

# The Franciscan



## The Bishop's Committee

## From our Vicar... November 2018



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*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.



*Sarah Kitch*



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## To the Community of St. Francis Church:



Dear Friends,

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the most amazing celebration and farewell. Starting with the blessing by Tony and the laying on of hands, we don't think we have experienced something so loving, humbling and Spirit-filled. Thinking about it brings tears to our eyes, remembering the strong emotions we felt that day. The service music was glorious and we got to sing some of our favorite songs! Brunch was wonderful and we so enjoyed sharing a meal with so many. The St. Francis plaque is truly a beautiful piece of art, but it means so much to us that it was given to us by all of you. It will have a special place in our new home. But one of the best parts of the day was the special hugs and handshakes and well wishes from so many of you who stayed to talk or caught us at the passing of the peace. We are truly blessed to have been a part of the St. Francis community for 31 years. We will miss seeing all of you on a weekly basis, but plan to visit occasionally and look forward to having you come up and visit us in Santa Cruz sometime. Thank you for everything, for 31 years of being our church family and spiritual home, for all the friendships we have made and for the very best farewell celebration. We love you all, will keep you in our prayers, and look forward to when we will see you again!

All our love,  
Kathy and Tom Butler



## Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

We will participate in the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service with our brothers and sisters from other faiths on **Tuesday, November 20, 7:00 pm** at the **Simi Adventist Church, 1636 Sinaloa Rd.** **Bring canned goods for donation to the Samaritan Center.**



## CHRISTMAS FOR THE SAMARITAN CENTER

This year we will again be raising money for the Samaritan Center as we give our contributions for the Angel Tree.

It is the hope for the Center this year to purchase a refrigerator. It will be a wonderful gift for our ministry for the Samaritan Center and all they do for the needs of our community.

Please give generously as we move with gratitude from Thanksgiving of all that we have, to give to those who may not have as much.

What a joy to express our Thanksgiving to God through this opportunity.





**Don't Forget the Gratitude Jar in  
the Narthex for All We have  
Been Given!**



**Labyrinth Walk  
November 24  
10 am**

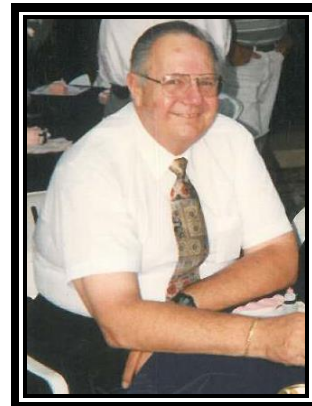
**All are welcome!**

The labyrinth is a path for prayer and meditation. Collect yourself before you start. Sit and rest along the low wall for a while. Walk around the outside once. Think of different people, events, situations, places or things in your life to develop a specific intention if you wish to use one in your meditation. Get centered.

There are two common ways of walking. The way of silence and the way of image. In choosing the way of silence it might be helpful to focus on your breathing. The way of image might be done by reciting a prayer or a name for God over and over to yourself. Ask yourself: How am I loved? How do I

love? In either case or in some other manner best suited to you, be open to your heart and mind. Pay attention to your thoughts as they rise and then let them go.

The labyrinth is a place of presence; allow yourself to be present to yourself and to God. The labyrinth is a teacher; let it teach you through the mysterious power of God. As you walk the path, thoughts and ideas may rise up for you and in you -- often in refreshing and startling ways.



***ST FRANCIS MEMORIAL FUND***

It is a joy to announce St. Francis has been given a gift that may continue to grow and flourish the work of St. Francis for the future. Long time member Phil Anderson left St. Francis in his bequests. We have been able to make an investment of that gift and set up an ongoing account to distribute over the year. We are so grateful for this opportunity and are deeply blessed for this gift. If you wish more information about this new account or how you may wish to participate, please contact Vicar Sarah. It is a treasure for our community and the ongoing life of the church.

## Members and News

To accomplish deeds,  
we must begin with our dreams,  
giving each one life.

Diantha Ain

### **Parish Prayer Needs:**

**Music Program:** Thanksgiving for all the singers!!

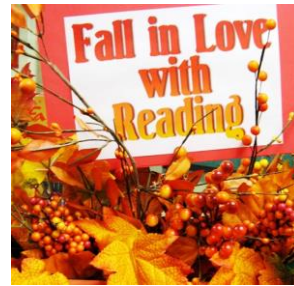
**Healing:** Lee H., Dan J., Michael, Megan, Jean, Braydon, Hank, Fr. Steve, Al, Mary, Rich, Yvonne, VanNessa, Dee, Jeff, Jim, Bill & Leslie L., Jan, David, Lee, Trish, Sue, Tony, Mark, Michele, Eric, Louise, Bob & family, Edith, Rana, Howard, Mary, Donna, J.D. Frances B., Patrick, Margaret, Beverly, 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.



### **Cursillo Meeting**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday  
each Month at 7:30 pm at  
Joy and Bob Craig's Home  
2735 Beth Place



### **In St. Francis Library:**

For Children-- Dear God, Thanks for Thinking up Love

This is a "cardboard" book with a "Thank you" on each page. There is also a Bible passage for each "Thank you."

For Adults:

#### 1. Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng

Ng tells the story of six months in the lives of three families, all of different circumstances whose lives intersect in interesting ways. I found it very interesting on many levels and it was not a difficult read.

#### 2. The Chilbury Ladies' Choir by Jennifer Ryan

The Vicar of the Anglican Church of Chilbury, a small village in England, closed the choir due to the male voices being sent to war. The ladies do not take kindly to this and thus the rebellion begins. Even though the setting is World War II, the village is a positive place and the message is very positive. I loved the description of the village and its folk and I loved the map of the village in the beginning. This is also a quick read.

#### 3. In the Company of Others by Jan Karon

This is a story starring Father Tim Kavanagh. He takes his wife, Cynthia, to Ireland, the land of his ancestors. This is something of a mystery as they search for a missing painting. This mixture of the charming Tim and Cynthia Kavanagh and Irish music and storytelling makes this a compelling read.

## 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.

#### From Susan Swoish:

The Swoish Family thanks everyone who sent mail to David Edward at Army Basic Combat Training in South Carolina. He's written to us to say he's gotten a lot of mail and it's very encouraging. He's graduating November 8<sup>th</sup> and will transfer to Missouri for his schooling. If anyone would like his new address, please email Susan at [sjs@swbusinessadvisors.com](mailto:sjs@swbusinessadvisors.com).

Most importantly, thank you all for your prayers because he's doing very well. It's exciting to have a Soldier in the family now!



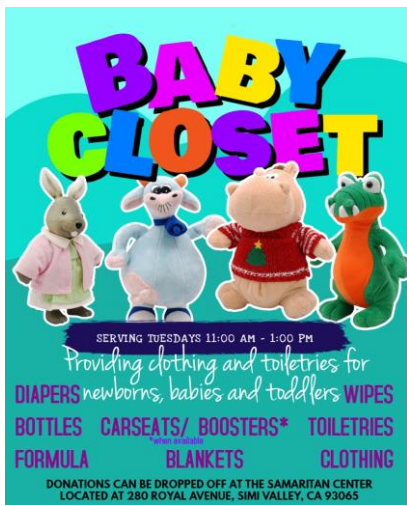
### St. Francis Women's Retreat

Our retreat will be held **Feb. 1-3, 2019** at Mount Calvary Monastery and Retreat Center in Santa Barbara.

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 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**
- **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.



## AmazonSmile

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

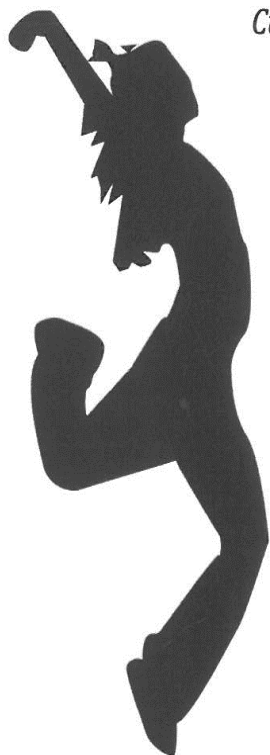
*Go to*

[smile.amazon.com/ch/95-2558848](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-2558848) and

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

# Let Your Imagination Run Wild...

With Scissors



## SoulCollage® Card-Making Salon

*Cut images and make SoulCollage® Cards*

SoulCollage® is a creative, intuitive collage process using cut images to access your inner wisdom.

You create a personal deck of “inner wisdom” cards with images that reflect different aspects of your personality.

You can use your cards to show you, tell you, and inform you using the card’s imagery for guidance.

You select the images.

You create the cards.

You design and ask the questions.

You speak as the card and interpret its meaning.

A fun, creative, soul-full experience enjoyed with a community of seekers.

### **When:**

Saturday

November 24, 2018

1pm-4:30pm

### **Where:**

St. Francis Episcopal Church

280 Royal Avenue

Simi, CA

### **Price:**

\$45 by 9/15/18

\$55 after 9/15/18

*all materials included*

*- even scissors!*

### **For more information:**

Visit: <https://www.meetup.com/SoulCollage-for-Greater-Los-Angeles/events/252210556/>

Call: 747-248-7878 ask for Chantel

Email: [Chantel@ArtandSoulLab.com](mailto:Chantel@ArtandSoulLab.com)





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs.  7pm RCA Clare Rm	<b>2</b> Office Closed  6:30 pm ECW Meeting 8 pm AA PH	<b>3</b> 
<b>4 All Saints Day</b> Fall Back Brainerd Dharmaraj, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music –  6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>5</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Brown Bag Bible Study  8 pm Men's AA PH	<b>6</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs.  7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	<b>7</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 11:15 am Drum Cir.  7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>8</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs.  7pm RCA Clare Rm	<b>9</b> Office Closed  8 pm AA PH	<b>10</b>
<b>11 Pentecost 25</b> Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music  6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>12</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Brown Bag Bible Study  8 pm Men's AA PH	<b>13</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>14</b> 9am-2 pm Office Hrs. 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 11:15 Drum Cir. 7:30 pm Cursillo Mtg. at Craigs  7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>15</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs.  7pm RCA Clare Rm	<b>16</b> Office Closed  8 pm AA PH	<b>17</b> 10 am-3 pm Spiritual Journey Class
<b>18 Pentecost 26</b> Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music, Sam Ctr. Collection Noon BC Mtg.  6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>19</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Brown Bag Bible Study <b>Franciscan Articles Due</b>  8 pm Men's AA PH	<b>20</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. <b>7 pm Interfaith Worship at Adventist Church</b> 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	<b>21</b> Office Closed NO Healing & Eucharist Service,  7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>22 Thanksgiving Day</b> Office Closed  7pm RCA Clare Rm	<b>23</b> Office Closed  8 pm AA PH	<b>24</b> 10 am Labyrinth Walk  1-4:30 pm Soul Collage
<b>25 Christ the King</b> David Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music Recycle Sunday  6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>26</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs Noon Brown Bag Bible Study  8 pm Men's AA PH	<b>27</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs 7 pm Centering Prayer at Church  7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	<b>28</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service, 11:15 Drum Cir. 12 Sam Ctr. Mtg. 7:30 pm Cursillo Mtg at Craigs 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>29</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs  7pm RCA Clare Rm	<b>30</b> Office Closed  8 pm AA PH	<b>December 1</b>

# November 2018 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Nov. 4	Nov. 11	Nov. 18	Nov. 25	Dec. 2
<b>10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>					
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Wendi B.	Ken S.	Joy C.	Ruth H.	Mark B.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Chrissy B.	Grace R.	Eden S.	Susan S.	Andrew
LEM (Chalice)	Bernadette David S.	Ruth H. Esther D.	Rob & Kristin W.	Jan J. Eden S.	Bernadette David S.
Acolyte & Crucifer	Brenda Andrew	Esther S.	Grace	Esther S.	Brenda
Usher / Greeters	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Tony F.	Rebecca S. Tony F.	Tony F.	Tony F. Rebecca S.
Altar Guild	Chris M.	Teri M.	Chrissy B.	Joy C.	Teri M.
Home Communion	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Ruth H.	Brainerd & Esther D.
Vestry Counters	Bernadette Dan M.	Bernadette Jan J.	Amy B. Cathy G.	Susan S. Dan M.	Bernadette Bob C.
<b><u>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!</u></b>					

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

November	4	11	18	25	
10am	Joy & Bob C.	Chrissy B.	DOK	Amy B.	



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.

# December 2018 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Dec. 2	Dec. 9	Dec. 16	Dec. 23	Dec. 30
<b>10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>					
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Mark B.	Wendi B.	Ken S.	Joy C.	Ruth H.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Andrew	Chrissy B.	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	Brenda	Mark B.	Esther S.	Grace	Brenda Andrew
Usher / Greeters	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Tony F.	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Tony F.	Tony F. Rebecca S.
Altar Guild	Teri M.	Chris M.	Chrissy B.	Joy C.	Teri M.
Home Communion	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J. Eden S.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J.	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!**



## 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 – November 2018

TO:

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#### **Sunday Service:**

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

#### **Wednesdays**

- **10 am Healing Service**