

CTK: October News 2018



It is so good to be back at Christ the King after my Sabbatical. I want to share a bit about what I've been up to for the past 3 months. A highlight of the Sabbatical was going to the Holy Land with fellow Christ the King members. There are so many memories such as doing a baptism in the Jordan River, celebrating Communion in the Garden Tomb, located near Golgotha where Jesus was crucified. We renewed wedding vows at Cana of Galilee, where Jesus performed his first miracle at a wedding. We went to Bethlehem, Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee (which is really a lake), Jerusalem, floated in the Dead Sea, and much more.

While many vacations are measured by fun, this was truly a pilgrimage measured by deep meaning and many memories. On many Sundays you can expect to see pictures and hear sermon details about the Holy Land. It was truly incredible to see how the

Bible came alive. If you ever get the chance—go!

After the Holy Land, we did a family vacation. The final two months were spent back home. I got to spend more time with our daughters, daily workouts at the gym with my wife, and more honey do list projects.

Most days I spent time writing about a topic that I've been particularly interested in for the past couple of years but haven't had the time to dedicate to it. The basic concept is to consider a sympathetic portrayal of the enemies of Jesus. It's fiction, sort of like historical fiction, with the gospels as the background. There are four characters in all, and each one explains why they wanted to kill Jesus. The arguments and justifications they make are all one's people still use today. The basic idea is to explore how the enemies of Jesus aren't really all that different than us. I also hope this writing project lifts up how truly shocking, unpopular, and controversial Jesus really was. This simple truth is easily forgotten. I hope to make this project into a book. This Lent, I will share everything I have written, as the topic is especially relevant during the season of Lent.

Finally, I want to close with a word of thanks. I could not have had such a meaningful Sabbatical without much help. The Rev. Marge Williams did a fantastic job in leading worship, Carol Martin's leadership as Senior Warden was incredible, our Junior Warden Bruce Newport, spent many hours at the church doing repairs. The Vestry closed on the Crump Loan during my Sabbatical. The point is that many people made sacrifices and changes to their schedules so that I could have this time of rest and rejuvenation. I'm grateful for the time, and eager to get back in the saddle.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. David

The Devil and the Deal



Who would have thought that a guy named “Stingy Jack,” could have launched a \$100 million industry? But it’s true—Stingy Jack is responsible for the Jack-O-Lantern, which, in turn, is responsible for making the pumpkin America’s most popular seasonal fruit. This year, growers will put over 998 million pounds of these tasty orbs on the market just in time to work their scary magic on Halloween. And all because of Jack!

Jack’s story is a simple one as legends go. He was a conniving, miserly, drunk who enjoyed putting one over on folks. One night he met the devil in a pub. The two drank together amiably until it was time to pay the bill. Jack suggested that the devil turn himself into a coin to pay for the drinks. Seeing the humor in this, the devil readily assented. But when the devil became a coin, Jack slipped him in his pocket along with a silver cross. Trapped, the devil yielded to Jack’s demand that his soul be spared for ten years. Ten years later the devil returned to collect Jack’s soul. Jack suggested that the devil climb an apple tree and retrieve some fruit before returning to the underworld. As soon as the devil was in the tree, Jack carved a large cross in the bark—once again trapping the gullible denizen of the dark. This time Jack demanded that the devil never take his soul and the bargain was struck. Years later, Jack died a happy man. He believed he’d been spared from hell and welcomed in heaven. But his Maker would have nothing to do with such a miserable character. In desperation he turned to the devil for a home, but the devil honored the deal and sent him off with only an ember to light his spectral way through the world. To keep it from going out, Jack carved out a turnip and made a lantern of it. Since then, folks have carved similar lanterns to keep Jack-of-the-lantern away on Halloween—the night when spirits roam.

In the end, Stingy Jack made a common mistake. He thought he could make a deal with the devil. And he thought he could get away with it. Jack’s deals with the devil are funny, but ours seem much more familiar. How about our fondness for material possessions, status, success and vanity in its many forms? These are culturally infused and don’t involve striking a one-off with Old Scratch. But they’re deals none-the-less. When we make them, we turn a blind eye to the Gospels in the hope that things will work out in the end. Of course, that’s what Jack thought too.

With Halloween approaching, give it some thought. Don’t let yourself become a Stingy Jack—striking one deal after another oblivious to the cost. Instead, avoid Beelzebub and like a *happy* jack-o-lantern, keep smiling! —*Ebert*

What's Happening in October

1

- Noon, Ladies Lunch Bunch, La Villa Mexican Restaurant

2

- 8:00 Breakfast Brothers, Atascocita IHOP

2

- 9:30 – 11:00 Red Hat Society (PH)
- 5:00– 8:30pm Kingwood Memory Café (PH)

3

- 6:30 — 8:30pm Bible Study

7

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music and Children's Chapel

7

- 5:00pm Blessing of the Animals

10

- 6:30 — 8:30pm Bible Study

11

- 7:00pm Daughters of the King

13

- 8:30 Brotherhood of St. Andrew

14

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music and Children's Chapel

14

- 9:30 Optional Lay Reader/Chalice Bearer Training
- 6:00 — 7:30 EYC

16

- 7:00pm — Vestry

What's Happening in October

17

- 6:30 — 8:30pm Bible Study

21

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music and Children's Chapel

24

- 6:30 — 8:30pm Bible Study

28

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music and Children's Chapel

28

- 6:30am LOTS
- 6:00 — 7:30 EYC



FYI

The Bible says that!?!

Curious, Odd and Amazing Tales From the Bible and Beyond

Incredible! Astounding! It can't be! But it is...



We're exploring some of the most **amazing bible stories** and meeting some of the most **unlikely biblical characters** you'll ever encounter. As a bonus, we'll take a look at some of the **stories that didn't make into the Bible** but were popular with generations of early Christians. If you think raising your kids is tough, just wait until you learn what Mary and Joseph went through. The program will be both fun and edifying, so mark the dates-- **October 3, 10, 17, and 24**. We begin the evening with dinner at 6:30 and end with Compline by 8:30. Nursery care will be available.

Blessing of the animals

Mark your calendars for **October 7** when we'll bless our animals. We'll meet in the parking lot at 5:00 PM.



EYC Meetings



Our regular **EYC** meetings are scheduled for **October 14 and 28** between **6:00 and 7:30 PM**. Don't miss them!

FYI

Lay Reader/Chalice Bearer Training

On **October 14 at 9:30**, **Fr. David** will conduct a training session for current and potential participants in this vital ministry. The session is **optional** and provides an opportunity to address any questions members or future members might have.



Vestry Elections Coming Up!

On **October 21** we'll be holding an election to fill three vacant positions on the parish vestry. Terms are for three years. If you're interested in serving, please contact **Fr. David**.

It's that time again!

We're serving breakfast at **Lord of the Streets** on **October 28**. We'll meet in the parking lot at 6:30 to caravan downtown. There's a sign-up sheet on the parish bulletin board.



FYI

On the Road Again!

The **Ladies Lunch Bunch** will be touring the **George H. W. Bush Library** in College Station, on **Monday, October 29**. The bus will leave the church parking lot at 8:30. The tour is self-guided and audio tapes are available. The cost is \$9 for adults and \$7 for 65 and older. **RULES OF THE ROAD:** You must be **55 or older** to ride the Precinct 2 bus. After the tour we will have lunch on the way home. We should arrive back to church around 4:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet, with details, will be available on the church bulletin board. If you have any questions, please contact **Mimi Buchman, 832-372-6205**, mrsbook1988@gmail.com or **Marge Williams, 713-859-1258**, mwilliams616@comcast.net.



CHRIST THE KING EPISCOPAL CHURCH
**BREAKFAST
with SANTA**
Saturday, December 1
9 am – 12 noon
FREE PICTURE with Santa!
FREE Breakfast from Chick-fil-A!
Santa & Mrs. Claus arrive on the
Atascocita Volunteer fire truck @ 9am
Music by DJ Jimbo @ 97.9 The Box
Games, Face Painters & MORE!
**One Picture Per Family
19330 Pinehurst Trail Drive
for more information, visit us at:
www.CTKAtascocita.org

Breakfast with Santa!

December 1, 2018

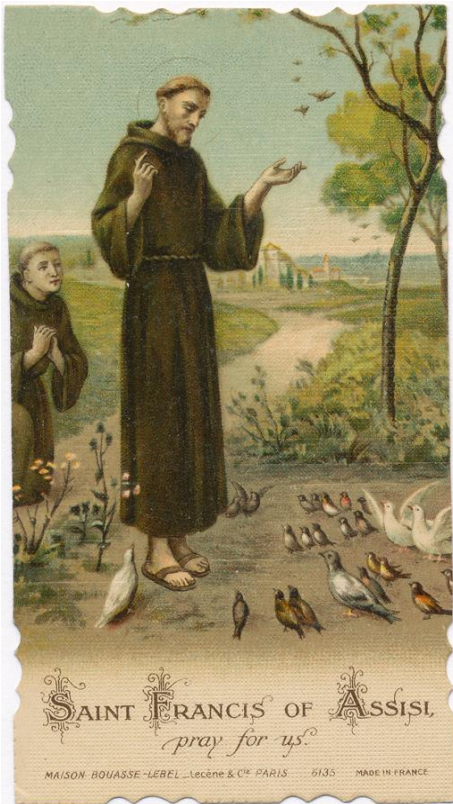
9:00-12:00

Santa Arrives at 9:00 am with the
Atascocita Volunteer Fire Department

FYI

Francis of Assisi, Friar 1226

October 4



Francis, the son of a prosperous merchant of Assisi, was born in 1182. His early youth was spent in harmless revelry and fruitless attempts to win military glory.

Various encounters with beggars and lepers pricked the young man's conscience, and he decided to embrace a life devoted to Lady Poverty. Despite his father's intense opposition, Francis totally renounced all material values, and devoted himself to serve the poor. In 1210 Pope Innocent the Third confirmed the simple Rule for the Order of Friars Minor, a name Francis chose to emphasize his desire to be numbered among the "least" of God's servants.

The order grew rapidly all over Europe. But by 1221 Francis had lost control of it, since his ideal of strict and absolute poverty, both for the individual friars and for the order as a whole, was found to be too difficult to maintain. His last years were spent in much suffering of body and spirit, but his unconquerable joy never failed.

Not long before his death, during a retreat on Mount La Verna, Francis received, on September 14, Holy Cross Day, the marks of the Lord's wounds, the stigmata, in his own hands and feet and side. Pope Gregory the Ninth, a former patron of the Franciscans, canonized Francis in 1228, and began the erection of the great basilica in Assisi where Francis is buried.

Of all the saints, Francis is the most popular and admired, but probably the least imitated; few have attained to his total identification with the poverty and suffering of Christ. Francis left few writings; but, of these, his spirit of joyous faith comes through most truly in the "Canticle of the Sun," which he composed at Clare's convent of St. Damian's. The Hymnal version begins: *Most High, omnipotent, good Lord, To thee be ceaseless praise outpoured, And blessing without measure. Let creatures all give thanks to thee And serve in great humility.*

From Lesser Feasts and Fasts

Time to Celebrate!



October 1 Edward Sellar

October 5 Tim Parker

October 7 Rachael Shedeed

October 9 Lynda Rought

October 10 Avery Edwards

October 13 Ruben Garcia

October 14 Teresa Simmons

October 14 Billie Bailey

October 15 Brad Painter

October 17 Charlie Martin

October 19 Arisha Edwards

October 22 Dick Simmons

October 24 Joe Masters

October 26 Eden Masters

October 27 Eva Green

October 29 Alex Dimaala

October 31 Albert Maende

Happy Anniversary!

October 2 Bill and Theresa Reed

October 8 Robert and Jill Stegall

October 15 Sam and Rachael Shedeed



Who's Doing What?

Vestry Member of the Day and Counter

October 7 – Andy Yee, Johne Dowell

October 14 – Connie Brashier, Debbie Lee

October 21 – George Ebert, Billie Bailey

October 28 – Carol Martin, Dan Langler

Usher Schedule

October 7

- 8:00 – Robert Lunson and Rachel Shaye
- 10:30 – Bruce and Diane Newport

October 14

- 8:00 – Henry Lee and Robert Keller
- 10:30 – Caren Thomas, Alan Aston, Phoebe, Michael McNeil

October 21

- 8:00 – Rod and Anne Rodriguez
- 10:30 – George and Barbara Spence

October 28

- 8:00 – Leon and Connie Brashier
- 10:30 – Mike and Edie McDaniel

Lay Reader and Chalice Bearer Schedule

October 7

- 8:00 – George Ebert
- 10:30 – Fiona Aston(LR), Dan Langler(CB1), Rice Aston Aston (CB2)

October 14

- 8:00 – Deb Tisch
- 10:30 – Shawn Sanders(LR), Lynda Rought(CB1) Lesley Exum(CB2)

October 21

- 8:00 – Lynn Goodman
- 10:30 – Carol Martin(LR), Susan Lunson(CB1) Valerie Bonnie(CB2)

October 28

- 8:00 – Theresa Reed
- 10:30 – Barbara Spence(LR), Rice Aston (CB1) Michael McNeil(CB2)

Staff, Vestry and Contacts

Our Staff

Reverend David Nelson, Rector bgchaplain@gmail.com
Edie McDaniel, Church Secretary ctkhumble@gmail.com
Drew Balog, Organist dbalog@hotmail.com
Tracey Bulau, Youth Director tabulau@gmail.com
Staff Members may also be reached via our main phone line: (281) 852-1990

Our Vestry

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Bill Williams (713) 859-7439 wm.k.williams@comcast.net
Andy Yee (713) 927-0435 andy5964@yahoo.com

Vestry Appointed Positions:

Rachael Shedeed, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Bill Williams, *Treasurer*

Where to Find Us and How to Contact Us

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Vestry's Financial Summary as of August 31, 2018

Revenues and Expenses Year-to-Date	
Total Revenues	\$191,864
Total Expenses	\$202,659
Total Revenue Less Expenses	(\$10,794)
Cash Accounts	
Operating Account	\$59,403
Capital Campaign	\$28,220
Reserve	\$3,845
Building	\$1,092
Total Cash	\$92,560

Concealed Handgun and Open Carry Restrictions

NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code (Trespass by License Holder with a Concealed Handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (Handgun Licensing Law), may not enter this property with a concealed handgun.

NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 30.07, Penal Code (Trespass by License Holder with an Openly Carried Handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (Handgun Licensing Law), may not enter this property with a handgun that is carried openly.

Picture Credits

Page 1 – Rachel Taylor
Page 4 – Chris Lawton
Page 5 – Sandis Helvigs (Campfire)
Page 5 – Hans-Peter Gauster (Puzzle)
Page 6 – Aaron Burden (Bible)
Page 9 – Annie Spratt (Birthday)
Page 9 – Annie Spratt (Anniversary)



Got something for the Newsletter? Send questions, comment or news to the editor at ebertg@gmail.com