

# THE MESSENGER

JANUARY 2018

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 Holy Family and Our Family

We enter the New Year 2018 with the picture of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem still fresh in our minds. We look at this family to see how well we are living up to its example and are fulfilling the responsibilities that God has placed on our own families.

The original plan and model of the family is quite clearly described in the marriage ceremony in these words: *“The bond and covenant of marriage was established by God in creation, and our Lord Jesus Christy adorned this manner of life by his presence and first miracle at the wedding in Cana of Galilee. It signifies to us the mystery of the union between Christ and his Church, and Holy Scripture commends it to be honored among all people. The union of husband and wife in heart, body, and mind is intended by God for their mutual joy; for the help and comfort given one another in prosperity and adversity; and, when it is God's will, for the procreation of children and their nurture in the knowledge and love of the Lord.”*

First of all, according to the plan of creation, we are husbands and wives. We have the responsibility of fostering our unity in heart, body and mind. We are called to help and comfort one another in good times and in bad.

Second of all, when it is God's will, we become fathers and mothers. We are then called to remember that our children are a gift from God – the joy in our younger years and the help and comfort in our later years.

Finally, in the family, there are children. As such, we are to remember the commandment: "Honor your father and your mother." Our role as children continues even when we are grown

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up. When needed, we are to called to help support our parents in their old age and illness.

The original plan of the family was realized in the Holy Family. We look up to it for inspiration and our model. According to the example of Mary and Joseph who took care of Jesus and nurtured him to grow up physically and spiritually, we too, as parents, must do the same. We are the first educators of our children. Our home is the first school where prayer, love, respect, forgiveness, obedience, service and fidelity are learned. Our good example is the most effective teaching tool to our children.

There is also the example of Jesus who took care of Mary, his mother. In the cross, Jesus entrusted her to the care of John: "Behold your Mother." As children, we are called to love our parents to the end.

What is true of our families is likewise true of our Church family of St. Francis of Assisi. In baptism, we are incorporated in the Body of Christ with Christ as the Head and we, as members. In the one Body of Christ, we become brothers and sisters to one another. That is why the family is called the domestic Church.

The Acts of the Apostles' description of the early Church Community in Jerusalem could very well be the description of the Christian family: *All the believers were one in heart and mind. (Acts 4:32). This fellowship or communal*

*life is fostered thus: 42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who 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. (Act 2:42-47).*

Our Church family of St. Francis of Assisi follows the original plan of the family by God. Thanks to the example of the Holy Family. Thanks also to the example of early Church family in Jerusalem.

As a Church family, therefore, we are called to be procreators of children. This is the way to grow when we beget children. We are called too, to build a home where there is prayer and worship, teaching and discipleship, fellowship and service.

We pray for the grace of living out our identity and vocation as Christian families and as the Church family of St. Francis of Assisi.

May God bless our St. Francis Church family and all our families in the New Year.

† Fr Woodrow Gubuan



Shalom,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a joyful and wonderful Christmas! As we start the New Year we come to the Epiphany which is celebrated

12 days after Christmas. I found in the dictionary some interesting definitions of the word Epiphany that gives insight to why we celebrate the Epiphany of our lord. Look at these definitions: 1) an appearance or manifestation especially of a divine nature, 2) a usually sudden manifestation or perception of the essential nature or meaning of something, 3) an intuitive grasp of reality through

(such as an event) usually simple and striking, 4) an illuminating discovery, realization or disclosure like in a revealing scene or moment.

When taking all these definitions together we can see why it applies to our lord and savior Jesus. It opens up the meaning of the Christian faith and traditions from the beginning. That it is a manifestation from above of divine revelation of God in Christ, and the Holy Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Western and Eastern Church's use different events for this revelation. But they are both about a revealing event about who Jesus is.

First the Western, our view of Epiphany. Our celebration is centered on the new born Christ by the wise men (Magi) to mark the manifestation of the divinity of Christ to the nations. The wise men are Kings and is also known as three kings day because of the gifts they gave to Jesus. We celebrate the earthly life of Christ and look to his mission as a gradual disclosure of Christ's saving person.

The Eastern Church looks to the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist in the Jordan River. Where Jesus is revealed as the Son of God, and at the same time the manifestation of the Holy Trinity appears. There is Jesus the Son, a voice from heaven, God the Father, professes Jesus his Son and the Holy Spirit descends on Jesus, the Holy Trinity. This marks the beginning of Christ's saving mission.

Both the Western and Eastern Churches share a common message. This is the manifestation of the divinity and saving work of Christ. With the Eastern seem to be more attuned to the dramatic divinity aspect of Christ's ministry, whereas in the Western is seems to follow the historical Jesus as he unfolds his message through His deeds and words. One is more vertical and the other more horizontal. Combining the two would enrich the experience of the coming celebration of Epiphany.

With the moving of our church into a new place, we too are given a revelation that it is time for us to spread the Gospel. We are to continue the mission of Jesus to bring the good news of a loving and saving God. When we do, it would serve us well to present to the world both aspects; that of the horizontal works and deeds of Jesus,

## Sacred Worship

and the vertical which is the divine nature of Jesus as the only begotten Son of God the Father. Both together help bring to light the fact that Jesus being both man and God is the only true mediator for us. That only he can wash us clean with the sacrifice needed to set right the relationship that was lost with the original sin.

So as our journey continues we must speak the truth of who Jesus is and what he has done for us! This is done not only with word but with actions as well. We must practice what we preach, that was why it was called the way in the beginning. So we are to walk in the way of Christ, spreading His message of salvation, redemption, repentance and love, taking one step at a time but forever moving forward toward the kingdom of heaven.

May the Peace of the Lord be always with You!

Deacon Jeff Stugelmeyer

**Thank you** to all you have been so generous in your giving and prayer for our new location.



Of course if any of you have done remodeling, you will know there are always unexpected expenses.

St Francis has had some of those: Nursery items, additional kitchen storage, extra window coverings for safety, etc. If you have not given, now would be an excellent time to do so. If you already have.....could you do a little more?

We pray you will be called to help in some way during this transition.

### Daily Office Resource

<http://legereme.com/office>



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

Please see an Usher for location.



### Sundays

9:30am St Francis of Assisi

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month

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



Epiphany Service  
Saturday, January  
6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am

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!!!**



<http://stocktonanglican.org/sermons/>

*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.stocktonanglican.org](http://www.stocktonanglican.org)

## Serious Discipleship

### St Francis of Assisi Anglican Church

5401 N Pershing Ave, Suite A  
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**Mailing:**

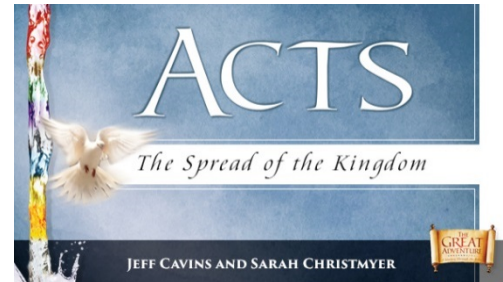
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The ACTS class is still in progress  
at 8:30am on Sundays  
See Deacon Jeff or Cyndi Telander for  
more info. Study Guide \$28

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

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



Choir: Upcoming Rehearsals:  
January 7<sup>th</sup>

Coffee Hour Hosts: See Cat Rhodes

Altar Guild:  
Meeting - January 16<sup>th</sup> @ 10am

Daughters: January 13<sup>th</sup> @10am

Bishop's Committee Meeting: After Annual  
Meeting, January 14<sup>th</sup>

### Other Ministry Opportunities

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



January 7<sup>th</sup>  
Isaiah 42:1-9  
Psalm 89  
Acts 10:34-38  
Mark 1:7-11

January 14<sup>th</sup>  
1 Samuel 3:1-20  
Psalm 63:1-11  
1 Corinthians 6:9-20  
John 1:43-51

January 21<sup>st</sup>  
Jeremiah 3:19—4:4  
Psalm 130  
1 Corinthians 7:17-24  
Mark 1:14-20

January 28<sup>th</sup>  
Deuteronomy 18:15-22  
Psalm 111  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28

## Selfless Service



### **Under the Freeway Ministry the First Saturday of Every Month**

Our ladies are always in need of ladies toiletries, such as small shampoos, deodorants,

lotions, lip balms, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc, underwear as such. See Samantha Towne for more info. This is an awesome ministry to the homeless women of Stockton.

This ministry piggy backs on the Downtown Feeding of the Homeless on the First Saturday of the Month.

See Deacon Jeff for more details



### Christmas Flower Donations

- Jerry and Samantha Towne in thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren
- Grace Tan in memory of Corazon Ching
- Isabel Johnson in memory of all her loved ones
- Remy Balagey in memory of all her loved ones
- Lee Atwater in memory of his wife, Patsy
- Mary Norman in memory of Robert G Norman, Thyra & Aril Norman, John & Hazel Roberts, Helen & Bill Ultch
- Helen Ripken in thanksgiving for James & Kate
- Liz Haines in thanksgiving for her family
- Denis Ceballos in memory of Charlie Munday and thanksgiving for our church
- Steve and Agnes Olmsted in thanksgiving for our children and all our grandchildren



### January

- 12<sup>th</sup> Eunice Jewart- Samantha Towne
- 13<sup>th</sup> Ray Rodriguez - Alberta Rodriguez
- 17<sup>th</sup> Mildred - Nancy Blaylock
- 29<sup>th</sup> Alberto D'Eraso - Elinor Ceballos



Don't forget to sign the cards on the back table for our homebound and sick



### January

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



### January

- 29<sup>th</sup> Mr & Mrs Cliff Kenst

The Annual Meeting of St Francis Church will be held on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> after the



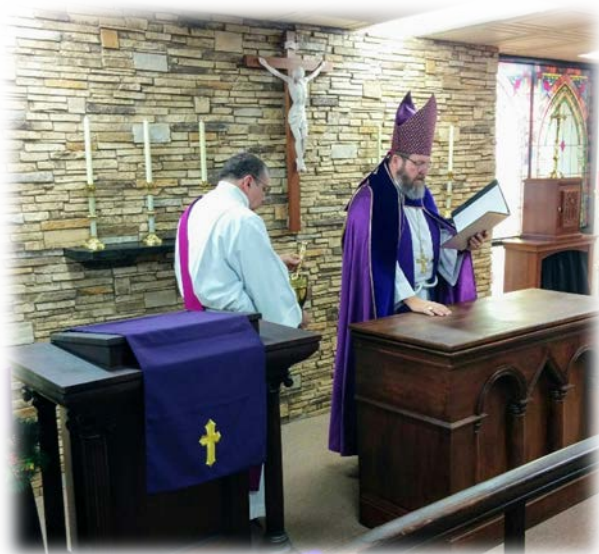
service. Please plan on attending to plan the future of St Francis Church. No Potluck. Cat will provide our lovely coffee hour.

January 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Epiphany Service 9:30am
7 Epiphany I 9:30 Holy Eucharist	8	9	10 2pm O'Connor Woods Mass	11	12	13 Daughters of the Holy Cross 10am
14 Epiphany II 9:30 Holy Eucharist Annual Meeting	15	16 Altar Guild Meeting 10am	17	18	19	20
21 Epiphany III 9:30 Holy Eucharist	22	23	24 2pm O'Connor Woods Mass	25	26	27
28 Epiphany IV 9:30 Holy Eucharist	29	30	31			

**The Messenger**  
 Published monthly by  
 St Francis of Assisi Anglican Church  
 Editor - Staff  
 The Rev. Woodrow Gubuan - Vicar & Publisher  
 Deacon Jeff Stugelmeyer  
 Kimberly Combs - Parish Administrator  
 Bishop's Committee:  
 '17 Nancy Thomas, Bill Aaron  
 '18 Jim Telander, Rachel Allanigue  
 '19 Mike Combs, Mike Finney

## The Consecration and Dedication of St Francis Church







Rt Rev Eric Menees  
Bishop of the Anglican Diocese  
of San Joaquin



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P.O. Box 4466  
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