

The Franciscan



The Bishop's Committee

From our Vicar...September 2019



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As I pondered the question “What does it mean to be rich towards God,” I thought of the many relationships here at St Francis that visibly display the love and glory of God around us. I reflected on the lives of so many that have made contributions for St Francis to be a place of welcome, peace, meditation, and now to listen to sounds of water falling. We are all involved in participating with making St Francis a haven, a place of sanctuary and rest for our community. As I considered this recent gift, I felt it was beckoning us to once again to keep realizing the immense gift of St Francis that we have been given to steward and care for. As we open our doors to children that are learning, to Vets struggling with PTSD, to Recovery Groups, to the homeless, to community groups, we are investing the richness of God that we have been given to all those who come on our property. We are visibly displaying the love and glory of God that can be felt and seen as people walk the grounds, the labyrinth, sit by the waterfall, and allow themselves to be with God. We are a community that is rich toward God and we have much to share. Please continue to participate with your time, talents and treasure as we respond with Gratitude for all that has been given to us that we may give to others. We are eager to see the continued development of all that God is doing as we live into the Fall Season. There is much ahead for us and we open our hands in willingness to say “yes” to this invitation of Great Love!!!



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A couple of weeks ago we heard part of this text:

“But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.” -Luke 12:19-21

I wish to include a reflection on this Scripture, as we turn towards what is important in the next season of our community life together. It is as follows:

“What does this mean, “rich toward God”?

When I pay attention to the present moment, I feel God lavishing riches upon me. Paying attention, I suppose, is letting myself be rich toward God.

In this moment: the scent of earth still clinging to me after weeding the lavender.

The still, cool air on my skin.

Ginger tea warming my throat.

The robin's clear dawn melody.

First shafts of sunshine pouring through the trees on the east side of house.

I've had a few friends who, when they were dying, or having nearly died, immersed themselves in deep gratitude. Gratitude - not that they are dying of course - but grateful that dying awakened them to life. They lived at the last knowing the preciousness of every moment.

Friendships appreciated. Shedding bad relationships and habits. Not so much ambitiously “making the most” of the remaining time, but summoning love toward life each moment. Not so much checking things off an extravagant bucket list, as admiring the symmetry of the bucket itself. Even in diminishment, enlarging the capacity to love.

Being rich toward God seems to me to be more about consciousness than bustling around the church managing God's business. Noticing the scent of lavender and earth and early morning and still being grateful for it by the end of the day. Noticing the other: taking risks in love for Love disguised as the unlovable.”





Are you ready to light up your life? 2019 Bishop's Concert will feature Debby Boone

Tickets are \$75

Bishop John Harvey Taylor and Canon Kathy O'Connor are pleased to invite all members of the diocesan community to the second annual Bishop's Concert, featuring Grammy Award-winning singer, actor and author Debby Boone, on Friday, October 11 at the Episcopal Residence, located at 3435 E. California Boulevard in Pasadena.

Debby Boone is known for the 1977 hit “You Light Up My Life” (watch and listen to a 2013 performance [here](#)), her 1980 country song “Are You On the Road to Lovin’ Me Again,” and albums of country music, contemporary Christian songs, and songs for children. In 2005 she released *Reflections Of Rosemary*, an album featuring music that her mother-in-law, Rosemary Clooney, performed as well as other songs that Boone felt reflected the woman her family knew. Boone also has appeared in many musical theater productions, television series and movies, and has written several children’s books illustrated by her husband, the Rev. Gabriel Ferrer, vicar of St. Martin’s Church, Winnetka.

Gates will be opened at 6 p.m. and refreshments will be served before the performance, which will begin at 7:30 p.m. Valet parking will be available. Tickets are \$75, To buy tickets, <https://www.edlclergy.org/clergy-conf/bishops-concert>. Proceeds will support diocesan ministries.



Brown Bag Bible Study

Will Resume on a New Day! The Brown Bag Bible Study led by David Kitch, will be at Noon on Wednesdays instead of Monday, starting on Wednesday, September 11 in the Clare Room. Everyone is invited to join!

I ♥
italian
food

Saturday, September 14
at 6PM

FAMILY ITALIAN NIGHT

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND ENJOY AN
EASY SATURDAY NIGHT
OF GOOD FOOD AND RELAXED
CONVERSATION.
OUR OWN RAHN COLEMAN
WILL BE PROVIDING MUSIC.
FOOD FOR ALL.
POTLUCK DESSERTS.



Debby Boone will be coming to
St. Francis
December 1 for Jazz Vespers!



DOK Women's Retreat 2020

2020 may seem a long way off though we have had to make reservations and the planning has started for the annual Women's Retreat

We have made reservations for 20 and if you would like to reserve a spot, a \$50.00 nonrefundable deposit is due by November 1, 2019. Save the dates of February 28 through March 1 2020(Fri. Sat. Sun). The cost will be a few dollars more as Mt. Calvary has increased their rates. The total cost for the weekend will be \$270.00 for both Friday and Saturday evening with all meals included, starting Friday evening through lunch on Sunday. We had a great time last year and the accommodations and setting were lovely. It was a fun, relaxing, reflective and (at times) lively weekend. A sign-up sheet will be available in September, so save the date! **February 28th- March 1st 2020!**

If you have any questions see Pat Udell or Leslie Lonergan





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Parish Prayer Needs:

Music Program: new music director, Rahn Coleman.

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: Janet Johnson, McCarty family, Yvonne Robello, 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. Conte family, Morris family.



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 Through September, then we will be open Tuesday and Thursdays starting in the fall. **Donations needed of disposable diapers, baby wipes and cream.** The next **Baby Shower will be September 29! Start stocking up on diapers, wipes and cream!** If you have any questions contact Gerri Harrington at (818)521-0313.

MY RIDE

Need a Ride?

We provide rides to Drs. Appts. Market, Errands, etc. to Seniors.

Serving Simi Valley and Surrounding Areas



FREE

805.304.0806



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.



Check out St. Francis's new Waterfall next to the Clare Room!
Come sit, relax and enjoy!



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.

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

PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN WITH...

- 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>

On life's carousel,
those who stretch their
potential acquire the brass
ring.

Diantha Ain



Seeking a deeper path? Spiritually hungry for more? Looking for companions?
Stillpoint invites you to join others for a Spiritual Journey.

What is the Spiritual Journey program?

An eight-month exploration of your spiritual life in a small group setting, deeply enriching your relationship with The Divine and helping you recognize the ways that God/Spirit is present and working in your life.

Who should come?

This program is open to people of all denominations and faiths who are seeking to go deeper in their spiritual walk. We are rooted in the Christian tradition and welcome a diverse and inclusive learning community.

What is the commitment?

The program consists of eight five-hour sessions that meet once a month. Sessions include practice in forms of prayer and contemplation, time for personal reflection, sharing in pairs and triads, experience-based learning, and group discussion of readings.

When and where does it happen?

Classes begin on Saturday, September 14, 2019, with future dates to be scheduled by each group. Small groups are planned for Claremont, Orange County, Pasadena, Riverside, Simi Valley, and Studio City.

What does it cost?

There is \$25 application fee + a \$400 tuition fee which includes all instruction, facilitated group interaction, and private sessions with faculty (does not include books).

How do I register?

You may apply online at stillpointca.org/spiritual-journey and a program facilitator will contact you to schedule a phone interview.





Los Angeles Cursillo Weekend 2019

Come to a Spiritual Retreat like none other!

The Coed weekend starts Thursday evening Oct. 3rd and ends on Sunday Oct. 6th.

"Cursillo" came from Spain, translated it means "A short course in Christianity". It's a weekend filled with the Spirit of Love, Jesus, and Discovery!

- **Who can go?** It's for church members who go to church often and want to seek more of a connection to the Trinity in their spiritual walk. Everyone should prayerfully consider going on a Cursillo weekend as part of their spiritual journey.
- **Cost?** You will be sponsored by community of St. Francis Simi Valley, no cost to you. You will have a chance to contribute at the end of the weekend if you desire, but no pressure.
- **What do you do there?** Meet other Episcopalians from Santa Barbara to San Diego. Attend short talks about the Christian walk, reflect, workshops, there's singing, eating good meals and you will have people doing things for you, since you are a guest on the weekend.
- **Transportation** - It's included!
- **Need Child care to go on the weekend?** The St. Francis Cursillo community will find a way to accommodate your needs.
- **Want to know more?** If you have any interest or questions, please contact Steve Bayles cell 805-433-3938 or steve@smokinsteves.com or Jan Jones, Kristian Wahlstrom, Peter & Shelby Harksell, Vicar Sarah, or Brainard.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Pentecost 12 Jamie Barnett, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music – 6:30 Men's AA PH	2 Labor Day Church Office Closed.  8 pm Men's AA PH	3 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	4 9am-2pm Office Hrs 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	5 9am-1pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	6 Office Closed 6 pm ECW Mtg. 7 pm Bible Study 8 pm AA PH	7
8 Pentecost 13 Rev. Sarah Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	9 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 8 pm Men's AA PH	10 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm Centering Prayer at Church 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	11 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 12 pm Brown Bag 7:30 pm Cursillo Mtg. at Craigs 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	12 9am-1pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	13 Office Closed 7 pm Book Club 7 pm Bible Study 8 pm AA PH	14 6 pm Family Italian Night
15 Pentecost 14 Rev. Brainerd Dharmaraj, preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music Noon BC Mtg 6:30 Men's AA PH	16 9am-2pm Office Hrs. Franciscan Articles Due 8 pm Men's AA PH	17 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	18 9am-2 pm Office Hrs. 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 12 pm Brown Bag 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	19 9am-1pm Office Hrs. 7pm RCA Clare Rm	20 Office Closed 7 pm Bible Study 8 pm AA PH	21
22 Pentecost 15 David Kitch, Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	23 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 8 pm Men's AA PH	24 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm Centering Prayer at Church 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	25 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service, 12 pm Brown Bag 4:15 Samaritan Ctr. Board Meeting 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	26 9am-1pm Office Hrs 7pm RCA Clare Rm	27 Office Closed 7 pm Bible Study 8 pm AA PH	28 10 am Spiritual Journey Class
29 Pentecost 16 Esther Dharmaraj , Preaching 10:15 Eucharist with Music Baby Shower 6:30 Men's AA PH	30 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 8 pm Men's AA PH	October 1	 <p>Sunday, October 6 will be the Blessing of the Animals</p>			5

September 2019 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Sept. 1	Sept. 8	Sept. 15	Sept. 22	Sept. 29
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10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Bernadette	Ken S.	Jan J.	Chrissy B.	Esther D.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Esther D.	Eden S.	Reuben A.	Ruth H.	Eden S.
LEM (Chalice)	Ruth H. Eden S.	Rob & Kristin W.	Bernadette David S.	Jan J.	Bernadette David S.
Acolyte & Crucifer			Esther S.		
Usher / Greeters	Rebecca S. Tony F.	Tony F. Jacob M.	Jacob M. Tony F.	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Tony F. Joe Z.
Altar Guild	Chris M.	Chrissy B.	Chrissy B.	Ruth H.	Joy C.
Home Communion	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Ruth H.	Eden S. Jan J.
Vestry Counters	Sam A. Ruth H.	Bernadette S Joy C.	Cathy G. Amy B.	Janet J. Bob C.	Sam A. 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!

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

Sept.	1	8	15	22	29
10am	DOK	Samaritan Center		Gerri H.	Millie R. Baby Shower



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.

October 2019 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Oct. 6	Oct. 13	Oct. 20	Oct. 27	Nov. 3
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist					
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Susan S.	Bernadette	Ken S.	Jan J.	Chrissy B.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Chrissy B.	Esther D.	Eden S.	Reuben A.	Ruth H.
LEM (Chalice)	Jan J.	Ruth H. Eden S.	Rob & Kristin W.	Bernadette David S.	Jan J.
Acolyte & Crucifer	Esther S.			Esther S.	
Usher / Greeters	Joe Z. Tony F.	Rebecca S. Tony F.	Tony F. Jacob M.	Rebecca S. Tony F.	Tony F. Joe Z.
Altar Guild	Ruth H.	Chris M.	Chrissy B.	Chrissy B.	Ruth H.
Home Communion	Eden S.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Ruth H.
Vestry Counters	Bernadette Dan J.	Janet J. Joy C.	Cathy G. Amy B.	Sam A. Ruth 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 – September 2019

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Sunday Service:

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

Wednesdays

- **10 am Healing Service**