



THE FRANCISCAN STAFF

The Newsletter of the people of
Saint Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church
600 South La Cañada Drive
Green Valley AZ 85614

Vol. 56, No. 4

April 2019

Our mission is to live as Christ's heart and hands in the world.

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

Monday, April 15

Holy Eucharist at 9 AM

Tuesday, April 16

Holy Eucharist at 7 PM

Wednesday, April 17

Holy Eucharist at 9 AM

Thursday, April 18

**THE LITURGY FOR
MAUNDY THURSDAY**

at 7 PM

MAUNDY THURSDAY WATCH

8 PM until NOON on Friday

Friday, April 19

THE GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY
at NOON

Saturday, April 20

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER
at 7 PM

Sunday, April 21

The Sunday of the Resurrection
EASTER DAY
Festive Eucharist
at 8 & 10 AM

From our Interim Rector . . .

THE TRUTH ABOUT 'INTERIMS'

The title 'Interim Rector' puts emphasis in a misleading place. Actually, this year is your interim, Franciscans: a harmonic moment between Fr. Dan's fine ministry with you, and your next period of ministry with the new rector you will call.

I share this pregnant, harmonic moment with you—as your rector. Fully your rector. Most obviously I am here to keep things running smoothly. After all, with Fr. Dan and Rev. Pam you have created a high-functioning, smooth-running operation with many happy, well-served parishioners who are deeply satisfied by their personal involvement in vital ministries of service to others. But even what is high-functioning and smooth-running today will have to adapt tomorrow to serve a new generation with a new outlook on a new set of circumstances.

My more important purpose as the rector during your interim....is to introduce possibilities, to encourage you to experiment, to increase your communication and to enrich your worship so that you are prepared to imagine the future of St. Francis more broadly than just "more of the same." I will work with your Vestry, Search Chair and parish staff to experiment with such possibilities—which include worship and communication during our harmonic moment together.

So keep your antennae up this spring for signs of change. Embrace opportunities to experiment which this moment offers us. Fear not: these interim changes are not forever; they will not limit the freedom of your next rector to develop plans for the future with you. They only enrich your awareness right now of what is possible for you to include in your new future. You are a congregation easy to love, and I am excited to share with you this special moment in the life of St. Francis-in-the-Valley.

In Christ's love,

Fr. Colville Smythe,

Interim Rector

From our Assistant Rector...

I have to confess that I have a rather odd Holy Week and Easter tradition that I've held to for many years now. Beginning on Palm Sunday, I listen to one album in my car for the week—*Jesus Christ Superstar*. If you're not familiar with it, this is the 1970 rock opera by Academy/Grammy/Tony Award winners Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice that is loosely based on the account in the Gospels of the last week of Jesus' life. I used to slide the cassette tape into the player in my car, now I set the Bluetooth on my smartphone to play it through my car's audio system.

I do this annual ritual every year as part of my personal commitment to spiritually and emotionally participate in the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ as I travel with him through Holy Week to Easter. The music of this rock opera carries me out of my head space—my intellectual understanding of these earth-shattering events at the crescendo and climax of Jesus' life—and draws me deeply into a shared experience of love, anguish, betrayal, suffering, sorrow, bewilderment, hope and joy with Christ and his disciples on the journey to and through the cross to the empty tomb. For me, it's not enough to understand the Gospel story of the passion and resurrection. I have to allow myself to live it, to experience it in the marrow of my soul. I have to break down my emotional barriers and feel it all.

And *Jesus Christ Superstar* isn't the only way I enter into this shared experience with Christ and his disciples on his epic final journey. The liturgical journey that we walk during Holy Week is my other portal for reliving and participating in Christ's passion. I feel the triumphant joy of the entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, receive into my heart Christ's new commandment and put it into practice in the foot washing on Maundy Thursday, feel the first pierce of sorrow in my heart as the altar is stripped and Jesus' agony in the garden is read that evening and experience the full flood of sorrow and grief on Good Friday. The light of new hope warms my heart at the beginning of The Great Vigil of Easter (my favorite service) on Saturday night and breaks out into overwhelming joy as we raise the lights and proclaim "Alleluia!" as we celebrate death being transformed into resurrection and new life.

Holy Week is an opportunity for a deep spiritual relationship with the Son of God who brought us out of death into life. I encourage you to take a look at the article in these pages titled "The Importance and Meaning of Holy Week" and decide for yourself the journey you wish to take with Christ this Holy Week, experiencing and participating in his passion, death and resurrection. Walk as much of the road as you can. I promise it will transform you.

Rev. Pam

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THE RT. REV. JENNIFER REDDALL, PH.D., D.D.

Bishop

THE REV. CANON COLVILLE SMYTHE

Interim Rector

THE REV. PAMELA W. HYDE

Assistant Rector

THE VESTRY

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Julie Reppenhagen, Junior Warden;

Mary Beth Bates, David Dunn, Sandy Eckstein,

Larry Howell, Orji Isiogu,

Cheryl Tardy-Albin, Helen Mullaly, Jenica Hisko,

ex officio: Erik Ringkjøb, Treasurer;

Bobbi Tucker, Clerk

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Director Emeritus, Handbell Ensemble

Janet Miller

Organist Emeritus

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Susan Whitney, Henry Ramirez, Clyde Tardy

Assistant Sextons

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St. Francis in the Valley, Green Valley,

is to live as Christ's heart and hands

in the world.

Senior Warden's Notes

I used to think March was a dreary month with not much happening aside from the NCAA's March Madness basketball tournament. On the other hand, here at St. Francis, March was anything but dreary with a number of happenings and events of significant importance.

March opened with the arrival of the Rev. Canon Colville Smythe as our newly appointed Interim Rector, and along with Sylvia, they found a temporary residence in Villas West until they move to a rental home in Quail Creek. Since they already have a home in the Queen Creek area, Colville and Sylvia will split their time between here and there, although Fr. Smythe will be spending the major portion of the week with us at St. Francis.

Next on the calendar was Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season at St. Francis. Since then, several of our ministries have hosted the observance of the Stations of the Cross late on Wednesday afternoons before the doors of the Parish Hall opened to the weekly Lenten tradition of soup and salad, and an evening lecture series focusing on how we can best meet the challenges of different transitional experiences in our daily lives.

Fitting nicely into the Lenten schedule was our 51st Annual Tour of Homes featuring six unique residences, and a blend of social activities in the Parish Hall to satisfy our guests' need for nourishment and relaxation before and after the tour.

An often-overlooked benefit of the annual home tour, is this is the single event on our parish calendar, which brings so many of our members together, all working toward a single goal. Hats off to all who contributed their time and efforts to make this another successful Tour of Homes.

And what better way to complement all of the month's activities than to bring our members together for a day of discernment, a day officially recognized as the "Day of Discovery" where members attending focused their attention on identifying who we are as a parish, where we would like to be, and what kind of a pastor we need to help get us there. The initial findings will be used to structure the Parish Profile, and the OTM (Office of Transitional Ministry) Ministry Portfolio.

Parish members participating in the "Day of Discovery" deserve our appreciation and gratitude for their giving of time and effort to identifying the parish's core

values, visions, and the unique skill set which will be used to help identify potential rector candidates.

March was indeed a busy, busy month, and a big "Thank You" to all who pitched in to make it a successful month.

Cruzando Fronteras Update

The humanitarian situation at the U.S.-Mexico border in Nogales has been worsening over the past several months and Cruzando Fronteras, the border ministry of the Diocese of Arizona, has been working hard to meet the increasing needs.

As of mid-March, there were 749 asylum-seekers in Nogales, 300 of whom were children. As these families arrive at the border, they must wait their turn to have what is called a "credible fear" interview to determine whether their asylum claim may have merit. The current wait time for that interview is about a month, and as they wait they need food, shelter, clothing, and often some kind of medical attention. Cruzando Fronteras is doing its best to meet those needs for all who wait, but we temporarily lost the ability to house migrants in one of its biggest shelters back in February. In mid-March it had 139 people in its next largest shelter, which is not a large building. It has been looking for more space, and has a lead on a 10,000 square foot building that has the capacity to house 800 people. If a lease can be successfully negotiated, some renovations will need to be done and Cruzando Fronteras will be looking for volunteers to help with those.

In the meantime, Cruzando Fronteras is housing, feeding and clothing as many asylum-seekers as it can, and providing medical clinics with volunteer medical staff to deal with a wide range of illnesses and injuries. Even chickenpox is showing up among some of the children. As the season changes from winter to spring to summer, clothing needs will be changing, but currently there seems to be a fairly good supply of adult clothing. With so many children, the most immediate need for supplies right now seems to be children's shoes (ages 1 – 10) and diapers (sizes 3, 4, 5).

But the top need right now is for funds. We hope there will be a lease to pay soon. Our Lutheran brothers and sisters and those in the United Church of Christ have pledged funds to help fund a new shelter, but our Episcopal share of the costs will be substantial. Food costs currently run \$400-\$500/week and medication costs average approximately \$210-\$225/week.

continued next page

And with asylum-seekers expected to arrive at increasing rates over the next few months, those costs are on the rise. If you can help provide funds, please donate through the Cruzando Fronteras webpage at *fronteras.azdiocese.org*, or drop a check made out to St. Francis with "Cruzando Fronteras" in the memo line in the offering plate or at the Parish Office. Cruzando Fronteras and the people they help thank you.

Outreach

The Easter Bunny is very happy with all your help. Thank you for all the wonderful baskets. Now it is time to bring wrapped candy and little toys like books, jump ropes, bubbles and mini cars to fill those baskets. The big green box awaits you in the Parish Hall. Come to fill the baskets on April 18 at 10 AM in the Parish Hall.

Maundy Thursday Watch

Jesus asked Peter, James and John to go with him to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. Jesus said to them, "Could you not pray with me one hour?" Jesus still asks us to come to the garden (Chapel) to pray with him. Will you give Jesus one hour? The Watch begins at 8 PM and ends at Noon on Good Friday. Please sign up in the Parish Hall after Sunday Services.

2019 Tour of Homes

We had a wonderful day at the 2019 Tour of Homes. The Parish Hall looked lovely, with an overflowing Gourmet Shoppe, two large areas of Silent Auction (art was down by the SE corner) and a nicely set dining area. A steady crowd came before 10 and then it quieted down a bit. We got busy in the afternoon as many people returned after seeing the homes to shop and eat.

The Dining Room and Kitchen crews worked well together, preparing the snacks and serving and cleaning up after our guests. The Homes Teams, Safety, Direction Signs and Hostesses, worked seamlessly to make the home tours go well and the drivers and their "staff" were wonderful, as usual. This year, a van from La Posada helped speed our guests along their way.

Our Ticket group sold approximately 350 tickets, online, at several locations and at the door on the day of the event. The PR team went all out with media and signs to make sure everyone knew about our wonderful event.

Sandy and Julie thank all the fantastic volunteers, the cooks/bakers, Silent Auction donors and ticket

purchasers for their support, as they made the event a success. It was St. Francis at it very its best.

Be An Honorary Grandparent

St. Francis is in the sixth year of its partnership with the Imago Dei Middle School in Tucson. This is our partnership ministry with one of the five Arizona Episcopal Schools, a member of the Southwestern Association and the National Association of Episcopal Schools. On 18 May last year we celebrated the graduation of nineteen 8th grade scholars, presenting each graduate with a \$100 Visa Gift Card. Attending graduation ceremonies at the Tucson Museum of Art were thirty-four members of our parish family along with Fr. Dan and Phyllis, and Rev. Pam and Doug.

This particular group, along with additional members of St. Francis, contributed toward the purchase of the gift cards. This spring's graduating class has 20 eighth grade scholars, and we invite you to share in recognizing their achievement by becoming an "Honorary Grandparent." Your personal check can be made payable to St. Francis with Imago Dei Graduation on the memo line. Contact Wayne North at 399-9208, or through the Parish Office, for details on making a contribution, or if you wish to attend the graduation on a date yet to be announced in late May, at the Tucson Museum of Art. Why not do both?

Solo Journeymen

The Solo Journeyer's group met for dinner on Monday, March 11, at Manuel's Mexican Restaurant. Eighteen Solo group members enjoyed a fun evening of good conversation, great food and some of us even enjoyed a spirited beverage. It was great catching up with friends (new and old) from our church family who are walking this part of their life journey solo. We all had fun and hope to make our gatherings more frequent. Everyone was delighted to have Father Colville join us for dinner. We talked about other outings: some ideas would be a movie night (at the local theater) and also, in the Parish Hall, a game night with drinks and munchies, another dinner out or a get together at one of our homes. Let the committee know what you would like to do. You can e-mail Carol Berg at *cbbjberg@gmail.com*, or catch Larry Bear, Norma Pool, Kristi Thompson or Carol at church or at coffee hour to give us your input. Maybe you would like to be part of the committee. So let's get together again soon and have some more fun and fellowship.

The Importance and Meaning of Holy Week

By Fr. Dan Messier

Holy Week is the week that precedes the great festival of the Resurrection on Easter Day. During Holy Week we commemorate the Passion of Christ, and the events that immediately led up to his Death/Resurrection. Holy Week observances began in Jerusalem in the earliest days of the Church when devout people traveled to Jerusalem at Passover to reenact the events of the week leading up to the Resurrection. The purpose of Holy Week is to reenact, relive, and participate in the passion of Jesus Christ in order to understand more fully and experience the meaning of his resurrection for our own lives.

During Holy Week we focus particular attention on the following days:

- On the Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday, we begin with triumphant jubilation commemorating Jesus' entry into Jerusalem while riding on a donkey as the people spread palm branches on the path. The tone then turns somber as we recall the Passion of Christ, which led to his crucifixion and death on the cross.

- On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we gather for simple, quiet worship and read of various events that took place within the last week of Jesus' life prior to his last supper with his disciples.

- On Maundy Thursday we commemorate the institution of the Lord's Supper and Jesus' washing the feet of his disciples as a sign of service – the core of a Christian life. This service ends with the stripping of the altar, a reading of Jesus' agony in the garden and the betrayal

by Judas. The word "Maundy" is derived from the Latin *mandatum*, the "command" which Jesus gave at the time of the Washing of the Disciples' feet when he said to them "For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you." (John 13:15). Jesus ended his discourse saying "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35)

- On Good Friday we remember the arrest, trial, crucifixion, death, and burial of Jesus. The Holy Eucharist is not celebrated on this day. However, if the proper Good Friday Service is used, an opportunity is given to receive Communion from the consecrated Sacrament, which has been reserved from the day before. This Service includes the following: the Word of God and Solemn Reading of the Passion; The Solemn Collects whereby we pray for our needs, the needs of the church and the needs of the world; the Veneration of the Cross; and Communion from the Reserved Sacrament.

The Stations of the Cross are often led as a devotional Service on Good Friday. During the Stations of the Cross we walk the road with Christ from the time he stands before Pilate until the time of his burial. We observe special moments – or "stations" on the road to Calvary recognizing the great sacrifice that was made for our sins.

- On Holy Saturday all is silent as if time is suspended as the body of Jesus lies in the tomb.

- On Holy Saturday evening, after

the sun goes down, many churches celebrate The Great Vigil of Easter, following the Jewish understanding of the day beginning at sunset. This Service includes:

The blessing of new fire and lighting of the Paschal Candle which is a symbol of the "Light of Christ" in our midst. The service of the Word, which recounts the history of our salvation from the story of creation, through the obedience of Abraham, Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea, and the teachings of the prophets.

The service of Baptism. If no Baptisms are to occur, the congregation renews its own Baptismal Vows as a reminder that we belong to Christ Jesus.

The first Eucharist of Easter when we raise our voices with joyous songs, alleluias, a resounding canticle all in recognition of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and our share in his glory. This is perhaps the most ancient Liturgy preserved in the church today.

- On Easter Day we have moved out of Holy Week into a new season of celebration and joy as we recognize our share in the new life of Resurrection. Alleluias are sung, praise is given and we greet each service with the moving Easter Acclamation:

"Alleluia. Christ is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia."

Need a ride to a Parish Event?

Our St. Francis Men's Group is offering 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 ride, please call the Parish Office, 625-1370.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Gloria Harmon
Sandra Welch
Don Scott
- 2 Mary Challman
Paige Day
- 3 Kathleen Chidester
Laura Rowley
- 4 Annie Whiteside
Virginia Pinnell
- 5 Valerie Von Guttenberg
- 6 David Vleck
- 7 Linda Schnelle
Mary Levine
- 8 Russ DeMarco
Robert Reiersen
- 10 Harry Russell
- 11 Greg Smith
Greg Stoffel
- 12 Edith Hawkins
- 13 Christina Hornyan
- 15 Sue Speiwak
- 16 Jackie Springer
Joe Gabriel
- 17 Wayne North
Douglas Wolfe
- 18 Shirley Gresham
- 20 Carolyn Andersen
- 21 Jenney Isiogu
- 23 Lois Weinert
Alice Haynes
- 24 Bill McGibbon
- 25 Carol Gaydos
- 27 Fred Keller
- 28 Ann Gritman
Jill Foerster
- 30 Lois Pittenger
William Gates

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Craig & Thomasina Reid
- 17 Peter & Margaret Murphy
- 21 Eric & Shirley Gough
- 23 Tom & Charlotte Neyland
- 26 Jerry & Diane McAllister
Patricia & William Peissig
- 27 Michael Wilson & Penny Phillip
- 30 Joseph & Patricia McCarthy

Do we have...

your@e-mail.address?



Letters

Dear Rev. Colville and Parishioners of St. Francis in the Valley,

Your very generous gift of \$730 will help children create life-long memories and encounter the love of Christ this summer.

Thank you very much for your recent contribution to the Chapel Rock Campership Fund,
God bless,

Kelly Wood

Seekers Discussion Group

The Seekers Group meets each Thursday at 12:30 PM in the Conference Room. Sessions end at 1:50 PM for those who participate in the St. Francis Parish Choir. Everyone is welcome at any meeting. For additional information, please call Anne Charter at 625-9591.

Prayer Chain

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

Summer Bible Study

Beginning on the first Tuesday in May (May 7), a Summer Bible Study will be offered for anyone interested in the material to be covered. The class will run until the last Tuesday in August (August 28). The meetings will be held beginning at 10 AM and ending at 11:30 AM in the St. Francis Room. Because seating is limited and, because of the nature of the class, enrollment will be very limited. If you're interested in this class, don't delay signing up. Call Anne Charter, 625-9591. Be sure to leave a message if you're not able to speak to her directly. The "nature of the class" means it is a book discussion, not a lecture presentation.

Three books will be used during the sessions. They are from a series of books including thirteen separate volumes each written by a member of the Anglican Society of Biblical Scholars. As such the books reflect the Anglican point of view. Their special value is that they emphasize context and interpretations that are not literal. Most of the writers are Episcopal priests or bishops.

The three books are *THE LAW* by Kevin A. Wilson, *SECOND ISAIAH* by Stephen A. Cook, and *DANIEL* by Edmond A. Desueza and Judith Jones. All the books are available from the usual sources.

2019 Parish Statistics

Baptisms

Darrin Dale Hoiland, Jr.

Deaths

Rod Thompson

Maggie Covert

Nilo Larriva

Bruce Zimmerman

Olive Clapp

John Zimmerman

Olive Clapp

John Zimmerman

Leon Adams

Barbara Gonzales

Transfers In

Ford & Cathy Demming

Carolyn Gates & Will Wiemer

Ken & Angelique Warren

Transfers Out

Robert & Anna Johnson

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.

On Listening

There is a difference, I would suggest, between hearing and listening. The person closest to me often reminds me that he has already told me something before, whatever it may be, when I ask him for the umpteenth time about that very same thing. There are only a couple of possible explanations for this: either I am hard of hearing (I'm not) or I'm simply not listening. So it's obviously the latter. I don't really have an excuse—although I'm fond of the one about our being constantly bombarded by sound (a lot of it noise) and that, therefore, it becomes ever more difficult to actually focus on what's being said, etc., etc. And I've used that one to good advantage a few times. There is something to it, after all.

When it comes to music (you knew I was going there eventually) the difference between hearing and listening is, maybe, a little easier to understand. We do hear a lot of stuff (some of it claims to be music) that is intentionally devised to live in the background. Most of it is relatively harmless, while some of it is beyond irritating, like the racket we're forced to listen to when we're 'on hold.' (Igor Stravinsky once said that Muzak ...well, ask me sometime and I'll tell you.) The music performed at, say, a concert is intended to live in the foreground; both the authors of the pieces and the performers hope it will be *listened to* and not just *heard*.

Just hearing is passive while actual listening is active and, therefore, demanding of some effort. It's certainly possible to use the kind of music that requires active listening (if it's to be understood) in a passive way; I'm afraid I do it all the time. But I find it impossible to listen actively to music that's intended only to be heard.

We used to be, I think, more of a listening culture than we now are. There really is a lot of noise all around us crowding out the things that are worth listening to. But give listening a try anyway. Good for the soul. *Gerald N*

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 ear, 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 emmy-mex@yahoo.com); BrandE Faupell (435-512-0286 or bfaupell@gmail.com) or Judy Craig (520-237-0466 or judyismynname@zoho.com).

Recycle

We are able to recycle used ink jet cartridges at \$2 each, realizing over \$600 a year toward office supplies. Recycle boxes are located in the Parish Office and just inside the southwest door of the Parish Hall.

Home Communion

If you, or someone you know, would like to have the Sacrament brought to you at home, please call the Parish Office (520-625-1370) to arrange for this service. We are very happy to bring the Sacrament to anyone who cannot attend church for any reason.

Reserving Meeting Time and Space at Saint Francis

Individuals wishing to reserve meeting space at St. Francis and/or discuss room set-ups should make those arrangements through Administrative Assistant Bethel Klein. It is **essential** your meeting be logged into the Master Calendar. If you need it, be sure to ask for 'set-up' and 'clean-up' time as part of your booking.

One week prior to your event please inventory the pantry next to the kitchen and let Bethel know if there are enough supplies to meet your needs. A parishioner usually shops for us twice a month. Thanks for your help and cooperation.

Getting Your Event into Parish Publications

Sunday Bulletin notices should be given to the Parish Administrator by NOON the Tuesday prior to the Sunday you wish the notice to appear. Notices should be in written form and sent via email whenever possible.

Franciscan Staff material should be given to the Parish Administrator NO LATER THAN the 10th of the month preceding publication.

Address Changes

Please let us know if your e-mail address, street address, zip code or telephone number changes. Get in touch with Rae Turberg in the Parish Financial Office to update your information for our records.

ST. FRANCIS-IN-THE-VALLEY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
600 South La Cañada Drive
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