

THE MESSENGER

DECEMBER 2016

THE MISSION OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI ANGLICAN CHURCH IS TO
PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION IN JESUS CHRIST THROUGH
SERIOUS DISCIPLESHIP, SACRED WORSHIP AND SELFLESS SERVICE

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The Friars Quill

TIME: AN ADVENT & CHRISTMAS GIFT

Fr. Woodrow Gubuan

We often hear ourselves say, “We have no time!” “If only I have time!”

This is not entirely true because God, the owner of time, has gifted us with an equal amount of time per minute, per hour, per day, per week, per month and per year. Therefore, we are responsible for how we spend God’s gift of time.

We can make the most of our time by using it wisely. This includes spending time with God, with our church, with our family, with our friends and neighbors. We need also to spend time for work and for rest. We need likewise to spend time in prayer and above all in the study of the Bible where God shares with us ways of how to use time.

In the Acts of the Apostles, we have the picture of how the early Christian community used its time ... the time of their life together:

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

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As grateful recipients of the gift of time from God, I wish to ask you to give the gift of TIME, among other gifts, this Advent and Christmas, in support of St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Church:

TIME: To WORSHIP without fail all the Sundays of Advent and Christmas Seasons.

TIME: To DISCIPLE by spending time with family, friends, and neighbors—being there for them and pointing them to Jesus.

TIME: To SERVE in the Church by involving in various activities and schedules: Lessons and Carols, homeless and SAM outreach, card ministry, serving in Bishop’s Committee and other committees. Serving others: family, friend, and neighbors especially the sick and the homebound in many creative ways.

May God bless you and your family abundantly in returning generously His gift of time to Him and to others, this Advent and Christmas.



Merry Christmas!

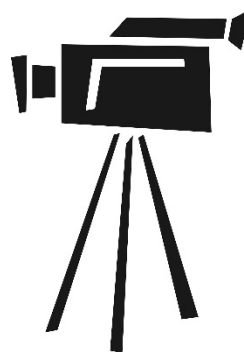
I like to first wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New year! I hope everyone had a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving! The weather is starting to turn for the worst, so please be careful! Be watchful as crimes tend to go up at this time with all the shopping that is going on during the Christmas season. If at all possible ladies take someone with you when you go are think of getting a few of you from the church to shop together. This will not only help protect each other but provide for a time of Fellowship and relationship building. Men you could do this as well, even if just for the fellowship aspect of it. It may even turn into an opportunity to spread the true meaning of Christmas!

Speaking of the Christmas, two of the places I got to visit is the manger where Jesus was born and the fields where the shepherds were when told about his birth. The two accounts of Jesus birth in the Gospels give us a better picture of what took place, although my favorite is the account in the Gospel of Luke. I guess watching all those Charlie Brown Christmas special have influenced me. Linus gives the account from Luke when explaining about the true meaning of Christmas to Charlie Brown. Luke 2: 8 "And in that region there were shepherds out in the field keeping watch over there flock by night" The field where they watched over their flocks was rolling hills about a mile or two at the most from the manger. It is much like if you to head towards Angles Camp the rolling hills that are there. They stayed in caves that weren't very deep. You could see on the ceiling the smoke from the camp fires that they lit to stay warm and cook their food. This is where the angel appeared to them saying "Be not afraid for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find the bae wrapped in swaddling cloths lying in a manger."

Today we have come to think of the place where Jesus was born and the animals kept as the manger but the manger is actually the feeding trough in a stable of the animals. The stable where Jesus was born and then laid in a manger is a cave as well. They have blocked most of the way that Joseph and Mary used to enter into the stable. The Shepherds came to view our Lord lying in the manger, after seeing this they told all about what they had learned and saw. V 17 "And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this Child" Perhaps we can like the Shepherds tell all that we have learned about Jesus. And as in V: 20 "And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them" So Go in peace this Christmas season out into the world praising and glorifying God .

May the Peace of the Lord be always with You!

Deacon Jeff Stugelmeyer



It's Show Time!!!!

Come and See Deacon Jeff's Slideshow of his experience in the Holy Land

Saturday Evening,
December 10th at 5pm at
St Francis Church.

Soup will be served!



The Annual Meeting of St Francis Church will be held on January 29th following the Service

Sacred Worship



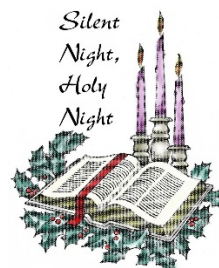
Sundays

9:30am St Francis of Assisi
Fellowship Hall

2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the Month

2pm O'Connor Woods Chapel
3400 Wagner Heights Rd, Stockton

Christmas Eve
Saturday, December 24th



Mass 2pm at O'Connor Woods Chapel
Caroling 6:30pm/Mass 7pm at
St Francis Church

Lessons and Carols



Sunday, December 18th at 4pm

St Francis Anglican Church

The Service is comprised of the readings of the
Prophecies of the coming of the Messiah
Illuminated by Carols and Anthems

Reception to follow

All Souls Day Mass



There are Envelopes on the back table to
make a donation for the Poinsettias and
Greens to decorate our church for
Christmas or you can mail in a check.

Serious Discipleship



Our Newest Thurifer!
Jim Telander

HOLY
SMOKE!!!



Choir: Upcoming Rehearsals:
December 3rd - 10am - Noon
December 17th - 10am - Noon
December 24th - 6:15pm

Coffee Hour Hosts: Sign up on calendar
behind food table

Bishop's Committee Meeting: Sunday,
December 11th - 11am after the Service

Altar Guild: Cleaning, Sat, Dec 17th at 9am
Decorating, Fri, Dec 23rd at 9am

Daughters: Sat, Dec 10th at 10am

Other Ministry Opportunities

- Acolyte
- Lector
- Prayer Team
- Collection Counter
- Hospitality
- Usher
- Flowers
- Homebound Ministry
- Senior Ministry



Child Care is Available each
Sunday from 8:30am.

Please see an Usher for
location.



Our Diocese of San Joaquin Website:
<http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/>

Diocesan Newsletter:
<http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/san-joaquin-anglican.html>

Selfless Service



St Francis uses Flocknote to send emails to our parishioners with notices and information. If you do not receive these notices, we do not have your email.

Please put it in the offering plate with your name, or call the church office 565-0648

Then watch your emails!!!



St Francis Church extends the body of Christ to our homebound by sending cards each month. They are available for you to sign on the table as you come in the door. Take a moment and sign them each week. They are so grateful and feel a part of the parish of St Francis with this simple gesture.



St Francis fed five families for Thanksgiving with turkeys and all the trimmings. Thank you to the Selfless Service Committee for your faithful service. If you would like to help, see Nancy Thomas.



Daughters will be making Poinsettia Deliveries to the Homebound beginning December 10th

If you would like to contribute to this wonderful



Ministry at Christmas, please use an envelope for your donation and put Daughters Poinsettias on the Envelope.

St. Francis Ladies' Tea -
Thank you to all who participated!
The Tables were Beautiful.

Proceeds from the tea went to benefit two worthy outreach missions: Food for Families and SAM Packs (Sweet Angels of Mercy)





December

- 1st Jose Rosal
- 2nd Ray Rodriguez
Marianne Berghuis
- 5th Augustine Nwaogu
- 7th Rachel Allanigie
- 10th Helen Arcala
- 13th Ken Berry
- 15th Carol Sherwood
- 24th Leroy Goulart
- 28th Mary Sigwart
- 29th Agnes Olmsted



December

- 22nd Mr & Mrs Phillip Giambastiani



**November Altar Flowers were given to the
Glory of God by**

Liz Haines in memory of her husband,
Richard

St Francis Parishioners

According to IRS laws giving made for the year 2016 must be received or postmarked by December 30, 2016 to be counted as giving in 2016

If your giving is received or postmarked after December 30, 2016 it will be counted on your 2017 giving.

If you have any questions, please call Kim at 209-565-0648



December 3rd

- Isaiah 11:1-10
- Psalms 72:1-19
- Romans 15:1-13
- Matthew 3:1-12

December 11th

- Isaiah 35:1-10
- Psalms 146
- James 5:7-12
- Matthew 11:2-19

December 18th

- Isaiah 7:10-17
- Psalms 24
- Romans 1:1-7
- Matthew 1:18-25

December 24th

- Isaiah 62:6-12
- Psalms 97
- Titus 3:4-7
- Luke 2:1-20

December 25th

- Isaiah 52:7-12
- Psalms 98
- Hebrews 1:1-12
- John 1:1-18



December 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Choir Practice 10am Feed Homeless under the Freeway 11am
4 Second Sunday of Advent 9:30am Holy Eucharist	5	6	7	8	9	10 Daughters meeting 10am
11 Third Sunday of Advent 9:30am Holy Eucharist Bishop's Committee Meeting	12	13	14 Mass at O'Connor Woods at 2pm	15	16	17 Altar Guild Cleaning 9am Choir Practice 10am
18 Fourth Sunday of Advent 9:30am Holy Eucharist	19	20	21 St Thomas, Apostle	22	23 Altar Guild Decorating 9am	24 Christmas Eve - 2pm Mass at O'Connor Woods 6:30pm Caroling/7pm Mass at St Francis Church
25 Christmas Day - 9:30am Holy Eucharist	26 St Stephen, Deacon and Martyr	27 St John, Apostle & Evangelist	28 Holy Innocents Mass at O'Connor Woods at 2pm	29	30	31

If you would like an Advent Service or Simbang Gabi in the home during December, please contact Fr Gubuan – 482-2454 or the Church Office – 565-0648



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