



The Franciscan



September 2023

● **Diocesan Bishop** ●

The Rt Rev John 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*
Cathy Grimes
- *Service/Outreach*
Gerri Harrington
- *Pastoral Care*
Tracy Hurst
- *Worship*
Chris McCarty

From Our Vicar

...“St. Francis offers such diversity of experience on the grounds through our Biblical Garden, the Rose Garden, and the Labyrinth. It is a place of contemplation and outreach at any time. Don't forget the Patio! We can provide hospitality and space for celebrations and occasions of any kind.”

... read article on pg. 2

You're Invited!

30th

Anniversary Celebration

Celebrating 30 years of the Samaritan Center
helping the homeless and the community!

Dinner | Dancing | Live Music | Festivities



Order your
Tickets here!



Sunday, October 1st
4:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Sterling Ranch, Moorpark, CA



Published monthly by St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church

280 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065

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From Our Vicar...

Suddenly the summer feels as though it is gone, and we are in the accelerated beginning of Fall. It is the time of back to school activity, financial reviews and the frenzy of looking towards start ups of programs. I find myself asking, “Where did the Summer go?”

What I’d like to suggest this month is that the sense of equanimity and ease that we take during the summer months, doesn’t have to be gone in our life. The spiritual practices of contemplation and prayer, Lectio Divina and silence, offer a practical direction in our lives to keep us centered and grounded, even amid hurried activity. At St Francis our schedule will be full once again with Home Schooling groups on the campus, various classes to supplement the school such as Science and Shakespeare, and activities throughout the week that keep St Francis humming. As well, every night St Francis hosts Recovery Group meetings, HOA’s, and several groups that meet sporadically throughout the year. We are so blessed to offer our beautiful facility to the community in such meaningful and rich ways.

Remember too, St. Francis offers such diversity of experience on the grounds through our Biblical Garden, the Rose Garden, and the Labyrinth. It is a place of contemplation and outreach at any time. Don’t forget the Patio! We can provide hospitality and space for celebrations and occasions of any kind.

Of course, our Book Club is active along with our Episcopal Church Women meeting monthly. Our community of St Francis is strong in fellowship and faith as we actively seek to serve God with all our heart, soul, mind, and heart. But all that activity comes out of a place centeredness and being grounded in our faith and relationship with our Lord.

All that said, finding balance and centeredness is what our faith promises. It’s not all hurried activity and ramped up schedules.

Jesus says to us all, “Come to me all you who are weary, and I will give you rest.” In these experiences at St. Francis, we are providing that very shelter to come away and give rest. May you experience such rest here.



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 - links in the St. Francis Weekly
 - Stay connected through weekly services and activities made available

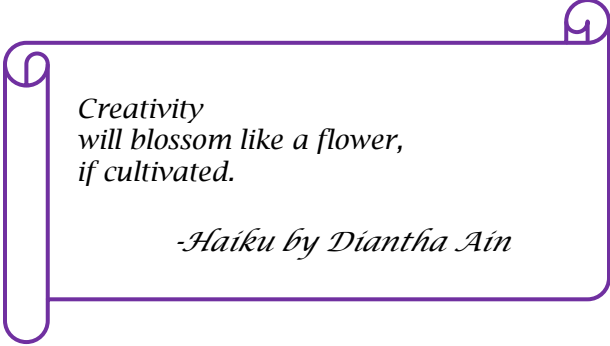
Please remember St. Francis with your donations and pledge.

Secure online giving available through PayPal:

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

Parish Prayer Needs:

Healing: *Barbara, Sylvia, Brody, Avalon, Shantel, Lee, Michael, Kim, 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, Kevin, Eve, Amy, Judy, Bernadette, Arianna, Pam, Sammie, Gerri, Steven, John, Tiffany, Leo, David, Henry, Cheryl, Ana, Susan, Peggy, Stephanie.*



*Creativity
will blossom like a flower,
if cultivated.*

-Haiku by Diantha Ain

What Does It Mean to Love and Serve God?

Each week we pray God "Send us now into the world in peace ... to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart." What does it mean to love and serve God in our everyday lives? Education for Ministry (EfM) is a four-year program of theological education developed to answer that question. EfM is designed for lay people -- all of us! -- who are interested in deepening our understanding of the Christian faith and exploring our ministry as lay persons. Through EfM, you will:

- Study the Bible, church history, and theology
- Engage in theological reflection and discussion
- Build deep relationships with other people of faith

EfM is a great way to learn more about yourself, your faith, and your work in the world at large. Some EfM groups meet in-person, others meet online, and most offer hybrid solutions. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Elizabeth Bryant at (805) 469-8897 or e.vana.bryant@gmail.com Elizabeth can help you to find an EfM group that suits your needs.

Enroll in EfM today and discover your call to every day ministry!

Much heart-felt Gratitude to ALL Helping Hands that made light work of the Door Refinishing project! Especially the McCarty's and Wahlstrom's for their extra-long days in the heat ensuring the doors were rehung at the end of each day. THANK YOU!!





**Mondays, Starting
September 11, 2023**

Square Dance



Class

7:00-9:00pm

Modern Square Dance

Taught by one of the premier
instructors in So. California



Dick Hodnefield

Full Plus Class

Couples & Singles Welcome

\$5.00 per person

First Class is FREE

Simi Valley Senior Center

3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley

Info: **Mary Gabel 805-582-1323** **Glenda**
Hamburg 818-388-7015

Water
Provided

Snack
Table

*Air
Conditioned
Hall*

*Wood
Floor*

Look for us at: www.bootsandslippers.com &

Follow us on Facebook Boots and Slippers Square Dance Club @simisquaredance

Autumnal Equinox September 20th
with Drumming Circle –
Celebrating the transition of the seasons.





Blessing of the Animals

Service: Sunday, October 1, 2023 - 10:15 am

St. Francis Episcopal Church

280 Royal Ave, Simi Valley

stfrancischurchofsimi.org



**Everyone
Welcome**

Please bring
pets in carriers
or on leashes

**Free
to all**



At left – “Bishop John Harvey Taylor displays his first-pitch ball at the 2022 Episcopal Night at Dodger Stadium.” Photo: Janet Kawamoto –Article by EN Staff via diocesesla.org dated: June 21, 2023

The Right Reverend John Taylor will visit St Francis of Assisi Simi on October 15, 2023 for the 10:15am Sunday service.

Potluck-Luncheon to follow service, outside on the Patio.

Sept. 2023 Schedule for Holy Ministry

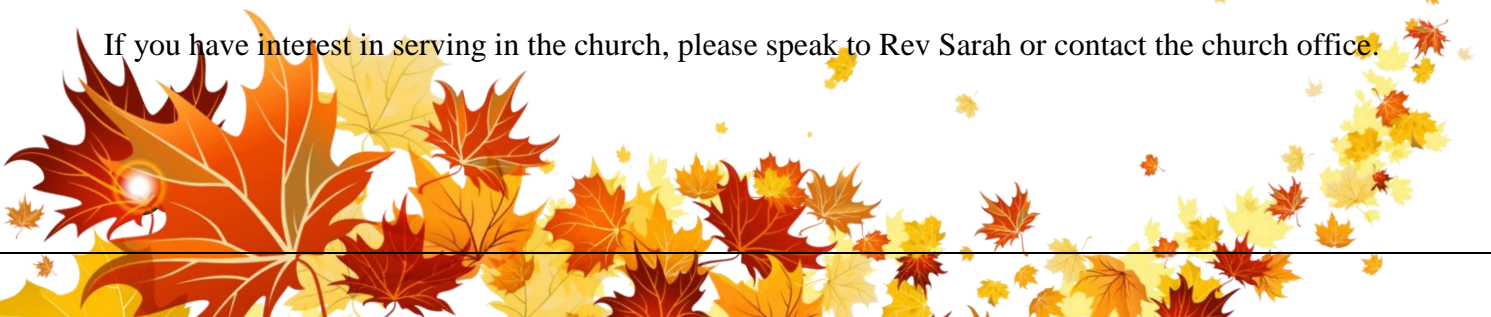
	Sept. 3	Sept. 10	Sept. 17	Sept. 24	
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Kerri-Jo H.	Eden S.	Bernadette	Susan S.	
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Reuben A.	Suzanne L.	Chrissy B.	Gerri H.	
LEM	Tracy H.	Chrissy B.	Rob W. Kristin W.	Lisa N.	
Usher / Greeter	Reuben A.	Ted W.	Rebecca S.	Joe Z.	
Altar Guild	Tracy H.	Chrissy B.	Cathy G.	Chris M.	
Preaching	Rev Sarah	David K.	Rev Sarah	David K.	

October 2023 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Oct. 1	Oct. 8	Oct. 15	Oct. 22	Oct. 29
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	<i>Blessing of the Animals</i>	Kerri-Jo H.	Eden S.	Bernadette	Susan S.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	<i>Service with UCC</i>	Reuben A.	Suzanne L.	Chrissy B.	Gerri H.
LEM	David K. Tracy H.	Rob W. Kristin W.	David K. Chrissy B.	Tracy H.	Lisa N.
Usher / Greeter	Reuben A. Ted W.	Rebecca S.	Ted W. Reuben A.	Rebecca S	Joe Z.
Altar Guild	Chrissy B. David K.	Cathy G.	Chrissy B. David K.	Chris M.	Tracy H.
Preaching	Rev Sarah	Rev Sarah	Rt. Rev. John Taylor	David K.	Rev Sarah

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

If you have interest in serving in the church, please speak to Rev Sarah or contact the church office.



SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 DODGER NIGHT 7 pm AA PH	2
3 Rev Sarah Kitch, Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	4 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED 4pm In-person Community Dinner 8 pm Men's AA	5 Baby Closet 10-11 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH	6 10am Healing & Eucharist Service 7:30 pm AA PH	7 Baby Closet 10-11 7 pm NA Clare Rm	8 Private Event Prep 7 pm AA PH	9 Private Event
10 David Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music 6:30 Men's AA PH	11 8 pm Men's AA	12 Baby Closet 10-11 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA	13 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 7:30 pm AA PH	14 Baby Closet 10-11 7 pm NA Clare Rm	15 Private Event Prep 7 pm AA PH	16 Private Event
17 Rev Sarah Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music Private Event 6:30 Men's AA PH	18 8 pm Men's AA	19 Baby Closet 10-11 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH	20 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service Autumnal Equinox Drumming Circle 6pm 7:30 pm AA PH	21 Baby Closet 10-11 7 pm NA Clare Rm	22 7 pm AA PH	23
24 David Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist 12pm BC Mtg 6:30 Men's AA PH	25 8 pm Men's AA	26 Baby Closet 10-11 6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH	27 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 7:30 pm AA PH	28 Baby Closet 10-11 7 pm NA Clare Rm	29 Private Event Prep	30 Private Event

Church Office will be closed for Labor Day on Monday September 4th. The office will reopen, resuming normal hours: 10am-2pm on Tuesday, September 5th.



Baby Shower Sundays – 4th Sunday of the Month:

Please bring your diapers, wipes, and baby toiletries in support of the Baby Closet on the 4th Sunday of the month to help support the baby closet and their needs.

If you have any questions or are interested in getting involved, please speak with Gerri H. or Sarah.

The Baby Closet resumes its normal days of operation following Labor Day.

Baby Closet is open Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am-11am.



St Francis “Hospitality” is an opportunity to spend a few minutes together, after service over a cup of coffee to connect, and say hello.

Want to celebrate an anniversary, birthday or special occasion with your church family? You’re welcome any time. Feel free to bring a plate of cookies or fruit, as you wish.

ALL are welcome to attend and ALL are invited to participate.

Coffee will be on...

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Newsletter – September 2023

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

Autumnal Equinox:

6:00 pm

