

THE MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER 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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Welcome Fr Joshua Drake

Father Joshua Drake (also known by his Chinese family name Father Wu) is a California native, and his family is multicultural. His wife Alicia is originally from China and his two daughters, Imanuel Joy was born when they lived in Thailand, and Evangeline Grace was born when they lived in China. They just welcomed their 3rd child in August, a boy, Caleb Elisha.

He has been in full-time ministry for over 15 years, over a decade of that was as a missionary in China and South East Asia where he worked in the areas of Church Planting and Bible Translation.

Father Drake was ordained a Deacon on November 7, 2015 by Archbishop Foley Beach and then ordained a Priest on October 22, 2016 by Bishop Eric Menees. His last position was at Eucharist Church in San Francisco as an assistant priest, where his role focused on pastoral care, community life, and outreach.

Father Drake is passionate about Christian Hospitality, liturgy, and missions. His heart is to see St. Francis continue to grow as a multicultural and multigenerational church, which continues to proclaim the Good News of Salvation in Christ through Sacred Worship, Serious Discipleship, and Selfless Service.

Father Drake and Alicia love having people over for tea, in particular, they enjoy doing the traditional Chinese tea ceremony for guests. If you are interested to get to know them more and join them for some tea and a Chinese Tea Ceremony, feel free to reach out to them. They would love to have you over to their home here in Stockton.



Installation of Fr Joshua Drake

September 30th at
9:30am will be the

Installation of Fr Joshua

Drake by Bishop Eric Menees. There will be a Potluck Reception and Welcome Baby Caleb Drake after the installation.

The Drakes are registered at Target if you would like to bring a gift for Caleb.

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Hello,

Here we are in the midst of a transition from our current priest, Fr. Gubuan to our new priest, Fr. Drake. This time of transition is bitter sweet, happy and sad at the same time. It is filled with excitement for the future.

I would first like to thank Fr. Gubuan. He came at a time when we needed healing and comfort. He provided a steady lead to help us come to this point of transition. I personally want to thank Fr. Gubuan for his guidance, counseling, mentoring and encouragement. Fr. Gubuan provided me with guidance and help on my sermons as well as my spiritual life. I look forward for his continued help and guidance in my life, both spiritually and theologically. I would like to wish him well in his future endeavor, and I think St. Francis wishes this for him as well.

I would also like to welcome Fr. Joshua Drake as he steps into a new church, along with all the challenges that are to come. I think St Francis, as well as myself, is excited to start this new chapter in our life. Excited to explore new challenges to bring the Gospel to our community and to new people, with Fr. Joshua Drake's help.

Fr. Gubuan has prepared us for this time, as he was put in charge of St Francis, so that we may heal and when healed to take the next step and go out into the world to make disciples. To honor his commitment, we welcome Fr. Joshua and will give him the same faithful support that we bestowed on Fr. Gubuan.

Sacred Worship

It is clear that the Spirit of God is at work here at St. Francis and it is up to us to become embolden in Jesus to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel. And to be open to the Holy Spirit as it works to fulfill God's plan in our lives, our church and the world.

May the Peace of the Lord be always with You!

Deacon Jeff Stugelmeyer



<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>	
9:30am	Holy Eucharist

HEALING
SERVICE



St Francis Church offers a healing service on the First Friday of every month at 12noon. September 7th will be the service in September.

Holy Communion on the First Saturday of each month at 9:30am 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.



of its music composed only in the last thirty years, texts and melodies can also come from both Western and Eastern Orthodox liturgies. This month, along with the regular Taizé chants, we will sing several songs that connect us to an older musical heritage.

To help prepare ourselves for this unique time of sung-and-silent prayers, we have been opening each service with a brief Gregorian plainchant from the Psalms as our call to prayer. On September 19, instead of verses from the Psalter, two of our cantors will sing for us the oldest known Christian hymn, *Phos hilaron/O Gladsome Light* from the 4th century. It is a beautiful hymn for the end of the day, acknowledging Jesus as the Light from heaven, praising the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, "for meet it is at all times to worship Thee with voices of praise."

We've recently begun to include chants from the Orthodox tradition in our Taizé services. Some of this music goes back to at least the 6th century, though exact origins are not always known. In August we introduced a new *Trisagion* (pronounced "truh-SAAG-ee-un," meaning Thrice Holy) which we will sing again this month. It has such a beautiful and uplifting melody, we plan on it being a regular part of Taizé. If you didn't have time to learn it with us in August, join us on September 19 and see if you won't love this song as much as we do! It was originally a Byzantine chant but has been anglicized and westernized with the addition of harmonies. As the voices gradually build, it sounds like the angels are singing and praising God with us! (Which they are!)

When we became believers through faith in Christ, we were adopted into the family of God and are now counted as descendants of Abraham (Romans 4:9-11, Galatians 3:7, 28-29). Abraham, originally a Gentile, became the father of the Jewish people and all those who would come to believe in Christ as the Messiah thousands of years later. Through our faith in the Lord we are now connected to

Silence is the last frontier men and women are afraid to explore and experience.

Paul Bone
MindfulChristianityToday.com

Taizé: Ancient Musical Connections

By Gigi Kemalyan

On Wednesday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m. we will gather for our monthly

Taizé prayer service, a much-too-short hour of contemplation and spiritual rest through sacred songs and blessed silence. While Taizé is a contemporary ecumenical movement, with much

God's chosen people (whether they are Messianic believers or not).

This year, Yom Kippur or the Day of Atonement, the holiest day in Judaism, falls on September 19, the day of our Taizé service. To acknowledge our Abrahamic heritage and connection to Judaism, we will include some Hebrew themes and melodies in our evening worship:

The Jews' Babylonian exile, recalled with the round *By the Waters of Babylon* from Psalm 137, can be symbolic of our own times of exile in sin when the Lord seemed far away and we were spiritually homeless. We will thank God for His care and provision with *Adonai Ro'i/Lord You're My Shepherd*, a lovely setting of Psalm 23 by Rabbi Stuart Dauermann from *Jews for Jesus*.

We will close our service by praying God's peace for each other with an easy Israeli round to the tune *Shalom Chaverim*, using the words "shalom aleichem," peace be unto you. May this simple chant be a reminder from the Lord that He leaves us His peace—the peace that passes all understanding, ours for the asking (John 14:27, Philippians 4:7, Matthew 7:7).

Please join us on Wednesday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m. Experience the blessing that is Taizé through songs old and new and precious time for quiet reflection. Bring a friend! God will meet you in the songs and in the silence.

If you're reading this newsletter online, you can listen to YouTube recordings of the songs mentioned above at the following links.

Trisagion Hymn in English:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=-IzQcSzirJg>

Adonai Ro'i:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=IkmgyaBLVoM>

By the Waters of Babylon:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=uTnspbSjKvC>

Shalom Chaverim (same melody, different words):

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=8RLr38wmg50>

Our Diocese of San Joaquin Website:

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

Diocesan Newsletter:

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

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



Do You Play Bridge?

Or would you like to learn?

Marvin Lykins, Valerie Nolan and Susan Sperry are looking for bridge partners. If we can find one more player, we can have a bridge day at St Francis. If you're interested, please let the church office know!



We will have a work party for all who can come on Saturday, September 22nd beginning with the Holy Eucharist at 9:30am. We would like to clean up our Church before the installation of Fr Drake on September 30th.



September

7th Ceasar - Rachel Allanigue
27th Dorothea - Jeff Stugelmeyer
28th Darlene - Kim Combs

Serious Discipleship



Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study beginning 29 August at 9:45am.

Our fall women's Bible Study will begin on 29 August at 9:45am here at the church. Our study will be "Wonderstruck" with Christian author and speaker Margaret Feinberg. Please be in prayer about attending this inspirational study and whom you might invite to attend with you. The materials are available at lifeway.com or Amazon. Let Lorraine know if you need assistance, as there are scholarship funds available. Please email her if you are planning to attend so she can be prepared and praying for you. Her email: bppcooks@comcast.net

Open my eyes I might see wondrous things from Your law. Psalm 119:18

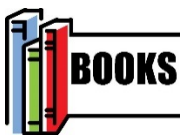
Daily opportunities to read/hear the Word:



<http://legereme.com/office>

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

<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.



Daughters: Sept 8th @10am

Altar Guild: Sept 18th @ 10am

Choir: Upcoming Rehearsals: Sept 2nd, 16th, 30th

Coffee Hour Hosts: See Cat Rhodes

Taizé: Sept 19th @ 7pm

Bishop's Committee Meeting: Sept 23rd

Other Ministry Opportunities

Acolyte - Lector - Prayer Team

Collection Counter - Hospitality

Usher - Homebound Ministry

Senior Ministry

Serving on the 1st Sat of the Month

Don't forget to sign the cards on the table in the fellowship hall for our homebound and sick. They are so appreciative to hear from their friends at St Francis Church.



September

1st Mr & Mrs Denis Ceballos



September

12th Beatriz Foronda

18th Carolyn Hays

19th Dolores Aulwurm

22nd Peggy Tobias

28th Alegria Nailles

29th Davy Emmatty

Selfless Service

Homeless Women's Ministry

1st Saturday of Each Month
after the 9:30am Service

On the first Saturday of August, St. Francis Church distributed over 30 bags of toiletries to the homeless women of Stockton. Items of clothing, shoes and children's toys were also gratefully received.

Our supplies are running low and we are asking for donations. Our goal is to assemble and distribute 24 bags of toiletries the first Saturday of each month.

Women's and children's clothing and shoes are also needed.

Thank you for supporting a worthwhile cause.

Cat Vaughn



Feeding the Homeless on the First Saturday of every month at 11:30am

looked like. I was shown and sent pictures of the beautiful blue hibiscus like the one in my yard and various rose bushes. The daughters were thrilled to finally hear the heart-warming story of the rose of Sharon from the Song of Solomon.

Solomon's Beloved refers to herself as a rose of Sharon. The Sharon Plain lay along the Mediterranean Sea south of Mount Carmel, and was one of the largest and most fertile valleys in ancient Israel. The rose as we know it was not found in Israel in Biblical times, nor was the popular Rose of Sharon bush, the *Hibiscus syriacus*, which is a native of China. The Rose of Sharon was a tulip, most likely the *Tulipa agenensis* subspecies *sharonensis*, also known as the Sharon tulip, which is a wildflower in the lily family that at one time grew abundantly across Israel. This autumn crocus has six stamens and is also known as the meadow saffron or Desert Tulip.

For our study, I chose to use the Amplified Bible for the first verses in the second chapter of the **Song of Solomon**: [*She said*] *I am only a little rose or autumn crocus of the plain of Sharon, or a [humble] lily of the valleys [that grows in deep and difficult places]. 2 But Solomon replied, Like the lily among thorns, so are you, my love, among the daughters.*

The rose of Sharon was a common meadow flower. In her humility, she likened herself to common flowers of the field. The Daughters at the meeting were moved at the similarity of our recent experiences in moving the church from place to place and the sometimes parched land where the humble crocus blooms to beautify the land.

In **Isaiah 35** (King James Version) we once again read about the simple tulip: *The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. 2 It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God.*

Another name for this rose of Sharon is the *Tulipa oculis-solis*, or Sun's-eye tulip. Who knew that there would be so much to learn from a simple little flower. Our Rose of Sharon chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross is pleased to bear this name with so much meaning.

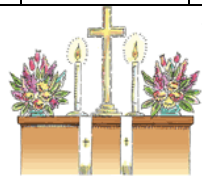


**Rose of Sharon - humble
vigor with beauty**
by Agnes Olmsted

*I am a rose of Sharon; a lily
of the valley.*
Song of Songs 2:1

Our chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross is named Rose of Sharon. I thought it would be fun to see from where the name came. The original Daughters chose the name several decades ago for the DOK chapter of Saint John's. The Daughters took care of the gardens and flowers at the church and when they needed a name, they chose a beautiful and appropriate Biblical name. It was fun to tease them with the promise of letting them know what it really

September						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Holy Eucharist 9:30am
2 Pentecost XV 9:30 Holy Eucharist	3	4	5 9:45am Women's Bible Study	6	7 Healing Mass 12noon Movie Night 7:30pm	8 Daughters 10am
9 Pentecost XVI 9:30 Holy Eucharist	10	11	12 9:45am Women's Bible Study	13	14	15
16 Holy Cross Day 9:30 Holy Eucharist	17	18 Altar Guild 10am	19 9:45am Women's Bible Study Taizé 7pm	20	21	22
23 Pentecost XVIII 9:30 Holy Eucharist BC Meeting	24	25	26 9:45am Women's Bible Study	27	28	29
30 Pentecost XIX Fr Drake Installation 9:30am & Potluck						



August Altar Flower Donations

Steve & Agnes Olmsted in thanksgiving for their wedding anniversary.

Wilson & Betty Melchor in thanksgiving for their wedding anniversary.

Mark & Gigi Kemalyan in thanksgiving for their wedding anniversary.

Lee Atwater in memory of his wedding anniversary.

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.stocktonanglican.org



September 2nd

Deuteronomy 4:1-9 – Psalm 15
Ephesians 6:10-20 – Mark 7:1-23

September 9th

Isaiah 35:4-7 – Psalm 146
James 1:17-27 – Mark 7:31-37

September 16th Holy Cross

Isaiah 45:21-25 – Psalm 98
Philippians 2:5-11 – John 12:31-36

September 23rd

Wisdom 1:16—2:1, 12-22 – Psalm 54
James 3:16—4:6 – Mark 9:30-37

September 30th

Jeremiah 1:4-10 – Psalm 34:15-22
2 Timothy 3:10-17 – Matthew 28:16-20

The Messenger

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'18 Rachel Allanigue
'19 Mike Combs, Mike Finney
'20 Mark Kemalyan, Agnes Olmsted



*Be it Known That
The Right Reverend Eric Vawter Menees
Fifth Bishop of San Joaquin
will Install*

Reverend Joshua Elijah Drake

*as Vicar of St Francis of Assisi
Anglican Church*

*on Sunday, September 30th, 2018,
at 9:30am, at the address below:*

*5401 N Pershing Ave, Suite 10
Stockton, CA 95207*

Pot Luck Reception to Follow



Come to Movie Night at
St Francis Church on
Friday, September 7th
at 7:30pm. We will be showing *God's
Not Dead II*

From your Bishop's Warden

With the coming change in leadership from Interim Vicar to Vicar, I would like to begin by expressing my sincere gratitude to Fr. Woodrow Gubuan for all he has done for our parish over the years. Beginning with the Holy Cross Mission which began at St. John's, continuing at St. John's when Holy Cross Mission and St. John's combined, and probably the most critical time of all, when he came back to us as St. Francis when we were broken and tired after losing our property and were probably at the lowest point in my time with the church. We were worshipping at Grace Methodist in their multi-purpose room and struggling. He has helped us to heal and become strong as a congregation again and helped with the move to our new location where we finally have complete control over the property we are leasing. I don't like to think where we might be today without his calming and healing presence and I would like to personally thank him for all he has given to the church during his career.

Next, I would like to welcome our new Vicar, Fr. Joshua Drake. He and his wife Alicia have now welcomed their newest addition to their family, Caleb Elisha Drake born on Friday, August 17th at 11:15 AM. Caleb and Alicia are doing well and they, along with their two daughters Imanueal Joy and Evangeline Grace are all very much looking forward to joining us on September 1st. They have purchased a home in Stockton and have made the final move this past weekend and are now living full time in Stockton. I am looking forward to working with him and Fr. Gubuan on the transition and pray it goes smoothly.

We have decided to fill the position of Peoples Warden which Jim Telander had so faithfully held until his recent resignation and Bishop Menees asked Mike Finney to fill that position. I would like to thank Mike for accepting and know he will be very effective in that role.

We are still searching for an organist to fill the open weeks that Elvahre is unable to play. She thought she would be able to take on full time but it didn't work out. We have been doing well with recorded music on the days she can't play but would eventually like to find someone to fill the open weeks.

Lumina Health Care has been very good about parking their vans at the other end of the parking lot on the weekends and it has made it much easier for our parishioners to find parking and get into the church. I have also sent an email to Jennifer, our landlord about the possibility of adding signage on the building to make ourselves more visible. More to come!

If you have any concerns you would like to discuss, you can e-mail me at any time at mikecombs@sbcglobal.net or feel free to call me at (209) 642-3129.

Sincerely,

Mike Combs
Bishop's Warden



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