

# MY DEAR THEOPHILUS

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## NEWS FROM AROUND THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

Much loved Southwark Cathedral cat Doorkins Magnificat laid to rest. Street cat made cathedral her home 12 years ago, capturing the hearts of clergy, congregation and tourist.



Dear Parish Family:

It is a long drive from our part of Texas to the other end of the State, El Paso. I recently made that roundtrip drive with my Mother, just the two of us, for nearly 24 uninterrupted hours. We had time to talk. We had a lot of time to talk, and we did. We did a lot of reminiscing, talking of times past, of my sister and me growing up in that land of contrasts, from the dry heat of the summer to the windy cold of winter interspersed with days of snow. While it was warm in Livingston, we had an inch of snow in El Paso the last week of October.

We spoke of all of those people who were part of our lives who are no longer with us: my Grandparents, my Dad, my parents' friends who frequented our home as we frequented theirs, the priests who visited our home on a regular basis looking for a good meal, an adult beverage (preferably Scotch), and just a few hours to participate in family life: Fr. Bernard Stacy, CMF; Msgr. Frank Smith; Fr. Joe Martinkosky; Fr. James Keefe, SS.CC. and a few others.

Mom talked about France after they were liberated from the concentration camps in Germany, and how her parents wanted to come to the United States, so they made regular trips to the American Embassy in Paris. She

recalled how it was when she and her family arrived in Philadelphia as immigrants and all of the people who helped them.

We talked about my time in the seminary. We remembered all of those who influenced my life as I studied, some living and some not: Fr. John Telles; Fr. John Peters; Msgr. Gerald McDonald; Sr. Loraine Genest, RJM, and Fr. Steve Peters. We talked of parish priests Fr. Sam Todd, Fr. Ben Shawhan and Fr. David Puckett. They had taught me how to think critically while being a person of faith and more importantly, they showed me how to be a priest.

Then we talked about some of those who died within recent years and were especially close, including my Father and Mary's Mother Marilyn.

Then we came to the point where we talked about how the time will come when we will no longer be among the living. It was at that point, that I began to cherish that 24 hours of driving time, a time just to be in each other's presence in the present moment.

Take just a few seconds and think about all of those people in your lives who influenced your life, your journey of faith, who formed you to be the person that you are today.

During our daily Noonday Prayer Service, we commemorate people whom the greater Church calls "Saints", those who are recognized in an official capacity as being holy men and women who lived exceptional lives of faith and holiness, people of heroic Christian virtue.

In Scripture, however, the word "saint" has a different meaning. Saint refers to holy people — holy, however, not primarily in the moral sense, but in the sense of being specially marked out as God's people.

Many of St. Paul's letters, Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, begin with a greeting that includes the word "saints": "To the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in the whole of Achaia." In such statements, Paul includes all believers in Christ.

The saints are God's possession and God's beloved. They are saints because God has called them: they owe their status to no one but God. Saints are characterized by faithfulness to their Lord (Ephesians 1.1; Colossians 1.2); they are called to endurance in their faith (Revelation 13.10; 14.12).

On November 1, we celebrate the Feast of All Saints or All Hallows Day. It is the day when we remember all of those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith who are now in God's presence awaiting the Resurrection.

My Mother and I talked about people who had formed us to become the people that we had become, those who had formed us spiritually in our faith, and many of them, if not most of the people we remembered, have gone before us marked with the sign of faith to join the Communion of Saints.

Like St. Paul, I have been "surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, who formed me in faith, and who have been part of the call for me to lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and called to run with perseverance the race that is set before me, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of my faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God."

All of those saints that we talked about were ordinary men and women who lived their lives through the ordinary pace of daily life always putting before them the God who created them, in whom they lived, moved and had their being. They were men and women who laughed and cried with us, who talked and listen to us, who held us, who lived among us and then died to be in God's eternal presence, before the throne of God, and worship Him day and night, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them, where they will hunger no more, and thirst no more; where the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and He will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God wipes away every tear from their eyes.

On the Feast of All Saints, ***we remember all of the saints of our lives*** so that we one day may join their ranks, sheep of Christ's own fold, lambs of His own flock, sinners of Christ's own redeeming.

I bid you a blessed Feast of All Saints!

Your servant in Christ,

The Rev. Chester J. Makowski, Rector



## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

We had 7 dogs present and many more cats, dogs, emus, and assorted other animals blessed.

A neighborhood dog whose owners abandoned him came to be blessed and found a new home with Judy and Darrell Adams.

Thank you to Janette Holt who put together all of the gift bags for the animals.





Grace Pregnancy Outreach provides a place where individuals can find compassion and help without judgment or condemnation. Client advocates at the Outreach Center are committed to offering the emotional support and personal concern rarely found anywhere else. Faced with what is sometimes the most agonizing decision of their lives, women who find themselves frightened, confused and alone will find information, care and support at GRACE Pregnancy Outreach.

They provide pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, prenatal services, and parenting classes as well as STD and HIV testing for both men and women. These services are provided free of charge to citizens of the East Texas by the generous support of the donors.

They are currently conducting a fund raiser. The envelopes are in the narthex, so please give if you are able to. The Parish will provide them a grant this year of \$2000.



***FEATURED HOLY PERSON OF  
THE MONTH  
ST. JAMES OF JERUSALEM  
October 23  
By James Kiefer***

James of Jerusalem is referred to in the New Testament as the brother of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

He was for many years the leader of the Christian congregation in Jerusalem, and is generally supposed to be the author of the Epistle of James, although the Epistle itself does not state this explicitly.

James is mentioned briefly in connection with Jesus' visit to Nazareth (Matt. 13:55; Mark 6:3).

We are told that Jesus' brothers did not believe in Him (John 7:2-5), and from this, and from references in early Christian writers, it is inferred that James was not a disciple of the Lord until after the Resurrection.

Paul, listing appearances of the Risen Lord (1 Cor 15:3-8), includes an appearance to James.

Peter, about to leave Jerusalem after escaping from Herod, leaves a message for James and the Apostles (Acts 12:17). When a council meets at Jerusalem to consider what rules Gentile Christians should be required to keep, James formulates the final consensus (Acts 15:13-21).

Paul speaks of going to Jerusalem three years after his conversion and conferring there with Peter and James (Gal. 1:18-19), and speaks again of a later visit (perhaps the one described in Acts 15) on which Peter, James, and John, "the pillars," placed their stamp of approval on the mission to the Gentiles (Gal. 2:9).

A few verses later (Gal. 2:11-14), he says that messengers from James coming to Antioch discouraged Jewish Christians there from eating with Gentile Christians. (If this refers to the same event as Acts 15:1-2, then Paul takes a step back chronologically in his narration at Gal. 2:11, which is not improbable, since he is dictating and mentioning arguments and events that count as evidence for his side as they occur to him.)



On his last recorded visit to Jerusalem, Paul visits James (others are present, but no other names are given) and speaks of his ministry to the Gentiles (Acts 21:18).

Outside the New Testament, James is mentioned by the Jewish historian Josephus, who calls him "the brother of Jesus the so-called Christ," and reports that he was much respected even by the Pharisees for his piety and strict observance of the Law, but that his enemies took advantage of an interval between Roman governors in 62 AD to have him put to death. His death is also reported by the second-century Christian writer Hegesippus.

Numerous references in early Christian documents show the esteem in which he was held in the early Church.

Let us pray: Grant, O God, that, following the example of your servant James the Just, brother of our Lord, your Church may give itself continually to prayer and to the reconciliation of all who are at variance and enmity; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever. Amen.

## ***EHF ANNOUNCES \$1.3 MILLION IN NEW FUNDING FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE IN TEXAS***

In a second round of funding related to COVID-19, Episcopal Health Foundation has awarded \$1.3 million in grants to 32 nonprofit clinics and other organizations that are serving at-risk communities in Texas on the front lines of the pandemic. Along with the first round of funding announced in May, EHF's grant investment for COVID-19 now totals \$5 million. Grant funding is just one part of the foundation's \$10 million comprehensive plan to address the crisis across the state.

"These organizations provide desperately needed health-related services to low-income Texas families who are often at-risk of chronic health issues," said Elena Marks, EHF's president and CEO. "COVID-19 has highlighted

why these services are so important for communities in need. And at the same time, many of these organizations are battling severe financial issues plus increased demand for their services. That's why this funding is aimed at helping them continue their critical work during the ongoing financial and public health crisis."

EHF's COVID-19 grants are supporting community clinics serving low-income Texans, behavioral and mental health organizations, nonprofits offering enrollment in health and other benefit programs, organizations promoting early childhood brain development, and groups raising community voice on health equity issues. All of the organizations receiving these COVID-19 grants are current EHF grantees working within the foundation's strategic plan to improve health, not just health care in Texas. In addition to added demand and additional costs, many of these organizations are also transitioning to telehealth and remote services during the pandemic.



### ***HOSPITAL VISITS***

Given COVID-19, visitations are restricted by hospitals. Nevertheless, if you know of anyone who needs a home visit because they cannot get to Church, please call the Parish Office, or let Fr. Makowski know. We will see if the hospital will allow Fr. Makowski to call on them. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call Fr. Makowski at 713.299.7675.



***THERE IS POWER IN PRAYER***

Praying is something that we all can do, young and old, rich and poor, tall and short. Please pray for everyone on our Prayer List.



***PLEASE BRING PORK & BEANS FOR  
MANNAFEST***



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

836 WEST JONES STREET  
LIVINGSTON, TEXAS 77351  
CHURCH OFFICE: 936.327.8467  
[WWW.STLUKESLIVINGSTON.ORG](http://WWW.STLUKESLIVINGSTON.ORG)

## 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.

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**CONFORME A LA SECCIÓN 30.07, DEL CÓDIGO PENAL (TRASPASE POR PORTADOR DE LICENCIA PARA EL LIBRE PORTE DE ARMAS DE FUEGO),** PERSONAS CON LICENCIA BAJO AUTORIDAD DEL SUBCAPÍTULO H, CAPÍTULO 411, DEL CÓDIGO DE GOBIERNO (LEY REGULADORA DE ARMAS DE FUEGO), NO DEBERÁ ENTRAR A ESTA PROPIEDAD CON UN ARMA DE FUEGO A LIBRE PORTE.

## 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.

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**CONFORME A LA SECCIÓN 30.06, DEL CÓDIGO PENAL (TRASPASE POR PORTADOR DE LICENCIA CON UN ARMA DE FUEGO OCULTO),** PERSONAS CON LICENCIA BAJO AUTORIDAD DEL SUBCAPÍTULO H, CAPÍTULO 411, DEL CÓDIGO DE GOBIERNO (LEY REGULADORA DE ARMAS DE FUEGO), NO DEBERÁ ENTRAR A ESTA PROPIEDAD PORTANDO UN ARMA DE FUEGO OCULTO.