



THE ANTIPHON

The Parish Newsletter of
St Matthias' Church, Dallas, Texas

MARCH 2019

Beloved in Christ,

Merciful Heavens! Last Sunday's Patronal feast day celebrations were magnificent! It was quite good to have Fr. Duncan with us to preach the day. His sermon on Apostolicity was spot on! And then to be able to dedicate and bless the new altar pedestal in memory of Jean Duncan and in thanksgiving for Fr. D's time here in the life of our parish was a true joy! Our guest organist, Mr. Richard Abrahamson did a tremendous job accompanying the 10:30am Solemn High Mass! All in all, it was a great day! Thanks are due to all who participated, helped, served, and sang - Well done one and all!

Now, we have one more Sunday before we shift our liturgical gears and enter Lent. Are you ready? Tuesday is Shrove Tuesday, so who can you bring with you to the **Annual Brit Potter Memorial Pancake Supper**? There will be three Masses on Ash Wednesday and then we are off into the desert of our Lent. Included with this edition of the **Antiphon** is our Lenten Handbook - I pray you will make use of it to deepen your Lenten experience.

I want to make a couple of introductions. Have you met Fr. Ivor and Dorothy Kraft? The Krafts have recently moved to the area from Southern California. Father Ivor was most recently an associate priest of St. Michael's by the Sea in Carlsbad, California where my

good friend, Fr Doran Stambaugh, SSC is rector. Fr Doran could not be more glowing in his commendation of the Krafts to us.

Pinched this from the St. Michael's website - “The Rev. **Ivor Kraft** was ordained on the Feast of St. Barnabas the Apostle, 1972, and served parishes in Pittsburgh and San Diego. He holds degrees in music, theology and psychology as well as a certificate in spiritual direction from the Roman Catholic (RC) Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Fr. Kraft served from 1995 until 2005 as an adjunct faculty member for Talbot School of Theology at BIOLA University and since 1993, has taught homiletics for the Office for the Permanent Diaconate of the RC Diocese of San Diego. Fr. Kraft and his wife Dorothy have two children, Sarah and Matthew, and four grandchildren.”

Please be sure to continue to extend to them a warm St Matthias' welcome. Fr. Ivor has indicated to me that he is happy to be of help around here in any way that he can. I told him that I am very happy to welcome a willing volunteer! So don't be surprised if you see him in the sanctuary soon.

It is my pleasure to share with you that the aforementioned, Mr. **Richard Abrahamson** has agreed to come on board as our Parish Musician. He will be settling in immediately, but because of a prior commitment, Matthew Pool will still fill in on the 10th of this month. Richard grew up in the Episcopal Church in Amarillo, and in 1975-76 served as the organist in the Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion in Paterson, New Jersey.

From the SMU Meadows School of the Arts website - “Richard Abrahamson, Staff Musician for the Dance Division, Meadows School of the Arts, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, joined Meadows in 1978. He teaches Musical Concepts in the creative track of the program, and coordinates the Division's staff of professional musicians.”

“Mr. Abrahamson was a faculty member of the Joffrey Ballet summer workshop in San Antonio, Texas from 1987 until 2016; additionally, he served as music director for the performance art program at the Perry-Mansfield School and Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado from 1993 until 1995. From 1986 until 1989, Abrahamson was a Music Director for Peace Child, an international youth cultural exchange program, extensively touring the former Soviet Union under the auspices of the Soviet Ministry of Culture. His community activities include teaching, voice coaching and rehearsal, and choral direction. He was the Music Director at First Community Church, United Church of Christ in Dallas, Texas from 2004 until 2017.”

“He is a member of the International Guild of Musicians in Dance and the American Guild of Organists. Mr. Abrahamson studied organ, harpsichord, and piano at the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music, Texas Christian University, and The Juilliard School.”

Please be sure to join me in welcoming Richard to our parish staff. We are off to a very good start.

All of us are called to be saints. Certainly, one very important aspect of Lent is to afford us the opportunity to train for this vocation. It is that time again - Let's keep a holy Lent!

God bless you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fr. Christopher", with a small cross at the end of the signature.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

The Men's Group will host the Annual "Brit Potter" Memorial Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at St Matthias' on **Tuesday, March 5th**. Dinner will be served beginning at 6:30pm and is free to all (although we will be accepting "free will offerings.") By the way, it's a GREAT opportunity to introduce your family, friends and neighbors who may NOT be members of our parish to the wonderfulness of St Matthias'.



REMEMBER TO TURN
YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD
ONE HOUR
SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH



PRAYERS AND SQUARES MINISTRY

The Prayers and Squares Ministry will meet Thursday, March 14th at 6:30pm in Duncan Hall. We have given almost 200 quilts and many prayers to those in need. If you know someone who would benefit from extra prayers and support, please consider a quilt for them. Contact nitahinshaw@aol.com to make a request.

SAVE LIVES – GIVE BLOOD LENTEN DISCIPLINE

Every day, close to 800 patients in North, Central and East Texas require timely blood transfusions. YOU can help. St Matthias' will be holding our Lenten blood drive on Saturday, March 16th from 9:00am to 1:00pm in the parking lot in front of the Church. It is very quick and convenient (each person has an assigned time).

Chef Larry Magruder will prepare a sumptuous breakfast for all donors so you even get a free (terrific) breakfast. (Just ask former donors – the breakfast is GREAT!) Your fellow Parishioners will be soliciting volunteers on Sunday, March 3rd and March 10th. You can even sign up on-line; earlier this week, we sent you a link that takes you directly to the St Matthias sign-up area at Carter's website. Please! give. If you have any questions, can't wait to sign-up or want to help, please call Jim Nugent at 972-980-6949.



WOMEN OF ST MATTHIAS'

The Women of St Matthias' met on Monday, February 18th to decide what projects and events we wanted for the next coming months. As part of our Lenten discipline, we chose to make lightweight blankets for our True Awakening friends. We will gather at 10:00am on Saturday, March 16th and Saturday, April 13th to make these blankets in time for Robyn and Bob Priest to take them to Africa when they go in May. We welcome all ladies to join us and bring your friends to come and join us.

MARCH COMMUNITY MINISTRY

Shelter Team: *Captains* William & Tommye Marr, Penelope Schuchat, Danelle Harris, Randall & Suzanne Jackson, John & Laura Stotz. Team meets at church 4:00pm, Sunday, March 17th.

Sandwich Makers: Team 3 - Randall & Suzanne Jackson, Patricia Haney, Robert & Robyn Priest, David & Lori Luckey, Randall & Nita Hinshaw, John & Laura Stotz, Jason Hinshaw, William & Tommye Marr.



NEW SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASS beginning April 7th to May 19th

MYSTERIES OF THE MASS

Instructor: Father Thomas Hightower, *Assisting Priest*

The Mysteries of the Mass will briefly consider the origins and growth of some of the symbolism of the Mass and how that will deepen our participation in that great Mystery.



SPRING FLING - SAVE THE DATE

Our annual Spring Fling is scheduled for Saturday, April 13th at 9:00am (**following Matins and Mass which will begin at 8:00am.**) A light continental breakfast and a light lunch will be provided. We expect to wrap up early in the afternoon. You may sign up in the

Great Hall when the lists are posted. We hope you will consider helping out to make our buildings and grounds ready for the joyful Easter Season. Many hands make the work light. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Ray Turnbull, People's Warden.





