blessed Virgin Mary |
| 10 Harriet Ross Tubman, Social Reformer, 1913 | 26 Harriet Monsell, Monastic, 1883 |
| 12 Gregory the Great, Bishop and Theologian, 604 | 28 James Solomon Russell, Priest, 1935 |
| 15 Vincent de Paul, Priest, and Louise de Marillac, Monastic, Workers of Charity, 1660 | 29 John Keble, Priest and Poet, 1866 |
| | 31 John Donne, Priest and Poet, 1631 |

Interim Priest's Corner

Dear St. George's Family:

Wild times! Mardi Gras, Shrove Tuesday, pancakes (and cookies!) all are examples of cheer and celebration, as a carnival feel fills many parts of the world the last days and hours before the penitential season of Lent opens with Ash Wednesday. By the time you read this article we will have been “invited” in the name of the Church, “to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word. And to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature,…” (BCP, p. 265).



Before this writing dives completely into the “purple season”; special thanks to all that helped decorate the bags, and fill them with cookies, Mardi Gras beads, and notes for the residents of St. George’s Court. They were hand delivered to each unit on Shrove Tuesday and very gratefully received. I think everyone had a good time at the last Sunday of the month in February coffee hour sharing cookies, company and carnival, 2022 St. George's style!

As we in Austin have entered into Stage Three of the COVID levels, we have opened up our way of being church and “doing” church. Coffee hour is back into gear. In church, we will be sitting every other pew, again, instead of every third. We will keep receiving communion standing; however, we will soon be offering the option of having your communion host “intincted” in the sacramental wine and bringing back more music. Let’s continue to keep our masks on during the service.

With Spring comes a new spring to our step at Church. We will be exploring a new way of looking at the six weeks of Lent as a time to explore our spiritual and physical health. We will base the suggested activities and thoughts on Anna Fitch Courie’s book, *Christ Walk* (see below for more details). This book is NOT to just be read—it is to be done! And, maybe, just maybe, as Lent becomes Easter you may find yourself becoming a walker. Instead of concentrating so much on what you might be “giving up” for Lent; trade your devotion into what might you do anew! A start could be arriving to Church on Sundays 10 minutes earlier and walking our labyrinth before entering the church. Let this practice be a time to calm your hearts and minds before beginning worship.

Activities are slowly starting back up and ministries are ready to launch. March 6, 13, and 20 will be different phases of a “sew-in” and preparing of a new batch of SAFE bags, another way of giving to others during Lent.

Finally, I ask all of you to continue your prayers for the Search Committee, the process, the wisdom and discernment of the Holy Spirit throughout this season. Your new, unknown rector is in prayer, as I hope all of you are in prayer for this priest, and all the time, effort, energy and prayers that go into calling of a new rector.

Faithfully,

Ann +

The Rev. Ann McLemore

April *Banner* Deadline



The deadline for news for the April issue of *The Banner* is Friday, March 25th.

Please email news and articles you would like included in the next issue to stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com.

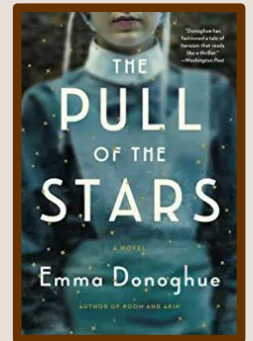
Daylight Saving Time

These days, many of us probably rely on alarms on our phones, which will automatically make the change from Standard to Daylight Saving Time early on the morning of Sunday, March 14th. But if you rely on a different sort of clock to get up and make it to your dining room table or couch or wherever you do church, don't forget to set your clocks an hour ahead before you go to bed on **Saturday, March 13th!**



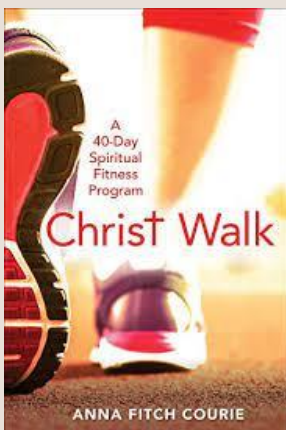
Women's Book Group

The women's book group will meet Saturday March 12 from 3-5 p.m. at the home of Carolyn Moreau, 1908 Newning Ave (78704). The book is *The Pull of the Stars* by Emma Donoghue. All women are welcome, even if you haven't read or finished the book. We are also very pleased to report that the entire \$1,000 for Dison's scholarship has been raised. Thank you, generous women! We hope to see many of you at Carolyn's.



Lenten Discipline 2022

Sun, Mar 6, 2022 - Sun, Apr 10, 2022



“For those of you who are looking for a comprehensive approach to walking, fitness, spirituality and prayer walking, *Christ Walk* is the book for you.” This will be our tool for Lenten Discipline in 2022.

[Anna Courie](#) wrote *Christ Walk* to help readers combine spiritual discipline with physical activity. The plan takes about 40 days, so a perfect way to improve our minds and bodies. These activities can be modified so that they can be done daily or periodically, depending on your schedule. Perhaps these walks or activities will become a new “habit” and a part of your daily/weekly routine.

There will be some copies available in the church office (reach out to Mikail at stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com for details) or you can purchase new/used copies or the Kindle version of either edition on Amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00Q3MYoWS/ref=db_s_a_def_rwt_bibl_vppi_io.

Note: Anna Courie also wrote a “kids and teens” version if you want to do this as a family.

Christ Walk is a program created to move people towards engaging a healthy, Christ-centered life. As we begin Lent with the celebration of Ash Wednesday (March 2) we, again, are under questionable status as to whether gathering even in small groups inside a building is advisable. So, the Lenten program this year is one that, hopefully, takes us outdoors.

We can do this program alone or with others; the choice is yours. The book *Christ Walk* is written by Anna Fitch Courie, a nurse, daughter of an Episcopal priest, who is also a military chaplain. The steps that she encourages us to take are good for our soul and good for taking us outside and back into the world to the degree that we may do so.

Every day Anna Courie provides a Bible verse related to a reflective piece on healthy living. There is a place in this journey for everyone. The walks she encourages us to try are based on roads familiar to us from the Bible. Each week there is an overall theme, and that is expanded into sub-themes for the days of each week. Those themes are: Creation, Sin, Judgment, Repentance, and Redemption. Each week ends with a pulse check on the topic.

The church will send out weekly emails on Monday during Lent to remind the parish of the theme for the week and will give some tips on how to carry these out.

- For more information or if you have questions contact Ann at mclemore.a@gmail.com or 769-257-2377 Sun, Mar 6, 2022 10:15 AM Sun, Apr 10, 2022 9:15 PM

Weekly Eucharist with Intinction During Lent

On **Sunday, March 13th**, if Covid levels continue to drop, we hope to return one more thing to “normal”: we will allow those who choose to do so to dip the host into the wine (intinction) when they receive communion. The way this will work is that as the individual comes up the aisle to the altar for communion, they will receive the host from the celebrant into their hands. Behind the celebrant, a lay eucharistic minister (LEM) will offer intinction of the wine. The communicant will hold out the host on their hands; the LEM will take the host from the communicant and dip it in the wine and return it to the communicant’s hands. The communicant will carry the dipped host in their hands back to their pew. Only when seated will individuals take off their masks, consume the communion, and replace their masks. This process will allow those who do not wish to intinct to go to and from communion with no exposure.



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 2Interim 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 reviewing 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 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.

St. James' Lenten Tea



The St. James' Episcopal Church Women cordially invite the women of St. George's to attend their Lenten Tea on **Sunday, March 27th**, at **3:00 pm**. Over 45 years ago, the women of St. James began to observe the fourth Sunday in Lent, or Rose Sundae to share this invitation. For more information follow this link:

<https://stjamesaustin.org/calendar/the-lenten-tea/> Or reach out to St. James' Episcopal Church:

<https://stjamesaustin.org/directions/>

Easter Lilies

St. George's will be adorned with Easter lilies for our celebrations of the Resurrection of our Lord. We invite you to make an offering for lilies, perhaps in a loved one's memory, or in thanksgiving for a person or other blessing in your life.

The [2022 Easter Lily Donation](#) form is available online. Names of donors, along with any memorials or thanksgivings, will be listed in the Easter service bulletins. Be sure to complete the online form by **Monday, April 11th** to have your name and dedication listed in the bulletin.

The suggested donation is **\$20 per plant**. Donate online by visiting the [St. George's Donation page](#) and indicating the amount of your gift in the appropriate section (*Other Designated Gifts, Altar Guild, "Easter Lilies" in the notes section*), or send a check payable to St. George's, with "Easter Lilies" in the memo line, to the church office.



A Prayer for Ukraine

(Church of England)

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion
to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen.

From: Jesus Creed is a part of CT's [Blog Forum](#). Support the work of CT. [Subscribe](#) and get one year free. The views of the blogger do not necessarily reflect those of Christianity Today.

Women's Retreat 2022



The Annual St George's Women's Retreat will be held again at **Well Spring Retreat Center at Wessendorf Ranch** in Blanco, Texas, Friday to Sunday, April 22 – 24, 2022. If you haven't yet had opportunity to join the retreat, I hope you will consider coming this year. We have all been through a significant amount of separation, life's challenges and unquantifiable stresses since 2020. This is a time for us to connect in a safe, open-air environment and to be uplifted by the warmth of loving

women from St George's Episcopal Church. This is the time for a relaxing, rejuvenating weekend!

If you have a conflicting commitment, perhaps you can come for one of the days or a night and day. This Women's Retreat is planned to allow us to build relationships and enrich our overall community. The retreat is very low key and loosely organized. We eat well, talk, laugh, sleep, meditate, pray, play games, walk, nap and, most of all, enjoy each other's company. I hope you will consider joining us.

The cost for the weekend is \$50.00. This will cover all meals and the facility fees. We are assigned accommodations on the lower hill which should allow for each of us not to share a room. If cost is an issue, please don't let it keep you away. We don't want anyone to stay away; please contact me to arrange a scholarship.

Payment for the registration fee can be made by dropping a check into the offertory basket made payable to St George's Episcopal Church with women's retreat notation on the memo line; or, you can also go online to St George's donation page, www.stgchurch.org and select women's retreat.

Please call me with questions or let me know you want to come by April 10; we must confirm numbers with the retreat center office by then. Please try to pay your registration fee by April 18 so that I will purchase enough food for the weekend.

Watch the weekly Sunday Banners in March and April for updates and reminders.

Peace,
Sandra Villalaz, your retreat coordinator
512-762-8349
sandra.villalaz48@gmail.com

News from the School

Thanks to all those who are showing their school spirit and purchased a t-shirt. This is a great way to advertise for the school too. We just completed Open Enrollment for the 2022-2023 School Year, and all classes are full. Summer Enrollment begins March 1st, so tell a friend. We will have a class of Kndg/1st graders this summer, so if you know someone who is looking for Summer Camps, send them our way. They can register [here](#)



Save the Date - April 22 - Slaying of the Dragon. Join us at 9:00 AM as we slay the St. George's Dragon. We'd love to see you there. It's a 30 minute event held on the Big Playground to recognize our Episcopal Identity.

Save another Date - April 24 - Knight for St. George's. Join us between 6:00-9:00 PM at Wanderlust Wine Co. for fun and fellowship. More info to follow.

Jerrie

Ms. Jerri Thompson, M.Ed.

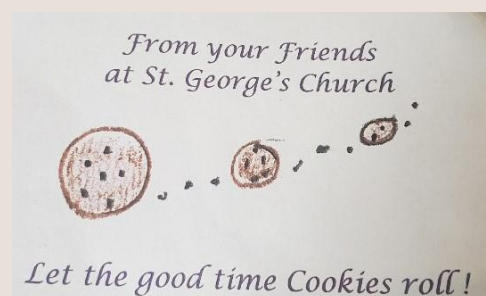
Head of School

St. George's Episcopal School

PS – Thanks to Spencer for modeling the t-shirts for the Church. More are available if anyone needs one.

Mardi Gras Cookies!

Special thank you to Suzette Puckett and Jan Phillips for transforming a fun and delicious Shrove Tuesday celebration of beads and cookies on the Last Sunday of Epiphany into a wonderful outreach project for the residents of St. George's Court. Thanks to everyone, including the two young girls, who helped stuff the bags and put stickers on the front. And to all the bakers of the five dozen cookies for the bags (Suzette and Jan) and all the other great cookies (and mini pancakes!) to feed the parish. Ann, Mikail, and Dale drove the bags to the Court on Tuesday, March 1st and hung one on each unit's front door. The residents of the Court really seemed delighted to be given an unexpected treat! See the clever note Suzette created for the bags:



March Birthdays & Anniversaries



We wish the following parishioners a happy birthday:

Patrick Dieringer (Mar 9)
 Elaine Hosage (Mar 9)
 Emily Dieringer (Mar 10)
 Jeremy Stevens (Mar 10)
 Soren Schuster (Mar 11)
 Richard Stuart (Mar 11)
 Josh McGonigle (Mar 16)
 Fred Blood (Mar 19)
 Heidi Braun (Mar 19)
 Alena Navarro (Mar 19)
 Maddie Boyer (Mar 21)

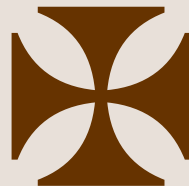
Maddie Sparks (Mar 21)
 Christina Fultz (Mar 23)
 Stephen Milburn (Mar 25)
 Josh Beckham (Mar 26)
 Henry Bandholz (Mar 28)
 Carey Kerrigan (Mar 29)
 Reeves Ham (Mar 30)
 David Savage (Mar 30)
 James Poage (Mar 31)
 Frances Rickard (Mar 31)

And a happy anniversary to:

Rob Blech & Mary Stewart Miller (Mar 20)
 Matt & Christie Curtis (Mar 28)



Congratulations and Best Wishes!



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](#)