

The Franciscan



The Bishop's Committee

From our Vicar... April 2019



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In his Easter Letter to the church a couple of years ago, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry said:
Jesus didn't just happen to be in Jerusalem on that first Palm Sunday. Jesus was in Jerusalem on purpose... Jesus came to show us there is another way. The way of unselfish, sacrificial love. That's why he entered Jerusalem. That's why he went to the cross. It was the power of that love poured out from the throne of God that even after the horror of the crucifixion would raise him from death to life. He didn't just happen to be in Jerusalem on that Palm Sunday. He went to Jerusalem for a reason. To send a message. That not even the titanic powers of death can stop the love of God.

This is our message as Easter People, that not even death can stop the Love of God. We have been given the gift of relationship restored with God, through Jesus, and we are a New People with a song of New Life! Jesus' mission has been fulfilled and we are a Resurrection People that now shout "Alleluhiah!!!"

This act of Jesus' life for us was all for LOVE. The Incarnation is the completion of creation, the act of a God whose nature is Love, whose being is about RELATIONSHIP. Love is the reason for Creation, and Christ is the perfect expression of God's love. God needs to relate to creation and express that Love! God needs to communicate unconditional love!!! God offers reconciliation and unity with that Love. The Resurrection is all about Love!!!

So, sing out loud church!!!! We are deeply loved and in a GREAT ROMANCE with God and Love! God is singing one unending song, seducing each of our hearts, that we can hear and know how deeply loved we are! May you feel so cherished and renewed this Eastertide as we sing our song loudly, "Alleluhiah!"



Sarah



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FROM PLATE TO PLEDGE

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

Psalm 80:3

My sister-in-law, the Reverend Canon Anne Kitch, is a gifted writer and offers insight in the some of the ordinary sights around us daily. This is one of her meditations she wrote during Lent.

“I hear the rustling in a vague location somewhere above me. I recognize the sound; the robin is once again building a nest in the eaves of my house. I have never actually seen such a nest. It is tucked away beyond my ability to spy it out. But I hear the scratching and I see the bird going to and fro—evidence of industry and preparation.

I also see the beginnings of rust color buds on the red maple out my window. I feel the warm dampness in the air and smell the difference in the soil. New life is on its way.

I have done nothing to make any of this happen. In fact, most of the time I am oblivious to the profusion of ongoing creation that surrounds me. Only when I take the time to be still and notice do I become aware of the gift of being placed within this astonishing cycle of life.

All around me the heralds of the Holy One announce new life and prosperity and redemption. And most astonishing of all, I am invited to the celebration.”

I am blessed to be a part of this family, as she captures so vividly the sense of New Life that is present with us every day! She also phrases the invitation to the celebration in a way that I am wooed to participate in this dance!

Anne frames the backdrop for me to write with the same hope of invitation and participation as I ask you to consider giving to St. Francis.

As we shared in the Annual Meeting, our financial resources have shifted due to families that are no longer with us. We are deeply blessed for all they gave, of time, talents and treasure. For many in the church, the idea of pledging a certain amount to the church may not be a familiar concept. In the Episcopal Church, it is this pledge that creates the budget of the church. It is the mission money and operating expenses of the church.

Our pledges reflect part of the worshipping community of the church. Often the rest is given in weekly offerings of the passing of the plate. Those offerings are equally as valuable, but are not able to be counted on, as they are dependent on attendance.

At this time, my invitation is that if you are a part of St. Francis that is giving in the plate, would you consider a commitment of your resources as a Pledge? We have cards that offer options of that financial commitment, that you may choose what is comfortable for your circumstances.

In this way, we may be good stewards of the resource of St Francis that has been entrusted to us for its care and mission.

If you have any questions, or wish to talk further about this, please contact me. I would be more than happy to meet with you personally.

Here's to the New Life that has been given to us through the bird's song, and the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I pledge to contribute during 2019.

\$ _____ Weekly \$ _____ Monthly \$ _____ Yearly

Create a bill pay item online payable to St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church.

_____ Automatic Payment to St. Francis. _____ St. Francis Memorial Fund.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

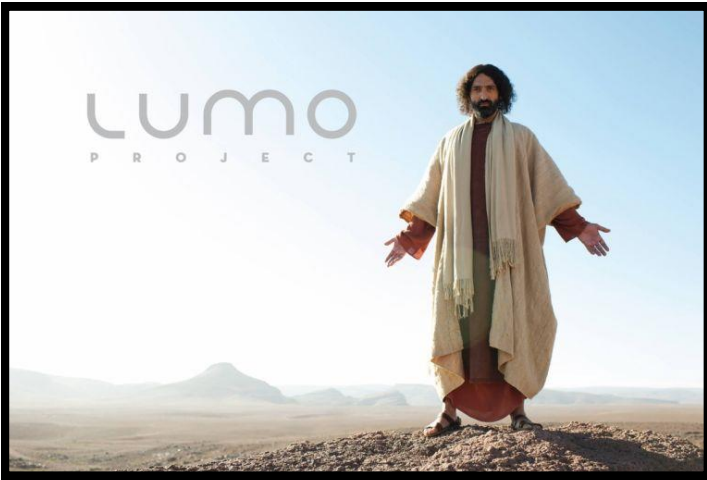
Signature _____ Date _____

I choose not to pledge but would like to have envelopes for regular giving. _____

I choose not to pledge at this time. _____

St. Francis Lenten Series 2019

A Narrative Journey With St. Luke



6pm Supper // 6.45-8.30 Program
April 3, April 10.

Join us this Lenten season for six Wednesday evenings in the sanctuary as we take a visual and reflective journey through the Gospel of Luke. The entire Gospel, word-for-word, in six segments.

Let Your God Love You

by Edwina Gateley

Be silent. Be still.

Alone.

Empty

Before your God

Say nothing.

Ask nothing.

Be silent. Be still.

Let your God look upon you.

That is all.

God knows.

God understands.

God loves you

With an enormous love,

And only wants

To look upon you

With that love.

Quiet.

Still.

Be.

Let your God –

Love you.



“Passport to Flavor”

May 18, 7 -10 pm

Bringing our different culinary skills together for a fun evening of fellowship and

Live Music Festival on the Patio.

Tickets will be \$20 at the door to benefit the ministry of St. Francis Church.

Contact Liz Kavetsky, if you wish to cook a dish, at lkavetsky@gmail.com

BABY SHOWER COFFEE HOUR



We are going to be dedicating one Sunday every six weeks for our baby shower coffee hour. It is in support of our baby cottage for our community outreach. This coffee hour is dedicated to **bringing diapers, baby wipes and baby ointment cream** to support our cause. The Baby shower Coffee Hour will be April 21 (Easter Sunday)!



St. Francis Book Club

You are invited to join the St. Francis Book Club to talk about books you'd like to read together.

Contact Esther Dharamarj

1540 Rose Arbor Ln

Simi Valley, CA 93065

Phone (Mobile): 805 404 3629



Gardening Group

St. Francis is ready to go into the phase of drought friendly landscaping. Dan McCarty will be leading the group. If you are interesting in joining this group please contact Dan at 805-581-3373 or trumpet.4@hotmail.com. Thank you for prayerfully considering to help with this project.

Members and News

AmazonSmile

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization, St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church.

Go to smile.amazon.com/ch/95-2558848

and

Amazon donates to St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church every time you order through Amazon.

Parish Prayer Needs:

Music Program: Thanksgiving for all the singers!!

Healing: Lee H., Dan J., Michael, Megan, Jean, Braydon, Hank, Fr. Steve, Al, Mary, Rich, Yvonne, VanNessa, Dee, Jeff, Jim, Bill & Leslie L., Jan, David, Lee, Trish, Sue, Tony, Mark, Michele, Eric, Louise, Bob & family, Edith, Rana, Howard, Mary, Donna, J.D. Frances B., Patrick, Margaret, Beverly, Eva.

For Comfort: Kraft family, Deb Wollum, The Nilles family. Janet, Patricia and family. Barbara Haryn. Eden Suguitan and family. Margie Roblins and family. Amanda and Xenia delaRoche. Conte family, Morris family.

Let each day unfold
like the petals of a rose,
high above the thorns.

Diantha Ain



BABY COTTAGE

Don't forget the needs of the Baby Cottage that is ongoing. Please talk with Gerri Harrington if you are able to volunteer on the days the Closet is open, or to **share in doing laundry as the donations of baby clothes come in.** We will be collecting new and gently used baby clothes, baby blankets, crib sheets, and receiving blankets. Look for the hamper in the narthex for donations ages newborn through toddler sizes. We are open from 11:30 – 1 pm on Tuesday and Thursday every week.

Donations needed of disposable diapers and baby wipes.

If you have any questions contact Gerri Harrington at (818)521-0313.

MY RIDE



Need a Ride?

We provide rides to Drs. Appts.
Market, Errands, etc. to Seniors.

FREE

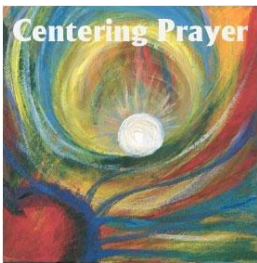
Serving Simi Valley and Surrounding Areas

805.304.0806

ECW Episcopal Church Women



The ECW meets on the 1st Friday of every month in the church at 6:30. We would love to have you join us for a time of fellowship and service. Please contact Sylvia Moya, 522-2897.



Join Centering Prayer the second and the fourth Tuesday each month at 7 pm led at Brainerd and Esther Dharmaraj's at the church in the Classroom.

Bible Study Opportunities

Monday, Brown Bag at Noon

Thursday, at 7 pm

"What's So Amazing About Grace?"

Mark Your Calendar:



Ladies' Afternoon Tea & Garden Fundraiser

When: Saturday, May 6th from 2-4 pm

Where: St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church Patio & Gardens

Contact Joy Craig, 805-796-0750 for more information



NEW OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED THROUGH ST. FRANCIS

Our church members have asked what useful items **The Samaritan Center** can use the most.

All shelf-stable goods are helpful, as well as cleaning products and trash bags.

PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN WITH...

- Jelly For Sandwiches
- Plastic Forks and Spoons
- Gallon And Sandwich Size Ziploc Bags
- Aluminum Foil, Soup Bowls
- 10 oz Coffee Cups
- Cleaning Products – 409, Pinesol, Bleach
- Sleeping Bags For The Clients
- Blankets
- Men's and Women's Socks

More Information: <http://www.thesamaritancenterofsimivalley.org>

Your donations go directly to feed the needs of our community. Donations can be brought to church or left at the Sam Center kitchen door. Thank you so much.



April 3 & 10
6 pm Lenten Soul Suppers
6:45-8:30 pm
Journey with St. Luke

April 14, Palm Sunday with BBQ



April 18 Maundy Thursday Service 7 pm



April 19, Good Friday
Stations of the Cross 2:30 pm
Tenebrae Service 7 pm



Easter Sunday April 21
10:15 Service with Eucharist
Easter Brunch!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	2 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	3 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 6 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm Devotion 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	4 9am-1pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	5 Office Closed 6:30 pm ECW Meeting 8 pm AA PH	6
7 Lent 5 Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music – 6:30 Men's AA PH	8 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	9 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 6:30 pm Men's Group Meeting 7 pm Centering Prayer at Church 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	10 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 6 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm Devotion 7:30 pm Cursillo Mtg. at Craigs 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	11 9am-1pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	12 Office Closed 8 pm AA PH	13 10 am- 2 pm Bishop's Committee Retreat
14 Palm Sunday David Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music & BBQ 6:30 Men's AA PH	15 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	16 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	17 9am-2 pm Office Hrs. Franciscan Articles Due 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	18 Maundy Thursday 7 pm Service & Dinner 9am-1pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	19 Office Closed Good Friday 2:30 pm Stations of the Cross 7 pm Tenebrae 8 pm AA PH	20
21 Easter David Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music Followed by Brunch Baby Shower Coffee Hr. 6:30 Men's AA PH	22 Office Closed 8 pm Men's AA PH	23 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm Centering Prayer at Church 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	24 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service, 7:30 pm Cursillo Mtg at Craigs 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	25 9am-1pm Office Hrs 7pm RCA Clare Rm	26 Office Closed 8 pm AA PH	27
28 Easter 1 Brainerd Dharmaraj, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music Recycle Sunday 6:30 Men's AA PH	29 9am-2pm Office Hrs Noon Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	30 9am-2pm Office Hrs 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	May 1 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service, 12 Sam Ctr. Mtg. 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	2 9am-1pm Office Hrs 7pm RCA Clare Rm	3 Office Closed 6:30 pm ECW Mtg. 8 pm AA PH	4

April 2019 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	April 7	April 14 Palm Sunday	April 21 Easter Sunday	April 28	May 5
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist					
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Joy C.	Susan S.	Esther D.	Bernadette	Ken S.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Grace R.	Ruth H.	Chrissy B.	Andrew S.	Eden S.
LEM (Chalice)	Bernadette David S.	Jan J. Eden S.	Bernadette David S.	Ruth H. Eden S.	Rob & Kristin W.
Acolyte & Crucifer	Esther S.	Andrew S. Brad C.	Grace R.	Esther S.	Grace R.
Usher / Greeters	Jacob M. Tony F.	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Tony F. Joe Z.	Rebecca S. Tony F.	Tony F. Rebecca S.
Altar Guild	Joy C.	Ruth H.	Teri M.	Chris M.	Chrissy B.
Home Communion	Jan J. Ruth H.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Eden S. Ruth H.	Jan J. Eden S.	Brainerd & Esther D.
Vestry Counters	Sam A. Jan J.	Janet J. Joy C.	Cathy G. Amy B.	Bernadette Dan M.	
<u>If you are unable to serve on the day you are scheduled – please make arrangements with someone else to substitute for you. Please contact the church office to inform them of the changes. Thank you!</u>					

Please call Jennifer @805.990.4102 to sign up for Coffee Hour.

April	7	Palm Sunday 14	Easter Sunday 21	28	
10am	DOK	BBQ Samaritan Center	Brunch Baby Shower		



Our coffee hour is a tradition of spending a few minutes together after our worship to connect and say hello to each other. All are invited because the “*feeling of belonging*” is for everyone to enjoy! It’s a blessing to host this time to refresh ourselves before we return to the “*busyness*” of the world.

May 2019 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26	June 2
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist					
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Joy C.	Susan S.	Esther D.	Bernadette	Ken S.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Grace R.	Ruth H.	Chrissy B.	Andrew S.	Eden S.
LEM (Chalice)	Bernadette David S.	Jan J. Eden S.	Bernadette David S.	Ruth H. Eden S.	Rob & Kristin W.
Acolyte & Crucifer	Grace R.	Esther S.	Grace R.	Andrew S.	Esther S.
Usher / Greeters	Jacob M. Tony F.	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Tony F. Joe Z.	Rebecca S. Tony F.	Tony F. Rebecca S.
Altar Guild	Joy C.	Ruth H.	Teri M.	Chris M.	Chrissy B.
Home Communion	Jan J. Ruth H.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Eden S. Ruth H.	Jan J. Eden S.	Brainerd & Esther D.
Vestry Counters					
<u>If you are unable to serve on the day you are scheduled – please make arrangements with someone else to substitute for you. Please contact the church office to inform them of the changes. Thank you!</u>					



RECYCLING AT ST FRANCIS

Please bring in your Recycling on the **last Sunday of the month** and we'll put those cans and bottles to good use! Our efforts will help support the needs of a family in our community and will be appreciated. See what glass and metal can do? So mark your calendars now with a big "R" for recycling at the end of the month. Thank you ahead of time for all your contributions!

the Franciscan

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
280 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065

Newsletter – April 2019

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Sunday Service:

- **Eucharist with Music**
10:15 am

Wednesdays

- **10 am Healing Service**