



The Franciscan



June 2022

• Diocesan Bishop •

John Harvey Taylor

• Our Vicar •

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FROM OUR VICAR

"There is something about the beginning of summer that awakens us to projects. There is an anticipation of tasks that we've not been able to accomplish until now. There is an excitement as we consider ideas large and small of changes in the backyard, or the house. A smile comes across our face as we think about picnics, family gatherings, vacation trips and just good 'ol relaxation."

... begin article on pg. 2



MUSIC FESTIVAL & STRATHEARN TEA PARTY BOTH HITS!



What a Joy - Both events saw good attendance with fun, fellowship, and great laughter had by all. Check out the photos courtesy of Mary, Edie and Tracy.

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From Our Vicar...

Christine Valters Paintner, from an online resource entitled, Abbey of the Arts, writes about Lectio Divina. She describes it this way:

“In lectio, we read scripture and listen for what word or phrase is shimmering. This practice is always in service of contemplative vision in daily life. Lectio invites us to slowly see more and more of the world as a sacred text, ripe with possibility for meaning. We can expand our contemplative practice to include a kind of visio divina, or sacred seeing, where we gaze on a painting or photograph we love and look for something that shimmers – perhaps a symbol, a color, a brushstroke, the play of light and shadow. And in that shimmering we know there is a gift for us, even if we don’t fully understand its meaning in the moment.

We can then expand our practice of sacred seeing even further to include what we see all around us in our daily lives. What would it be like to move through our day, watching for what shimmers, waiting to receive these moments of revelation, and then savor them?”

It seems appropriate to consider this practice of lectio or visio divina as we enter into the season of Pentecost. We are alive in change and transition and the Spirit is blowing through, catching us up in a new way forward. We need to shake ourselves a little and take a moment to consider what Painter is inviting for us in this season.

We might consider how often when we read our meditations, our Day by Day, a Scripture, even sacred reading, do we let it linger over us for a time? Are we looking for what catches our attention and how God is inviting us into the word for that day?

In my office I have some prayer cards. Each day, I choose one at random for that day. It might say gratitude on it, it might say joy and it might say peace. There is a prayer and a thought on the card that I pray and then put on my desk. As I see it through the day, it reminds me to look for where God’s joy is showing up. Where are places that I am particularly grateful for today? These cards are particularly helpful on days that seem more stressful or, dare I even say, chaotic?

In the midst of the Spirit’s power of change, may we take this opportunity to look for where God is speaking to us in God’s word, in our everyday lives? Let’s take this time to look for sacred seeing through our day, watching for what “shimmers” and how these captive moments inform us. It’s important that we recognize the Spirit’s movement all around us that we may participate in what God is doing in the kingdom work.

I look forward to hearing what you see and hear.



In the Book of Common Prayer, there is a well-known Collect that says:

*“O Lord Our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O Lover of Souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen. “*

I love this Collect because it expresses attributes of God that are present to us always, such as God’s compassion, mercy and graciousness. I often imagine the graciousness of God as the extravagant love of God just poured out over us, like some magnificent elixir of life that is generously distributed over us all.

I am refreshed and renewed again as we enter into worship and community life with one another. God catches us up in extravagant love of just enjoying being with God and one another. The measurement of effect is seen as we simply allow ourselves to come together and enter into the moment.

Refreshment comes unbidden often during a day. Sometimes it catches me off guard when I see something that calls my attention to watch and be blessed. It could be someone’s smile, a picture, a moment of reflection, or prayer. In the midst of a busy day, the discipline of taking a moment away and seeking God’s compassion, mercy and grace is available and present to us anytime.

Where do you find refreshment? Often it is in the bigger events such as the vacation at the beach, or the days that don’t demand responsibilities and concentration. Yet, the Grace of God is to be experienced, and indeed given, to us every moment. I wonder in the everyday-ordinary of the work place, of the home, of the children, of the school, wherever we find ourselves if we can find ourselves refreshed in God.

Is it giving ourselves a break at lunch, and taking a walk? Would it be a silent prayer at our desk? Maybe it’s just a quick moment to read a Scripture on that coffee break. Sometimes, it’s just sitting and being quiet. However you consider what might be a way to be refreshed for you, give yourself the value that it is important enough to do it.

Then enter into God’s rest in that moment for you. Please know that I am praying for you as the Collect expresses God’s lavished Grace over us all as we turn to God, for our everything. May you be blessed this month and refreshed.

There is something about the beginning of summer that awakens us to projects. There is an anticipation of tasks that we've not been able to accomplish until now. There is an excitement as we consider ideas large and small of changes in the backyard, or the house. A smile comes across our face as we think about picnics, family gatherings, vacation trips and just good 'ol relaxation.

In summer, there is the luxury of time that is given to us like no other season. We linger in the longer days and stay up a little later, enjoying the "sleeping in" mornings. There is a slower pace that invites us to take time with God's creation on fishing or camping trips, hikes, or a get-away to the beach.

I have a hummingbird feeder outside my kitchen window. I love watching the hummingbirds dart in and out of the feeder, gluttonously filling their tiny beaks with the sweet water. I consider it a perfect morning if there is a hummingbird flitting about drinking its nectar, as I sip on my coffee. I smile viewing this miracle of life, creation in motion, and think I could watch these delights all day.

Of course, then I have to get out the door and go to work. There goes the somnolent luxury, the drowsy sleepy relaxation over coffee.

Yet, for that moment, I have been close to God. Time has stood still and I have been in God's presence through Creation, and felt God's love and care as this tiny bird is nourished. I realize I have been nourished and feel within me God's love and care for me.

In a relaxed atmosphere, and outside in Creation, St Francis is a little like sitting at my kitchen table, watching hummingbirds. Our outdoor patio is often joined with the chorister singing of the birds around our grounds, the hawks, the owls, the sparrows. We enter into nature, God's first hymn, as we are nourished by God's presence.

Our patio lends itself to a comfortable setting, with the flowers, trees and twinkling lights sparkling above us. We are joined in community as we enjoy Jazz on the Patio and events outside.

We are extending our outdoor patio to all who wish to come. It is a comfortable atmosphere for young and old alike. Come one, Come all. Our summer experiences are beginning as we celebrate our life together.

Gotta' go now, there are hummingbirds at my feeder.



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
 - Remember to keep in touch with each other through the Phone Tree
 - 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>

SUMMER SOLSTICE DRUMMING CIRCLE

June 21st @ 6PM on the Patio

Drumming, Firepit, and Refreshments led by Joyce

“Honoring the transition of God’s creation from Spring to Summer”

Special Congratulations to Eric and Carroll Strome

**Celebrating 25 years of marriage with a renewal of vows in the rose garden
this past Sunday, May 29th.**



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

Please consider joining us on:

JUNE 26th as our Music Minister Paul Kellogg shares his musical talents beyond the Sunday line-up and offers his gifting for a night of Jazz – you guessed it – On the Patio!

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

We are forming a new book club!
Anyone who would like to join us
should contact me:
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.**

*Life is a concert
we must conduct with our own
rhythm and tempo.*

-Haiku by Diantha Ain

*Line Dancing Continues Wednesdays
On the Patio at a new start time of
5:00 PM*

BABY CLOSET

Don't forget the needs of the Baby Closet that is an ongoing need. The Baby Closet is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12noon -1pm.

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

*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.

Music Festival 2022: Thank you to Monica for the scrumptiously authentic Fajitas, Peter and Lydia for the fabulous Latin Jazz that got us dancing, and Tracy for the wonderful photos capturing the evening's fun! ... By the way - Check out the gorgeous new lighting installed by Chris and Dan McCarty in plenty of time for all this summer's festivities.

Saint Francis is ALIVE and WELL!



The Simi Valley Historical Society Victorian Tea Party at Strathearn Historical Park



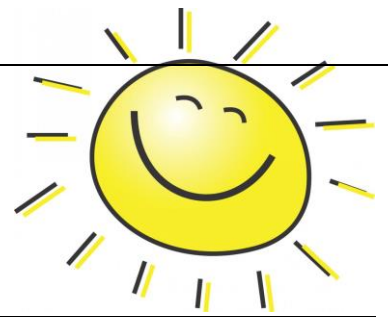


Thank you to Sylvia Moya and Amy Brown for coordinating the tickets for this event and Thanks again to Tracy and Edie for the photos of the event.





June



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 7:30 pm AA PH	2	3 8 pm AA PH	4
5 Pentecost Rev. Sarah Kitch Preaching Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	6 8 pm Men's AA	7 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA	8 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 7:30 pm AA PH	9	10 8 pm AA PH	11
12 David Kitch, Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	13 8 pm Men's AA	14 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA	15 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 6 pm W.R. HOA 7:30 pm AA PH	16 6 pm H.H. HOA	17 8 pm AA PH	18
19 Father's Day Chrissy, Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	20 8 pm Men's AA	21 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA	22 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 7:30 pm AA PH	23	24 8 pm AA PH	25
26 David Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music Bishops' Committee Meeting JAZZ on the Patio 6:30 Men's AA PH	27 8 pm Men's AA	28 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA				

RECYCLING AT ST FRANCIS

Please bring in your Recycling on the **last Sunday of the month** – we'll put those cans and bottles to good use!

WEEKLY COFFEE HOUR HAS RETURNED!

Contact the Church office or sign up on the clipboard available in the church if you are interested in Hosting: 805.526.5141

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Newsletter – June 2022

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
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TO:



Sunday Service:

10:15 am

Wednesday Service:

10:00 am Healing

