

The Franciscan



The Bishop's Committee

From our Vicar... October 2018



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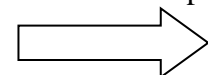
Give

The true wonder, the real cause for astonishment, is that Jesus continues to give us himself. He continues to entrust himself to our distracted, careless, fumbling, callous human hands, because his love for us is endless and unbreakable. - Br. Keith Nelson [Society of Saint John the Evangelist](#)

We are moving into the Season of Fall, another transition in the rhythm of our lives, as we begin to see the leaves turning color, (depending on where you are), and falling to the ground. It is a time when nature turns inward, preparing for the winter months and sheltering from the cold. Now for us in California, it may not feel quite as dramatic as that. However, there is a shift that we notice with daylight shortening, and the temperature, perhaps, a little cooler (except for the Santa Anna Winds). It also is a continuing shift in the life of the church as we prepare and consider Stewardship in our lives.

The other day I was driving and noticed with gratitude how much I valued being alive, having a sense of purpose as I went to work, grateful that I do something every day that is life giving, stretching, challenging, and enjoyable. I thought of the people in my life that have meaning and significance for me. I found myself wondering aloud, what do I have to give in return for all that I have been given?

As I allowed myself to consider that question I did a mental scan of my abilities and gifts in different ways. For example, I am a physical being. I can walk, drive, talk, write, eat etc. I thought to myself what is it I have to give through this gift of being physically able? I can drive someone who needs a ride. I can write a note of "thinking of you." I can fix food to share with others. I can babysit a child (for a few hours). I can listen to someone and pray with them. I can offer to read the Scriptures on Sunday. I am also an emotional person. I laugh, I cry, I feel. I wondered how I could reach out to someone who just needs me to be with them. Maybe sitting with someone who is lonely, perhaps visiting someone who is not able to get out. Volunteering at the Samaritan Center or food pantry, or helping out with the Baby Closet.



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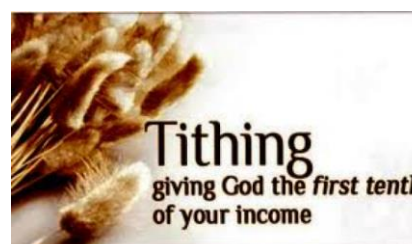
I am an intellectual person. I think, have ideas, wonder about the world. The enclosed article about questions is a way to explore what I think about things. Maybe I can ask someone to meet for coffee and we can share a couple of questions together. What would it be like to ask someone over for a meal together and try out a couple of questions? How about meeting some of the newer people in church and getting to know them? What would we really like to share with them about ourselves? Stewardship is the care for all creation, and my conscious choices of what I am doing to sustain and redeem Creation. It could be a day of gardening and planting an area that needs to be tended. It could be giving money to someone who would enjoy doing that work. There's lots of landscaping opportunities here at St. Francis as the weather gets cooler.

Stewardship is the care for all creation. That means in every aspect of our life, and through ourselves that are physical, emotional, intellectual, psychological, and spiritual beings. If you took any one of these areas, what would you think of as ways that you could give?

This month give this some thought and prayer. We are in a transition at St. Francis of those we have loved that have moved away, and welcoming new people who are finding our community. We are seeking new vibrant ways of involvement and giving. It may be your time, such as serving in any number of areas here at the church. It may be your money, and making a pledge to commit a continuous amount to resource the church and its various ministries. It may be your talents in participating in events, outreach, teaching Christian formation to our children, reaching our neighbors, and a myriad of talents that are ready to be born. Whatever we do and choose, may we make that choice as the Spirit invites us to participate with the ongoing redemptive work of Creation, and the abundant LIFE God gives each of us. Blessings always.



My friends,
It is indeed October and that begins to prepare and move us into Stewardship of the church and St Francis Ministry here in Simi Valley. It has been and continues to be the faithful practices of giving of tithes that keeps St Francis alive and vital. What joy this property and its use brings to the community and our shared lives together. What a responsibility it is to see that this is well cared for and loved. We have had some of our challenges in these recent months when the plumbing overflows and new pipes need to be laid, just because the building is now celebrating twenty five years. The warm weather has meant more usage in the air cooling system that we are always seeking to control. The hope for continued Landscaping Renovation continues as we have seen a dramatic saving in water reduction. Our tithes and offerings are all part of the care, love and concerted effort we all make for St. Francis to continue to be a welcoming, inviting, and beautiful place for people to come. May we consider this month what is our part to contribute. When we do give, may we give out of gratitude for all that has been given to us, as we wish to return with thanksgiving to God for our very life that has been given to us as gift.





Recently I came across a wonderful article about asking questions. It referred to how many of us truly ask the questions we really want to ask, and what would be some of those questions. They gave a list of 36 questions as starters that I thought were very appropriate. So I'm publishing them here for our enjoyment. What are some of your questions? Are you courageous enough to ask?

SET I

Given the choice of anyone in the world, whom would you want as a dinner guest?
Would you like to be famous? In what way?
Before making a telephone call, do you ever rehearse what you are going to say? Why?
What would constitute a "perfect" day for you?
When did you last sing to yourself? To someone else?
If you were able to live to the age of 90 and retain either the mind or body of a 30-year-old for the last 60 years of your life, which would you want?
Do you have a secret hunch about how you will die?
Name three things you and your partner appear to have in common.
For what in your life do you feel most grateful?
If you could change anything about the way you were raised, what would it be?
Take four minutes and tell your partner your life story in as much detail as possible.
If you could wake up tomorrow having gained any one quality or ability, what would it be?

SET II

If a crystal ball could tell you the truth about yourself, your life, the future or anything else, what would you want to know?
Is there something that you've dreamed of doing for a long time? Why haven't you done it?
What is the greatest accomplishment of your life?
What do you value most in a friendship?
What is your most treasured memory?
What is your most terrible memory?
If you knew that in one year you would die suddenly, would you change anything about the way you are now living? Why?

What does friendship mean to you?
What roles do love and affection play in your life?
Alternate sharing something you consider a positive characteristic of your partner. Share a total of five items.
How close and warm is your family? Do you feel your childhood was happier than most other people's?
How do you feel about your relationship with your mother?

SET III

Make three true "we" statements each. For instance, "We are both in this room feeling ..."
Complete this sentence: "I wish I had someone with whom I could share ..."
If you were going to become a close friend with your partner, please share what would be important for him or her to know.
Tell your partner what you like about them; be very honest this time, saying things that you might not say to someone you've just met.
Share with your partner an embarrassing moment in your life.
When did you last cry in front of another person?
By yourself?
Tell your partner something that you like about them already.
What, if anything, is too serious to be joked about?
If you were to die this evening with no opportunity to communicate with anyone, what would you most regret not having told someone? Why haven't you told them yet?
Your house, containing everything you own, catches fire. After saving your loved ones and pets, you have time to safely make a final dash to save any one item. What would it be? Why?
Of all the people in your family, whose death would you find most disturbing? Why?
Share a personal problem and ask your partner's advice on how he or she might handle it. Also, ask your partner to reflect back to you how you seem to be feeling about the problem you have chosen.

Hi Folks!

We have an address for our Army Soldier-in-training. Please feel free to send letters, cards, notes...of encouragement. Please note that we have been told by other Army boot camp 'survivors' that it's NOT OK to mail candy, aspirin, or any other 'things' at this point. They can cause problems for him at this point with his Drill Sergeant. (We will be able to send care packages later, when he's at his next level of training.) I don't think he will have much time or energy to write back to you, but you can send a self-addressed stamped envelope if you like.

PVT SWOISH, DAVID
C CO, 1-34 INF REGT BN
12000 DIXIE ROAD
FORT JACKSON, SC 29207

Other information about his location, and you can look online at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina, for photos which they post. I don't think you need this information for him to receive his mail, though.

"C"- Charlie Company, 4th Platoon-Spartans

Thank you for your prayers and encouragement.

Love,
Susan



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



Cursillo Meeting

The 2nd and 4th Wednesday
each Month at 7:30 pm at
Joy and Bob Craig's Home
2735 Beth Place
Simi Valley 93065

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, 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.

Members and News

Bishop Diane Bruce's Visit



On September 2, Bishop Diane Bruce came to preach and confirm our new members and youth at St. Francis at the 10:15 service. It was followed by a Potluck Reception and time of Fellowship. Thank you to all who contributed food and beverages. Welcome to the Newest Members of St. Francis. May we bless you as you are blessing us.

As autumn leaves fall,
we brace for the winter storm
while dreaming of spring.

Diantha Ain



We want to Thank Bob and Joy Craig for organizing the Back to School Picnic. It was a good time of fellowship and fun for all.

Eva Kraft Memorial Service

October 28, 4:00 pm will be the memorial for Eva followed by a reception.

United Way of Ventura County 2018 Day of Caring!

Saturday, September 29th is the 29th Annual UWVC Day of Caring.

Hundreds of volunteers will be deployed at dozens of sites throughout Ventura County. Join us by registering for one of the projects.

And thank you for all you do to make Ventura County a wonderful, caring community!

This year we are planning two kick-off events for all volunteers. Please join us!

1) Tuesday, September 25th, 5:00-7:00 pm, RedBrick Pizza - pizza will be served - 4990 Telephone Road, Ventura in the Gateway shopping center

2) Saturday, September 29th, California Lutheran University (Thousand Oaks), 7:30-8:30 a.m. - breakfast will be served - in Kingsman Park on Memorial Parkway

(Please r.s.v.p below. Thanks!)

<http://www.volunteerventuracounty.org>

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.



November 20 7 pm
Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
At Simi Adventist Church,
1636 Sinaloa Rd.
November 24
10 am Labyrinth Walk
1-4 pm Card Making Salon



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.

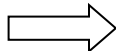




OCTOBER 7
is St Francis Feast Day
where we celebrate

We are excited to once again, offer a Family Fun Day with lunch, bouncy house, animals, games, arts and crafts and more! It is an occasion for us to be grateful for all that St. Francis means to us as a community and as a church. We will be sharing our service with the United Church of Christ next door, and offering this event to the community.

Service will be outside, starting at 10:15 and fun and fellowship will be from 12:00 – 2:00. Food by Gramma-chele's Food Truck.



Would you consider making a contribution for the blessing of the animals?

Opportunities include contributing to the bouncy house or for the food. If you wish to make a specific donation, just put your check in the offering plate on Sunday with BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS in the Memo.

Gramma's Grub

Mema's Lunch - 8.50
 Potatoes, Onions, Red and Orange Bell Peppers fried to perfection and then scrambled with eggs and served with ketchup on an a Sub Roll .

The Goomah - 8.50
 Fried Bologna and Red Bell Peppers sauteed in tomatoe sauce and served on a Sub Roll.

Cowboy Up BBQ Sandwich - 8.50
 Your choice of shredded pork or chicken topped with BBQ sauce, onions and house coleslaw and served on a Round Roll.

Steak Street Tacos - 8.50
 3 milenesa steak street tacos on your choice of flour or corn tortillas served with fresh cilantro and onions, topped with cotilla cheese and the house coleslaw and garnished with limes and radishes.

Carnitas or Pollo Street Tacos - 7.00
 3 pork or 3 chicken street tacos on your choice of flour or corn tortillas served with fresh cilantro and onions, topped with cotilla cheese and the house coleslaw and garnished with limes and radishes.

Breakfast Burrito for Lunch - 7.00
 Chorizo and Egg, Hashbrowns and onions, sliced Black Olives and shredded Cheddar Cheese wrapped in a roasted tomatoe flour tortilla.

Papa Bill's Walkin' Tacos - 5.50
 Fritos topped with Chili, Onions and Cheddar Cheese.

Gramma's Quesadilla - 1/2 order - 3.00 whole order - 5.50
 Flour tortilla with shredded jack/cheddar and diced green chiles Served with sour cream and salsa
 Steak - add 1.50
 Pork or Chicken - add .75

Bagel and Cream Cheese - 2.25
 Toasted Bagel and a hefty side of cream cheese.

Cannoli - 3.50
 Two authentic ricotta and chocolate chips filled cannoli shells dipped in chocolate chips and dusted with powdered sugar.

Muffins - 1.25
 Blueberry, Banana and Chocolate w/Chocolate Chip

Soda - 1.50
 Cactus Cooler/Dr. Pepper/Mt. Dew/Pepsi/Diet Pepsi

Water - 1.50

Pure Leaf Bottled Tea - 2.25
 Sweetened or Unsweetened

Chips - 1.00
 Regular Lays/Cheetos/Fritos/Sour Cream & Onion/Nacho Cheese Doritos



Day of the Dead Festival
October 28
Strathern Park will be hosting a Day of the Dead Festival from 2-7pm.
Adults, \$7 and children \$5.
All are Welcome!

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**
- **Blankets**
- **Men's and Women's Socks**
- **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.

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
October 27
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

Smile Amazon

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.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	2 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	3 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 11:15 am Drum Cir. 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	4 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	5 Office Closed 6:30 pm ECW Meeting 8 pm AA PH	6
7 Pentecost 20 Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music – Blessing of the Animals 6:30 Men's AA PH	8 9am-2pm Office Hrs. NO Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	9 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm Centering Prayer at Church 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	10 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 11:15 am Drum Cir. 7:30 pm Cursillo Mtg. at Craigs 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	11 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	12 Office Closed 8 pm AA PH	13
14 Pentecost 21 Brainerd Dharmaraj, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	15 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	16 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Franciscan Articles Due 6:30 pm Men's Group Meeting 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	17 9am-2 pm Office Hrs. 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 11:15 Drum Cir. 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	18 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	19 Office Closed 8 pm AA PH	20 10 am-3 pm Spiritual Journey Class
21 Pentecost 22 Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music, Sam Ctr. Collection Noon BC Mtg. 6:30 Men's AA PH	22 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Noon Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	23 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm Centering Prayer at Church 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	24 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service, 11:15 am Drum Cir. 7:30 pm Cursillo Mtg at Craigs 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	25 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	26 Office Closed 8 pm AA PH	27 9 am-4:30 pm Soul Collage
28 Pentecost 23 Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music Recycle Sunday 4 pm Eva Kraft Memorial 6:30 Men's AA PH	29 9am-2pm Office Hrs Noon Brown Bag Bible Study 8 pm Men's AA PH	30 9am-2pm Office Hrs 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	31 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service, 11:15 Drum Cir. 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	November 1 9am-2pm Office Hrs 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	2 Office Closed 6:30 pm ECW Mtg. 8 pm AA PH	3

October 2018 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Oct. 7 Blessing of the Animals	Oct. 14	Oct. 21	Oct. 28	Nov. 4
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10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Gerri H.	Ken S.	Joy C.	Ruth H.	Wendi B.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Chrissy B.	Eden S.	Grace R.	Susan S.	Chrissy B.
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.	Joy C.	Teri M	Chrissy B.	Chris M.
Home Communion	Brainerd & Esther D.	Eden S.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J. Eden S.	Brainerd & Esther D.
Vestry Counters	Cathy G. Jan J.	Susan S. Bob C.	Amy B.	Amy R. Bernadette	Bernadette Dan M.

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.

October	7 Blessing of Animals	14	21	28	
10am	DOK	Laurie B.	Ruth H.	Paula K.	



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.

November 2018 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Nov. 4	Nov. 11	Nov. 18	Nov. 25	Dec. 2
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist					
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Wendi B.	Ken S.	Joy C.	Ruth H.	Mark B.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Chrissy B.	Eden S.	Grace R.	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. Eden S.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J. Eden S.	Brainerd & Esther D.
Vestry Counters	Bernadette Dan M.	Cathy G. Jan J.	Amy B.	Susan S.	

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 – October 2018

TO:

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church

280 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065

P.O. Box 940516, Simi Valley CA 93094

Phone (805)526-5141

stfrancis.simi@gmail.com www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org



Sunday Service:

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

Wednesdays

- **10 am Healing Service**