

ANNOUNCEMENTS

6 JANUARY 2019

☼ **HOME COMMUNION** – If you or someone you know would like to have a home visit or the Sacrament brought to you at home, please call Fr. Dan or Rev. Pam at 625-1370. We bring the Sacrament to those who are ill or to anyone who cannot attend services for any reason.

TODAY

JANUARY 6 – THE EPIPHANY

8:00a Holy Eucharist II

10:00a Holy Eucharist II

2:00p Centering Prayer – Chapel

THIS WEEK

MONDAY, JANUARY 7

9:00a Morning Prayer – Chapel

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

8:00a Men's Group – Conf Room

10:30a Vestry Officers
– Rector's Office

11:00a Social Activities – Conf Room

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9

9:00a Holy Eucharist

9:30a DOK – Vulliamy Room

1:00p Stewardship – Library

6:00p Rev. Pam's Study Group
– Conference Room

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10

9:00a Finance – Conf Room

10:00a Home Tour Mtg – Conf Rm

12:30p Seekers Discussion – Conf Rm

2:00p Parish Choir – Loft

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

8:00a Bulletins – Library

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

No Parish events scheduled.

NEXT SUNDAY

JANUARY 13 – EPIPHANY I

8:00a Holy Eucharist II

10:00a Holy Eucharist II

2:00p Centering Prayer – Chapel

☼ **ALTAR FLOWERS** – are given to the glory of God by Kristi Thompson in memory of Paul Thompson.

☼ **GIFT FOR BISHOP AND LAURA SMITH** – On January 13, Bishop Smith will be making his last Episcopal visit to St. Francis before his retirement. We'd like to present the Bishop and Laura with a monetary gift for their years of ministry and leadership. If you'd like to contribute to a purse for them please clearly mark you donation "Bishop Smith." Please submit your donation by January 6.

☼ **NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS** – Our new St. Francis website is up and running AND it has a new address: www.stfrancisgwaz.org. Check it out!

☼ **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** – Our annual meeting will be held, as usual, on the third Sunday of January, the 20th this year. Typically, we hold an information meeting the Sunday before to talk about the budget for any who might be interested in knowing more about the fi-

nances of the church. This year we will not be able to hold that budget meeting, but a short presentation will be made at the annual meeting. Bishop Smith will be making his annual (and final) visit on Sunday, January 13. As usual, he will be at both Services and will offer a presentation to the congregation between the two Services.

☀️**HEY KIDS, WHAT TIME IS IT?** – No, not Howdy Doody time. It's time for all of us who are responsible for Annual Reports to start working on them; otherwise we won't meet the deadline, Monday, 14 January 2019, will we? Please email your report—in either the body of an email or in Word format—to the Parish Administrator: gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org.

☀️**MEN'S GROUP** – The Men's Group will be having its quarterly breakfast on Tuesday, January 8, at 7:45 AM in the Parish Hall. A sumptuous full breakfast prepared by chef Mark will be served. We invite all men of the Parish to join us in Christian fellowship.

☀️**EVENSONG** – Solemn Evensong and Te Deum in honor of Fr. Dan will be sung at 5 o'clock in the afternoon on Sunday, February 17. Members of TRUE CONCORD VOICES & ORCHESTRA, under the direction of Gerald Near with J. Michael Case at the organ, will sing choral works from the great Anglican tradition. We invite your financial support; please

make checks payable to St. Francis in the Valley with 'Evensong' in the memo line.

☀️**TAX CREDIT FOR YOU**– 'Tis the season to demonstrate your commitment to educating Arizona's most vulnerable children—at no cost to you. The Arizona Private School Tuition Tax Credit Program allows you to put your state tax dollars to work changing lives through education at Tucson's Imago Dei Middle School. Learn more at www.az-esf.org. Merry Christmas, and Thank You from the good folks at Imago Dei Middle School.

☀️**GRIEF SUPPORT** – We are again sponsoring a series of Grief Support Groups at St. Francis. New sessions will begin Monday, January 28, and run five consecutive Mondays from 1:30–3:30 PM. The sessions, facilitated by Jeannie North, are open to the community free of charge. For additional information call 520-625-1370.

☀️**WARM CLOTHES FOR ASYLUM-SEEKERS** – Many families fleeing violence in their home countries, especially tropical countries in Central America such as Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, have arrived at the U.S. border in Nogales to seek asylum with clothing that isn't sufficient to keep them warm in our winter climate. Donations of warm clothes are needed, especially warm jackets, hats/beanies, scarves, sweaters, long

pants/jeans, socks, sneakers and slippers. Backpacks are also needed so that the migrants can carry these clothes with them when they leave the shelters. Items are also needed for the shelters, including blankets, sleeping bags, pillows, and hotel shampoo/soap/lotions. St. Francis is collecting these items to donate through Cruzando Fronteras – bring in new or clean, gently used items and drop them in the box in the Parish Hall, or put a check made out to St. Francis with “Cruzando Fronteras” in the memo line into the offering plate or bring/mail it to the church office.

☼ **BIBLE CHALLENGE** – We’d like to challenge YOU to read the whole Bible all the way through in a year! If you’ve never read the whole thing, it’s a wonderful thing to do. Some smart folks have developed a workable program for reading the whole Bible in one year, and Rev. Pam is inviting any and all who are interested in joining her to take on the challenge of reading the whole book in 2019. If you’re interested, email Rev. Pam (pam@stfrancisgvaz.org) to let her know you will be participating, and go to <http://thecenterforbiblicalstudies.org/read-the-bible-in-a-year/>, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on Download the One Year Read for the daily schedule of readings. She will facilitate a discussion once a month for all the participants who

wish to gather together and talk about what they’ve been reading. This may be the best New Years resolution you ever made!

☼ **SEEKERS DISCUSSION GROUP** – At the next meeting, January 3, we will begin the windup of our discussion of *Unbelievable*. The meeting is from 12:30 PM to 1:50 PM in the Conference Room. All are welcome at any meeting.

☼ **STEPHEN MINISTRY** – Stephen Ministers: just what are they, who are they, and what do they do? Simply put we are lay people from the Parish who are trained to walk beside someone who is going through a difficult time in his or her life. We meet, we listen, we provide a compassionate heart, a shoulder to lean on, and confidentiality.

If you think you might like to explore becoming a Stephen Minister, please contact one of us: Marybeth Bates (206-259-0361) or emmymex@yahoo.com, Mark Eckstein (443-807-2277) or az9261954@gmail.com, Cheryl Tardy-Albin (520-235-9031) or ltybbear1@gmail.com or BrandE Faupell (435-512-0286) or bfaupell@gmail.com.

☼ **SPIRITUAL DIRECTION** – We are fortunate to have professional individual Spiritual Direction available to us at St. Francis. For an appointment please call Charlotte Neyland at 720-298-2750.

☀️**NEED A RIDE TO A PARISH EVENT?** – Our Men’s Group offers rides to those in need of transportation to Parish events. If you are unable to provide your own transport and would like to schedule a lift, call the Parish Office, 625-1370.

☀️**PRAYER CHAIN** — For Prayer Chain requests contact Jim Ratley at 253-365-5093 or, via email, at jnjrats@gmail.com.

☀️**CLERGY DISCRETIONARY FUNDS** – Donations to the Rector and Assistant Rector Discretionary Funds are always welcome and help us to offer assistance to people in our community who are struggling. Because of your generosity, we’ve been able to help people with such things as food, gas, utilities, rent, school clothing, school supplies, unexpected medical bills and burial expenses. As we see it, it’s not the clergy being able to help people in need, it’s all of us, together, touching the lives of people who feel like they’ve hit a dead end because of adverse circumstances in life. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Fr. Dan & Rev. Pam

☀️**ALTAR FLOWERS** – Would you like to have flowers on the altar on a certain Sunday? Flowers can be given in loving memory of someone or in thanksgiving for persons or for a special date and occasion you wish to celebrate. Call the Parish Office or Carol Berg (373-5770) with your request. Donations are \$35.

PRAYER REQUESTS

THE DIOCESE OF ARIZONA – Christ the King, Tucson

SAINT FRANCIS MINISTRIES – The Rector
PRAY FOR THOSE SUFFERING IN MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT: Jason and Denny Osgood, Olive Clapp, Rod Thompson, Rae Turberg, Mason Fletcher, Stephanie Huszar, Steve Walker

FOR ALL THOSE SERVING IN HARM’S WAY: Mike Davis, Matthew Day, Brandon Brownlee, Shane Gunderson, Issac Noone, Ian Gunderson, Chase Helgeson, Jackson Vaughn

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Edward Turberg, Joyce Ditmanson

A complete calendar of Parish and Non-Parish events, as well as other news and information about the Parish, is available on the St. Francis website: www.stfrancisgvaz.org. You can also access the Diocesan website from there. Check it out!