



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. 59, No. 9

November, 2022

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

Words From Warren . . .

Dear friends,

Two major events happened around the beginning of November thirty years ago one day apart. On October 30, 1992, my paternal grandmother Ethel passed away just shy of her 90th birthday. On the next day, October 31, I was ordained a priest in the Diocese of Toronto. Right after the ordination, Annette and I drove to Montreal for the funeral. Two very different events but linked in a special way.

My grandmother was the family matriarch on my father's side. One of twelve children, she was a person who loved her family; quick witted, and very strong willed, she knew what she liked and what she didn't. Recently some of us watched the movie about Fred Rogers. A question Mr. Rogers frequently asked people was, "Who loved you into being?" I believe my grandmother was one of those people.

My grandmother shared her love of plants with me. She taught me how to nurture plants, create new plants from clippings, transplant, etc. I still have a dieffenbachia plant she gave me from a cane clipping in the 1970's. I have since shared cane clippings with my family and keep her memory alive. My love of gardening and the beauty of God's Creation comes from my grandmother.

My ordination to the priesthood on October 31, 1992, was a special day on many levels. It was the culmination of a journey started when I was 8 years old. It was also special in that my parents, who were opposed to my decision to follow Jesus, attended my ordination.

My parents were at my ordination because twelve years before, my grandmother told my father to not turn his back on me because of my faith decision. Her wisdom and strength, and her reminder to my father of the importance of family, meant that the relationship with my parents were never severed.

Thirty years have flown by quickly since 1992. Much has happened in that time. Annette and I have raised a family of three boys. I have been Rector of two parishes and now in my third—in a new country. My mother passed away eleven years ago, but my father is still going strong.

Thirty years of priestly ministry has changed me. Many lives have been touched. Hundreds of shared moments of celebration and tears. Chosen by Christ to be His presence to His people. I hope my grandmother would be proud.

Blessings and Peace,

Fr. Warren

Book review

by Jack Gardner,

member of the St. Francis Church Library Committee.

We have a new book in the Church Library, *Glorious Companions, Five Centuries of Anglican Spirituality* by The Rev. Richard Schmidt, consisting of five centuries of Anglican and Episcopalian writers, from Thomas Cranmer, the father of the Anglican Prayer Book, to Desmond Tutu, who was the epitome of forgiveness during and after Apartheid. In between are such other luminaries as the Wesley brothers, C.S. Lewis, Dorothy Sayers, and 23 other writers. That makes this book a must for anyone who is curious about Anglicanism and the history of the church we call Episcopalian in America.

The recent death of the head of the Anglican Church in England, Queen Elizabeth II, brings to mind the large part that the royalty played in those 5 centuries. While the royalty of England were the head of the Anglican Church through these tumultuous years, many of the men and women in this book could said to be the heart.

Each chapter contains the history and the sayings, sermons, viewpoints, or poetry of one of the 29 subjects in the book, so it can be read and studied one historical person at a time. For anyone new to the church or anyone just curious about the history of their church, the book gives to the reader a broad overview of the thinking of the last five centuries. *Glorious Companions* is not in the “can’t put It down” category. It is best read, at say, a chapter a day, taking time after each reading to contemplate what you have read.

Another book with several authors and a ton of history is the Bible, which was written over several thousand years. Copies of this book can also be found in the Church Library.

C.S. Lewis Class

Our next class on the life and thought of the great Christian apologist C.S. Lewis will be held Monday, November 28, at 2 PM in the Conference Room. We will continue our in-depth look at Lewis’ essay ‘Transposition,’ the fourth piece in the collection *The Weight of Glory and Other Addresses*.

The essay (originally a sermon preached by Lewis in the chapel of Mansfield College, Oxford, on the Day of Pentecost, 1944) explores the theology of revelation and how revelation is communicated.

The book is available through Amazon Prime (used copies are also available through Amazon). If you are interested in the class, contact Gerald via email at gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org and he will get more information to you.

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600 South La Cañada Drive, Green Valley AZ 85614

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Green Valley, is to live as Christ's heart and hands
in the world.*

Gratitude in Giving

2023 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

What is Stewardship? It is a part of our faith journey which includes three primary elements; Time, Talent, and Treasure. The "2023 Gratitude in Giving Campaign" for St. Francis in the Valley was kicked off during October; with an informational mailing which included an ESTIMATE OF GIVING form. Parishioners are asked to share their estimated financial support (Treasure) of St. Francis in the Valley for the coming year, which in turn allows for budget planning for: staff, maintenance and repair of the physical campus, and the many ministries which support our parish family, the local communities, and the world at large.

The ESTIMATE OF GIVING form can also be completed online by going to the St. Francis in the Valley website, where you can click on the *2023 Gratitude in Giving Campaign* button which will take you to the campaign information and the Estimate of Giving Form. If you have misplaced or did not receive the mailing, you can fill out the form online, or print it and manually fill it out and mail it to the church, or drop it in the collection basket. Please respond by November 15, 2022, as the budgeting process has begun.

Please note: you can share your estimate anonymously, if you so choose.

Welcome Ministry Musings

I am so proud of the positive responses I get from newcomers about how we made them feel welcome on their visit. Many of you are getting very good at seeking them out after the service and during coffee hour and making them feel at home. Those of you that tend to be shy, give it a try, it becomes easier with a little effort. One area we should pay more attention to. Some newcomers are gregarious and quickly fit in and make connections. Others, however, find that a little harder. We need to be aware of folks that sit by themselves and look lost. As a help, we mark newcomer's name tags with a colored dot that identifies them as new. So be on the lookout for these folks, seek them out and get to know them. You never know when you might find your next good friend, and God will bless your efforts.

Gary LaBarre, Welcome Ministry

Veterans' Day Service

Join us at 9 AM on Friday, November 11 (Veterans' Day) for a service to honor and thank all who have served in the armed forces of the United States of

Thanksgiving Dinner

The Turkey Squad will be preparing Thanksgiving dinner complete with turkey, ham, smoked salmon, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, green beans, carrots and pumpkin pies. Parishioners are asked to make a pot luck donation or a monetary donation to assist with purchasing food.

Sign up in the Parish Hall after the Sunday service, or you may sign up in Parish Office during the week.

This event is open to the community too (but don't forget that a reservation is needed). If anyone needs special attention, please contact Sandy Eckstein phone 410-808-3881 and I will help you.

Dinner begins at 1 PM on Thanksgiving day, Thursday, November 24, 2022. *Sandy*

Welcome Back BBQ

Join us as we celebrate the return of our winter visitors and welcome new members to St. Francis at our annual Welcome Back BBQ on Saturday, November 12, from 4-6 pm. Hot Dog/Hamburger with all the fixings for dinner and live music for entertainment. Tickets are now available in the Parish Office for \$10 per person.

Boutique Now Open

St. Francis Boutique is now open Sundays following the 9 o'clock service. Come see our beautiful, unique merchandise as you get ready for fall, Halloween and Thanksgiving celebrations! When you buy in the Boutique, you are helping support one of St. Francis outreach ministries because all profits go to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. *Jylene Wright*

Forward Day by Day

FORWARD DAY BY DAY devotional booklets for November, December (2022) and January (2023) are available in the Parish Office during the week, and on Sunday mornings you can find them in the Parish Hall as well as the Office.

Senior Warden's Thoughts

November brings cooler weather and lots of activity at St. Francis. On November 4, we host the Good Deeds Together committee's Mitzvah Day (See <https://gvc-Foundation.org>). That evening, we host a True Concord Concert.

On Saturday, November 12, we are having a Welcome Back BBQ with lots of good eats and fellowship. There will be an opportunity at the BBQ and the following Sunday to sign up for a church ministry (or 2) at our Ministry Fair. It's time to serve St. Francis and the community, so look for the sign-up sheets.

On Sunday, November 20, our Bishop, Jennifer Reddall, will be joining us for worship and Confirmation. And on Thanksgiving, there will be a wonderful Thanksgiving Dinner prepared for our church community. Watch for details.

I hope that becoming involved in our church will give you an opportunity to meet new friends and to reap the rewards of serving others. All our ministries need some additional members, whether it be church worship roles, service, outreach, or social activities. So come to our Ministry Fair at the BBQ or Sunday, November 13's coffee hour and sign-up.

As we move toward Advent, become an active part of St. Francis In The Valley. We look forward to working with you.

In Christ,

Jullie Reppenhagen, Senior Warden

Junior Warden's Notes

BUILDING AND GROUNDS PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES:

1. The cost for the replacement of lighting over the altar in the Chapel and Chancel is \$7900.94 and approved by Vestry. This project requires the use of a boom. The work began October 24 and is projected to take 3 days.

2. A general electrician is making repairs after a power surge knocked out power in part of the Parish Hall, kitchen hall, adjacent bathroom, and the Boutique. New outlets are also now installed for each of the two freezers.

3. The church continues to await notification of coverage from the insurance company and from the local heating and cooling company from their evaluation of the damage/need for repair versus replacement after the horrendous July 16 rain with hail and wind. All flat roofs and some skylights over

office, classrooms, and Parish Hall, and the tile roofs on Church proper and Chapel were damaged.

4. The grounds have had multiple and repeated areas of erosion/washouts across the grounds since July. Craig Reid, grounds parishioner/volunteer and Reg Kahrmanis, landscape parishioner/volunteer, have been vigilant about monitoring the grounds for flooding, erosion onto the street and sidewalk, and any tree and shrub damage. They also have taken immediate action to repair any and all rock runoffs, clean mud from the sidewalk along La Cañada, install water catchment boxes and drain pipes to reduce wash outs, such as near one of the walkways from the side parking lot (North) into designated parking area, where the drain in the asphalt, which is clear/draining but unable to handle excessive rain running off the parking lot. Thanks to Reg and Craig as well as Mark Stril and Jack Murdoch who have assisted with this ground work. The Church has purchased additional river rock and gravel, cement, and other supplies to make permanent changes to prevent erosion.

5. We are seeking bids for the replacement of the deteriorating trellises on the east side of the office complex. More information is forthcoming.

6. The bricks on the south side of the Memorial Garden wall are deteriorating as are other areas of the wall. We are seeking bids for repair and sealing.

7. The deteriorating, wooden fence around sections of Church property has been affected by recent storms. Thank you, Mark Stril and Craig Reid for repairing fallen posts and rails.

8. The transformers of the lighting systems in the reception office and the Madeline Williams hospitality room are failing and are being replaced.

9. The completion of a topper/cap to match the wood color of the new sound booth in the back of the Church proper is in progress. Watch that space! Thank you, Jim Ratley.

10. Craig Reid has completed several, thorough sprayings of persistent crops of weeds on the grounds and along La Cañada.

11. A landscape/yard cleanup company recently helped complete the fall cleanup on the grounds. That included removing downed limbs, dead cacti and shrubs, pruning of select, large cacti, and removing large amounts of landscape debris, and taking all to the dump.

12. Thank you to Clyde Tardy, former Sexton, (and sister, Cheryl Tardy-Albin), for painting white so

many of the cement parking stops on the grounds! This is excellent work, which really perks up the Church parking lot and makes it safer for efficient parking.

13. Three parishioners have inquired about volunteering to assist with the grounds work. Thank you! We appreciate having new grounds team partners caring for God's Creation! Contact Craig Reid, Reg Kahrmanis, or Kristi Menix for more information or discussion.

14. Reg Kahrmanis has generously donated and planted five, small barrel cactus in the north, side parking lot and a number of lantana (gold) around the front entrance of the Church. Thank you, Reg.

15. We are renewing our contract with Critter Control who provides monthly rat/rodent control and cleanup on our grounds. This company also closes any new apertures in our buildings to prevent entrance by bats or rodents.

16. Mark Stril has returned the tires of the Church's blue trailer back to working order as well as its electrical functioning for towing. Thanks, Mark.

17. The water cistern at the Labrynth is functioning to provide water for cleaning and watering. Also, some small succulents and a potted, blooming flower adorn the area around the small statue of St. Francis. Thank you, Arlene Stremming. And, thanks to Joyce and Vince Remillard, also, for their devoted upkeep of the Labyrinth.

18. We mourn the loss of one of the oak trees in the Courtyard. The cause is not clear. It will be removed and in time will be replaced.

19. The ocotilla in the Memorial Garden fell over—probably due to the monsoon moisture and wind—and was recently removed. But, the canes were dried for a few days and up to 4 or more have been replanted in various places on campus. Thank you, Reg, Mark, and Chris Arundell for your work and ingenuity!

20. The large and visible metal sign along La Cañada in the front of the Church are promoting the multiple activities going on at St. Francis. Thank you, Deana Bond, and Deborah Harby!

Please know that it really does take a village to manage and complete the work of looking after our buildings and landscape and grounds! I am so grateful to our volunteers, sexton and office staff, and clergy!

Happy Halloween!

Kristi Menix, Junior Warden

Handbell Ensemble

Our Handbell Ensemble will soon be rehearsing in the Choir Loft on Tuesdays at 10 AM and new members are welcome. If you can count to four and maintain a steady beat, you're in! Just contact Sophia Witte by text at 520-509-5037 or email at smw_witte@yahoo.com.

Parish Choir

The St. Francis Parish Choir is back in session. Rehearsals are held at 2 PM on Thursdays in the Choir Loft. New members are always welcome and needed in all sections of the choir. Get in touch with the Choirmaster at gerald@stfranciscgvaz.org and let him know of your interest.

How to Access Service Videos

Go to the Parish website (www.stfranciscgvaz.org), scroll down to the bottom of the page where you will see the current video, click on the arrow ► to start the video, and enjoy!

Prayer Chain

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

Remembering Madeline

The room just outside the Rector's office—now decorated for use as a place for visitors to have a cup of coffee or tea while waiting to see one of the clergy or member of the Parish staff—is dedicated to Madeline Williams, sometime Parish Secretary (from 1980 to 1995) and, until Michael Case took over the organ bench, organist for the 8 o'clock service (when we had one). Madeline was, I think, self-taught as an organist; she obviously knew how to read music (if things didn't get too complicated) and she could make her way around a keyboard fairly well, or at least well enough, although she obviously lacked skill in the pedal department. Undeterred, she played the organ in every church in Green Valley; she was known (and loved) all over town. Need an organist for a funeral or memorial service? Madeline was at the ready.

Madeline was a stickler for doing things properly and in good order. And she wasn't afraid to tell you what she thought you needed to know. Our rela-

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NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Cindy Radford
- 4 Pat Richey
- 7 Lynann Taylor
- 10 April Cole
- 12 Matthew Harby
- 12 Sophia Witte
- 13 Sue Girardeau
- 15 Jane Barkley
- 15 Martha Jones
- 16 Connie Wilt
- 21 Roberta Tucker
- 21 Donna Wangard
- 22 Mary Beth Bates
- 22 Margaret Bowman
- 22 Trish Rodemeyer
- 22 Bill Ryan
- 23 Frank Davidson
- 23 Roger Williams
- 24 Warren Leibovitch
- 25 Ann Brodt
- 25 Nancy Ross
- 26 Marilyn Findley
- 27 Diane Holt
- 27 Stephen Schwarzmman
- 27 Diane Ward
- 30 Kathy Medeiros

November ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Leon & Linda Lies
- 9 Stephen & Diane Schwarzmman
- 12 George Burrige & Ann Brodt
- 14 Joe Gabriel & Sherri Cadeaux
- 19 Barry & Donna Sheridan
- 24 Daniel & Phyllis Messier
- 25 Victor & Susanne Reed
- 30 John & Martha Smith



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tionship as Director of Music and unofficial Assistant Organist was one of mutual admiration, or at least I think so. She was pretty sure I knew what I was doing and I admired her for simply being who she was. And we always had fun with one another.

One of her favorite little touches at the end of a Sunday service—just before the Postlude—was to play three ‘dings’ on the chimes. (Most organs have a chimes stop.) This is an old practice—long since blessedly out of fashion; I remember it from my childhood. I loved it back then, although I never knew what, if anything, it was about. One ‘ding’ each for Father, Son, and Holy Ghost? Who knows? Who ever knew? It was calculated to be, of course, a moment of solemnity. For Madeline in the 2000s it was a kind of signature. This is Madeline: ding, ding, ding.

Every time Madeline dinged away I cringed, and I threatened (well, sort of) to disconnect the chimes stop if she insisted on chiming in spite of my objections. I knew—and I have feeling she knew—that I had no idea how to disconnect the chimes. And so she chimed on, and is probably still doing so.

Madeline died in 2014. For her memorial service (the place was, appropriately, packed) I wrote a piece for organ based on the spiritual *Deep River*, a song I knew she loved. At the end, as the piece comes to a quiet close, the score calls for three dings on the chimes or, in case the organ doesn’t have a chimes stop,

a handbell or orchestral bell. There’s also an alternate ending should there be, alas, not a chime or bell to be had. (I hope the alternate ending is never used.)

Michael played the piece beautifully at Madeline’s service and, when the chimes chimed, there was an audible gasp from the assembled mourners. “Oh, there’s Madeline,” I heard someone say. And I could imagine hearing Madeline say “I told you so.”

Gerald

PARISH MEETINGS AND EVENTS — NOVEMBER 2022

Tuesday, 1 November

Men’s Group, 9 AM, CfR
Handbells, 10 AM, Loft
Intro to the Episcopal Church
11 AM, Parish Hall

Wednesday, 2 November

Holy Eucharist, 9 AM, Chapel

Thursday, 3 November

Parish Choir, 2 PM, Loft

Friday, 4 November

True Concord Concert, 7 PM, Ch

Monday, 7 November

YouTube Class, 10:30 AM, PH

Tuesday, 8 November

Handbells, 10 AM, Loft
Intro to the Episcopal Church
11 AM, Parish Hall
Vestry, 4 PM, CfR

Wednesday, 9 November

Holy Eucharist, 9 AM, Chapel
DOK, 9:30 AM, VR
Memorials Cmte, 10 AM, SFR
Library Committee, 1 PM, L

Thursday, 10 November

Parish Choir, 2 PM, Loft

Friday, 11 November

Veterans’ Day Service, 9 AM, Cpl

Saturday, 12 November

Welcome Back BBQ, 4 PM, PH

Tuesday, 15 November

Men's Group, 9 AM, CfR
Handbells, 10 AM, Loft
Intro to the Episcopal Church
11 AM, Parish Hall

Wednesday, 16 November

Holy Eucharist, 9 AM, Chapel

Thursday, 17 November

Parish Choir, 2 PM, Loft

Monday, 21 November

Hearts & Hands, 10 am, CfR

Tuesday, 22 November

Handbells, 10 AM, Loft

Wednesday, 23 November

Holy Eucharist, 9 AM, Chapel

Thursday, 24 November

Thanksgiving Day Service,
9 AM, Cpl

Thanksgiving Dinner, 1 PM, PH

Monday, 28 November

C.S. Lewis Class, 2 PM, CfR

Tuesday, 29 November

Handbells, 10 AM, Loft

CALENDAR LEGEND

PH - Parish Hall

VR - Vulliamy Room

CfR - Conference Room

SFR - Saint Francis Room

L - Library

**2022 Parish Statistics****Transfers In**

Mark & Tisha Stril

Transfers Out

Bill & Alicia Baucom

Al Saterbak

The Rev. Pat Kirk

Deaths

Jerry McAllister

Grace Marben

Julie Ratley

Barbara Phillips

Richard Tinney

Lee Cornelison

Nancy Pearce

Lois Weinert

Edith Hawkins

Al Bowman

Arizona Episcopalian Magazine

The AZ Episcopalian magazine is now available online. The current issue has a variety of articles showcasing all the great things going on around the Diocese. If you would rather receive it by mail—or to sign up to receive it online—contact Deborah (Finance Officer) through the Parish Office (520-625-1370 or deborah@stfranciscgvaz.org) to sign up. It's FREE!

Do we have...

your@e-mail.address?

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH

**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 Parish Administrator Gerald Near. 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 Gerald 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 Deborah Harby in the Parish Financial Office to update your information for our records.

ST. FRANCIS-IN-THE-VALLEY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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