



The Franciscan



August 2022

● **Diocesan Bishop** ●

John Harvey Taylor

● **Our Vicar** ●

The Rev. Sarah Kitch

stfrancis.simi@gmail.com

● **The Bishop's Committee** ●

- Bishop's Warden
Amy Brown
- Junior Warden
Dan McCarty
- Finance
Sam Anusiem
- Clerk/ Communications
Ruth Haskins
- Service/Outreach
Gerri Harrington
- Fellowship/Outreach
Cathy Grimes
- Worship
- Pastoral Care

FROM OUR VICAR

What joy to look forward to anticipate events in August and September as we continue to reach into the community of Simi Valley and make a welcoming space for all to come. It is a time of great gratitude as we appreciate Summer's ebb and flow and know it is almost fulfilled..

... begin article on pg. 2

A CALL TO ACTION

Let us do our part in faithful partnership of all that God has given us to keep our tithes and pledges monthly. If we have missed some of what we pledged to give to the church, may we seek the Lord to catch up and be a blessing to all who worship and fellowship at St. Francis.

... read more pg. 5



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From Our Vicar...

Gratitude begins in our hearts and dovetails into behavior. It almost always makes you willing to be of service, which is where the joy resides. It means you are willing to stop being such a jerk. When you are aware of all that has been given you, in your lifetime and in the past few days, it is hard not to be humbled and pleased to give back.

Most humbling of all is to comprehend the lifesaving gift that your pit crew of people has been for you, and all the experiences you have shared, the journeys together, the collaborations, the births, the deaths, divorces, rehab, and vacations, the solidarity you have shown one another.

Every so often you realize that without all of them, your life would be barren and pathetic.

This is called radical gratitude in the face of whatever life throws at you.

From Anne Lamott: Help Thanks Wow The Three Essential Prayers

The writer Anne Lamott says it well as she describes with great gratitude all those who have been in her life in all its seasons. So St. Francis Church, too, has gratitude for all those around our community and in our fellowship as we continue to serve with joy what God is doing in and through our church. What joy to look forward to anticipate events in August and September as we continue to reach into the community of Simi Valley and make a welcoming space for all to come. It is a time of great gratitude as we appreciate Summer's ebb and flow and know it is almost fulfilled. As we consider these months of refreshment, reflect again on all the people in your life that are part of your "pit crew." Let us return with a renewed sense of ministry as we leave Summer's rest and enter into a new season of joy in service, with gratitude for all the people in our life that share our experiences of God's great Goodness to us.

Radical Gratitude!!!



The Summer Day

Who made the world?

Who made the swan, and the black bear?

Who made the grasshopper?

This grasshopper, I mean-

the one who has flung herself out of the grass,

the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,

who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down-

who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.

Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.

Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.

I don't know exactly what a prayer is.

I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down

into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,

how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,

which is what I have been doing all day.

Tell me, what else should I have done?

Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?

Tell me, what is it you plan to do

with your one wild and precious life?

—Mary Oliver





In the Episcopal Church, we choose to be lifelong learners in our spiritual formation and growth. It means we take opportunities in many ways to deepen our relationship with Christ, and to be witnesses of our faith in the world in which we live. Robert Fulghum’s book, “All I Really Need to Know I Learned In Kindergarten,” may be sufficient up to a point, but when some of life’s weight bears on us, we long to have a response from a deep faith and abiding relationship with God.

We wanted to make available the opportunity that is being offered at St Patrick’s Church in Thousand Oaks of the Education for Ministry Program. This four-year program offers resources in Theology, Worship, Prayer, Study of Christian Tradition and Community. It is a robust program that is full to the brim with enriching and deepening our faith. Please feel free to consider taking this opportunity and see what God opens for you. Blessings.

Education for Ministry (EfM) is coming to Saint Patrick’s!

At its heart, EfM is a program in practical theology, a program based in a set of five core practices [Living in Community, Regular Prayer and Worship, Theological Reflection, Study of the Christian Tradition, Vocational Discernment] that form and support us in the various ministries to which we are called.

From my perspective, this is a four year program that increased my techniques of theological thinking; helped me clarify what it means for me to be a Christian; and helped me clarify exactly how I can change the world for the better.



Please call/text **Bill Cabrol** at (310) 489-7831 or email me at williamazumadance@gmail.com so that we can set up a half hour meeting (bring a friend if you’d like) to see if this is what you would like to do! Tuition assistance available!

“Jesus says, ‘From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required.’ We have been created in the image of God, who is generous, and it is of our essence to see the world in the same way, and to live with enormous generosity.”

Br. Curtis Almquist, Society of Saint John the Evangelist

St Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church is an enormously generous church. We partner with the mission in Bogota with faithful continued giving for missions. We bring in food and needed items for the Samaritan Center. We support our Baby Closet! We open our doors in hospitality and welcome all people and hope they are comfortable and feel at home among us, through our community events such as Jazz on the Patio!

St. Francis of Assisi is an enormously generous church.

Each member has prayed and sought the Lord as to a pledge for our church life. We have committed some of our resources to sustain our community and shared fellowship together. We offer our resources when others have need and seek to be faithful to fulfill what we have pledged to the Lord.

This summer, as we participate in our various activities and summer fun that may take us away from our communal life in shared worship, may we continue to be faithful to our pledges and keep the church sustained through the summer months? The summer is a quieter time around St. Francis, with our occasional weddings, and hospitality offered to user groups on the grounds.

Let us do our part in faithful partnership of all that God has given us to keep our tithes and pledges monthly. If we have missed some of what we pledged to give to the church, may we seek the Lord to catch up and be a blessing to all who worship and fellowship at St. Francis.

As Jesus is generous with us, may we be generous with one another, and all for Christ’s sake. Amen.



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
 - 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>



 **THE
ABUNDANT
TABLE**

OPEN FARM DAYS
volunteer your time and
labor and connect with the
land in community

Sat, August 13th 2022
from 10am-12pm
@ 684 E Guiberson Rd, Fillmore

*bring sun protection and water
*wear comfortable clothing
*\$5 donation appreciated



FREE LIVE MUSIC!!
Bring Your Picnic
6PM

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

Please consider joining us on:

[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, Aurora.*

St. Francis Book Club

Anyone who would like to join should contact:
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.**

*God's mantle of love
is always there to warm us
when the world grows cold.*

-Haiku by Diantha Ain



**Line Dancing Continues Wednesdays
On the Patio at 5:00 PM**

BABY CLOSET

Don't forget the needs of the Baby Closet -
The Baby Closet is open this summer on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am-11am.

They are collecting DIAPERS SIZE 3,4,5, and have a Need for Boys' and Girls' Clothing Sizes 4T-5T, and a HUGE Continual Need for Baby Wipes.

Thank you to Dan McCarty for the latest addition providing shade for the Baby Closet

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.**

School Supply Drive began in July and will run through the end of August. The drive is benefiting the Samaritan Center, Harbor House and Many Mansions. Bring your school supply donations to the church for collection. Contact Cathy Grimes for more info.

Los Angeles Dodgers Episcopal Night

Dodgers vs. Cardinals

Friday, September 23, at 7:00 p.m.



**The Dodgers Welcome
the Diocese of Los Angeles!**

**Watch our Bishop throw out the
first pitch!**

Tickets \$30!

Fireworks after the game!!

**For Ticket Information, Please Call
Your Church Coordinator**

**Deadline for Ordering Tickets:
July 31, 2022**

August 2022 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Aug 7	Aug 14	Aug 21	Aug 28	
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Kerri-Jo H.	Chrissy B.	Bernadette	Eden S.	
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Eden S.	Reuben A.	Susan S. Chrissy B	Tony F.	
LEM	Tracy H.	Lisa N.	Rob W. Kristin W.	Chrissy B.	
Usher / Greeter	Reuben A.	Rebecca S.	Tony F.	Joe Z.	
Altar Guild	Cathy G.	Chrissy B.	Cathy G.	Chris M.	
Preaching	Rev. Sarah	David K.	Rev. Sarah	David K.	

September 2022 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Sept 4	Sept 11	Sept 18	Sept 25	
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Susan S.	Eden S.	Bernadette	Tony F.	
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Chrissy B.	Reuben A.	Kerri-Jo H.	Gerri H.	
LEM	Tracy H.	Chrissy B.	Rob W. Kristin W.	Lisa N.	
Usher / Greeter	Reuben A.	Rebecca S.	Tony F.	Joe Z.	
Altar Guild	Cathy G.	Chrissy B.	Chris M.	Chrissy B.	
Preaching	Rev. Sarah	David K.	Rev. Sarah	David K.	

Please let the Church Office know if you are unable to serve on your scheduled day. Thank you for Serving!



AUGUST



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Samaritan Dinner 8 pm Men's AA	2 Baby Closet 10-11 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA	3 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 5pm Line Dancing 7:30 pm AA PH	4 Baby Closet 10-11 Chamber Mixer w/ Sifi Networks Taco Night 5-7PM	5 ECW Meeting 6PM 8 pm AA PH	6
7 Rev. Sarah Kitch Preaching Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	8 8 pm Men's AA	9 Baby Closet 10-11 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA	10 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 5pm Line Dancing 7:30 pm AA PH	11 Baby Closet 10-11	12 8 pm AA PH	13 Private Event 5-10pm
14 David Kitch, Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	15 8 pm Men's AA	16 Baby Closet 10-11 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA	17 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 5pm Line Dancing 6 pm W.R. HOA 7:30 pm AA PH	18 Baby Closet 10-11 6 pm H.H. HOA	19 8 pm AA PH	20
21 Rev Sarah Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	22 8 pm Men's AA	23 Baby Closet 10-11 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA	24 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 5pm Line Dancing 7:30 pm AA PH	25 Baby Closet 10-11 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	26 Private Event 12-2pm 8 pm AA PH	27 Private Event 5-8pm
28 David Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music JAZZ ON THE PATIO w/Claire Holley 6:30 Men's AA PH	29 Samaritan Dinner 8 pm Men's AA	30 Baby Closet 10-11 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women AA	31 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 5pm Line Dancing 7:30 pm AA PH			

Episcopal Dodger Night Returns September 23rd @ 7pm vs. the Cardinals.

Tickets must be purchased by August 1st. Have your order in to Cathy Grimes by Sunday July 31st to join on this fun night with Fireworks at the end!



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Newsletter – AUGUST 2022

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



Sunday Service:

10:15 am

Wednesday Service:

10:00 am Healing