

The Franciscan



The Bishop's Committee

From our Vicar... July 2018



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The ancient rhythms of the earth have insinuated themselves into the rhythms of the human heart. The earth is not outside us; it is within: the clay from where the tree of the body grows. When we emerge from our offices, rooms and houses, we enter our natural element. We are children of the earth: people to whom the outdoors is home. Nothing can separate us from the vigor and vibrancy of this inheritance. In contrast to our frenetic, saturated lives, the earth offers a calming stillness. Movement and growth in nature takes its time. The patience of nature enjoys the ease of trust and hope. There is something in our clay nature that needs to continually experience this ancient, outer ease of the world. It helps us remember who we are and why we are here.

—John O'Donohue, *Beauty: The Invisible Embrace*

John O'Donohue says it well as we embrace Summer's opportunities to be outside in nature. Whether it is a family barbecue in the backyard, or a day at the beach, we as human beings need the sun, the sea, the trees, the night sky, to nourish our souls and refresh us.

It is for such a time as this season, that we are made!

Sometimes we have to make such time away from our routines and structures of work, and home. The implication from O'Donohue's writing is that we must make such time, or we forget who we are and why we are here.

May this time be a rich reminder of our playful side, our reflective side, and our life-purpose side of ourselves as we take time in nature this Summer. Enjoy!!!!



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"What is serious to men is often very trivial in the sight of God. What in God might appear to us as 'play' is perhaps what He Himself takes most seriously. At any rate the Lord plays and diverts Himself in the garden of His creation, and if we could let go of our own obsession with what we think is the meaning of it all, we might be able to hear His call and follow Him in His mysterious, cosmic dance." ~

Thomas Merton,
New Seeds of Contemplation



Jazz on the Patio

June 24 was a beautiful evening of Jazz on the Patio. Mark your calendar for August 26, 6 pm, for the next Jazz on the Patio. Bring your picnic dinner, beverages and relax with the excellent music.



CONFIRMATION AND INQUIRERS CLASSES **JULY 8, AUGUST 19 & 26**

Right after Sunday service
with Brainerd and Esther.

Find out all the reasons why the
Episcopal Church does what
it does and come ready to affirm your
faith!

The class will be preparing for Bishop
Diane's visit September 2 to
confirm anyone who wishes to be a
part of the Episcopal Church.
Please contact Esther and Brainerd for
more information

at esther@fivepebbles.com or
brainerd@fivepebbles.com .

Laughter keeps us sane
in a world that endeavors
to drive us crazy.

Diantha Ain



Christine Valters Paintner, the founder of Abbey of the Arts, an online monastery, writes of Summer and some of the richness of this season. I found myself resonating with some of her thoughts and wanted to invite us all into the vastness of this time.

“Summer is a season of ripening and fullness, when the blossoms of springtime turn to fruit. Peaches grow heavy on the branch, full of juice. Berries plump, expanding into brilliant shades of crimson and blue. Having worked in academic life for many years, I still love the rhythm of the school calendar when summer signals a move outdoors, picnics on the beach, more time spent playing in the sunshine and eating ice cream, swimming in the sea, a return to childhood pleasures. Even if you work all summer the days of endless night beckon you out of doors in the evenings.

This is an essential aspect: Paying attention to the invitation of the seasons. Listening for how the world around us is shimmering forth with her call to a new way of being and moving in the world. Spring invites us to our own blossoming, while autumn calls us to release and surrender slowly into winter's stillness.

But summer is a celebration of our ripeness, of pondering the places in our lives that have come to such fullness they are ready to fall from the vine, laden with sweetness, and shared with others. Of pondering the ways the fountain in our own hearts is rushing forth with freshness.

In St. Benedict's Rule, he writes about the principle of contentment, which means to be satisfied with what we have rather than always longing for something more or different. This isn't a kind of resigned feeling to being happy with what you have, but a vibrant, even ecstatic joy at the abundant grace of life. To feel gratitude and awe that we have anything at all, much less a home, work, food, health, and friendship, knowing that any one of those is grace enough.”

Members and News

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.



DOK

Daughter of the King

These are another way to access prayer and comfort. They are small enough to fit into a pocket or purse, and can be taken to the hospital or carried for constant comfort. These can be found in a basket in the Narthex.

Men's Group

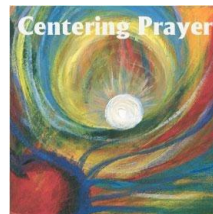
Will meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm.

Please note the change on your calendars and women note it so you can remind your husbands!



Two new books that will be in the library soon are The Dressmaker's Dowry by Meredith Jaeger and the Whistling Season by Ivan Doig. Both would make great summer reads. Jaeger links present day San Francisco with the San Francisco of the 1860s. It is a timely book about immigrant dressmakers and how their lives connect through the sons of the same family. It is a quick read and a romance, but I found the history of the 1860s fascinating.

The Whistling Season could also be called a romance set in Wyoming in the early 1900s. A widower with three boys answers an add for a housekeeper. I loved the setting and I loved the discussion of the one room schoolhouse. If you have ever lived in a small community, this will bring you back to all that has to offer. There are gentle twists and turns through out the book, but I just didn't want the story to end.



Join Centering Prayer the second Tuesday each month at 7 pm at Brainerd and Esther

Dharmaraj's home. 1540 Rose Arbor, Simi Valley, (805)583-5342 and the fourth Tuesday each month at the church in the Library at 7 pm.

The ECW is Collecting School Supplies for the Samaritan Center from now until August 15. Please be generous in your donations.

Kindergarten

- Pencil box (\$6, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Crayons (\$6, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Colored pencils (\$5, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Washable markers (\$6, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- No. 2 pencils (\$7, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Pencil sharpener (\$5, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Erasers (\$8, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Glue sticks (\$2, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Blunt-tipped scissors (\$5, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Assorted construction paper (\$3, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Wide-ruled notebook or pad (\$4, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Tissues (\$5 for three, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Backpack (\$39, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Lunchbox or bag (\$22, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))

Elementary School: Grades 1-5

- Pencil box (\$6, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Crayons (\$6, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Colored pencils (\$5, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Washable markers (\$6, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- No. 2 pencils (\$7, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Ballpoint pens (\$6, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Pencil sharpener (\$5, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Erasers (\$8, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Glue sticks (\$2, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Ruler (\$4, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Blunt-tipped scissors (\$5, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Plastic folders (\$14 for six, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Assorted construction paper (\$3, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Wide-ruled notebook or pad (\$4, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Index cards (\$5, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Tissues (\$5 for three, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Backpack (\$39, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Lunchbox or bag (\$22, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))

Middle School & High School

- Pencil pouch (\$10 for four, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Blue or black ballpoint pens (\$9, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- No. 2 pencils (\$7, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Pencil sharpener (\$5, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Highlighters (\$8, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Permanent markers (\$6, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Erasers (\$8, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Three-ring binder 2 inch (\$4, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Three-hole-punch (\$8, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Loose-leaf paper or spiral notebooks (\$11 for six, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Graph paper (\$3, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Subject dividers (\$9, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Index cards (\$5, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Glue (\$2, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Post-Its (\$6, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- White-Out (\$3, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Protractor (\$5, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Ruler (\$4, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Scissors (\$5, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Graphing calculator (\$93, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Combination lock (\$9, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Personal organizer/calendar (\$3, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Book socks (\$15 for five, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Backpack (\$39, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))
- Lunchbox or bag (\$22, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))

Parish Prayer Needs:

Music Program: Thanksgiving for all the singers!!

Healing: 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.

For Comfort: The Heckler family. Deb Wollum, The Nilles family. Janet, Patricia and family. Barbara Haryn. Donna Shiver. Julie Christian. Eden Suguitan and family. Margie Roblins and family.



Amazon Smile

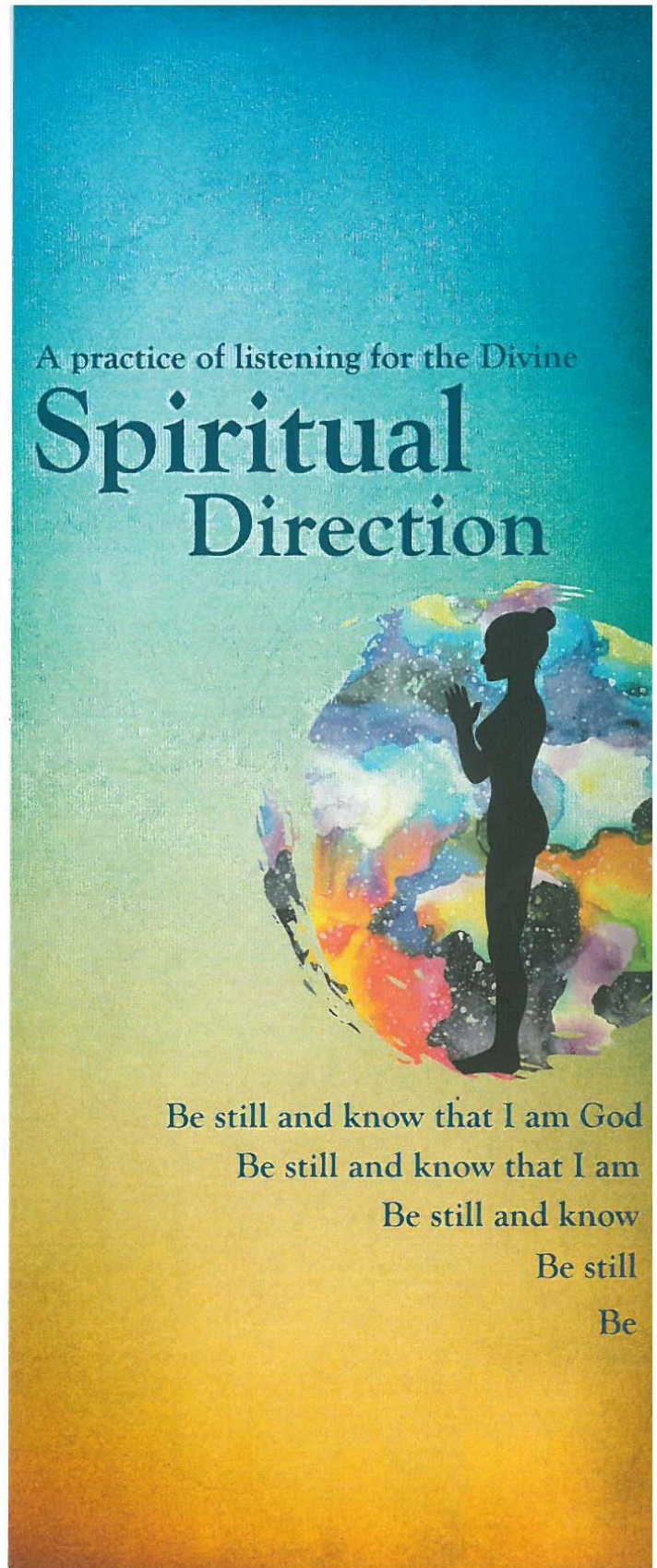
When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization, St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church.

Go to

smile.amazon.com/ch/95-2558848 and

Amazon donates to

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



The Spiritual Journey

*An eight-month voyage of spiritual exploration and growth:
September 2018 - May 2019*



What is the Spiritual Journey program?

The Spiritual Journey is an eight-month program that supports participants in exploring their spiritual lives in a small group setting, deeply enriching their relationship with God/Spirit and helping them recognize the ways that God is present and working in their lives. Through Journey, you can experience contemplative ways of paying attention to your life, cultivate awareness of your growing relationship with the Holy, sample varied forms of prayer and reflection, and experiment with new ways to converse about spiritual experiences. A trained facilitator guides members in developing their skills in deep listening and personal discernment. Participants are introduced to the deep and expansive practices of spiritual formation, the ancient practice of spiritual direction, and a process of discernment for the next steps in their spiritual journey. And for those who feel called, the beginning of a three year journey in becoming a spiritual companion in Stillpoints' Art of Spiritual Direction program.

Who should come?

The Spiritual Journey Program is open to people of all denominations and faiths who are seeking to go deeper in their spiritual walk. We are rooted in the Christian tradition and we welcome a diverse and inclusive learning community.

What is the commitment?

The program consists of eight five-hour sessions that meet once a month. Sessions include practice in forms of prayer and contemplation, time for personal reflection, sharing in pairs and triads, experience-based learning, and group discussion of readings.

When and where does it happen?

Classes begin on Saturday, September 15, 2018, with future dates to be calendared with the group. Small groups are planned for Simi Valley, West Hollywood, Pasadena, Riverside, Claremont.

What does it cost?

The tuition of \$400 includes all materials (except books) plus a non-refundable \$25 application fee.

How do I register?

You may apply online at stillpointca.org/spiritual-journey or return the printable form downloaded from the website. You will then be invited to an interview with staff.

Registrations are due in July; class size is limited but will remain open until spaces are full.



BABY CLOSET

St. Francis is partnering with the Samaritan Center on a new ministry serving the needs of families at the Samaritan Center. We will be collecting new and gently used baby clothes, baby blankets, crib sheets, and receiving blankets. Look for the hamper outside in the narthex for donations ages newborn through toddler sizes. We are open from 11:30 – 1 pm on Tuesday every week.

Donations needed of disposable diapers and baby wipes.

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



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**
- **Peanut Butter "Creamy"**
- Gallon And Sandwich Size Ziploc Bags
- Aluminum Foil, Soup Bowls
- **10 oz Coffee Cups**
- Batteries, AA, AAA, C, D
- **Cleaning Products - 409, Pinesol, Bleach**
- Sleeping Bags For The Clients
- More Information: <http://www.thesamaritancenterofsimivalley.org>


<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.



St. Francis extends its ministry to the Samaritan Center. As an active part of God's Commandments to love our neighbor. It is part of Jesus' teaching to feed the hungry. Clothe the naked and shelter the homeless. Please come out and support this event. Scott Eben and the band will be playing "Neil Diamond and Friends" music! Lots of fun, fellowship and support for our beloved ministry.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Pentecost 6 Rev. Sarah Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music, Eleanor Ruth Pettus Baptism 6:30 Men's AA PH	2 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 8 pm Men's AA PH 6 pm Grief Counseling	3 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	4  Church Office Closed NO Healing Service 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	5 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	6 Office Closed 6:30 pm ECW Meeting 8 pm AA PH	7
8 Pentecost 7 David Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music, Confirmation & Inquiry Class 6:30 Men's AA PH	9 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 8 pm Men's AA PH 6 pm Grief Counseling	10 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm Centering Prayer at Dharmarjs 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	11 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	12 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	13 Office Closed 8 pm AA PH	14
15 Pentecost 8 Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music, Sam Ctr. Collection Noon BC Mtg. 6:30 Men's AA PH	16 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Franciscan Articles Due 8 pm Men's AA PH 6 pm Grief Counseling	17 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 6:30 pm Men's Group Meeting 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	18 9am-2 pm Office Hrs. 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 12:15 pm Sam Ctr. Brd Mtg. 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	19 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	20 Office Closed 8 pm AA PH	21
22 Pentecost 9 Rev. Alene Campbell, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music 5 pm Neil Diamond Concert Sam Ctr. Fundraiser 6:30 Men's AA PH	23 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 8 pm Men's AA PH 7 pm Grief Counseling	24 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm Centering Prayer in Library 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	25 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	26 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	27 Office Closed 8 pm AA PH	28
29 Pentecost 10 David Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music Recycle Sunday 6:30 Men's AA PH	30 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 8 pm Men's AA PH 7 pm Grief Counseling	31 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH				

Rev. Sarah Out of the Office until July 29



July 2018 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	July 1	July 8	July 15	July 22	July 29
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10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

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

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.

July	1	8	15	22	29
10am	DOK	Elizabeth H.	Joy & Bob C.		



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.

August 2018 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	August 5	August 12	August 19	August 26	Sept. 2
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist					
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Tom B.	Dan J.	Ken S.	Joy C.	Susan S.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Kathy B.	Jan J.	Andrew	Grace R.	Eden S.
LEM (Chalice)	Tom & Kathy B.	Bernadette David S.	Rob & Kristin W.	Esther & Brainerd D.	Jan J. Bernadette
Acolyte & Crucifer	Grace Wesley	Andrew Brenda	Esther	Grace Andrew	Esther
Usher / Greeters	Jacob M. Joe Z.	Tony F. Rebecca S.	David S. Jr. Tony F.	Rebecca S. Tony F.	David S. Jr. Tony F.
Altar Guild	Kathy B.	Teri M.	Kathy B.	Joy C.	Teri M.
Home Communion	Tom & Kathy B.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Tom & Kathy B.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J. Eden S.
Vestry Counters	Amy R. Gerri H.	Sam A. Bob C.	Cathy G. Tom B.	Susan S. Jan J.	

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 – July 2018

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Sunday Service:

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

Wednesdays

- **10 am Healing Service**