

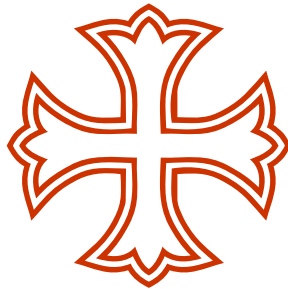
# SOUNDS

*of*

Volume 40 No. 32

September 5, 2010

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*Grant us, O Lord, we pray thee, to trust in thee with all our heart; seeing that, as thou dost alway resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so thou dost not forsake those who make their boast of thy mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

## FROM THE RECTOR

There is no reason to think of autumn as the beginning of a year. The church's year begins in Advent; the government's year begins on July 1 or October 1, depending on which of two fiscal years one follows; the secular year begins on January 1 now, but for centuries was reckoned from March 21<sup>st</sup>, the vernal equinox, or the 25<sup>th</sup>, the Annunciation. On the other hand, football season is here, and that is as good a reason as any to welcome a new year. Churches and colleges or schools also see the fall as the time for a new year, and people everywhere breathe easier when the days of wretched heat and humidity pass. (Keep that in mind when the ice and snow come, especially if they repeat their performance from this past winter.)

The collect we offered in church on the last Sunday of August seemed to catch the spirit of renewal, even if it seems a bit misplaced in terms of its series of powerful verbs. Found in its original form in an ancient collection of prayers, we know the collect in the translation (cf, page 181, BCP) provided by Archbishop Cranmer for the 1549 Prayer Book. The theme of the verbs is agricultural: Graft, increase, and nourish are all parts of the farmer's daily concern and aspiration. The editors of the present prayer book made a significant addition by including the petition that God "bring forth in us the fruit of good works", a notion about which the Reformers would have been somewhat uneasy. Those good works must be seen as the result of the grace which is so clearly asserted in the opening address, in which we are reminded that God is the "giver of all good things" – most specifically the growth which results in that fruit of good works. That understanding clearly asserted, the collect works well as a call to renewed activity in the parish or beyond. Even if

we are nearer to harvest time than planting, the new activity we experience at this time of year makes this collect an appropriate one to consider.

St Francis, like most congregations in the Church, returns to a livelier pace as September arrives. In this specific part of the vineyard, the demanding opportunities and responsibilities of House Tour could create the same erroneous impression that Christmas and Easter do in a different respect: A major event (or two) is accomplished, and the rest of the year breezes by placidly. It is not so. For one thing, those who work on House Tour are quick to share their experience that it takes much more work than just a few days in October to make the event a success. Beyond that, if all this parish did and was were captured in that one event, we would have only one fruit of good work to offer before the Lord, considerable though that fruit might be. The hours spent in worship, in Christian education and formation, in outreach ministry, in pastoral and administrative care - just to offer a short litany - are all parts of the life of this parish, and are all parts of the fruit of renewed good works for which we pray.

Thus we welcome the "new year", with the prayer that we will find ourselves renewed in spirit and energy in familiar pursuits, and alert to new ones which may present themselves. St Francis is a wonderful parish, and this is a fine season in which we may enjoy the bounty of those good things the of which the Lord is author and giver, things which bring forth such fruits of good works.



## CHANGES TO THE SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Please note: Over the next few weeks we will be gradually transitioning back to our non-summer Schedule of Services. Please keep this notice handy to avoid any confusion over the dates and times as they will change weekly.

### September 5th

**8:00 am** Holy Eucharist

**10:00 am** Holy Eucharist

Ice Cream Social and Information Tables in St Frances Hall after the 10 am Service

### September 12th

HUNGER SUNDAY

Sunday School begins.

**8:00 am** Holy Eucharist

**9:00 am** Holy Eucharist

There will not be a Service at 11:15 am.

### September 19th

**8:00 am** Holy Eucharist

**9:00 am** Morning Prayer

**11:15 am** Holy Eucharist

## CAN YOU HELP PUBLICIZE HOUSE TOUR?

Many of the newspapers in which we have advertised the House Tour no longer exist. Because of this, we need your assistance

### *Would you consider:*

- placing an **announcement** of the tour in your neighborhood newsletter OR
- posting a **yard sign** announcing the tour on your front lawn during the last two weeks of September (or asking a neighbor to do so if their property is in a more visible location)? The size is equal to a small political campaign sign.

If you can help or have some other ideas for getting the word out, please contact Carol Jarvis, [jarvis.carol@gmail.com](mailto:jarvis.carol@gmail.com) or (301-299-4296), or Devar Burbage at [devarbur@yahoo.com](mailto:devarbur@yahoo.com)

## JOY AND CONCERN

Congratulations remain in order for Charles Robert Cassidy III and Lucia Cope Fleischman on their marriage July 30<sup>th</sup> at The Homestead in Virginia.

Please hold in your prayers Ann Connors, who died August 28<sup>th</sup>. Ann was a long-time member of the faculty at St Francis and more recently St Andrew's.

Many people have inquired into the inclusion of Thai in the intercessory prayers. Last month he strained his back and has been ordered to reduce his working hours in order to promote healing. Those who know Thai realize such medical advice is more easily given than followed, but doctor's orders are a priority for him in the coming weeks. He is grateful for the many expressions of concern and encouragement.

## OUTREACH SUNDAY IS COMING - SEPT. 26!

### INCLUDING A FOOD DRIVE FOR MANNA

On the weekend before the House Tour, representatives of the agencies that we support with our outreach funds will attend the Adult Education Hour and share their stories with us.

This is a reminder of the purpose of the House Tour: to enable us to offer support to agencies that help meet the critical needs of those less fortunate in our community and around the world. Most of the agencies will have materials and staff available to talk with us, and a few will offer brief remarks. We hope you will join us in welcoming them and learning more about their good works.

**We will also be holding a food drive**, with the proceeds donated to the Manna Food Center. Last year we had a very successful food drive, and the need is even greater this year. Please help out this important ministry.

## NEW LOOK FOR THE “SAAVY SENIORS”

A group of Seniors met on August 26 to ponder ways in which our Seniors group might be re-organized. The results were as follows.

There will continue to be monthly meetings and each month, 2-3 people will “host” each month. They will decide what the lunch might be, i.e. pot luck, catered, brown bag, etc. This group will setup and cleanup with the help of attendees, of course.

A program committee, Nancy Hoke and Roy Day, will arrange a program for each month. They already have some wonderful ideas and are open to suggestions from you.

Don Harrison will submit a description of the event for each month for *SOUNDS*.

The first meeting of the Saavy Seniors will be on September 16<sup>th</sup> in the Kincaid Library. We will “firm up” the tentative schedule from the previous meeting. Bring a brown bag lunch and a beverage...the more of you, the merrier!

If you do not have or use email, please let Sue Tull know, so we can notify you of additional information or schedule changes. (301-299-8799)

KINCAID LIBRARY

THURSDAY, SEPT. 16 at 12 noon

BROWN BAG & BEVERAGE

## MINING FOR MINIS

Mini-sized cosmetics & toiletries, that is. The shelter next door to CBS is in sore need of soap, shampoo, and deodorants. Their clients are homeless women living on the streets here in Montgomery County who go there to get a meal, take a shower, and clean up during the day.

If you have some travel size goodies or some regular sized supplies in the closet that need to find a good home, please drop them in the box by the Kiosk near the Church Office.

Thank you for your generosity!

## LAY READER TRAINING THIS FALL

We have a unique opportunity for service to St Francis beginning this Fall: serving as a Layreader. Training for new Layreaders/Chalichists will be scheduled during the early fall, and we hope you will consider joining this ministry.

The duties include reading the lessons, leading intercessions during the Prayer of the People, and administering the chalice during Holy Communion. Service as a Layreader is a very rewarding form of participation in worship. It affords a deeper understanding of the liturgy.

We offer comprehensive training to prepare Layreaders for their service. The training consists of two evening sessions of one and one half hour's duration each. The first will focus on the techniques of voice projection. It is not a class on public speaking but is a way to enhance the public reading of the Bible or Prayer Book. The goal is clear voice projection to enable the congregation to hear the lessons and prayers distinctly.

The second session will cover the techniques for administering the Chalice and assisting in the administration of Holy Communion. Layreaders serve in a regular rotation at all services, although we try to schedule assignments in keeping with individual preferences.

To join this important parish ministry or for further information, contact Devar Burbage at 301-424-1993 daytime or evening.



## LISTEN UP!

The start of Fall term never fails to bring with it a sense of new energy for me. Sometimes it is more and sometimes it is less, I'll admit. But always some amount of waxing vitality slowly percolates up through the late calmative days of summer.

Recently, I've begun to experience a certain amount of urgency, as well, with the onset of autumn. I'm not surprised as I fast approach the half-century mark knowing well my own many "things left undone." Nostalgia creeps in as I watch college-bound students leave in pursuit of their further education and hopeful dreams, a very happy period of my life. Even a dash of depression can tug at me as the sure signs of summer's glories ebbing remind me of loved ones gone before us.

Sound familiar? Absolutely it does! You can fill in your own blanks and timelines. To one degree or another these are all familiar human emotions and we all have our frames of reference associated with each variance of emotions that are imbued within us. Those frames, I think, very much shape who we are, for better or for worse, and influence that inevitable feature of this life, moving forward. That's where a most cherished involvement can come in to play: encouragement. It is a wonderful form of love, indeed a Christian virtue. It is to give *active* help as we move, inevitably, forward.

So, as we move forward into another program year here at St Francis, I invite your active help. Come to church for starters! Attendance, in general, has been quite good this summer and that's been very nice. Very nice, indeed! As a reminder, here is the schedule for the next few weeks:

- *5 September* = 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with our annual "Ice Cream Social" following the 10 o'clock liturgy. Information tables also will be set up in St Francis Hall representing the various programs and activities of our parish.

- *12 September* = 8:00 & **9:00** a.m. Holy Eucharist with Sunday School orientation following.

- *19 September* = return to full schedule of liturgies at 8:00, 9:00, and 11:15 a.m.

## CHOIR BEGINNINGS

The 2010-2011 program year for our choirs will follow this schedule:

**Saint Francis Choir** (adults) return to Sunday duties on 5 September for the 10 o'clock liturgy. The first Thursday evening rehearsal is on the 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm in the choir room. Good sense of pitch, rhythm, blend, and the ability to read music are the requisites for membership.

**Youth Choirs** will commence with rehearsal on Tuesday afternoon, 14 September at 5:30 pm, also in the choir room. The ability to match pitch is the only requisite for these choirs.

For more information, please see the MUSIC brochure on the lobby desk or go online to: [www.stfrancispotomac.org](http://www.stfrancispotomac.org)

## NEW CHOIR VOICES

We are very happy to welcome three new singers into the adult choir as we begin the Fall term. One, last year's Head Chorister, is **Lisa Johnsen**. She will join as a newly appointed high school Choral Scholar. Tenor **David Miranda** is also joining us as a college Choral Scholar; he is attending Shepherd University as a music major. **Madelyn Wanner** is a graduate student in opera at University of Maryland and will join us as an alto Section Leader.

## FRIENDS OF POTOMAC PARISH MUSIC

If you (or someone you know) are on FaceBook, please consider signing on as a member of our *Friends of Potomac Parish Music* page. Special liturgies, concerts and events will be posted there with pertinent information and program details. There's also a photo gallery and links to other worthy musical websites. Please join us!

Gary Davison, O-C

**COMING UP AT SAINT FRANCIS CHURCH**

For more information, please visit our website at [www.stfrancispotomac.org](http://www.stfrancispotomac.org)

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5**

**RENEWAL SUNDAY**

8:00 am Holy Eucharist

10:00 am Holy Eucharist

Ice Cream Social to follow the 10 am service.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6**

Office closed to observe Labor Day

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**

7:00 pm Centering Prayer—Undercroft

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

10:00 am Holy Eucharist

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**

5:00 pm *Sounds* Deadline for 9/19/10

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

7:00 am Men's Bible Study

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

9:30 am Sunday School Teacher Training

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

**HUNGER SUNDAY**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS**

8:00 am Holy Eucharist

9:00 am Holy Eucharist

There will not be an 11:15 am Service

The Scripture appointed for the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Jeremiah 18:1-11, Psalm 139:1-5, 13-17 *or* Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Psalm 1;  
Philemon 1-21, Luke 14:25-33

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