

SAINT FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY CPISCOPAL CHURCH Green Valley, Arizona

The Very Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch, *Rector*The Rev. Becky Williamson, *Deacon*The Rev. Linda Hutson, *Deacon*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE TWO THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST REMEMBERING VETERANS DAY

12 November 2023

ORGAN PRELUDE

Ch. M. Widor, 1844-1937

Meditation: Symphony 1

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OPENING HYMN 324

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

- 2. King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords in human vesture, in the Body and the Blood he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.
- 3. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way, as the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day, that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.
- 4. At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless eye veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, "Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

THE OPENING SENTENCE

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,

and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO (Glory to God in the highest)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE SALUTATION

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

THE COLLECT

God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON (Please be seated)

A Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (6:12-16).

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her.

She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.

One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,

for she will be found sitting at the gate.

To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

Reader The Word of the Lord *People Thanks be to God*

THE PSALM (70)

- 1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; * O LORD, make haste to help me.
- 2 Let those who seek my life be ashamed and altogether dismayed; * let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.
- 3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, * because they are ashamed.

- 4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; * let those who love your salvation say for ever, "Great is the LORD!"
- 5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; * come to me speedily, O God.
- 6 You are my helper and my deliverer; * O LORD, do not tarry.

THE EPISTLE

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians (4:13-18).

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader The Word of the Lord. *People Thanks be to God.*

GRADUAL HYMN 53

- 1. Once he came in blessing, all our ills redressing; came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy; bore the cross to save us, hope and freedom gave us.
- 2. Still he comes within us, still his voice would win us from the sins that hurt us, would to Truth convert us: not in torment hold us, but in love enfold us.

- 3. Thus, if thou canst name him, not ashamed to claim him, but wilt trust him boldly nor dost love him coldly, he will then receive thee, heal thee, and forgive thee.
 - 4. One who thus endureth bright reward secureth. Come, then, O Lord Jesus, from our sins release us; let us here confess thee till in heaven we bless thee.

THE GOSPEL (please stand, as you are able)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (25:1-13).

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: The Very Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch & Jack Bundy, Vice President, Military Officers Association of America, Green Valley Chapter

THE NICENE CREED

 $oldsymbol{\mathsf{V}}$ of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures: he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Form VI) *The people may stand, sit, or kneel Leader* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work; For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world; For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation; For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God; For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Jennifer our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King; And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; *Who put their trust in you*.

Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We acknowledge the native peoples of the land on which we stand: We pay our respects to the Pasqua Yaqui and Pima tribes for their care of this land.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

in your compassion forgive us our sins,

known and unknown,

things done and left undone;

and so uphold us by your Spirit

that we may live and serve you in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of your Name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**.

THE PEACE

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

THE OFFERTORY

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. (Ephesians 5:2)

AT THE OFFERTORY

setting by Peter Aston, 1938-2013

I give you a new commandment: love one another; as I have loved you, so you are to love one another. If there is this love among you, then all will know that you are my disciples. (John 13:34-35)

AT THE PRESENTATION

Priest Almighty God, accept all we offer you this day,

and give us generous hearts to serve you in

all who claim our help.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

AT THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer B)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you. Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *People It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

(Celebrant) It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people may stand, sit, or kneel.

(Celebrant) We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father, Celebrant and People
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Francis and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

Celebrant And now, as our Savior

Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Together Our Father, who art in heaven...

...for ever and ever. Amen.

AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts by faith,

with thanksgiving.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All baptized Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The elements are offered at the Communion Rail and may be received either kneeling or standing. Wine is received by intinction only. If you would like to receive a blessing only, please cross your arms over your chest. Please remember to follow Usher's directions.

PRAYER FOR THE SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (TO BE SAID BY ALL)

In the name of this congregation we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood. We, who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Together Almighty and everliving God,

we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food

of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;

and for assuring us in these holy mysteries

that we are living members of the Body of your Son,

and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out

to do the work you have given us to do,

to love and serve you

as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN 579

- 1. Almighty Father, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the restless wave, who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:

 O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.
 - 2. O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain o'er which our traffic runs amain by mountain pass or valley low; wherever, Lord, thy people go, protect them by thy guarding hand from every peril on the land.
- 3. O Spirit, whom the Father sent to spread abroad the firmament; O Wind of heaven, by thy might save all who dare the eagle's flight, and keep them by thy watchful care from every peril in the air.
- 4. O Trinity of love and power, our people shield in danger's hour; from rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoe're they go; thus evermore shall rise to thee glad praise from space, air, land, and sea.

THE DISMISSAL ORGAN POSTLUDE

Ch. M. Widor, 1844-1937

Alla Marcia

We Welcome You

WARM WELCOME to all and, if you are a visitor, we encourage you to make yourself known to your fellow worshippers and to our St. Francis clergy. If you would like to know more about the Parish, please speak

with Fr. Warren or get in touch with him via email at <code>frwarren@stfrancisgvaz.org</code>. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor card and hand it to an usher or one of the clergy, or place it in the offering basket. We would love to hear from you.

Announcements

This morning...

- ▶ Parishioner Jack Bundy will be speaking at sermon time this morning. Jack is a retired US Army Warrant Officer and current Vice President of the Green Valley Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America.
- ▶ The Parish Choir is under the direction of Priscilla Zimmermann this morning.

This Week	at St. Francis
Monday, 10a	Handbells, Loft
Monday, 1p	Bill Peissig Memorial,
	Church
Tuesday, 10:30a	Bible Study, Parish Hall
Tuesday, 4p	Vestry, Conference Rm
	Room 2
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
Wednesday, 10:30a	Confined to a Canvas,
-	Parish Hall

Border Ministry

Parish Choir, Loft

Thursday, 2p

We are in need of clean sturdy food containers that can be used for Hot food (please, no flimsy lightweight pastry containers). Also ,prescription bottles are no longer being collected, as they are not allowed at KBI (KINO BORDER INITIATIVE). We thank all who have volunteered to lend a hand with Border Ministry. Rena Robbins

Parish Choir rehearsals

Parish Choir rehearsals are again being held on Thursdays at 2 PM in the Choir Loft. Choirmaster Gerald is eager to welcome all members, old and new. Singers are needed in all sections of the group. If you would like to become part of this great ministry (as old as the Parish), let Gerald know via email (gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org) or 520-625-1370.

Christmas Shopping at the Boutique!

Many of us are still looking forward to enjoying the special times of the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday but many have also expressed their readiness to get a head start on their Christmas shopping. The Boutique is here and ready for you! Please come see us after the 9 o'clock service. *Gylene Wright*

Prison Ministry

Wow, we are off to a good start, 110 Perryville Christmas Cards were signed last Sunday, only 290 to go! Thank you to all signed cards. We are also in need of postage stamps from the Post Office. If you are able to donate a stamp or two we would appreciate it very much. The movie *Confined to a Canvas* will be shown in the Parish Hall on Wednesday at 10:30 AM. Stop by the Prison Ministry table to get your ticket. Thank you for your support! *Rena Robbins*

Volunteers Needed

We need Food Bank delivery volunteers for December and January. If you are able to help, email Barb Hook (behook@aol.com) and let her know. Thank you to volunteers Sherry Evans (October), Jan Hall, (November), and Arliene Stremming (February).

Green Team Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Please join us for the next Green Team meeting Tuesday, November 7, 10:30 AM. Your input is welcome and we're hoping to see some "snowbirds" joining us.

TIP: Trees control climate by moderating the effect of the sun, rain and wind. Leaves absorb and filter the sun's radiant energy, keeping things cooler. Tucson Electric Power has a program where customers can receive up to two trees for \$5 each. Susan Burch sburch33@gmail.com

Your gently-read books needed The St. Francis Library Committee will be hosting a massive book sale—not just of religious books, but ALL KINDS OF BOOKS—in February 2024. So why publicize this now? Because we need all the books in your home that you've already read (or given up on) and need/want to get rid of and would like to donate for our sale! The money generated from the sale will be used to support our digital catalog and buy new books for the library. Please bring your gently-read books to the St. Francis library between October and December 2023, leaving them in the corner to the left of the Library door.

Christmas Stars

Bea Dow and Nancy Symons (aka Santa's Elves) are busy helping the Salvation Army spread Christmas cheer in the form of \$50 gift cards. You will find the Stars (each one with the name of a needy teenager) available in the Parish Hall following services on Sundays, November 12, 19, 26 and December 3. Return your Star with a \$50 Visa gift card by Sunday, December 10 or, alternatively, you may write a check for \$50 (made payable to St. Francis Church with 'Xmas Stars' in the memo line) and the elves will do the shopping for you. Stars and checks may also be returned to the Parish Office (open Monday through Thursday, 9 AM until Noon) by Thursday, December 7.

Thanksgiving at St. Francis Thursday, November 23

Our annual Thanksgiving Day service will be celebrated at 11:30 AM in the Church.

Following the service you are invited to join the St. Francis family for Thanksgiving dinner at 1 PM. All are welcome. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors to this traditional feast of gratitude and thanksgiving. There is no charge, but you will need to sign up at the Social Activities table in the Parish Hall after services or call the Parish Office (520-625-1370) to register.

Hearts & Hands Ministries

- ▶ VALLEY ASSISTANCE: VA helps folks in need by providing bar soap, laundry and dish washing detergent, ammonia (or glass cleaner), toilet paper, tampons, sanitary pads (regular or medium, or overnight-style with wings). You can help by purchasing some of these items, bringing them to church and depositing them in the labeled, purple container in the Sexton's closet (Southwest corner of the Parish Hall).
- ▶ LOCAL FOOD BANKS: We continue to collect non-perishable items for our local Food Banks. Monetary donations are welcome too, simply write your check payable to St. Francis with *Green Valley Food Bank* in the MEMO line and we'll take care of the rest. Drop your check in the Offering Basket on Sunday morning, or drop it off at the Parish Office during the week.
- ▶ VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to deliver these gifts to the Food Bank on Continental any time during the week. If you are willing to take one month, please pick your month and email behook@aol.com.
- ▶ Don't forget: the Sahuarita Food Bank collects cardboard (cereal box style too). The receptacle is on the south side of the Food Bank building, on La Cañada.

From the Parish Treasurer October 2023

Income Expense Actual \$44,206 \$56,557

YEAR TO DATE

INCOME EXPENSE
Actual \$404,467 \$539,909
Budget \$437,142 \$626,113

I would like to thank all of you who have already returned your pledge for the coming year (2024) and your commitment to our wonderful parish of St. Francis in the Valley. Marvelous things can be accomplished with the support of our parishioners. If you have not yet returned your *Estimate of Giving*, please do so within the next two weeks if possible. Your commitment allows for us to plan (budget) for the coming year and, more importantly, to put into action the HEARTS AND HANDS of St. Francis in the Valley throughout our community and the world.

Gloria Cadwalader, Parish Treasurer

Finance Committee Meeting Monday, November 20, at 10 AM in Meeting Room 2.

Forward Day by Day

Daily devotional booklets for November, December, and January (2024), are now available in the Parish Office and Parish Hall.

Prayer Chain

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

A Gift of Flowers

If you would like to give a gift of flowers to be placed on the High Altar in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for many blessings, please call Carol Berg at 520-373-5770 and

let her know of your interest. If she is not at home, just leave a message with your name and phone number and she will return your call. Flower donation is \$35.

Prayer Requests

Remembering those in need of our prayers: Paul Witte, Henry Witte, John Witte, Dick Kosnick, Bob Vint, Sr., Kelly Davis, Ben Shiriak, Eileen Fanning, Sandra Findley, Shirley Underwood, Amanda, Frank Brown, Debi Murry, Delilah Wegrzyn, Tom Moorhead, Edgar, Miguel, Elaine & Paul Deysenroth, Anne Charter, Linda Greenwald, Joan Jakubiak, Christie Kuebler

Remembering those who have died: pray for those who have died

St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

600 South La Cañada Drive Green Valley, Arizona 85614 520-625-1370

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The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Reddall, Bishop
The Very Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch, Rector
The Rev. Becky Williamson, Deacon
The Rev. Linda Hutson, Deacon
Gerald Near, Director of Music and
Parish Communications
Deborah Harby, Finance Officer
Megan McAllister, Finance Assistant
Julianne Reppenhagen, Senior Warden
Jim Ratley, Junior Warden
J. Michael Case, Organist
Sophia Witte, Handbell Ensemble director
Matthew Harby, Lead Sexton
Nathaniel Martinez, Sexton