



# The Franciscan



April 2025

• **Diocesan Bishop •**  
*The Rt Rev John Taylor*

• **Our Vicar •**  
*The Rev. Sarah Kitch*  
[stfrancis.simi@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancis.simi@gmail.com)

• **The Bishop's Committee •**

• *Bishop's Warden*  
*Amy Brown*

• *Junior Warden*  
*Dan McCarty*

• *Finance*  
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• *Clerk*  
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• *Pastoral Care*  
*Tracy Hurst*

• *Fellowship*  
*Kerri-Jo Hansen*

• *Service/Outreach*  
*Gerri Harrington*

• *Worship*  
*Chris McCarty*

## From Our Vicar...

We are a people who believe in the Resurrected Christ and Alleluia is our Song. We are celebrating our High Holy Days from Palm Sunday to Easter. It is a new beginning and a new day for us to experience our life with the Living God. As we turn into spring and see the season changing, with flowers blooming, trees budding, butterflies and ladybugs, let us embrace such change.

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Published monthly by St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church

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# From Our Vicar...

“In my own life, as winters turn into spring, I find it not only hard to cope with mud but also hard to credit the small harbingers of larger life to come, hard to hope until the outcome is secure. Spring teaches me to look more carefully for the green stems of possibility; for the intuitive hunch that may turn into a larger insight, for the glance or touch that may thaw a frozen relationship, for the stranger’s act of kindness that makes the world seem hospitable again.” Parker Palmer, *Let Your Life Speak*

We are a people who believe in the Resurrected Christ and Alleluia is our Song. We are celebrating our High Holy Days from Palm Sunday to Easter. It is a new beginning and a new day for us to experience our life with the Living God. As we turn into spring and see the season changing, with flowers blooming, trees budding, butterflies and ladybugs, let us embrace such change.

You know the old saying, “The only certain thing in life is change.” If that is true, then how can we welcome this adventure with the Living Christ that we proclaim? Spring offers opportunity to create some welcoming space, within our interior lives and our exterior lives. Why not take a Spring Vacation and open up such space within our hearts and minds.

For example, how often are you going outside and sitting in nature? Are you seeing the season changing? Are you watching hummingbirds? What about getting in the sun, and allowing it to warm our face? This isn’t another “to do list”. It’s simply to be thankful that the Living God is present with us in nature. What do you notice? What are you discovering? Does this open up your heart space in a welcoming way? It’s a great way to give Praise to the Living God who is our Creator of every good and wonderful thing.

Spring Vacations offer Spring Cleaning. What about decluttering a closet, or cupboard? It’s a great way to free up your mind and spirit. What about making some space in your closet? Is it something that you haven’t used in a long while? Does it still have value for you? What about passing it on to the Samaritan Center? It’s a great way to respond to our Living God who gives us abundantly more than we can think or imagine.

Lastly, Spring Vacations offer a slower pace and more restful, mindful spaces. When was the last time you really sat down and relished the meal you were eating? Have you had quality time with your family over a meal? What about eating mindfully, where you are aware of taste, smell, and the look of food, that helps you slow down and appreciate the meal. It’s a way of returning gratitude and appreciation not only to God who is our Provider, but also to those who lovingly prepared the meal.

We renew our lives in this Eastertide Season that the Living God is with us. Let us consider how we can develop deeper practices in our lifestyle to reflect our gratitude that God is Alive – and sing Alleluia! (Psst...there is a hummingbird at the feeder as I’m typing this!)



## Stay Connected With Us!

- Pastoral Care through the church office (805)526-5141
- Pastoral Care via email [stfrancis.simi@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancis.simi@gmail.com)
- Keep up through the St. Francis Website <https://www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org/>
- Sunday Worship In-Person 10:15 AM & Live Streamed - links in the St. Francis Weekly
  - Stay connected through weekly services and activities made available

Please remember St. Francis with your donations and pledge.

*Secure online giving available through PayPal:*

<https://www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org/donate>

## SAVE THE DATES FOR SPRING:

*May 3<sup>rd</sup> Farmer's Market Trip and World Labyrinth Day Labyrinth Walk*

*May 10<sup>th</sup> May Tea with Chantel Zimmerman*

*June 1<sup>st</sup> Rev. Sarah's Farewell Potluck*

### ***Fellowship Activity – Camarillo Farmer's Market***

*By Kerri-Jo Hansen*

*The Camarillo Farmer's Market is held every Saturday morning from 8am-12pm. It is a wonderful market with several produce and food vendors. We would like to extend an invitation to all to join in on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the first Saturday in May. This is also World Labyrinth Day, but we would be back with enough time to participate in both events.*

*If you would like to join, we will meet in the church parking lot at 7:30am. – “The early bird gets the worm!”. If you are interested, bring a friend too. We can carpool. We have plenty of time to coordinate and accommodate if you would like to come and if you can participate in carpooling, just let me know.*

*Sign-ups will be made available.*

## Meet Lucy Kluckhohn Jones

Many years ago, when Lucy Jones was called for jury duty she was questioned by a judge as to all her activities. He facetiously asked her “And what do you do in your spare time?” That question accurately sums up Lucy’s entire life. Since she graduated from Bryn Mawr College with a degree in sociology and anthropology, this Boston native has been going non-stop. She worked first as a secretary and research assistant for famed Harvard University anthropologist Clyde Kluckhohn. She ended up marrying the “boss’ son Richard Kluckhohn and moved with him to California in 1965 so he could teach anthropology at what is now California State University at Northridge. After revising a couple of books, she became an editor for the UCLA Press. She was third author of “Navaho Material Culture.”

Lucy’s life changed significantly when her husband passed away in 1974. She needed a career so after moving to Calabasas with her sons Bruce and Gib she went back to school, studied at Pierce College and CSUN, and worked as a veterinary assistant. She applied to the veterinary school at UC Davis but didn’t get in. In those days, most vets were men. After earning her MS in biology with an emphasis in microbiology from CSUN in 1986 she began her teaching career in microbiology at Santa Monica College, retiring in 2017.

Although Lucy is now retired, she says she “flunked retirement” returning to teach microbiology online for two years during the Covid pandemic.

But through the years there was a lot else going on in Lucy’s life. She and Donald Jones married in 1992 creating a blended family of her two sons and three stepchildren and that now includes nine grandchildren. Travel has been an important part of her life including a cruise to Antarctica with Don on the *Marco Polo* where they swam in a volcano. “Yes, the water was very warm, but the air was quite cold,” Lucy says. The red winter coat she wears occasionally to St. Francis came as part of that trip. The coat and Lucy were featured in the “Simi Valley Acorn” in its recent photo coverage of St. Francis’ Mardi Gras Gumbo feed. She also traveled Italy to take care of her grandsons and took a trip to Denali, Alaska, with her son Gib.

Also keeping her busy is her volunteer work, singing in St. Francis’ choir, and she likes to knit. But what really keeps her active these days is her Competitive agility with her Border Collie Wonder. Competitive agility is what brought her to Simi Valley. She needed a yard with room for her dog’s agility equipment and a house for her to live in.

She says “Jazz on the Patio” and the line dancing brought her to St. Francis. “St. Francis is such a welcoming community that I feel comfortable here,” she says.



*With my son Gib in Alaska, 2019. Denali shines in the background.*

*“Wonder dog really does do agility. Me too.”*

*Photo credit Shanon Waddingham*



*“This was taken in 1997, and it shows one of my brothers, both of my sons, Don, and all three of his children. The grands are now grown up! This photo was taken at Will Rogers ranch that burned recently. It’s the only picture I have that shows that many of my scattered relatives in one place.”*

# Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter

## **Palm Sunday – Outside/Inside: 10:15 am April 13<sup>th</sup> with Potluck Luncheon after service**

Catholic and Protestant communities celebrate Palm Sunday. (The Orthodox Christian community celebrates later as they follow the Julian calendar – a week later.) This marks the beginning of Holy Week, historically the most sacred time of year for Christians.

Palm Sunday recalls an event in the Christian Scripture (The New Testament) of Jesus entering into Jerusalem and being greeted by the people waving palm branches. (Matthew 21:1-9, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-38, John 12:12-19)

The service on Palm Sunday also includes a reading of the Passion, that is, the story of the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus' death is seen by Christians as salvation and as a reminder of how prophets are often killed when they stand for justice and peace.

## **Holy Week**

**Holy Thursday** (referred to as Maundy Thursday after the Latin mandatum or command to love one another) is a day when Christians commemorate the Last Supper of Jesus. (*Matthew 26: 17-35, Mark 14: 12-31, Luke 22: 7-23, John 13: 21-30*). In some traditions, there is the washing of the feet of various members of the community to recall a gesture of Christ at the Last Supper when he washed the feet of his disciples. – **Agape Feast and Maundy Thursday Service at 7 pm April 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Good Friday April 18<sup>th</sup>** is a solemn day on which Christians recall the death of Jesus and its promise of hope and new life. (*Matthew 27: 32-56, Mark 15: 21-41, Luke 23:26-49, John 19: 17-30*).

Other people make the **Stations of the Cross 2:30 pm service** a devotion that recalls the journey of Jesus on the Via Dolorosa (Way of Sorrows) in Jerusalem to Calvary where he was crucified. (In Jerusalem the place of Christ's death and resurrection is commemorated inside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.)

The word *Tenebrae* is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." It can also be translated as "night" or "death." The Tenebrae service is an ancient tradition in Christian history that took place on one of the last three days of Holy Week: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, or Holy Saturday. The purpose of this service was to remember the somber events that occurred in Jesus' life from the exuberant entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday through the night of Jesus' burial on Good Friday. **7pm Tenebrae Service**

## **Easter -April 20<sup>th</sup> 10:15am Service followed by Egg Hunt and Easter Brunch**

Easter Sunday is the greatest feast in the Christian calendar. While our society puts a major emphasis on Christmas, no other day is traditionally as sacred for the Christian community as Easter. This is the day Christians commemorate the resurrection of Christ. (*Matthew 28:1-15, Mark 1: 1-8, Luke 24:1-12, John 20: 1-10*).

In some traditions, the services begin the night before with the lighting of a new fire and the blessing of a large Easter candle. Water is blessed and many are baptized. But for all Christians, this is a day to renew one's faith.

Easter usually ends with festive celebrations with special foods and Easter delicacies.



# PALM SUNDAY

Outdoor/Indoor Passion Reading Service with Palms  
followed by PotLuck Luncheon  
April 13th at 10:15 AM



# MAUNDY THURSDAY

Service and Agape Feast  
April 17th at 7 PM

The background of the Good Friday poster is a dark navy blue. It features abstract, hand-drawn elements in a muted orange-brown color, including a large vertical stroke and a horizontal stroke that intersect to form a cross. There are also some white and light blue speckles and curved lines scattered around the edges.

# GOOD FRIDAY

April 18th

Stations of the Cross Outside 2:30 PM

Tenebrae Service 7:00 PM

The background of the Easter poster is a light cream or off-white color. It features large, soft, watercolor-like washes in shades of light pink, pale blue, and muted orange. There are also some darker, more defined orange and blue shapes. In the bottom right corner, there are some small, brown, speckled patterns.

# EASTER

A black and white photograph of a cluster of lily flowers is positioned on the left side of the poster. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some fully open and others as buds. They are set against a dark, solid background.

Eucharistic Service with Music  
Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt following service  
April 20th at 10:15 AM

# April 2025 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	April 6	April 13	April 20	April 27	
<b>Lector (O.T./Psalm)</b>	Gerri H.	Eden S.	Bernadette	Peggy S.	
<b>Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)</b>	Reuben A.	Chrissy B.	Madeline C	Kerri-Jo H.	
<b>LEM</b>	Lisa N.	Kerri-Jo H. Tracy H.	Chrissy B. Tracy H.	Craig A.	
<b>Usher / Greeter</b>	Ted W.	Joe Z.	Reuben A. Ted W.	Rebecca S.	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Kerri-Jo H.	Cathy G.	Chrissy B. Tracy H.	Chris M.	
<b>Preaching</b>	Rev Sarah	David K	Rev Sarah	David K	

# May 2025 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25	
<b>Lector (O.T./Psalm)</b>	Susan S.	Eden S.	Bernadette	Peggy S	
<b>Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)</b>	Reuben A.	Tracy H.	Madeline C	Kerri-Jo H.	
<b>LEM</b>	Lisa N.	Kerri-Jo H.	Tracy H.	Craig A.	
<b>Usher / Greeter</b>	Ted W.	Reuben A.	Joe Z.	Rebecca S.	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Cathy G.	Kerri-Jo H.	Tracy H.	Gerri H.	
<b>Preaching</b>	Rev Sarah	Rev Karen James	Rev Sarah	David K	

*Thank you for Serving!*

*Please note the above schedule is subject to change. Please let the Church Office know if you are unable to serve on the date(s) you've been scheduled.*

# April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm	2 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service  6PM Lenten Taizé  7:30 pm AA PH	3 Baby Closet 10:30-11:30  7 pm AA PH 7 pm NA Clare Rm	4  ECW MEETING 5:30 PM  8 pm AA PH	5
6 Rev Sarah Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music DOK MTG  6:30 Men's AA PH	7  8 pm Men's AA	8  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm	9 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service  6PM Lenten Taizé  7:30 pm AA PH	10 Baby Closet 10:30-11:30  7 pm AA PH 7 pm NA Clare Rm	11  Private Event  8 pm AA PH	12  Private Event
13 <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> David Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music POTLUCK 6:30 Men's AA PH	14  8 pm Men's AA	15  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH	16 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service  NO Lenten Taizé  7:30 pm AA PH	17 Baby Closet 10:30-11:30 <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> AGAPE FEAST 7PM 7 pm AA PH 7 pm NA Clare Rm	18 <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>  Stations of the Cross 2:30 PM  Tenebrae 7 PM  Private Event 8 pm AA PH	19  Private Event
20 <b>EASTER</b> Rev Sarah Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music Brunch & Egg Hunt 6:30 Men's AA PH	21  8 pm Men's AA	22  <b>EARTH DAY</b>  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH	23 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service  7:30 pm AA PH	24 Baby Closet 10:30-11:30  7 pm AA PH 7 pm NA Clare Rm	25  Private Event  8 pm AA PH	26  Private Event
27 David Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music Vicar's Forum  Bishop's Committee MTG 6:30 Men's AA PH	28  8 pm Men's AA	29  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH	30 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service  7:30 pm AA PH			

Reminder: Bring cut flowers on Easter Sunday for the children to use in the decorating of the Cross.

# Check out who made it into the Acorn!

Photos by Michael Coons of Acorn Newspapers Courtesy Doug Onyon, Forwarded from the Simi Valley Edition of the Acorn. Moorpark Acorn also provided coverage and more photos - Both articles and photos are available for viewing on their websites. (March 8, 2025 - "Mardi Gras Party")

14 SIMI VALLEY ACORN

MARCH 8, 2025

SIMIVALLEYACORN.COM



## BRING ON THE gumbo



Photos by MICHAEL COONS/Acorn Newspapers

**LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL**—St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church in Simi Valley hosts a gumbo cook-off March 4 featuring three kinds of gumbo as a celebration before the start of Lent. Above, Rory Brown, 3, plays with Mardi Gras beads during the festivities. Top right, Lucy Jones receives a bowl of gumbo from Chrissy Bowden during the cook-off. Bottom right, Rev. Sarah Kitch adds a final ingredient to her gumbo before sharing it with parishioners at the event.

# The Franciscan

## Newsletter – April 2025

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church  
280 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065  
Phone 805.526.5141  
[www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org](http://www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org)

**TO:**



### Join Us:

- ◆ Sunday: 10:15 am Service
- ◆ Wednesdays:  
10 am Healing Service

### Holy Week Schedule-

- ◆ Palm Sunday: 10:15 am
- ◆ Maundy Thursday: 7:00 pm
- ◆ Good Friday:  
2:30 pm Stations of the Cross  
7:00 pm Tenebrae Service
- ◆ Easter Sunday: 10:15 am