

The Franciscan



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From our Vicar... NOV. 2021

Holy God, whose fire of love never goes out: free us from the fear of scarcity that keeps us out of love's own feast; renew our trust in your abundance which knows no death and keeps no count; through Jesus Christ, the oil of gladness. Amen. (From Prayers for An Inclusive Church)

Fall is one of my favorite times of the year. The change of temperature as the days grow shorter, and the nights are cooler. The smell of the leaves in the air, the sense of crispness as nature turns into resting deeply for the winter. It is also a time of change within the seasons of the church and community as we prepare for Thanksgiving and into Advent. Our hearts are full as we anticipate the gathering of family and friends to enjoy time together. We are rich with prayers of gratitude for all we have been given through God's abundance. In some of the Episcopal Churches, it is the season of Creation Tide, where with St. Francis, we reflect on the goodness of nature and the love of Creation all around us. Wherever we find ourselves, it is a time of change once again in the year, in the church, in ourselves.

Change is ever present through the seasons and offers us a chance to reflect and pause in our life. We might reflect on the goodness of God's Grace in our lives as we remember where God has been present to us. As we think of the year that has been, where have we grown? Where do we see places of new insight? Are there moments of new understandings, revelations, that we have received? Can we allow ourselves to stop and give thanksgiving for the difficult times and the places where we have had to climb some tough terrain we didn't expect? Was God with us?

Is there gratitude in our hearts, minds and spirits for it all? Indeed, this month gives us the opportunity to choose thanksgiving, to renew our trust in God's abundance for us of God's Grace and Love. Can we choose the oil of gladness, and warm ourselves by the fires of God's Holy Love? The promise of Advent is coming, and we are pausing to give thanks.



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STAY CONNECTED WITH US!

- Pastoral Care through the church office (805)526-5141, email revsarahkitch@gmail.com or cell 818-442-4514
- Keep up through the St. Francis Website
<https://www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org/>
- Sunday Worship Live Streamed with link in the St. Francis Weekly
- Remember to keep in touch with each other through the Phone Tree and stay connected.

Please remember St. Francis with your donations and pledge by

<https://www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org/donate>

O Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.” Ps. 95:1-3

The Power of a Grateful Heart, 7 Things It Can Do:

- It gets our eyes off ourselves, and helps us to focus back on God.
- It reminds us we're not in control, but that we serve a God who is. It keeps us in a place of humility and dependency on God, as we recognize how much we need God.
- It helps us to recognize we have so much to be thankful for, even all of the little things, which often we may forget to thank God for...but they really are the biggest, most important things in this life. It takes our attention off of our problems and helps us instead to reflect on, to remember, the goodness of God's many blessings.
- It reminds us that God is the Giver of all good gifts. We were never intended to be fully self-sufficient in this life. A grateful heart reminds us that ultimately God is our Provider that all blessings and gifts are graciously given to us by God's hand.
- A heart of gratitude leaves no room for complaining. For it is impossible to be truly thankful and filled with negativity and ungratefulness at the same time.
- The forces of darkness can't stand to be around hearts that give thanks and honor to God.
- It opens up the door for continued blessings. It invites God's presence. Our spirits are refreshed and renewed in Him. God loves to give good gifts to God's children. God delights in our thankfulness and pours out the Holy Spirit and favor over those who give honor and gratitude to God.

There are so many things we can be grateful for and share with one another the goodness of God. Let us rejoice with one another and with our God, for God is good.

Blessings on us all!!!

**Celebrating our confirmands
Steve Grove and Anna Connors with
Right Reverend Diane Jardine Bruce**



Steve Grove



Welcome to the St. Francis Family



JOIN US FOR

Priest's Paella Party

&

LATIN JAZZ



ST FRANCIS PATIO
280 ROYAL AVENUE

R S V P TO CHRISSY BY NOVEMBER 10TH
A T 805.297.5011 OR 805.526.5141



Bible Study is starting again!
Every other Monday starting on
September 27 online with David Kitch
leading the study on the Lectionary
Reading for the following Sunday will
be explored, continuing October 11 and
25



St. Francis Book Club

We are forming a new book club and
anyone who would like to join us
should contact me, Chris 805-276-
4971.



The Fourth Thursday of each month at
7:00 pm . We will meet in the Library.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

BOGOTA KIDS MISSION



Lloyd and Anita Mix

The Bridge

October 2021



Our mission is to build a bridge to a brighter future:

“We are so grateful for all you have done for our family. I told my older daughter in the USA not to worry about us, that there is a foundation here that is helping us with everything. The kids are now well equipped to re-enter school in Venezuela but wanted to keep coming to The Bridge for as long as they can. They’ll be here until the day before we leave.”

Kids are already talking about Christmas...

That’s because they are now in a weeklong ‘fall’ vacation before the final five-week stretch of their academic year. To encourage and help support families during the break, we gave out 90 bags of groceries. On Friday, Anita happened to get on the same bus as one of the recipients. As they chatted, the grateful mother chuckled while sharing all the meals she had planned for the days ahead because of that help.

Your giving provides joy and relief!

As kids gear up for their final academic push, they have been reminiscing about pre-pandemic Christmas celebrations at THE BRIDGE. In the past there have been academic certificates, stage nativity presentations (in which every child participates) a certain amount of feasting and gifts! “Are we going to do that this year?” they hopefully inquire. Since COVID lingers but is not allconsuming, our goal is to provide as much of that joy as possible.

At the top of our gift list is a storybook bible for each child...

Because that is what we hear about most. Children read them at home, sometimes to their families. They bring them into THE BRIDGE to show us and use for homework assignments. It’s one of the most valuable seeds we plant. So, every second year we make it our goal to give an age and reading level appropriate ‘Bible’ to each child at The Bridge.

Would you help us with that project?

A gift of \$20.00 places the Bible in a child’s hands and home this Christmas.



DOK RETREAT

The Dates have been set for the 2022 Women's Retreat! March 25, 26, 27!
Contact Leslie Lonergan or Pat Udell for Details.

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



BABY CLOSET

Don't forget the needs of the Baby Closet that is ongoing. Please talk with Gerri Harrington if you have questions. The Baby Closet is collecting DIAPERS SIZE 4,5,6. diapers; baby cream; baby wipes. Stock up each week so you c

help fill the closet with Diapers, Wipes and Baby Cream!

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 Alan's family, Kevin, Eve, Amy.

Thanks form a vessel filled with love and gratitude that pours out freely.

Diantha Ain



NEW OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED THROUGH ST. FRANCIS

Our church members have asked what useful items **The Samaritan Center** can use the most. 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.

Here is a link for much needed items for the Samaritan Center:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/BXFBPE9HRPQR?ref=wl_share

All shelf-stable goods are helpful, as well as cleaning products and trash bags.

PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN WITH...

- **Men's Jeans, shorts waist 30-34**
 - Men's & Women's work boots
 - Men's belts
 - Men's t-shirts size M or L
- **Unopened/new Men's underwear & socks**
 - Disposable gloves size L or XL
 - Face masks – Disposable
 - Clorox wipes & bleach
 - Unopened plastic utensils (forks & knives)
 - Water bottles (16.9 fl oz)
 - Disposable coffee cups(12 oz)
 - \$10 Gas Card
- **Canned meals (like stew, soups, ravioli, spaghetti'Os)**
- **Paper Towels**
 - Grape Jelly For Sandwiches
 - Peanut Butter (Creamy) for Sandwiches
 - Plastic Forks and Spoons
 - Toilet Paper (Septic Safe)
 - Gallon And Sandwich Size Ziploc Bags
 - Soup Bowls
 - 10 oz Coffee Cups

More Information:

<http://www.thesamaritancenterofsimivalley.org>

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 9am-2 pm Office Hrs. 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service	4	5	6
	8 pm Men's AA PH	6:30 pm Women PH 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	7:30 pm Men's AA PH		8 pm AA PH	
7 Pentecost 24 FALL BACK Rev. Sarah Kitch Preaching Eucharist with Music	8	9	10 9am-2 pm Office Hrs. 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service	11 11 am – 5 pm Blood Drive	12	13
6:30 Men's AA PH	7:30 pm Bible Study with David Kitch 8 pm Men's AA PH	6:30 pm Women PH 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	7:30 pm Men's AA PH		8 pm AA PH	
14 Pentecost 25 David Kitch, Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music	15	16	17 9am-2 pm Office Hrs. 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service	18	19	20
5 pm Priest Paella Party 6:30 Men's AA PH	8 pm Men's AA PH	6:30 pm Women PH 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	6 pm Woodranch HOA 7:30 pm Men's AA PH		8 pm AA PH	
21 Christ the King Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music	22	23	24 9am-2 pm Office Hrs. 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service	25 THANKSGIVING DAY	26	27
6:30 Men's AA PH	7:30 pm Bible Study with David Kitch 8 pm Men's AA PH	6:30 pm Women PH 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	7:30 pm Men's AA PH		8 pm AA PH	
28 Advent 1 David Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music	29	30 Giving Tuesday	December 1 9am-2 pm Office Hrs. 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service	2	3	4
6:30 Men's AA PH	8 pm Men's AA PH	6:30 pm Women PH 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	7:30 pm Men's AA PH		8 pm AA PH	



November 7

November 2021 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Nov. 7	Nov. 14	Nov. 21	Nov. 28 Advent 1	Dec. 5 Advent 2
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10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Kerri-Jo H.	Susan S.	Bernadette	Ruth H.	Tony F.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Chrissy B.	Chrissy B.	Rueben A.	Eden S.	Chrissy B.
LEM (Chalice)	Lisa N.	David K.	Chrissy B.	David K.	Lisa N.
Acolyte & Crucifer					
Usher / Greeters	Rebecca	Rebecca S.	Joe Z.	Tony F.	Rebecca
Altar Guild	Chris M.	Chrissy B.	Cathy G.	Ruth H.	Gerri H.
Home Communion					
Vestry Counters					
Preaching	Rev. Sarah	David K	Rev. Sarah	David K.	Rev. Sarah

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!

December 2021 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Dec. 5 Advent 2	Dec. 12 Advent 3	Dec. 19 Advent 4	Dec. 26	January -3
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist					
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Tony F.	Susan S.	Bernadette	Ruth H.	Tony F.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Chrissy B.	Chrissy B.	Rueben A.	Eden S.	Chrissy B.
LEM (Chalice)	Lisa N.	David K.	Chrissy B.	David K.	Chrissy B.
Acolyte & Crucifer					
Usher / Greeters	Rebecca	Rebecca S.	Joe Z.	Tony F.	Rebecca
Altar Guild	Gerri H.	Chrissy B.	Cathy G.	Ruth H.	Chris M.
Home Communion					
Vestry Counters					
Preaching	Rev. Sarah	David K.	Rev. Sarah	David K.	Rev. Sarah



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!



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2021

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

480 Sinaloa Road

Please bring canned goods for donation to the Samaritan
Center

the Franciscan

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
280 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065

Newsletter – November 2021

TO:

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church

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Phone (805)526-5141

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Sunday Service:

- 10:15 am

Wednesdays

- 10 am Healing Service

