

# THE MESSENGER

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

March 2020

## Into the Wilderness Season

By Father Joshua Drake

This year we are focusing on discipleship and what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. Being His disciple means following Him. During Lent we follow Jesus into the desert where He was tempted for 40 days.



We do this by setting aside the 40 days of Lent to enter into a 'type' of wilderness through fasting, self-discipline, contemplation, and study in order to confront and battle against our sinful nature, vices, and those things which tempt us.

We do not enter into this Lenten wilderness alone. Like Jesus our Master we are given the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit to minister to us during this time. . . but we must still do our part and join in the work God is doing in us through the Holy Spirit.

**Walk in the  
good works  
that God has  
ordained for  
you to walk in**

### Inside this Issue

From the Rector . . . . .	1
Deacon's Corner. . . . .	2
Soup Suppers in Lent. . . . .	2
Sacred Worship . . . . .	3
Serious Discipleship. . . . .	3
Selfless Service . . . . .	4
Get Involved . . . . .	5
Calendar . . . . .	6
Birthdays & Anniversaries . . . . .	7

In the wilderness we also see that Jesus responded to temptation with the power of the Word of God. When tempted by the devil, He quoted Scripture. Likewise, I encourage you all to enter into this Holy Lent armed with a disciplined study of the Word of God. If you don't already do so, consider cultivating a new practice of praying the Daily Office and regular personal study of the Word of God this Lenten season. If you need resources or help on how to do this, feel free to talk to me; we can set up a time for me to help teach you how to pray the Daily Office and give you some tips and advice how to make it a habit in your life.

Lastly, as we look to Jesus as our Master and example to follow, we see that after His season in the wilderness He then began His public ministry. My hope is that this Lenten season we

### St Francis of Assisi Anglican Church

5401 N Pershing Ave, Suite 10  
Stockton, CA 95207

**Mail:** P.O. Box 4466, Stockton, CA 95204

**Phone:** 209-565-0648

**Email:** sfaachurch@gmail.com

**Web:** stocktonanglican.org

**Office Hours:** By Appointment (Closed Fridays)

**Sunday Mass:** 10:00 a.m.

*Continued on page 5*



## Deacon's Corner



Greetings!

The class "*I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist*" talks about five consequential questions of life. They are:

1. Origin—Where did we come from?
2. Identity—Who are we?
3. Meaning—Why are we here?
4. Morality—How should we live?
5. Destiny—Where are we going?

These questions boil down to this: either God exists or he doesn't. The class gives evidence that God exists. As Christians we believe that God does exist and that Jesus, His Son, the second Person of the Trinity, humbled himself and took on human flesh and died for our sins on the cross.

The season of Lent is a time to pray, fast, reflect, and repent for the sins we have committed and that Jesus died for. I think these five questions might be a good Lenten discipline to use for praying, reflecting, and repenting—because each one points to the fact that God does exist and that we were made for a purpose that we have not fulfilled.

**Origin:** We came out of the dust of which God breathed life in us.

**Identity:** We should identify with Christ and what he did for us, hence we are *Christians*.

**Meaning:** We are here to have a relationship with God and to worship him.

**Morality:** We are to live by God's wisdom and not that of man.

**Destiny:** It lies in Christ that we shall be resurrected to continue to have the relationship that God made us for.

So perhaps a good Lenten practice is to focus on the core principles of each of these five questions and how we have strayed from them and wandered into sin—so that by doing so we may return with Christ's help and have the relationship that the Father in heaven wants to have with us.

The Great Litany that will be sung on the first Sunday of Lent is a good reminder of how to meditate and reflect on these five questions with repentance prayer and fasting. This gives us a deeper and fuller experience during Lent which will make Easter even more full and vibrant.

These five questions, when in relation to whether God exists or not, have a deep impact on the way we act. If there is no God we can act differently than if there is a God; and that is the conflict of the world today. I pray that during this Lenten season you will pick a practice that will help in your relationship with God, leading to a stronger and more rewarding connection.

May the Peace of the Lord be always with you!

—Deacon Jeff Stugelmeyer ♦



### Soup Suppers During Lent

Come to Soup Supper every Friday (*except 3/20*) during Lent at 6:00 p.m. to enjoy fellowship and a delicious bowl of soup. Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.

**Hosts needed!** Contact Cat Vaughn. ♦

**First Soup Supper is Friday, February 28 at 6:00 p.m.**





## Sacred Worship

<b>Sundays</b>	10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist @ St. Francis Church
<b>First Saturday</b>	<i>No Saturday service this month</i>	
<b>Healing Service</b>	Varies	Announced via email & Sunday bulletins
<b>Fridays in Lent</b>	7 p.m.	Stations of the Cross ( <b>except 3/20</b> )

### Taizé Scriptural Stations of the Cross

**Friday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m.**

Fourteen Stations beginning with the Prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus became distressed and "deeply grieved, to the point of death" (Matthew 26:38 NASB).

- Based on a devotion by Pope John Paul II
- A seated meditation in our candlelit sanctuary in lieu of a physical procession
- Each station is represented by classical art
- Each station has a reading, reflective silence, a prayer, and a song
- Contemplative five-minute silence after the last station, before the final song and closing prayers. We pause at the silence of the tomb after Christ's body is laid to rest—as we grieve for His suffering and death, and in gratitude for our Lord's sacrifice.



It is our prayer that this special Taizé Stations of the Cross service will bless you and help you to reflect more profoundly on our Lord's Passion this Lenten season.

Come pray with us on March 13. God will meet you in the songs and in the silence.

#### **Taizé Prayer: Scriptural Stations of the Cross**

**Friday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m.**

*Immediately following the Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m.*



### In-Home Healing Services

If you or someone you know need healing but cannot physically make it to the Church, we can bring the Sacrament to you.

**All are welcome** to come and share in the healing service as the body of Christ. Time and place will be announced in the Sunday bulletin or via email. ♦

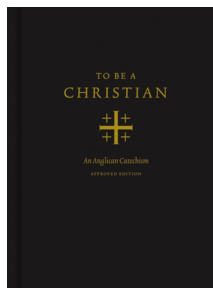


# Serious Discipleship



## How to Be a Christian - An Anglican Catechism

**The new Anglican Catechism is here!** A beautiful hard-bound edition can be purchased now on Amazon or at Crossway.com for around \$30. If you would like to get the book at a discount, please let Father Joshua know: Saint Francis



Church is going to place a bulk order which means about a one third discount off the regular price!

**Grow as a disciple of Christ** by learning this ancient tradition to deepen your core beliefs in an easy to use question-and-answer format. Teachings draw from important foundations of the faith such as the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments.

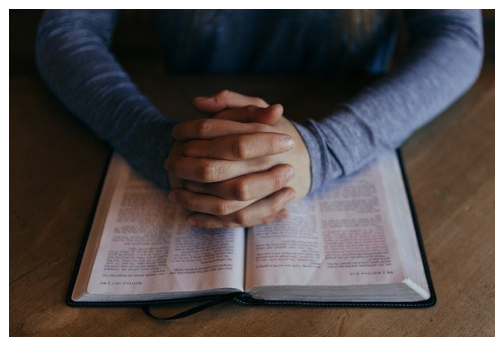
**All are welcome to join us for Catechesis on Sundays** (except major holidays) **at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.** Catechism is beneficial for all believers, whether you're new to the faith or you've been a Christian for a long time. Come check it out next Sunday! ♦

## Bible Study Fellowships

**Lodi** - Daniel: Spiritual Living in a Secular World. Two Thursdays a month, 5:30 p.m. at Panera Bread in Lodi. Led by Deacon Jeff. This month we meet March 5 and 26.

**Tracy** - One Sunday a month at 5:00 p.m. at Mike Finney's home. We share a meal, discuss the Sunday sermon, and close by reading and praying Compline together. Contact Mike at [mikeandfresca@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeandfresca@yahoo.com) for more info and his address. ♦

**Your Town Here** - Would you like to host a home Bible study? No special skills required! Talk to Father Joshua to learn more. ♦



## Scripture of the Month

Date	Old Testament	New Testament
Mar 1	Genesis 2:4-9, 15-17, 25-3:7 Psalm 51	Romans 5:12-22 Matthew 4:1-11
Mar 8	Genesis 12:1-9 Psalm 33:12-21	Romans 4:1-17 John 3:1-16
Mar 15	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95	Romans 1:16-32 John 4:5-42
Mar 22	1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 23	Ephesians 5:1-14 John 9:1-13, 28-41
Mar 29	Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 130	Romans 6:15-23 John 11:1-44

*From 2019 Book of Common Prayer: Sunday, Holy Day,  
and Commemoration Lectionary, Year A*





# Selfless Service

*Continued from page 1*

will all enter into the wilderness with Jesus and then afterwards start a renewed season of public ministry in our parish and our city.

I would like each and every one of you in our parish to enter into a Holy Lent with the mindset of facing and fighting your sin, and cultivating holiness and virtue toward this end of being better equipped to serve the Lord in the ministry He has called you to!

And if you are unclear about what ministry and service He has called you to, I invite you into a time of discernment this Lenten season—so that when Easter comes you can have new and renewed clarity about your gifting and calling and are empowered to walk in the good works that God has ordained for you to walk in. In this Lenten season, know that I am here for you as your priest if you need counsel or to make a Confession.

Peace be with you!

May you all have a Holy Lent! ♦

*Fr. Joshua+*

## We mourn with you

Carolyn Lawrence - *Joe Lawrence, March 2; and Virginia Blewett, March 9*

Joe Dietrich - *Marjorie A. Dietrich, March 7*

Ted Yumoto - *Cindy Ford Yumoto, March 13*

Eileen Lichtenberg - *Hugo Lichtenberg, March 16*

Bob Norman - *Mary Norman, March 18*

Marvin Lykins - *Francis Lykins, March 19*

Gary Crowder & Carrie Barrie - *Myrtle Johnson Crowder, March 29*

Frank Berghuis - *Eva Berghuis, March 31*



## We are praying for

**Our Homebound:** Nancy, Erlinda, Luciana, Sandra, Gloria, Beatriz, Jane, Kathy, Claude, and Barbara. ♦

## Feeding the Homeless with Deacon Jeff

**Every first Saturday at 11:00 a.m.**

See Deacon Jeff for more information and the **new location**. Come and be Christ's hands and feet for your neighbors in need! ♦



## Homeless Women's Ministry

**Every First Saturday of Each Month  
After the 10:00 a.m. Service**

The Homeless Women's Outreach Ministry distributes toiletries and personal necessities to women in need. **Donations of travel-sized toiletries are especially needed.** We give out 24 bags of personal hygiene items every month! Please see Cat Vaughn for info. ♦

## Card Ministry

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 on Sundays. **Please take a moment and sign them each week.** It's a simple way to make these folks feel like they are part of our parish even if they can't physically join us on Sundays. ♦



## Get Involved

### Potluck Sunday March 29



Our Sunday coffee hour is an opportunity to enjoy fellowship, make new friends, and reconnect with others after the service. This month has five Sundays, which means we will have a potluck on March 29th. Please bring a table-ready dish with serving utensils. Thank you! ♦

### Shepherd's Love

By Agnes Olmsted



Please pray for Rick and April Dobbs. With his declining health, it is unlikely that Rick will be able to travel to Uganda again to see their 'children.' Visiting with Rick is uplifting because he is so positive and feels very blessed. April is a Hospice Chaplain and you can read about her heartwarming ministry on her Facebook page. Many of you heard their inspiring story in church in December as they shared how God called them and then helped Rick and April to build the Twinomujuni Children's Home and Roseville School in Kabale. April is hoping to visit this year as are Stephen and I. Prayers for blessed travels are appreciated. Please remember the children and staff at Twinomujuni in your prayers as they go through these transitions. ♦

### Ministry Contacts

Altar Flowers.....	Church Office
Altar Guild .....	Father Joshua
Acolytes.....	Deacon Jeff
Collection Counter.....	Church Office
Daughters of the Holy Cross....	Agnes Olmsted
Feeding the Homeless.....	Deacon Jeff
Homebound Ministry.....	Father Joshua
Homeless Women Ministry.....	Cat Vaughn
Hospitality (Coffee Hour).....	Cat Vaughn
Lectors .....	Terry Beth
Music.....	Nancy Blaylock, Gigi Kemalyan
Office Help.....	Church Office
Prayer Team.....	Mike Griffin
Senior Ministry.....	Church Office
Taizé Prayer.....	Gigi Kemalyan
Ushers.....	Mike Combs



### Are you interested in getting plugged into a ministry at Saint Francis?

Talk to one of the ministry leaders listed above on Sunday or contact the church office.

**209-565-0648**

Office Hours by Appointment  
Monday-Thursday  
**CLOSED Fridays**

**Look for more opportunities in the coming months as we roll out updates to our Parish Ministries!**



### Shepherd's Love

is a non-profit organization dedicated to the support of orphans and widows in Kabala, Uganda, in the Kigezi Diocese. If you would like to learn more, talk to Stephen and Agnes Olmsted. ♦

## MARCH 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> <b>Lent I</b> 9am Catechesis 10am Mass	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 5:30pm Bible Study @ Panera in Lodi	<b>6</b> <i>Office Closed</i> 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Stations of the Cross	<b>7</b> 11am Feeding the Homeless <b>Remember to set your clocks AHEAD 1 hour tonight!</b>
<b>8</b> <b>Lent II</b> <i>Daylight Savings Begins</i> 9am Catechesis 10am Mass	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <i>Office Closed</i> 6pm Soup Supper <b>7pm Taizé Scriptural Stations</b>	<b>14</b>  10am Daughters of the Holy Cross
<b>15</b> <b>Lent III</b> 9am Catechesis 10am Mass 5pm Fellowship at Finney's (Tracy)	<b>16</b> Newsletter Deadline 12:00 Noon	<b>17</b> 10:30am Altar Guild 11:30am-4pm Deanery Clericus	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <i>Office Closed</i> <b>VESTRY RETREAT 3/20-3/22</b> <i>No Stations of the Cross tonight</i>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>Lent IV</b> 9am Catechesis 10am Mass	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 5:30pm Bible Study @ Panera in Lodi	<b>27</b> <i>Office Closed</i> 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Stations of the Cross	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>Lent V</b> 9am Catechesis 10am Mass	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

### March Birthdays

Leslie Turner	2
Mark Kemalyan	5
Sandra Bradbury	5
Precious Nwaogu	5
Daralyn Tejano	8
Audrey Tan	9
Marybeth Massod	10
Janice Van Ornum	21
Claude Smart	25
Jeff Stugelmeyer	31



### Wedding Anniversaries

Mr & Mrs Randy Hamilton	10
Mr & Mrs Dan Tejano	22

### Upcoming Events

**\*\*Note\*\*** *NO First Saturday Mass this month*

Mar 7      Feeding the Homeless 11:00 a.m.  
(Contact Dcn Jeff for new location)

Mar 13      **Taizé Scriptural Stations of the Cross** 7:00 p.m. (see p. 3)

Mar 14      Daughters of the Holy Cross  
10:00 a.m.

Mar 16      Newsletter Deadline 12:00 Noon

Mar 17      Altar Guild 10:30 a.m.

**Soup Suppers** 6:00 p.m. Mar 6, 13, 27

**Stations of the Cross** 7:00 p.m. Mar 6, 13, 27

**Vestry Retreat** Mar 20-22

**Don't see your birthday or anniversary?** Please let the church office know and we'll get you "in" next time! Call: 209-565-0648 or e-mail: [sfaachurch@gmail.com](mailto:sfaachurch@gmail.com)





## Online Resources

### ANGLICAN DIOCESE of San Joaquin

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

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

#### Daily Opportunities to read/hear the Word:

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

<https://crossroadsabbey.podbean.com/#>

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

<https://first5.org/>

## THE MESSENGER

Published monthly by  
Saint Francis of Assisi Anglican Church

### STAFF

Rector - The Rev. Joshua Drake

Deacon - Jeff Stugelmeyer

Editor - Gigi Kemalyan

### VESTRY

2020 - Mark Kemalyan, Agnes Olmsted

2021 - Rose Beth, Denis Ceballos

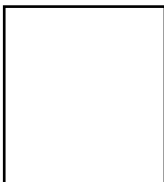
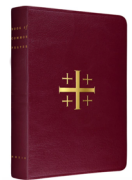
2022 - Bill Aaron, Joe Dietrich



## The New 2019 Book of Common Prayer

Now available for purchase from Anglican Liturgy Press

<http://bcp2019.anglicanchurch.net/index.php/purchase/>



St Francis Anglican Church  
P.O. Box 4466  
Stockton CA 95204