



# The Franciscan



December 2022

● **Diocesan Bishop** ●

*John Harvey 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  
Sam Anusiem
- Clerk/ Communications  
Ruth Haskins
- Service/Outreach  
Gerri Harrington
- Fellowship/Outreach  
Cathy Grimes
- Worship
- Pastoral Care

## CHRISTMAS IS COMING

This year Christmas Eve is on Saturday December 24, and Christmas is on Sunday December 25! That means there will be a Sunday morning Christmas Service at St. Francis at 10:15 for all who wish to attend. Our Christmas Eve Service will be 6:00. We will feature beautiful music to lift our hearts and the lights of the evening service to bear us to the birth of our Lord.

Please let your family and loved ones know about this Christmas Service and know that we hold all in prayer and before the heart of our beloved Savior.

... **Additional article on pg. 2**

The **Greening of the Church** will take place following Sunday Service on December 18<sup>th</sup>.



**Read More pg. 4**



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280 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065

Email: [stfrancis.simi@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancis.simi@gmail.com)

[www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org](http://www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org)

office- 805.526.5141

fax- 805.520.3819

# From Our Vicar...

*With great thanksgiving we enter into Advent and the Coming of the Christ, Jesus born in Bethlehem, as we follow a guiding star to bring us to his place of birth.  
What gifts will we bring this child this year?*

*During Advent, the time of waiting, will we reflect on what may be different in our lives with the coming of this birth?*

*Can it be a gift of love to all around us, as we stand in the stable  
and see this sleeping baby?*

*May we extend our hands to one another and find within us the courage to be united because  
Love Came Down At Christmas to all.*

*Let us renew an active commitment to Peace on earth, and shining light that has come to be  
among us. In a time that desperately needs our love and attention, even as the time of Jesus' birth in the turmoil of Roman oppression and control, may we herald the song of the angels and bring forth good news for all, Christ is Born, and goodwill to all humankind.*



*Sarah*



We have a mission before us as we share in God's redemptive ministry! It is the work of the Samaritan Center as the director, Annika Sumbly and her staff seek to minister to the needs of the transient community through social services, their food pantry, daily meals, transportation, medical needs and much, much more. St Francis has been in partnership with the Samaritan Center now 30 years, supporting their mission to the community of Simi Valley.

Every Christmas we have an Angel Tree in our narthex with Angels ready to fly to support the work of the Samaritan Center. With a contribution of \$20 clipped on these beloved angels, we offer practical help to buy a needed washer or dryer, help with getting a new refrigerator or any of the other daily needs for this ministry. Please look for the Angel Tree in the Narthex as you come to church and place a check or money on these ones who are ready to fly for our giving to the community.

Blessed Flight!

### **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 - link 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>



The **Greening of the Church** will take place following Sunday Service on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

We need your help in decorating trees, hanging garland, decking the halls with wreaths and many more tasks. No matter your skill level please, come! We need a few audience to let us know when things are straight or need to move. So please, come! Help make light work for many hands.



**Poinsettias** will be placed at the Altar beginning December 18<sup>th</sup> with the greening of the Church. If you would like to contribute: contact the church office and/or place your offering in the plate with a floral envelope available in the Narthex. We appreciate your generosity!

**Christmas Eve Service** will be *ONE Service at 6:00 PM.*  
This will be a Eucharistic Service with Candlelight.

**December 26<sup>th</sup>** will be regular Sunday **10:15 am Christmas Day Service**



**Parish Prayer Needs:**

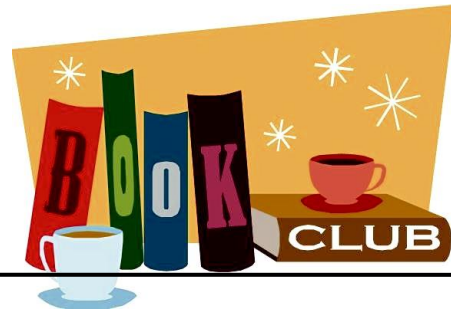
**Healing:** *Barbara, Sylvia, Brody, Avalon, Shantel, Lee, Michael, Kim, Jean, Braydon, Hank, Fr. Steve, Al, Mary, Yvonne, Dee, Jeff, Jim, Bill & Leslie, Jan, David, Lee, Trish, Sue, Tony, Mark, Michele, Eric, Louise, Bob & family, Edith, Howard, Mary, Donna, J.D., Frances, Patrick, Margaret, Beverly, Margie, Alan and family, Kevin, Eve, Amy, Judy, Bernadette, Arianna, Pam, Sammie.*

Services continue for the month of December...

**St. Francis Book Club**

Anyone who would like to join should contact:

Chris M at 805.276.4971



Go to [smile.amazon.com/ch/95-2558848](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-2558848) and Amazon donates to **St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church every time you order through Amazon.**

*Christmas Carols sing  
Of Holiday traitions  
That outlive us all.  
-Haiku by Diantha Ain*



**Line Dancing Wednesdays on the patio is ON HAITUS until 2023**

**BABY CLOSET**

**Healing Service Continues to meet weekly on Wednesdays in the Sanctuary.**  
All are welcome to attend this casual mid-week service with Eucharist at **10:00 am on Wednesdays.**

Don't forget the needs of the Baby Closet -  
The Baby Closet is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am-11am.

They are collecting  
**DIAPERS SIZE 4,5,6**  
and have a continual Need for **BABY WIPES** and helping hands.

**TAIZE ADVENT SERVICES**

Began November 30<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM  
In the Sanctuary

Please connect with Gerri H. if you are able to help with these needs or

Volunteer - **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.**

## December 2022 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Dec 4	Dec 11	Dec 18	Dec 24	Dec 25
<b>Lector (O.T./Psalm)</b>	Kerri-Jo H.	Eden S.	Bernadette	Peggy S.	Gerri H.
<b>Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)</b>	Reuben A.	Suzanne L.	Susan S.	Reuben A.	David K.
<b>LEM</b>	Lisa N.	Rob W. Kristin W.	Chrissy B.	Ruth & Amanda Kristin & Rob W. Tracy H.	Tracy H.
<b>Usher / Greeter</b>	Tony F.	Joe Z.	Reuben A.	Tony F.	Reuben A.
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Chris M.	Bernadette	Cathy G.	Ruth H.	Tracy H.
<b>Preaching</b>	David K.	Rev. Sarah	David K.	David K.	Rev. Sarah

## January 2023 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Jan. 1	Jan. 8	Jan. 15	Jan. 22	Jan. 29
<b>Lector (O.T./Psalm)</b>	Kerri-Jo H.	Eden S.	Bernadette	Susan S.	Kerri-Jo.
<b>Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)</b>	Reuben A.	Suzanne L.	Peggy S.	Tony F.	Gerri H.
<b>LEM</b>	Lisa N.	Tracy H.	Rob W. Kristin W.	Bernadette	Tracy H.
<b>Usher / Greeter</b>	Tony F.	Joe Z.	Reuben A.	Rebecca S	Tony F.
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Cathy G.	Tracy H.	Chris M.	Bernadette	Tracy H.
<b>Preaching</b>	Rev. Liz Pariano	Rev. Sarah	David K.	Rev. Sarah	David K.

Please let the Church Office know if you are unable to serve on your scheduled day. Thank you for Serving!



# DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> Baby Closet 10-11  7 pm NA Clare Rm	<b>2</b>  8 pm AA PH	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> David Kitch Preaching Eucharist with Music  <b>VESPERS 5PM</b>  6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>5</b>  Samaritan Dinner  8 pm Men's AA	<b>6</b> Baby Closet 10-11  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH 8 pm Women AA	<b>7</b> <b>10 am Healing &amp; Eucharist Service</b>  <b>6pm Taize Service</b>  4:30p Line Dancing 6pm Class Party 7:30 pm AA Clare Rm	<b>8</b> Baby Closet 10-11  7 pm NA Clare Rm	<b>9</b>  8 pm AA PH	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching <b>10:15 am</b> Eucharist with Music  6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>12</b>  8 pm Men's AA	<b>13</b> Baby Closet 10-11  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH 8 pm Women AA	<b>14</b> <b>10 am Healing &amp; Eucharist Service</b>  <b>6pm Taize Service</b>  <b>No Class Line Dancing</b> 7:30 pm AA PH	<b>15</b> Baby Closet 10-11  7 pm NA Clare Rm 6 pm H.H. HOA	<b>16</b>  Private Event  8 pm AA PH	<b>17</b>  Private Event
<b>18</b> David Kitch Preaching <b>10:15 am</b> Eucharist with Music <b>Greening of the Church</b> 3pm Private Event 6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>19</b>  8 pm Men's AA	<b>20</b> Baby Closet 10-11  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH 8 pm Women AA	<b>21</b> <b>10 am Healing &amp; Eucharist Service</b>  <b>6pm Taize Service</b>  <b>No Class Line Dancing</b> 6 pm W.R. HOA 7:30 pm AA PH	<b>22</b> Baby Closet 10-11  7 pm NA Clare Rm	<b>23</b>  8 pm AA PH	<b>24</b>  <b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</b> <b>6:00pm</b> <b>David Kitch Preaching</b>
<b>25 Christmas Day</b> Rev Sarah Kitch Preaching <b>10:15 am</b> Eucharist with Music  Bishop's Committee Meeting  6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>26</b>  8 pm Men's AA	<b>27</b> Baby Closet 10-11  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH 8 pm Women AA	<b>28</b> <b>10 am Healing &amp; Eucharist Service</b>  <b>No Class Line Dancing</b> 7:30 pm AA PH	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

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## Newsletter – DECEMBER 2022

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church  
280 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065  
Phone 805.526.5141  
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**TO:**



**Sunday Service:**  
10:15 am

**Wednesday Service:**  
10:00 am Healing

**Candlelight Christmas Eve:**  
6:00 pm

**Christmas Day:**  
10:15 am