

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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From the Rector

What John the Baptist and Marie Kondo have in Common

Netflix recently released a new TV show called “Tidying up with Marie Kondo.” Marie Kondo is a “tidying up” expert and author of the #1 New York Times best-selling book “The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up.” In this book Kondo, and on the TV Show, Kondo lays out her unique method of cleaning and ‘tidying up’, called the ‘KonMari Method’ which helps people organize and de-clutter their homes. The unique thing about her method is that it focuses on how much peace and joy can come to a family when they have everything in its proper place, and she even shows how the process of cleaning can itself spark joy.

Recently Alicia and I watched this show and found it very inspiring. In fact, we spent a couple evenings as a family going through our own house ‘tidying up’ and trying to apply some of her methods, and we did find that it sparked joy in us and there was a certain type of peace that came tidying our house. And while I don’t “officially” endorse her method, I have found it fascinating how her philosophy of the joy ‘tidying up’ has resonated with so many people, including my own family. I think this is because unbeknownst to Kondo, she is tapping into something spiritual and close to the human heart. The spiritual connection is NOT that “Cleanliness is next to godliness”, which is a phrase not found in the Bible. The spiritual connection is that of repentance and getting your life in order, which was the message of John the Baptist.

John the Baptist preached that the Kingdom of God is coming, so we should respond to this reality by being diligent and getting our lives in order and alignment with God. You see, one of sin’s insidious effects on creation is how it causes chaos and disorder. I think that we can see this not only in the world, but in our own lives. Sin puts things out of

order, and redemption restores them to their proper place. This is what the Bible calls Shalom, or peace. And this is how we as Anglican greet each other in the Mass, “peace be with you.” Thus John the Baptist’s message is one of inviting people to repent and return to God’s Shalom.

The human heart longs for peace. We all long deep down for all the wrongs to be made right, for everything to be restored to its perfect place. And from watching this show it is amazing to see how moving, and even life-changing, it is for people when a chaotic house brought to order by ‘tidying up.’ It seems to be the joy they experience from a well ordered house points to the greater and eternal joy of the redemption and Shalom Christ brings into our homes and into our lives.

The season of Lent is a time in the Church year when we are encouraged to evaluate our lives and the places in our lives that are disorder by sin. During this penitential season we are invited to move from chaos to order in our spiritual lives, and to experience the joy of Shalom. What Marie Kondo reminded me is that even though cleaning can be a lot of work, there is a great joy that can come from it, from the results. And likewise, the work of sanctification and repentance can be hard, and the penitential season of Lent can be a lot of spiritual work, but the end product of true repentance is always joy as we return to God’s Shalom.

Fr. Joshua+

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Hello,

Is our Christian life lukewarm?
Are we being the salt and light
of the world as we are called to

be? We watched the movie “War Room” at our last movie night. In that movie there was an elderly lady who challenged the person she had just met with these ideas. She did this in how she mentored her new friend, and in one instance she served lukewarm coffee to get her point across. I think this is where the salt of the world came in. She spiced up her new friends life. But she was also light in the way she encouraged and instructed her new friend.

The plot of the movie was to fight the correct enemy and with the correct weapon. The military use a room to strategize on who and how to fight (war room), this is what she was showing her new friend. The enemy is the devil and the weapon is Jesus. This was done by using prayer, so the movie is about spiritual warfare! Using prayer to overcome the spiritual forces that try to influence, twist and destroy us. But it is more than that, perhaps without knowing it, the movie was also on discipleship. She was showing her new friend not only how to identify her enemy but what was need to defeat him.

She just didn't simply tell her new friend what to say and do. She showed her how to do it, where to look (the bible). And she prayed with and for her in her fight. As the young woman grew in faith and prayer the elderly lady encourage her to teach what she had learned to others. This is discipleship. Teaching others about Jesus!

So the question to us all, are we salt and light not only to the world but to someone in particular? Or are we just being lukewarm, neither hot nor cold? For if we are only lukewarm it is time to turn up the heat! Because now more than ever the world needs the truth of Jesus and it is up to us to disciple those around us so that they intern may disciple other.

May the Peace of the Lord be always with You!

Deacon Jeff Stugelmeyer



Senior Warden – Mike Combs
Junior Warden – Mike Finney
Member – Agnes Olmsted
Member – Mark Kemalyan
Member – Rose Beth
Member – Denis Ceballos
Clerk – Steve Olmsted
Treasurer – Ted Yumoto

Please keep your vestry in prayer as they oversee the workings of St Francis Church. Especially as they attend the Diocesan Vestry Retreat on February 8th – 10th. Also as they meet on each 4th Sunday of the Month.



**There is a First Aid Kit,
Aspirin and a Defibulator
Available under the
Attendance Check in
Table**

You can sign up for Sunday
Altar Flowers on the sign up
sheet at the card table under
the Welcome Sign.

Requested donation is \$35-
\$40.



Sacred Worship

Taizé: Pray, Sing, and Play with Us

By Gigi Kemalyan

Our next Taizé prayer service is on **Friday, February 15 at 7:00 p.m.** We invite you to join us for an hour of contemplative singing and sacred silence, the perfect antidote to a hectic schedule or a mind burdened by worries. It's also the perfect service to invite a friend!

This month we are introducing several beautiful new songs that we will include at our special Taizé Stations of the Cross services during Lent, on March 15 and April 5. Stay tuned for more information in next month's newsletter.

If you've never been to a Taizé prayer service before, we hope you will join us on February 15. The music is contemplative, ancient, and participatory. If you don't like to sing but love to listen, come and pray silently. If you do like to sing, join your voice with ours as we praise and adore the Lord in song and contemplate His goodness to us. If you don't sing but play an instrument, read on!

In search of: Taizé musicians

The Taizé Team is looking for classically trained instrumentalists to accompany our monthly evening prayer service. If you play violin, viola, cello, bass, flute, clarinet, oboe, trumpet, or classical guitar, please pray about joining us in this volunteer ministry.

It's not a huge time commitment as we have just one hour-long service a month on a Friday night. There are only one or two hour-long rehearsals, so you would be expected to learn the music on your own time beforehand.

The music selection varies from month to month based on the church year and the evening's Scripture reading. We currently use a rotating repertoire of about 36 songs. Not all Taizé chants have additional instrumental parts, so out of a set of 12 songs for each service you might play only a few or as many as nine. Depending on your instrument, we may also ask you to help support congregational singing by playing the melody. Ability, flexibility, and a servant heart are key requirements!

If you like to sing, have choral experience and know how to blend, we are in need of altos and

tenors as well. Ideally, you will know how to sight-read as you will need to learn your part on your own due to limited rehearsal time. Some of our songs are a cappella, so the ability to blend and sing on pitch is crucial.

If you have a musical skill that the Lord is prompting you to use for His glory, please pray about supporting our Taizé ministry. It's a wonderfully meditative and prayerful service that blesses not only those who come but those who provide the music as well.

For more information or to schedule an audition, please talk to Gigi after church on Sundays or email [singinggardenersx2 \[at\] live \[dot\] com](mailto:singinggardenersx2[at]live[dot]com) and put "Taizé musicians" in the subject line. Thank you!

Our next Taizé prayer service is on Friday, February 15 at 7:00 p.m. Come sing and pray with us! God will meet you in the songs and in the silence.



	<u>Sundays</u>
9:30am	St Francis of Assisi
	<u>1st Friday of the Month</u>
12noon	Healing Service
	<u>1st Saturday of the Month</u>
10:00am	Holy Eucharist

St Francis Church offers a healing service on the First Friday of every month at 12noon. The February healing service will be on February 1st.



Holy Communion on the First Saturday of each month at 10:00am is open for all but especially an opportunity to gather and praise God before we "Go and Make Disciples" in the different food ministries St Francis offers in our community.

Join us February 2 @10:00am

Serious Discipleship

*Child Care is available each
Sunday @ 9am.
Ask an Usher for Help*



Did you read your Annual Meeting Packet?

Did you find a ministry that you are interested in?

Contact that ministry leader or the church office 565-0648 M-F 9am - 1pm



Candlemas, also known as the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord Jesus and the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is a Christian Holy Day commemorating the presentation of Jesus at the Temple.

It is based upon the account of the presentation of Jesus in Luke 2:22-40. In accordance with Leviticus 12: a woman was to be presented for purification by sacrifice 33 days after a boy's circumcision. It falls on February 2, which is traditionally the 40th day of the Christmas-Epiphany season.

On Candlemas, many Christians bring their candles to their local church, where they are blessed and then used for the rest of the year; for Christians, these blessed candles serve as a symbol of Jesus Christ, who referred to himself as the Light of the World.

***Note your calendars:**
St Francis Church will Celebrate
Candlemas on Saturday, February 2nd.*

Daily opportunities to read/hear the Word:



<http://www.missionstclare.com/english/>

<https://anglicanpastor.com/heres-the-acnas-final-daily-office-lectionary-in-a-single-spreadsheet/>

<https://first5.org/>



St Francis Church Lending Library

Take a look at our books in the Fellowship Hall.

You may purchase or borrow and return the books on the bookshelves.

It is all on the honor system.

Lots of good resources.



Daily Office Readings Study
Sundays @ 8:30am

Our Diocese of San Joaquin Website:

<https://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/>

Diocesan Newsletter:

<https://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/newletter.html>

Selfless Service



Altar Guild: Feb 19th @ 10am
 Choir: Upcoming Rehearsals: Feb 3rd
 Coffee Hour Hosts: See Cat Rhodes
 Daughters: Feb 9th @10am
 Taizé: February 15th @ 7pm

Other Ministry Opportunities

Acolyte - Lector - Prayer Team
 Collection Counter - Hospitality
 Usher - Homebound Ministry
 Senior Ministry
 Serving on the 1st Sat of the Month



February 3rd

Jeremiah 1:4-10 – Psalm 71:12-21
 1 Corinthians 14:12-23 – Luke 4:21-32

February 10th

Judges 6:11-24 – Psalm 85
 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 – Luke 5:1-11

February 17th

Jeremiah 17:5-10 – Psalm 1
 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 – Luke 6:17-26

February 24th

Genesis 45:3-11, 21-28 – Psalm 37
 1 Corinthians 15:35-49 – Luke 6:27-38



Feeding of the Homeless with Dcn Jeff on the First Saturday of the Month near the DMV office around 11am. See Dcn Jeff for more info.



February

- 4th John, Jeff Stugelmeyer
- 8th Carolyn, Bill Thomas
- 19th Joan, Mike Griffin
- 26th Terry, Kathy Lynch
- 27th Priscilla, Bernard Thomas
- 28th Madeleine, Sally Kenst



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 under the welcome sign. 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.

Homeless Women's Ministry

1st Saturday of Each Month after the 10:00am Service



February						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Healing Service 12noon	2 Saturday Service 10:00am
3 Epiphany IV 9:30 Holy Eucharist	4	5	6	7	8	9 Daughters 10am
10 Epiphany V 9:30 Holy Eucharist	11	12	13	14	15 Taizé 7pm	16 Movie Marathon 10:30am "God's Not Dead"
17 Epiphany VI 9:30 Holy Eucharist	18	19 Altar Guild 10am	20	21	22	23
24 Epiphany VII 9:30 Holy Eucharist Vestry Meeting	25	26	27	28		



February

- 24th Mr & Mrs Davy Emmatty
26th Mr & Mrs Jose Rosal



February

- 12th Willy Gaa
17th Ted Yumoto
18th Jose Matulac
19th Marilen Gaa
22nd Jim May
24th Alica Drake
28th Bernard Thomas

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.stocktonanglican.org



Come and Bring a Friend, Saturday, February 16th beginning at 10:30am for a "God's Not Dead" movie marathon.

We will also enjoy lunch together.

Sign up please at the Attendance Check In table.

Dave Ramsey

Looking for a Tax Advisor?

You've come to the right place.

<https://www.daveramsey.com/elp/tax-advisor#take-the-quiz?snid=tools.taxadvice>

What Can a Tax Advisor Do for You?

You don't have to do your taxes alone. We've got tax experts who have handled tax situations just like yours, and they can help you in these ways:

1. THEY HELP YOU DO YOUR TAXES *RIGHT*.

This may seem like a *duh* moment, but we think it's worth stressing—and *celebrating*! With a tax pro, you can relax because you know your taxes are done right!

2. THEY GIVE YOU BACK YOUR TIME.

Instead of sitting around trying to figure out how or what to file, you can take your kids to the zoo or give yourself a “staycation” on the couch.

3. THEY HELP YOU UNDERSTAND TAX CHANGES.

Don't have time to dig into the tax changes? Honestly, *who does*? Leave it to the pro. They'll break down the parts that affect you.



How Are Our Tax Advisors Different?

We call our advisors “Endorsed Local Providers” because they've earned the trust of America's leading voices in personal finance, including Dave Ramsey, Chris Hogan and Rachel Cruze. Here's how we know they're really good:

THEY UNDERSTAND YOUR FINANCIAL JOURNEY.

Your ELP gets it. They'll know what you mean when you say which Baby Step you're on, and they'll tailor their knowledge to your specific situation.

THEY'LL BE THERE TO HELP YOU—ALL YEAR.

Your tax advisor won't file your April taxes and scam. No matter when you have tax questions or problems, your pro will always have your back.

OH, YEAH. THEY'RE ALSO TRUSTWORTHY, COMPETENT AND RELIABLE.

We wouldn't pair you up with just your average Joe! We have high standards and only recommend seasoned professionals with a track record of success.

The Messenger

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