

JANUARY 2024 ISSUE



The Banner

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
AUSTIN, TX

2024



St. George's Episcopal Church

Office Hours

M: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

T: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

W: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Th: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Rector

The Rev. Dr. Matt Boulter

769-257-2377

matt@saintgeorges-austin.org

Administrator

Jessie Morrone

512-454-2523

admin@saintgeorges-austin.org

Interim Music Minister

Julie Park

musicminister@saintgeorges-austin.org

Head of School

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Financial Secretary

Samantha Stevens

Treasurer

Frances Rickard

Sr. Warden

Spencer Gordon

seniorwarden@saintgeorges-austin.org

Jr. Warden

Hal Stevens

juniorwarden@saintgeorges-austin.org

Vestry

Anne Bandholz

Mark Casstevens

Spencer Gordon

Belinda McGhee

John Rickard

Hal Stevens

Ramón Treviño

Sandra Villalaz

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Sunday Schedule

10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:45 am Coffee Hour

Sunday Bulletin

January Events

St. George's Pub Club

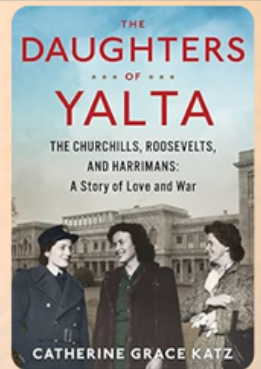
JAN. 1 , AT B.D. RILEY'S
6-8 P.M.

BRING A FRIEND!

Women's Book Group

3-5 p.m.

Sat. Jan. 13

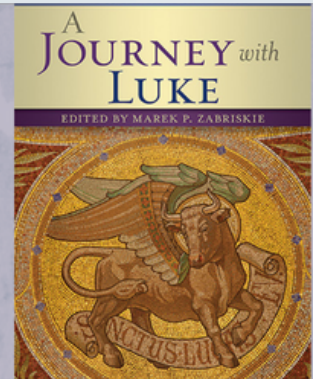


Wednesday Weavings

6:30-8 p.m.

Wed. Jan. 3

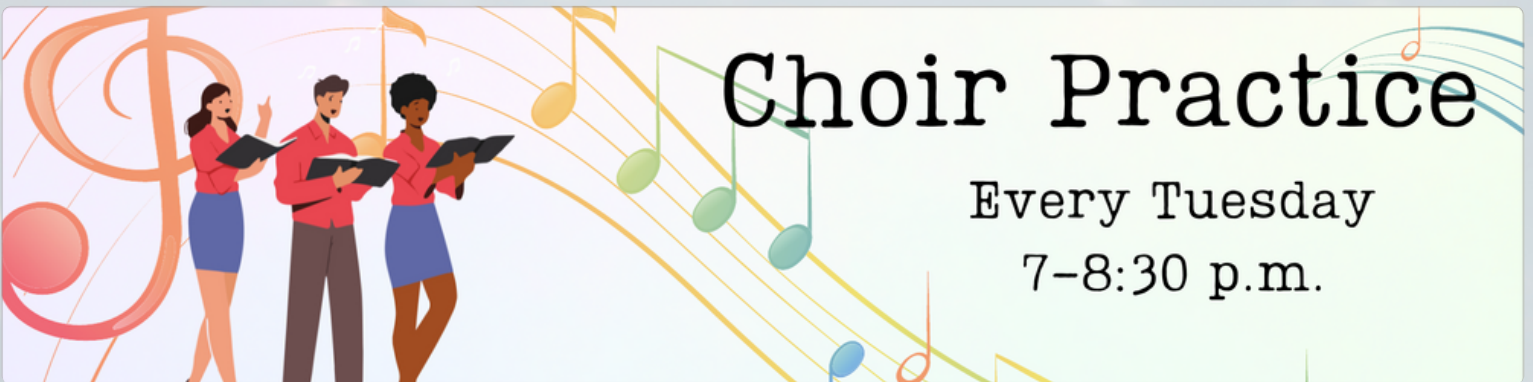
Wed. Jan. 17



Choir Practice

Every Tuesday

7-8:30 p.m.





St. George's Nursery

*For crawlers through fours
from 10 am - noon on Sundays.
Follow the signs on campus, and please
register children via the QR code!*



EPIPHANY JAN. 6

10 A.M. - SERVICE AT ST. GEORGE'S

6 P.M. - CELEBRATION AT CASA MARIANELLA



COFFEE HOUR EVENTS

JAN 7: SAFE BAG SEW-IN (LUNCH PROVIDED)

JAN 14: PARISH MEETING

SAFE BAG FILLING

POT LUCK LUNCH

ST. GEORGE'S EVENTS PAGE





Feast Days

January 2024

- 1 - The Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
- 4 - Elizabeth Ann Seton, Vowed Religious & Educator, 1821**
- 5 - Sarah, Theodora, & Syncletica of Egypt, Desert Mothers, fourth-fifth Century**
- 6 - The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
- 8 - Harriet Bedell, Deaconess & Missionary, 1969**
- 9 - Julia Chester Emery, Lay Leader & Missionary, 1922**
- 10 - William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645**
- 12 - Aelred of Rievaulx, Monastic & Theologian, 1167**
- 13 - Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop, 367**
- 17 - Antony of Egypt, Monastic, 356**
- 18 - The Confession of St. Peter The Apostle**
- 19 - Wulfstan of Worcester, Bishop. 1095**
- 20 - Fabian, Bishop & Martyr, 250**
- 22 - Vincent of Saragossa, Deacon & Martyr, 304**
- 23 - Phillips Brooks, Bishop, 1893**
- 24 - Florence Li Tim-Oi, Priest, 1992**
- 25 - The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle**
- 26 - Timothy & Titus, Companions of St. Paul**
- 27 - John Chrysostom. Bishop & Theologian, 407**
- 31 - Marcella of Rome, Monastic & Scholar, 410**



Letter from the Rector

REV. DR. MATT BOULTER

What's in a House?

“Casa Marianella”: a wonderful name containing two parts. As interesting as the second part is (with its allusions to Latino justice movements) it is the first part of the name I want to focus on right now: “Casa.”

Casa means “house,” or in Hebrew, beth.

In Padraig Ó Touma’s *In the Shelter* he describes an old midrashic tradition in which the rabbis are arguing about the first letter of the Bible. Not the first book (Genesis), or the first chapter, or the first verse/sentence, but the first letter. The letter bet, or ב. Why is the first letter bet, and not aleph (א), the letter one would definitely expect, given Hebrew literary conventions?

The upshot of the argument? The conclusion of the matter? The letter bet resembles a house, and God wanted to begin his story with a house.

“House” in Greek is oikos, from which we get “economy” (from the Greek oikonomia). An economy is a kind of house, or household arrangement.

St. George’s is a house that God is building, or better, rebuilding. It is an economy in which resources are shared, in which reality-making words are spoken and heard, in which “things that were cast down are being raised up, and things which things that had grown old are being made new.”[1]

Just as God begins with a house, we of St. George’s begin our new year at a house: Casa Marianella. Think about what, or who, is in this house: refugees, the riff-raff of the world, the disposable, the forgotten, the cast down. This is perfect, for the Kingdom of God is of such as these.

[1] See the *Book of Common Prayer*, 515.

Actually, St. George's and Casa Marianella are one and the same house, or at least two houses on the same estate. How will this oikos, this economy, grow and develop in 2024? (How will our eight new confirmands contribute to this economy?)

For many years I longed to be a tenured professor in the humanities, and if I'm honest, that life still seems like heaven to me. And yet, as wonderful as the classroom is, the parish is much more of a house, much more of a swirling and (hopefully) orchestrated economy. A professor has knowledge, but a priest—and if you are baptized you are a priest—has (or is called to have) wisdom, the ability to “get things done” in the material world, to create new realities out there in the world. A priest, that is, is called to be a sage. Unlike a mere polymath or “subject matter expert,” a sage has practical “know-how.” A sage can bring about and foster new economies, healthy homes, life-giving households.

This January at Casa, we will not celebrate Holy Eucharist, for more residents, these days, are Muslim than Christian, and we want to be a blessing to them.

Still, I cannot wait to gather with you at that house on January 6, and to see how this economy grows, and where this economy goes!

Faithfully,
Matt+



Parish Updates and Announcements

Office Closed/2024 Hours

Our office will be closed Monday, Dec. 25- Monday, Jan. 1. We will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 2.

Starting Jan 2. the Parish office will have new operating hours.:

M: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

T: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

W: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Th: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

2024 Parish Directory

It is time again to update our directory! Please click the link below to fill out the form with new or updated information. This directory is only shared with the members of the parish, but sharing is optional! If you have any questions please contact Jessie at admin.saintgeorgesaustin.org or 512-454-2523.

[Directory Information Form](#)

Annual Parish Meeting

Mark your calendars now for St. George's Annual Parish Meeting on **Sunday, Jan. 14!** After the morning worship service, we'll fill SAFE bags in Kleberg Hall, then enjoy a pot-luck lunch, followed by the annual meeting, where we'll elect Vestry members and Diocesan Council delegates, hear about the past year, and look ahead to the future at St. George's. All ministry leaders are encouraged to submit their reports to the church office by Jan. 8.

SAFE Bags

Here is the schedule of events for the next SAFE bag delivery:

- **Jan. 7:** Sew-in - During Coffee Hour in Kleberg Hall. Lunch will be served!
- **Jan. 14:** Bag filling - In Kleberg Hall after the worship service, followed by pot-luck lunch and the Annual Parish Meeting
- **Jan. 21:** Blessing of the bags and time with friends from SAFE

Visit to SAFE Campus

We are thrilled to share with you that our entire congregation has been invited to visit the SAFE campus after church on **Jan. 21, 2024**. This is an honor and a sign of trust to be invited to their gated community. We're hoping you plan now since this will take at least a couple of hours with travel and presentation. We will carpool over and have a light lunch while hearing a presentation and overview. Then, we will have a tour of the impressive campus. So mark those calendars now! Address and directions will be provided in a timely manner.

Wednesday Weavings

St. George's Wednesday night adult discussion group, Wednesday Weavings, resumes in January after our break for Advent. We continue our book *A Journey with Luke*, from the series of Forward Movement's 50-day Bible challenges. All are welcome to come for a simple meal, discussion on the evening's reading, and a closing liturgy of Compline. If you come, please bring a contribution for the salad bar meal (for example, fruit, vegetable, or crunchy toppings). We hope to see you there! For more information, contact Frances Rickard at fajrickard@gmail.com.

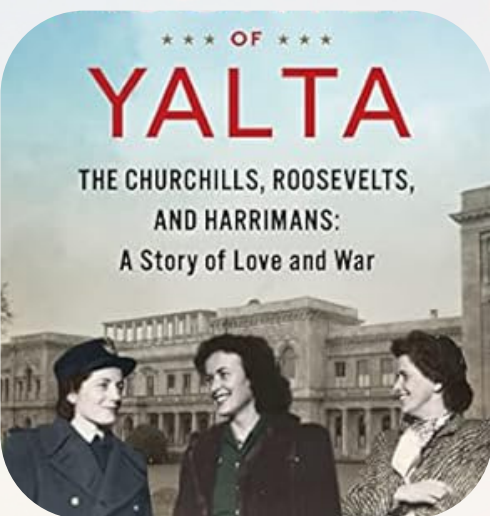
2024 Altar Flowers/Candles Calendar

The 2024 Altar Flowers/Candles Calendar is available! If you'd like to donate altar flowers or altar candles in 2024, perhaps in honor of someone, in thanksgiving for a blessing in your life, or in memory of a loved one, visit the online 2024 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 \$40 is requested. You can make your donation online or by check. To give electronically, visit the online St. George's Donation page, click on the "Altar Flowers and Candles" tile, and enter your information and amount of your donation. 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.

Women's Book Group

Our next meeting is on Jan. 13 from 3-5 p.m. The book is *Daughters of Yalta* by Catherine Grace Katz, and we hope many of you can join us. All the women of St. George's are welcome, even if you haven't read the book!

For more information, contact Alice Nelson at mzlsnlsn@gmail.com or Sarah Campbell at cowmarket2@gmail.com





ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

NEW BEGINNINGS, NEW LIFE, NEW HOPE

It has now been a solid year that I can confidently say the school is strong and steady. With this new hope, the school can now concentrate on new life. Last month, I shared my strategic plan for the school. Within that plan I have a vision to raise the professional bar of the school's staff. There are many great childcare centers in Austin, but childcare is just the beginning of what it takes to create strong foundations for children. During my training, I often say we are not just in the business of caring for young children, but also educating young children. And I'm not talking about the ABCs and 123s, but the emotional and social education of young children. This is the strongest of foundations that we can provide and cultivate for children to develop into whole human beings.

In order to cultivate the emotional and social development of children, the school must have teachers who have strong interpersonal skills and are compensated for their abilities. Therefore, in this year of new beginnings, there will be a strong focus on communication, customer appreciation, and internal relationships.

Jerri Thompson, M.Ed.
Head of School
St. George's Episcopal School
4301 N. IH 35
[Instagram](#) [Facebook](#)

Let's Celebrate

Birthdays

Raleigh Landry (Jan 1)
Ashley Carrera (Jan 2)
Andrea Sparks (Jan 8)
Rebecca Brackin (Jan 11)
Randy Parker (Jan 11)
Jan Phillips (Jan 13)
Madeleine Landry (Jan 15)
Lisa Wagner (Jan 18)
Cyrus Cormier (Jan 20)
Nora Kadas (Jan 20)
Vanamala Manohar (Jan 22)
George Stuart (Jan 25)
Bonita Snyder-Jones (Jan 30)

BANNER DEADLINE

The deadline for news and article submissions for the February issue of *The Banner* is

Thursday, Jan. 25

please email your submissions to
admin@saintgeorges-austin.org

LINKS

St. George's Episcopal Church

St. George's Episcopal School

St. George's Court

The Episcopal Diocese of Texas

The Episcopal Church, USA

The Lectionary

Camp Allen

Episcopal Relief and Development