



# The Franciscan



May 2024

● **Diocesan Bishop** ●

*The Rt Rev John Taylor*

● **Our Vicar** ●

*The Rev. Sarah Kitch*  
[stfrancis.simi@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancis.simi@gmail.com)

● **The Bishop's Committee** ●

- *Bishop's Warden*  
*Amy Brown*
- *Junior Warden*  
*Dan McCarty*
- *Finance*  
*Sam Anusiem*
- *Clerk*  
*Cathy Grimes*
- *Communications*  
*Doug Onyon*
- *Pastoral Care*  
*Tracy Hurst*
- *Service/Outreach*  
*Gerri Harrington*
- *Worship*  
*Chris McCarty*

## From Our Vicar...

We might consider how often when we read our meditations, our Day by Day, a Scripture, even sacred reading, do we let it linger over us for a time? Are we looking for what catches our attention and how God is inviting us into the word for that day?

... Read Article on pg.2

**MUSIC FESTIVAL**

MAY 26, 2024 6 PM

STFRANCISCHURCHOFSIMI.ORG



Published monthly by St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church

280 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065

Email: [stfrancis.simi@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancis.simi@gmail.com)

[www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org](http://www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org)

office- 805.526.5141

fax- 805.520.3819

# From Our Vicar...

Christine Valters Paintner, from an online resource entitled, Abbey of the Arts, writes about Lectio Divina. She describes it this way:

*“In lectio, we read scripture and listen for what word or phrase is shimmering. This practice is always in service of contemplative vision in daily life. Lectio invites us to slowly see more and more of the world as a sacred text, ripe with possibility for meaning. We can expand our contemplative practice to include a kind of visio divina, or sacred seeing, where we gaze on a painting or photograph we love and look for something that shimmers – perhaps a symbol, a color, a brushstroke, the play of light and shadow. And in that shimmering we know there is a gift for us, even if we don’t fully understand its meaning in the moment.*”

*We can then expand our practice of sacred seeing even further to include what we see all around us in our daily lives. What would it be like to move through our day, watching for what shimmers, waiting to receive these moments of revelation, and then savor them?”*

It seems appropriate to consider this practice of lectio or visio divina as we enter into the season of Pentecost. We are alive in change and transition and the Spirit is blowing through, catching us up in a new way forward. We need to shake ourselves a little and take a moment to consider what Painter is inviting for us in this season.

We might consider how often when we read our meditations, our Day by Day, a Scripture, even sacred reading, do we let it linger over us for a time? Are we looking for what catches our attention and how God is inviting us into the word for that day?

In my office I have some prayer cards. Each day, I choose one at random for that day. It might say gratitude on it, it might say joy and it might say peace. There is a prayer and a thought on the card that I pray and then put on my desk. As I see it through the day, it reminds me to look for where God’s joy is showing up. Where are places that I am particularly grateful for today? These cards are particularly helpful on days that seem more stressful or, dare I even say, chaotic?

In the midst of the Spirit’s power of change, may we take this opportunity to look for where God is speaking to us in God’s word, in our everyday lives? Let’s take this time to look for sacred seeing through our day, watching for what “shimmers” and how these captive moments inform us. It’s important that we recognize the Spirit’s movement all around us that we may participate in what God is doing in the kingdom work.

I look forward to hearing what you see and hear.



Join us for the Labyrinth Walk  
May 4, 2024 12:30-3:00pm.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christine Valters Paintner".

# Doug's Corner

## Getting to know you . . . and each other

Long-time St. Francis members **Rob and Kristin Wahlstrom** have moved to Eugene, Oregon, to be closer to their family, which includes their son, daughter and two grandchildren. Although we are very sad to see them go, we are assured that they will welcome a visit from members of their St. Francis family on any trip to or through Eugene.

**Usha Milton** is a Docent at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library where she also serves as an educator at the library's Learning Center. She worked at the U.S. Capitol for two members of Congress during Reagan's administration and later for Rep. Norman Mineta. When Reagan hosted India Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi for a state visit, Usha attended the White House Rose Garden ceremony. She was one of the first Indians who worked on Capitol Hill.

**Doug Onyon's** grandson, **Alex**, has been promoted to Senior Analyst of Scouting for the Baltimore Orioles baseball team.

---

## Meet Craig Abbott



Craig Abbott may be just 20 years old, but he already knows exactly what he wants in life. Just ask him and he beams. "Live comfortably, be successful in my career, provide for my family and have a life that is balanced, stable and -- as much as possible -- free of stress," he says. Trying life in another state and starting a family top his "to do" list. His dedication to his faith in God is intertwined with all these personal goals.

Craig is a native Californian having lived in Camarillo since 2012. He's a big soccer fan cheering loudly for the LA Galaxy. He worked at McDonald's during high school, which introduced him to the hospitality industry. He is attending Moorpark College majoring in hospitality management and now works at The Spanish Hills Club in Camarillo. He's particularly proud of being an uncle to his older sister's two children.

Craig started to attend St. Francis as it allowed him to see his aunt and uncle, Paula and Bradford Keatts, more often and "to be able to experience my religion more and build a better relationship with all those who attend the church as well as with God. Being baptized recently was a beautiful moment in my life," says Craig. "Baptism was a reminder that God is always there for me, no matter what and that I can always turn to Him in time of need." Having his family to share his baptism with him was especially joyful to him.

Since his baptism, Craig has been serving as a LEM for the church. "I am now able to help at the altar and that's an amazing experience. It gets me even more connected to the Lord in ways that I can't just observing from the pews."

---

***St. Francis is much more than a congregation. It's a group of individuals in a fellowship . . . a community . . . a family. As family members it would be great to know each other better and share what is going on in each of our busy lives. So, briefly tell us what's happening with you and your family --- your births, family weddings, job promotions, graduations, new jobs, vacations, accomplishments, life events . . . you name it and we'd like to share it in the monthly "Franciscan". Just e-mail your happenings to Doug Onyon at [stfrancis.simi@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancis.simi@gmail.com) and let's get to know each other better!***

## Stay Connected With Us!

- Pastoral Care through the church office (805)526-5141
- Pastoral Care via email [stfrancis.simi@gmail.com](mailto: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 Healing Prayer Needs:

*Barbara, Reina, Sylvia, Brody, Avalon, Shantel, Scott, Lee, Michael, Kim, Jean, Braydon, Fr. Steve, Al, Mary, Yvonne, Dee, Jeff, Jim, Bill & Leslie, Jamie, 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.*

### **EVENTS IN MAY:**

*May 4<sup>th</sup> - Labyrinth Day  
May 5<sup>th</sup> - ECW Fiesta -Cinco de Mayo  
May 11<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tea  
May 12<sup>th</sup> - Mothers' Day  
May 19<sup>th</sup> - Pentecost  
May 26<sup>th</sup> - Music Festival*

ECW – Episcopal Church Women  
Please contact Sylvia M. or Pat U. if interested. Meetings held first Friday of the month in the sanctuary at 5:30 pm.

### **Interested in Joining a Book Club?**

**Contact Chris McCarty for details.**

### ***4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month***

Please bring your diapers, wipes, and baby toiletries in support of the Baby Closet and their needs. If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering, please speak with Gerri Harrington or Rev Sarah.

The Baby Closet is open weekly Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 am – 11am

**A few RECYCLING reminders: Did you know?** - St Francis has bins available for composting, grease and food waste in between the trash bins located in the kitchen island. These bins are also available to take home and reuse if you would like.

We also have once a month collection of CRV recycling on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. We make available separate waste bins for: glass, plastic and aluminum that are CRV redeemable, in addition to separate waste bins for recyclable items that are not CRV redeemable.

Let us all be mindful in consciously caring for God's extraordinary creation we call home. We can make an impact.

# May 2024 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26	
<b>Lector (O.T./Psalm)</b>	Kerri-Jo H.	Eden S.	Bernadette	Susan S.	
<b>Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)</b>	Reuben A.	Chrissy B.	Suzanne L.	Gerri H.	
<b>LEM</b>	Tracy H. Evie M.	Kerri-Jo H.	Lisa N.	Chrissy B.	
<b>Usher / Greeter</b>	Ted W.	Reuben A.	Joe Z.	Rebecca S	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Tracy H.	Cathy G.	Chrissy B.	Gerri H.	
<b>Preaching</b>	Rev. Sarah	David K.	Rev. Sarah	David K.	

# June 2024 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	June 2	June 9	June 16	June 23	June 30
<b>Lector (O.T./Psalm)</b>	Kerri-Jo H.	Eden S.	Bernadette	Susan S.	Tracy H.
<b>Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)</b>	Reuben A.	Suzanne L.	Chrissy B.	Gerri H.	Chrissy B.
<b>LEM</b>	Tracy H. Evie M.	Kerri-Jo H.	Lisa N.	Chrissy B.	Craig A.
<b>Usher / Greeter</b>	Ted W.	Reuben A.	Joe Z.	Rebecca S.	Reuben A.
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Tracy H.	Chrissy B.	Gerri H.	Cathy G.	Chris M.
<b>Preaching</b>	Rev. Sarah	David K.	Rev. Sarah	David K.	Rev. Sarah

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

# May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service  7:30 pm AA PH	<b>2</b> Baby Closet 10-11  7pm AA PH 7 pm NA Clare Rm 6 pm H.H. HOA	<b>3</b> 5:30 pm ECW MTG Sanctuary  8 pm AA PH	<b>4</b> <b>Labyrinth Walk</b> <b>12:30-3pm</b> Private Event
<b>5</b> Rev. Sarah Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music <b>CINCO DE MAYO!</b> <b>ECW TACOS</b> 6:30 Men's AA PH 2-5 Mtg Clare Rm	<b>6</b> <b>Samaritan Dinner</b>  <b>REV. SARAH AT CLERGY CONFERENCE</b>  8 pm Men's AA	<b>7</b> Baby Closet 10-11  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH	<b>8</b> 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service  7:30 pm AA PH	<b>9</b> Baby Closet 10-11  7pm AA PH 7 pm NA Clare Rm 6 pm H.H. HOA	<b>10</b>  8 pm AA PH	<b>11</b>  <b>MAY TEA!</b> <b>11:30AM</b> on the patio
<b>12</b> David Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music <b>MOTHERS' DAY</b>  6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>13</b>  8 pm Men's AA	<b>14</b> Baby Closet 10-11  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA Clare Rm	<b>15</b> 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service  6 pm W.R. HOA 7:30 pm AA PH	<b>16</b> Baby Closet 10-11  7 pm AA PH 7 pm NA Clare Rm	<b>17</b>  8 pm AA PH	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Rev Sarah Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music <b>PENTECOST</b> <b>Service Outside</b>  6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>20</b>  8 pm Men's AA	<b>21</b> Baby Closet 10-11  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH	<b>22</b> 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service  7:30 pm AA PH	<b>23</b> Baby Closet 10-11  7 pm AA PH 7 pm NA Clare Rm	<b>24</b>  8 pm AA PH	<b>25</b>
<b>27</b> David Kitch Preaching 10:15 am Eucharist with Music <b>MUSIC</b> <b>FESTIVAL 6PM</b> 6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>28</b> <b>Memorial Day</b>  Samaritan Dinner 8 pm Men's AA	<b>29</b> Baby Closet 10-11  6:30 pm Women AA 7 pm AA PH	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		



## BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Megan Anderson  
Gerri Harrington  
Charles Grimes  
David Kitch  
Terri Meadows  
Robert Craig  
Liz Lynn

Anna Connors  
Peggy Sturdy  
Sherry Papaleo  
Esther Dharmaraj  
Brittany Bayles  
Jacob McKinley  
Romeo Klooth





### Join us for our 30th Anniversary May Tea

on **Saturday, May 11, 2024, at 11:30 am.** The event will cost \$30 at the door, which covers the cost of drinks and lunch. We are excited to welcome guest speaker **Lori Preciado**, who will share her experiences in beekeeping and educate us on the importance of bees.

*Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn and celebrate with us!*

SAMARITAN CENTER UPCOMING EVENT

# HIKE TO THE CROSS

MAY 18 | 8:00 AM

 The Samaritan Center  
Simi Valley *restoring lives*

# The Franciscan

## Newsletter – May 2024

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church  
280 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065  
Phone 805.526.5141  
www.stfrancischurchofsimi.org

**TO:**



### **EVENTS IN MAY:**

*May 4<sup>th</sup> - Labyrinth Day*  
*May 5<sup>th</sup> - ECW Fiesta -Cinco de Mayo*  
*May 11<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tea*  
*May 12<sup>th</sup> - Mothers' Day*  
*May 19<sup>th</sup> – Pentecost Outside Service*  
*May 26<sup>th</sup> - Music Festival*



### **Join Us:**

- ◆ Sunday Service: 10:15 am
- ◆ Wednesdays:  
10 am Healing Service