

THE MESSENGER

JANUARY 2017

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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"Proclamation of the Birth of Christ"

"The Twenty-Fifth Day of December, when ages beyond number had run their course from the creation of the world, when God in the beginning created heaven and earth, and formed man in his own likeness;

when century upon century had passed since the Almighty set his bow in the clouds after the Great Flood, as a sign of covenant and peace;

in the twenty-first century since Abraham, our father in faith, came out of Ur of the Chaldees;

in the thirteenth century since the People of Israel were led by Moses in the Exodus from Egypt; around the thousandth year since David was anointed King; in the sixty-fifth week of the prophet Daniel;

in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; in the year seven hundred and fifty-two since the foundation of the City of Rome; in the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus, the whole world being at peace,

Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to consecrate the world by his most loving presence, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and when nine months had passed since his conception, was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah, and was made man:

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh."

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Epiphany

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:1-2

Epiphany (Jan 6th) is the day we celebrate the visit of the Magi, or the Wise Men. Not much is known about these visitors other than what Matthew records in the first book of the New Testament. We know they were from the East and studied the stars. We also know that they had some knowledge of the history and prophecies concerning Israel. They followed a star to Bethlehem, but contrary to the popular Nativity scenes, they probably arrived a year or two after Jesus' birth.

There is no mention of the number of wise men, although it has been assumed that there were three based on the three gifts of gold frankincense and myrrh. Religious tradition has even given them names: Balthazar, Caspar (or Gaspar), and Melchior.

We do know for a fact that wise men came and worshiped Jesus. It was an important enough event for Matthew to add it to his account of the birth of Jesus. This was God announcing his long-awaited son's arrival on the earth to the Gentile world. And it provides further confirmation of God's universal love.



Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year! Wow here it is 2017 already! It seems just a little while ago that I was going through classes to become a deacon.

As we head into the New Year the Joy of the season of the birth of our Lord seems to be forgotten. We begin to focus on earthly things with New Year's resolutions. Where there is something like an 80-85 percent failure rate. The joy of our Lord's birth and the reason for his coming is not even considered. Perhaps that is one the reasons for the high failure rate; along with selfish reasons and too high of a goal being set at first.

Now goals and resolutions are fine if set in the proper context and achievement. Plus God must be involved in the proper way. What I mean by this is that anything that is not moral or God oriented you cannot expect God to help with; in other words what goes against his will. You cannot try to be selfish or evil and expect God to help you! That's just crazy! Now I don't think anyone makes a resolution to do evil things, this is just to illustrate what we should expect from God if we ask for his help.

To receive Gods help we need to do that is in line with his will. In fact I think moderate steps of resolutions can be a good thing, and we should ask God's help in such things. For instance to learn more about God himself! Like Bible study, apologetics, fellowship with each other and the community. These are just some ideas of the type of resolution we can ask God to participate and help us in. As for the community a goal or resolution may be to be more active in helping the less fortunate or learning how to engage those who do not believe or are struggling with faith by learning how to talk to them.

Like the apologetics class defending the faith starting Feb. 2nd this is a book and DVD study as well as time to interact with each other. By learning how to engage the community in a positive, caring and confident way we can at the same time show the joy of Jesus through those actions.

Because if you love the Lord our God you will show that love to others, not keeping for yourself, and not able to contain it, but showing the world your love for God and his love for us.

The magician Penn Teller (who unfortunately is an atheist) at least says that he respects those who proselytize, because if you truly believe, then you would want others to hear and join you! I hope one day that he comes to Christ! But he makes an important observation; that we as Christians should be talking up a storm-shouting from the rooftops that God is Lord of Lords and King of Kings and is alive. So I hope that when you think about resolutions this New Year that you remember to put God in the forefront of that resolution. And that one of your resolutions is to fulfill the commandment of Jesus to go and make disciples.

May the Peace of the Lord be always with you!

Deacon Jeff Stugelmeyer



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

Potluck Lunch – Bring your favorite Dish!!!



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

Sacred Worship

Lessons and Carols



Christmas Flower and Greens Donations

- † Mike & Kim Combs in memory of their son,
Alexander and mom, Darlene
† Barbara Moeckel
- † Isabel Johnson in memory of all her loved ones
† Lee Atwater in memory of Patsy Atwater
† Dolores Aulwurm in memory of her husband,
Arthur C. Aulwurm, Jr
- † Daralyn Tejano in thanksgiving for the
marriage of Grace and Carlos Cadenas
† Remy Balagey
- † Mary Norman in memory of Hazel & John J
Roberts; Thyra & Arvil Norman; Robert Norman;
Marjorie Norman; Helen & Bill Ultch
- † Elizabeth Haines in memory of Dick Haines
† Townes in memory of Baby Mosely; Denzil &
Eunice Kitchens; Lester & Bernie Towne
† Carol Sherwood
- † Jeff Stugelmeyer in thanksgiving for his trip to
Israel

Serious Discipleship



Choir: Upcoming Rehearsals:
January 8th - 8:30am

Coffee Hour Hosts: Sign up on calendar
behind food table

Annual Meeting: Sunday,
January 29th - 11am Potluck Lunch

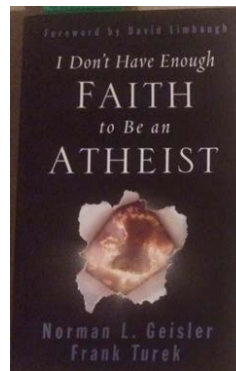
Altar Guild: Tues, Jan 10th at 10am

Daughters: Sat, Jan 14th at 10am

Other Ministry Opportunities

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

Deacon Jeff will begin a Thursday Night Series called "Defending the Faith"



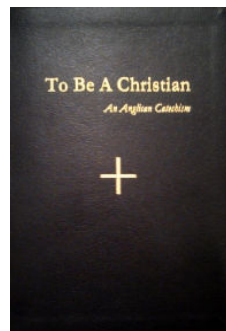
Watch for more details



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

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

St Francis Church will begin the Anglican Catechism for all who would like to be Baptized or Confirmed



Watch for more details or talk to Deacon Jeff or Cyndi Telander

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!!!



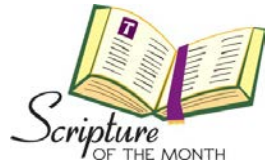
St Francis Church extends the body of Christ to our homebound by sending cards each month. They are available for you to sign on the table as you come in the door. Take a moment and sign them each week. They are so grateful and feel a part of the parish of St Francis with this simple gesture.



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

Please see an Usher for location.

Selfless Service



January 1st

Exodus 34:1-9

Psalm 8

Romans 1:1-7

Luke 2:15-21

January 8th

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm 89:1-29

Acts 10:34-38

Matthew 3:13-17

January 15th

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalm 40:1-10

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42

January 22nd

Amos 3:1-11

Psalm 139:1-16

1 Corinthians 1:10-17

Matthew 4:12-22

January 29th

Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 37:1-11

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

Potluck!!

In Months where there is a Fifth Sunday it will be Friendship Sunday with a potluck lunch after our service at 9:30am.

Please bring your favorite dish to share table ready with a utensil along with a friend!!!

Then next one will be January 29th for our Annual Meeting

Feeding the Homeless under the Freeway



Handing out the SAM packs



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.stocktonanglican.org



January

4 th	Ernie Beth
6 th	Wilson Melchor
12 th	Sally Kenst
16 th	Ben Sanchez
17 th	Kathy Lynch
	Ryan Vaughn
20 th	Helen Ripken
21 st	Samantha Towne
25 th	Kim Combs
29 th	Frank Berghuis
30 th	Karen Giambastiani



January

29th Mr & Mrs Cliff Kenst



St Francis has been so blessed by the generosity of its parishioners that we have been able to give:

•
\$800 to Stockton Pregnancy Center

•
\$2000 to Ambassadors of Christ to feed the homeless

•
\$500 to the Joseph Project in Israel

My Dear Friends, For a long time I have wanted to write to thank you so much for all your prayers and cards. It is difficult to put into words how much your prayers and thoughts of wishing me well meant to me over the last few months. There were some difficult days and without your prayers, they would have been more difficult. As many of you know, I do not have family here so my Church family is very important to me. I feel so blessed that so many of you care and I have received so much help from so many of you. Thank you all so very, very much and please know how much I appreciated you all.

God Bless you all, Love Valerie



Dave Ramsey

The envelope system is certainly nothing new—it has been around for decades.

And yet many people still don't know exactly how it works. Do you need to save up money to get started? Does every bill get paid with the envelope system? Can you work an envelope system online? And on and on.

HOW IT WORKS

You don't have to save up any money to start using the envelope system. It goes like this: Let's say you have budgeted \$500 a month for groceries. When you receive your first paycheck of the month, write yourself a check for \$250, cash it, and put the cash in an envelope. On that envelope, write "Groceries."

You could also "allot" that amount of money using an online budget tool, like EveryDollar. Created by Dave Ramsey's team, EveryDollar is a new, convenient way to know where you're at with your money on the go. With this type of digital budget, you can update the cash you have in your online envelopes by personalizing your transactions.

No money—and we mean no money—comes out of the Groceries envelope except to pay for food at the store. If you go food shopping and leave the envelope at home by mistake, turn the car around and go back to the house to get it. Make sure to take enough money to cover your groceries for that trip. If you take \$150 and you tally up a bill for \$160, take some things out of the cart. Put any change back in the envelope. If you're budgeting with EveryDollar, then make sure you sync your bank account daily.

When you get paid again, write another \$250 check. That's your \$500 for the month for food. If you want to go to the store but don't have enough money, then raid the fridge for leftovers.

Use the envelope system for items that tend to bust your budget. Common examples include groceries, restaurants, entertainment, gasoline and clothing. **When the money runs out of each envelope, don't spend any more until the new month starts and new money goes in there.**

REWARD YOURSELF

If you have money left over in an envelope at the end of the month, congratulations! You came in under budget for that item that month. So for that, it's all right to celebrate, within reason. Reward yourself if you'd like by going out to dinner or rolling the money over to the next month so you have an extra-big food budget.

Getting that reward is important because it keeps your spirits up. It's tough to live on a beans-and-rice lifestyle. But you're making it work! **Great job!**

DON'T CHEAT ON YOUR ENVELOPES

Be careful not to borrow from other envelopes. When it comes to the envelope system, it can be very tempting to borrow cash from one to fund some other activity. For example, if you use up all your "Eating out" money, don't be surprised if some inner voice tells you to reach behind that envelope for the one that's marked "Clothing."

You must remember that the very purpose of the envelope system is to curb your spending and teach you discipline. When you run out of grocery money, you eat leftovers instead of going food shopping. If you see your gas money is slipping away faster than the remaining days of the month, then limit your trips or even carpool.

If you have a crisis come up in the middle of the month or something happens and you absolutely have no other choice but to shift envelope funds around, then call an emergency budget committee meeting with your spouse. Talk to each other and figure out the best course of action, adjust the budget, and be in agreement on it. Both of you must be involved; it's a committee decision.

Remember, envelopes are powerful weapons in the fight to corral your spending, but they are not the most powerful. What is? Simple: It's you. Whether you use the traditional envelope system or an online tool like EveryDollar, you're now equipped to go out and manage your money even better. Put it to work for you and take back control!

January 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 The Holy Name – Year A 9:30am Holy Eucharist	2	3	4	5	6 The E piphany	7
8 First Sunday after the Epiphany- Baptism of our Lord 9:30am Holy Eucharist	9	10	11 2pm Holy Eucharist – O'Connor Woods	12	13	14 Daughters 10am
15 Second Sunday after the Epiphany 9:30am Holy Eucharist	16	17 Altar Guild 10am	18 Confession of St Peter, Apostle	19	20	21
22 Third Sunday after the Epiphany 9:30am Holy Eucharist	23	24	25 Conversion of St Paul, Apostle 2pm Holy Eucharist – O'Connor Woods	26	27	28
29 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany 9:30am Holy Eucharist Annual Meeting Potluck	30	31				

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Church**

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