

# The Franciscan



## The Bishop's Committee

## From our Vicar... January 2019



• Diocesan Bishop •  
**John Harvey Taylor**  
(213) 482-2040

The Rev. Sarah Kitch  
(805) 526-5141  
(818) 442-4514  
[stfrancis.simi@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancis.simi@gmail.com)

**Bishop's Warden**  
**Cathy Grimes** 805-298-0909  
[cgrimes39@gmail.com](mailto:cgrimes39@gmail.com)

**Junior Warden**  
**Dan McCarty** 805-581-3373  
[trumpet.4@hotmail.com](mailto:trumpet.4@hotmail.com)

**Finance**  
**Sam Anusiem** 805-760-8143  
[sea191a@yahoo.com](mailto:sea191a@yahoo.com)

**Clerk/Fellowship**  
**Joy Craig** 805-796-0750  
[joy.craig@simivalleyusd.org](mailto:joy.craig@simivalleyusd.org)

**Worship**  
**Jan Jones** 805-390-5191  
[jj72541@aol.com](mailto:jj72541@aol.com)

**Communications**  
**Janet Johnson** 805-791-0655  
[janlor7@yahoo.com](mailto:janlor7@yahoo.com)

**Service/Outreach**  
**Gerri Harrington** 818-521-0313  
[gerrianna45@yahoo.com](mailto:gerrianna45@yahoo.com)  
**Amy Rasmussen** 805 630-2224  
[amyr@amgen.com](mailto:amyr@amgen.com)

**Pastoral Care**  
**Susan Swoish** 805-501-5203  
[sjs@swbusinessadvisors.com](mailto:sjs@swbusinessadvisors.com)

**Fellowship/Outreach**  
**Robert Craig** 805-796-0750  
[rcraig562@gmail.com](mailto:rcraig562@gmail.com)  
**Bernadette Schneible** 818-424-2251  
[bnriseml@yahoo.com](mailto:bnriseml@yahoo.com)

### Blessing

*I wonder if you can receive these words: that you are a blessing to God, and that God is intent on your being a channel of blessing, the blessing of God's light and life and love to all that surrounds you. Can you receive that: that you are a blessing?*

-Br. Curtis Almquist

Society of Saint John the Evangelist

Now that all the holiday season is quiet, we wonder where this past year has brought us and where we are yet to be. I would like to begin the year with the words of Brother Curtis, that we are a blessing.

In the Christian Tradition, January 6 is Epiphany, the appearance of the Wise Men to recognize the Savior has come to dwell with human kind. It is the revelation of the blessing of the Christ, the awareness that God has come among us and we have been changed.

So too, I think this year we can live into a deeper consciousness that God dwells within us and we are a blessing. If each day we might say to ourselves, "I am a blessing because of God within me," what might our day be like? Would we see opportunities with people that share this blessing? Would we look for how we might be a part of this blessing for the needs of others? How would we participate in our every day patterns of our lives? How can we extend the light of God's love and life that has come among us to everyone we meet?

We are a blessing, because the Savior has come to dwell among us and now lives within us. We are alive in the life of God. As this New Year begins, may we find ourselves carrying this blessing to everyone and everywhere, even as we have celebrated carrying the Christ Child. We now are the ones that are carrying the light that has been born for us, and that makes all the difference.

We are a blessing! What a gift.





It is a New Year.  
A new beginning.  
A new direction.  
A new consideration for our life patterns and choices.  
Just because it's January? Well not exactly.  
For us in the church, our new year began at Advent.  
Our new beginning began with the Christ Child's birth.  
A new direction was given to us when God entered into the world as a baby.  
We have been given a new way of life because of Jesus.  
That's what the Magi saw when they made their journey to the Holy Family.  
Is it what we see when we enter into this New Year?  
What will be different for us?  
What gift in our life will we give the Holy Child?  
It is always a new beginning.  
Every day we are given the blessing to begin again.  
As we look at a New Year expanding before us, like a beckoning invitation of undiscovered land, why not be intentional about what we long for this time in our lives?  
Are there Spiritual Disciplines that we may practice this year that are wanting to be in our daily experience?

Prayer? Spiritual Reading?  
Community and fellowship? Worship?  
What about time spent with friends that you've been missing?  
How many of us have letters we want to write, or cards we want to send to someone letting them know we are thinking of them?  
You get the idea. We are blessed by new beginnings and marking of a new Year. Let us be intentional about what is important to us, and claim our heritage of Christ our Lord given for us to know how deeply loved we are by God. We belong to God and to one another. May we live anew into this New Year and celebrate beginnings.

**Everyone is invited!  
Mark your calendar  
January 27, 2019**

**The St. Francis Annual  
Congregational Meeting  
It is time that we hear about the  
growth of St. Francis from the  
previous year, and where we are  
going in the year ahead.**

**Note to the Bishop's Committee**  
Articles for the Annual Report are  
due, January 14 for the  
January 27, 2019  
Congregation Meeting

## Members and News

### AmazonSmile

When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://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](http://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.

Along life's highway, a fresh horizon appears with each forward stride.

Diantha Ain

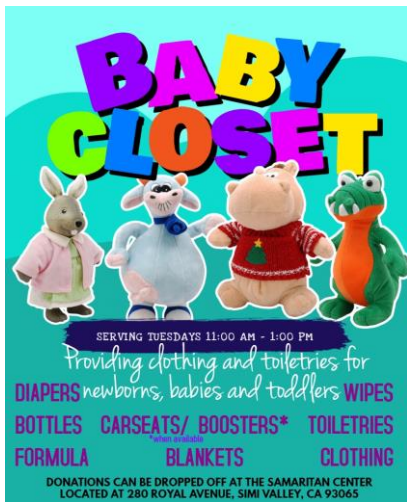


### St. Francis Women's Retreat

Our retreat will be held **Feb. 1-3, 2019** at Mount Calvary Monastery and Retreat Center, 505 E Los Olivos St, Santa Barbara, CA 93105. **Phone:** (805) 682-4117

This is in the center of Santa Barbara near the Mission. We need a nonrefundable deposit by **December 8**. The sign up sheet will be in the church office. The total cost is \$260. This includes 5 meals, instead of the 4 that we have gotten at other retreats. There are gardens for quiet contemplation, a labyrinth and the largest Dragon's Blood tree in the United States. It is named for its blood red sap. The terrace looks out to Mission Canyon and the Santa Ynez mountain range. Bring your daughters, friends and mothers for a wonderful weekend of peace and relaxation.





## BABY CLOSET

Don't forget the needs of the Baby Closet 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.

## 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.



### 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.

# January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 11:15 am Drum Cir. 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>3</b> 9am-1pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	<b>4</b> Office Closed 6:30 pm ECW Meeting 8 pm AA PH	<b>5</b>
<b>6 Epiphany</b> Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music – 6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>7</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	<b>8</b> 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	<b>9</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 11:15 am Drum Cir. 7:30 pm Cursillo Mtg. at Craigs 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>10</b> 9am-1pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	<b>11</b> Office Closed 8 pm AA PH	<b>12</b>
<b>13 Baptism of Jesus</b> Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching/with Amy Brown 10:15 Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>14</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	<b>15</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	<b>16</b> 9am-2 pm Office Hrs. <b>Franciscan Articles Due</b> 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 11:15 Drum Cir. 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>17</b> 9am-1pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	<b>18</b> Office Closed 8 pm AA PH	<b>19</b> 10 am-3 pm Spiritual Journey Class
<b>20 Epiphany 2</b> Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching/with Tony Fox 10:15 Eucharist with Music, Sam Ctr. Collection 12 BC Meeting 6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>21</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	<b>22</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm Centering Prayer at Church 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	<b>23</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Healing & Eucharist Service, 7:30 pm Cursillo Mtg at Craigs 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>24</b> 9am-1pm Office Hrs 7pm RCA Clare Rm	<b>25</b> Office Closed 8 pm AA PH	<b>26</b>
<b>27 Epiphany 3</b> Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching/with Esther D. 10:15 Eucharist with Music Recycle Sunday <b>Congregational Annual Meeting</b> 6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>28</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs Noon Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	<b>29</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	<b>30</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service, 11:15 Drum Cir. 12 Sam Ctr. Mtg. 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>31</b> 9am-1pm Office Hrs 7pm RCA Clare Rm		

# January 2019 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Jan. 6	Jan. 13	Jan. 20	Jan. 27	Feb. 3
--	--------	---------	---------	---------	--------

## 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Esther D.	Jan J.	Ken S.	Joy C.	Ruth H.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Chrissy B.	Andrew S.	Eden S.	Grace R.	Susan S.
LEM (Chalice)	Bernadette David S.	Ruth H. Esther D.	Rob & Kristin W.	Jan J. Esther D.	Bernadette David S.
Acolyte & Crucifer	Esther S.	Grace R.	Esther S.	Grace R. Andrew S	Esther S.
Usher / Greeters	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Joe Z. Tony F.	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Jacob M. Tony F.	Tony F. Rebecca S.
Altar Guild	Teri M.	Chris M.	Chrissy B.	Joy C.	Ruth H.
Home Communion	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J. Eden S.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J. Ruth H.	Brainerd & Esther D.
Vestry Counters	Bernadette Bob C.	Sam A. Jan J.	Amy B. Cathy G.	Amy R. Joy C.	Susan S. Gerri H.

**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!**

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

January	6	13	20	27	
10am	DOK				



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.

# February 2019 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Feb. 3	Feb. 10	Feb. 17	Feb. 24	March 3
--	--------	---------	---------	---------	---------

## 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Ruth H.	Esther D.	Jan J.	Ken S.	Joy C.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Susan S.	Chrissy B.	Eden S.	Andrew S.	Grace R.
LEM (Chalice)	Bernadette David S.	Bernadette David S.	Ruth H. Esther D.	Rob & Kristin W.	Jan J. Esther D.
Acolyte & Crucifer	Esther S.	Andrew S.	Grace R.	Esther S.	Grace R.
Usher / Greeters	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Joe Z. Tony F.	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Jacob M. Tony F.
Altar Guild	Ruth H.	Teri M.	Chris M.	Chrissy B.	Joy C.
Home Communion	Brainerd & Esther D.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J. Eden S.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J. Ruth H.
Vestry Counters	Bernadette Bob C.	Sam A. Jan J.	Amy B. Cathy G.	Amy R. Joy C.	Susan S. Gerri H.

**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!**



### 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 – January 2019

**TO:**

### **St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church**

280 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065

P.O. Box 940516, Simi Valley CA 93094

Phone (805)526-5141

[stfrancis.simi@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancis.simi@gmail.com)    [www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org](http://www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org)



#### **Sunday Service:**

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

#### **Wednesdays**

- **10 am Healing Service**