



The Franciscan



July 2022

● **Diocesan Bishop** ●

John Harvey Taylor

● **Our Vicar** ●

The Rev. Sarah Kitch

stfrancis.simi@gmail.com

● **The Bishop's Committee** ●

- Bishop's Warden
Amy Brown
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FROM OUR VICAR

We have moved into Pentecost, the celebration of the birth of the church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. (Of course, the Holy Spirit was always present, but now has manifested herself to all people). As we reflect on being a people of the Resurrection and asking ourselves, "How does this impact my life?" so we reflect on the Holy Spirit and her influence in our lives.

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MATTRESS 33 RETURNS TO ST FRANCIS IN JULY!

Fundraiser benefiting Samaritan Center. Event details inside.

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Published monthly by St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church

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From Our Vicar..

People want something more from church; they long for a spirituality that connects with their whole life, not just on Sunday morning. The very nature of our lifestyle and our church teaching must point to the goal: the communion of saints, a shared life together as one family, Trinitarian relationship, the "Reign of God." Church is meant to be a place that nurtures and supports individuals along their journey toward this goal.

– Richard Rohr



We have moved into Pentecost, the celebration of the birth of the church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. (Of course, the Holy Spirit was always present, but now has manifested herself to all people). As we reflect on being a people of the Resurrection and asking ourselves, “How does this impact my life?” so we reflect on the Holy Spirit and her influence in our lives.

We serve a Living God. That is the GOOD NEWS. It is the experience of the real presence of God as we meet our day to day needs and life circumstances. Our faith in the Risen Christ steadies our fears, anxieties, worries, and concerns. Christ is alive in our situations, present with us, and we are never alone. Christ is alive and available always to offer us help, guidance, leading and comfort. We live as people of faith and our lives are impacted and influenced because of it.

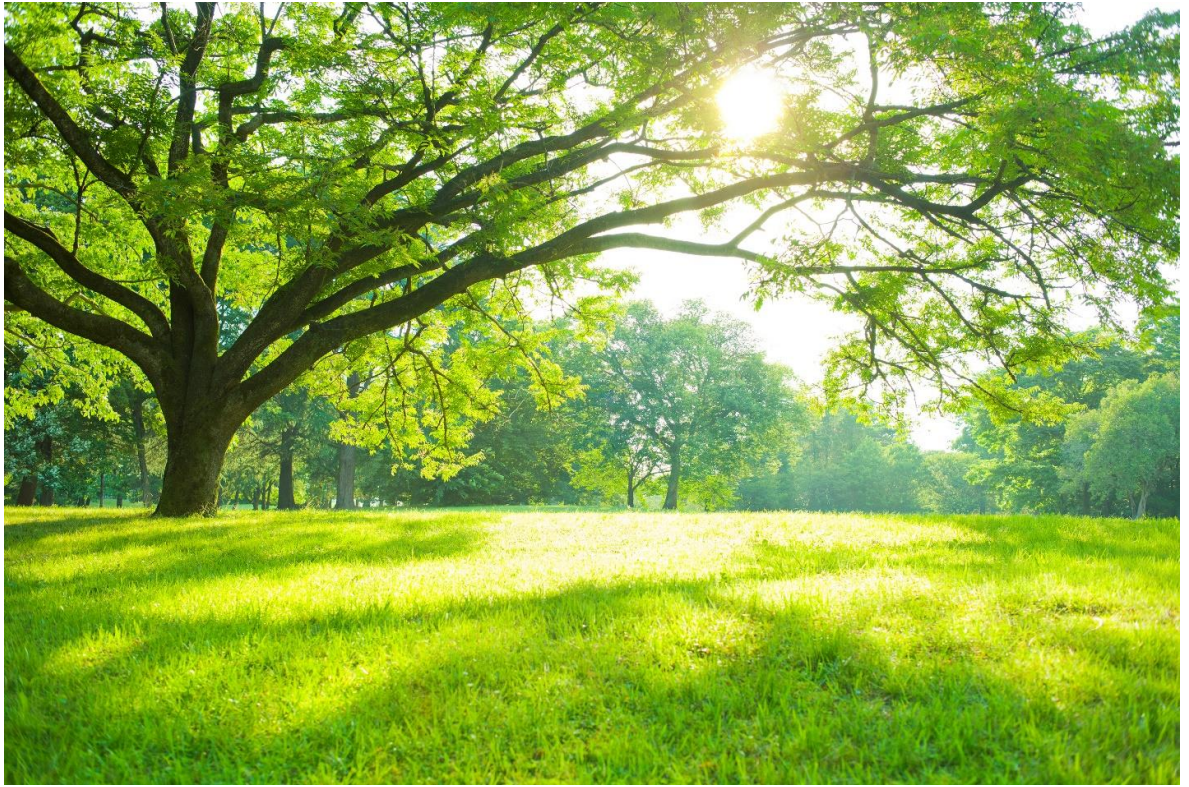
As we reflect on the power of the Holy Spirit, we allow Christ’s power to be actively engaged in our life. It is through the Holy Spirit that we testify to God’s love. We ask ourselves, “How do I testify to the father’s love through my deeds and works?” It is the Spirit’s power working within us that makes it possible for us to love our neighbor as ourselves. It is the Spirit within us that people see when we are helping at the Samaritan Center, volunteering at the library, taking care of someone that is ill, knitting prayer shawls, giving generously in all manner of ways, praying for people, and saying “yes” to someone’s need. The power of the Holy Spirit is infused within each of us, we are caught up in the Spirit that Christ is alive and our lives spread the love of God wherever we go. That is our mission, our call, our journey.

We are a church that proclaims Christ is alive and as a church we are empowered by the Holy Spirit. As a church we want to “nurture and support individuals along their journey toward this goal.” This Pentecost may we renew our relationship with the Holy Spirit and open ourselves to all that God has for us in this life-giving relationship in our everyday lives. God, the Living Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit blessing be with you

always. Amen.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Rohr' with a stylized flourish at the end.

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.”



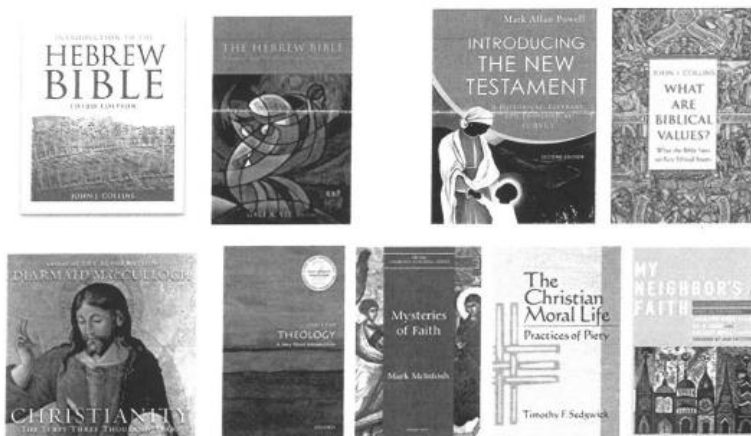
In the Episcopal Church, we choose to be lifelong learners in our spiritual formation and growth. It means we take opportunities in many ways to deepen our relationship with Christ, and to be witnesses of our faith in the world in which we live. Robert Fulghum’s book, “All I Really Need to Know I Learned In Kindergarten,” may be sufficient up to a point, but when some of life’s weight bears on us, we long to have a response from a deep faith and abiding relationship with God.

We wanted to make available the opportunity that is being offered at St Patrick’s Church in Thousand Oaks of the Education for Ministry Program. This four-year program offers resources in Theology, Worship, Prayer, Study of Christian Tradition and Community. It is a robust program that is full to the brim with enriching and deepening our faith. Please feel free to consider taking this opportunity and see what God opens for you. Blessings.

Education for Ministry (EfM) is coming to Saint Patrick’s!

At its heart, EfM is a program in practical theology, a program based in a set of five core practices [Living in Community, Regular Prayer and Worship, Theological Reflection, Study of the Christian Tradition, Vocational Discernment] that form and support us in the various ministries to which we are called.

From my perspective, this is a four year program that increased my techniques of theological thinking; helped me clarify what it means for me to be a Christian; and helped me clarify exactly how I can change the world for the better.



Please call/text **Bill Cabrol** at (310) 489-7831 or email me at williamazumadance@gmail.com so that we can set up a half hour meeting (bring a friend if you’d like) to see if this is what you would like to do! Tuition assistance available!



Huge Mattress Sale

Simi Samaritan Center & ST Francis

Save 67% On Every Mattress

Help Feed And Shelter Those Most In Need



- Huge Selection
- Bedding Accessories
- Adjustable Beds
- 60-day Sleep Guarantee
- Life-time Warranty
- Open Air and CDC Compliant

Simi Samaritan Center & ST Francis

280 Royal Ave, Simi Valley, CA 93065

Date: July 16th and 17th, 2022

Time: 10am to 5pm (Saturday and Sunday)

Fundraising Goal

\$15,000 For Simi Samaritan Center & ST Francis

Please call Dean (Event Organizer) at 951.377.3478 with questions you may have.

Certificate

2 Free Memory Foam Pillows - \$120 Value

(with a purchase of any mattress and a Yelp Review)

Present to a Mattress 33 representative on the day of the event and you will receive two pillows with a purchase of a mattress. One coupon per customer.

Offer good only on July 16th and July 17th

“Jesus says, ‘From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required.’ We have been created in the image of God, who is generous, and it is of our essence to see the world in the same way, and to live with enormous generosity.”

Br. Curtis Almquist, Society of Saint John the Evangelist

St Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church is an enormously generous church. We partner with the mission in Bogota with faithful continued giving for missions. We bring in food and needed items for the Samaritan Center. We support our Baby Closet! We open our doors in hospitality and welcome all people and hope they are comfortable and feel at home among us, through our community events such as Jazz on the Patio!

St. Francis of Assisi is an enormously generous church.

Each member has prayed and sought the Lord as to a pledge for our church life. We have committed some of our resources to sustain our community and shared fellowship together. We offer our resources when others have need and seek to be faithful to fulfill what we have pledged to the Lord.

This summer, as we participate in our various activities and summer fun that may take us away from our communal life in shared worship, may we continue to be faithful to our pledges and keep the church sustained through the summer months? The summer is a quieter time around St. Francis, with our occasional weddings, and hospitality offered to user groups on the grounds.

Let us do our part in faithful partnership of all that God has given us to keep our tithes and pledges monthly. If we have missed some of what we pledged to give to the church, may we seek the Lord to catch up and be a blessing to all who worship and fellowship at St. Francis.

As Jesus is generous with us, may we be generous with one another, and all for Christ’s sake. Amen.



Stay Connected With Us!

- Pastoral Care through the church office (805)526-5141
- Pastoral Care via email 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 Reverend Sarah & David Kitch celebrated 42 years of Marriage this June. We keep them wrapped in prayers of thanksgiving and praise, and for safe travel as they spend time visiting Australia this summer.



"Tangible Love": Rev Sarah and David Kitch dancing at Music Festival in May.



Jazz on the Patio Concert Series is in full swing this summer!

Please consider joining us on:

[JULY 24th](#) as the stage will be given over to the Samaritan Center in a Fundraiser night in support of their work for our local community. The MAD HATTERS – a Dixieland Jazz Band selected by our own Dan and Chris McCarty will be performing.

Come one; Come all!

[AUGUST 28th](#) will be headlined by Claire Holley, returning to the stage at St Francis with a line-up of Country Music to wrap up the summer series with a shake up to the traditionally played jazz music...

Still on the Patio, Still *FREE!*

**Bring your Picnic, your family, neighbors, friends, pets
... Bring them all or come solo. - Just COME!**

B.Y.O.P. (Bring your own Picnic) to be enjoyed on the grass or on the patio at one of our pre-set tables. We bring the drinks or you're welcome to bring your own.

Each night is *FREE* of charge.

Each concert kicks off at 6PM; in perfect timing for patio to be optimally shaded as we begin the night of music under the canopy of string lights...

Parish Prayer Needs:

Healing: Barbara, Sylvia, Brody, Avalon, Shantel, Lee, Michael, Megan, 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, Kristin, Rob, Pam.

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

*Let God touch your life,
for then you will be enriched
from that moment on.*

-Haiku by Diantha Ain

*Line Dancing Continues Wednesdays
On the Patio at 5:00 PM*

BABY CLOSET

Don't forget the needs of the Baby Closet -

The Baby Closet is open this summer on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am-11am.

They are collecting
DIAPERS SIZE 3,5,6,7
and have a HUGE Need for
Boys' and Girls' Clothing Sizes
4T, 5T - 6&7, and Baby Wipes.

Thank you to Dan McCarty for the latest addition providing shade for the 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.**

School Supply Drive will run July through end of August benefiting the Samaritan Center, Harbor House and Many Mansions. Bring your school supply donations to the church for collection. Contact Cathy Grimes for more info.

July 2022 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	July 3	July 10	July 17	July 24	July 31
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Kerri-Jo H.	Eden S.	Bernadette	Chrissy B.	Eden S.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Gerri H.	Reuben A.	Susan S. Chrissy B.	Tony F.	Chrissy B.
LEM	Chrissy B.	Lisa N. Tracy H.	Rob W. Kristin W.	Tracy H. Chrissy B.	Lisa N. Tracy H.
Usher / Greeter	Tony F.	Rebecca S.	Reuben A.	Joe Z.	Tony F.
Altar Guild	Cathy G.	Chrissy B.	Chrissy B.	Cathy G.	Chris M.
Preaching	Rev. Sarah	Rev.Susan Klein	Rev.Susan Klein	Rev.Susan Klein	Rev.Alene Campbell

August 2022 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Aug 7	Aug 14	Aug 21	Aug 28	
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Kerri-Jo H.	Chrissy B.	Bernadette	Eden S.	
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Eden S.	Reuben A.	Susan S. Chrissy B	Tony F.	
LEM	Tracy H.	Lisa N.	Rob W. Kristin W.	Chrissy B.	
Usher / Greeter	Reuben A.	Rebecca S.	Tony F.	Joe Z.	
Altar Guild	Cathy G.	Chrissy B.	Cathy G.	Chris M.	
Preaching	Rev. Sarah	David K.	Rev. Sarah	David K.	

July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					8 pm AA PH	
3 Pentecost Rev. Sarah Kitch Preaching Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	4 Office Closed 4th of July 8 pm Men's AA	5 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA	6 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 7:30 pm AA PH	7	8 8 pm AA PH	9
10 Rev Susan Klein, Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music Bill Lonergan 80th Bday Celebration 6:30 Men's AA PH	11 8 pm Men's AA	12 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA	13 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 6 pm W.R. HOA 7:30 pm AA PH	14 6 pm H.H. HOA	15 8 pm AA PH	16 Mattress 33 Fundraiser
17 Rev Susan Klein, Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music Mattress 33 Fundraiser 6:30 Men's AA PH	18 8 pm Men's AA	19 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA	20 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 7:30 pm AA PH	21	22 8 pm AA PH	23
24 Rev. Susan Klein Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music JAZZ ON THE PATIO 6:30 Men's AA PH	25 8 pm Men's AA	26 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA	27 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 7:30 pm AA PH	28	29 8 pm AA PH	30
31 Rev. Alene Campbell Preaching Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH						

Join us in Celebrating Bill Lonergan's 80th Birthday

Bill's birthday celebration will take place on July 10th following the Sunday Service on the St Francis patio. Coffee Hour will be provided by Smoking Steve's full-service Catering. All are invited!

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Newsletter – July 2022

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
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TO:



Sunday Service:
10:15 am

Wednesday Service:
10:00 am Healing

