



Welcome to St. Francis Church

We are glad you are here.

Newcomers and visitors, please see the Welcome section to help you get acquainted with St. Francis. It is our parish custom to observe silence in the Church prior to the start of the Eucharist.

Consider making a donation of altar flowers in honor of a special occasion or in memory of someone you love. The suggested donation is \$50. To arrange, please contact Mary in the Church Office: 310-375-4617 or mary.sanchez@stfrancispalosverdes.org.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES. THANK YOU.

8:00 A.M. - THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I

Celebrant: The Very Rev. Paula Vukmanic

Deacon: The Rev. Judith Lyons

Preacher: Canon Hank Gatlin, *Licensed Lay Preacher*

Prelude: *Variations on "Stuttgart" - Lind*

Processional Hymn—Prepare the Way **Hymn #65**

The Opening Acclamation Book of Common Prayer, p. 323
(this and all similar page refs. refer to Book of Common Prayer)

The Collect of the Day p. 159

Prayers for the Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader: Today we light the first, second and third candles of the Advent wreath.

Each candle has a meaning.

This first candle is HOPE. The second candle is PEACE, and the third candle is JOY.

(Acolyte: The candles are lit)

Leader: "You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands." *(Isaiah 55:12)*

People: Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit.

Fill us with your joy, and help us shine as a light to the world.

Through Jesus Christ, who makes our joy complete. Amen.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
 the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
 like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
 and rejoice with joy and singing.
 The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
 the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
 They shall see the glory of the LORD,
 the majesty of our God.
 Strengthen the weak hands,
 and make firm the feeble knees.
 Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
 "Be strong, do not fear!
 Here is your God.
 He will come with vengeance,
 with terrible recompense.
 He will come and save you."
 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
 then the lame shall leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the speechless sing for
 joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
 the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
 the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
 A highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Holy Way;
 the unclean shall not travel on it,
 but it shall be for God's people; no travel-
 er, not even fools, shall go astray.
 No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on
 it;
 they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
 and come to Zion with singing;
 everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain joy and gladness,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.



"Madonna of the Magnificat"
 Alessandro Botticelli 1480-1481

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Please STAND, as able, and join in singing,

Gospel Procession: Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord..... *From Godspell by Stephen Schwartz*

Pre - - pare ye the way of the Lord.

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The Holy Gospel	Matthew 11:2-11
<p>When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."</p> <p>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'</p> <p>"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."</p> <p><i>Please join in singing 'Prepare Ye' as the procession returns.</i></p>	
The Sermon	Canon Hank Gatlin
The Nicene Creed	p. 327
The Prayers of the People	p. 328
Let us say together our Mission Statement:	
All	We welcome everyone to worship God together, to be transformed by the Holy Spirit and each other, and to share the light of Christ in the world. Amen.
The Confession.....	p. 330
The Peace.....	p. 332
Welcome and Announcements	
Offertory Hymn—O Come, O Come, Emmanuel	Hymn #56
Offertory Prayer	All things come of thee O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee
The Sanctus	
The Great Thanksgiving	p. 333
<p><i>The clergy will carry the Sacrament to anyone in the congregation who is unable to come forward for Holy Communion. Please inform one of the ushers if you would like to be served at your seat.</i></p> <p><i>Gluten-free Communion wafers are now carried alongside regular wafers at Holy Communion.</i></p> <p><i>If you require one of these, simply ask at the Altar rail.</i></p>	
Post Communion Prayer	p. 339
Blessing and Dismissal	p. 339
Recessional Hymn—Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus	Hymn #66
<i>Postlude:</i>	<i>Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him - Blake/Prichard</i>

WELCOME

If you are new to our parish community, here are a few notes to help you get acquainted.

1. **PLEASE TAKE A "WELCOME" CARD** from the pew rack in front of you, fill it out, and place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of our clergy after the service. We will be happy to contact you in the week ahead and help you however we can.
2. **JOIN US AFTER THE SERVICE FOR COFFEE** and other refreshments so we can welcome you more personally. Coffee hour is on the Chapel Patio (turn right as you exit the Chapel). We promise we won't leave you standing in the corner, staring at your shoes! When raining or cold, we gather in the Parish Hall (turn left when you exit the Chapel and head for the green doors).

STOP BY THE WELCOME TABLE at the Chapel doors or the rolling bulletin board near the Main Church entrance, and browse the information there. For more information, visit our website at www.stfrancispalosverdes.org to help you "get connected" – to God, to the inclusive community that is St. Francis, and to many opportunities to make a difference in the world. You may also sign up online for our weekly and monthly enewsletters.

1. **IF YOU HAVE COME WITH CHILDREN**, please know that children of any age are always welcome to stay with you during the worship service. We have found that sitting toward the front helps children feel they are more "a part of the action". Pew bags are available at the Chapel doors with child-friendly worship aids.



PRAYERS THIS WEEK

We pray for all those who serve in the armed and foreign services, and for their families, especially Drew Deley, Kelly Hall, Mark Kappelmann, TJ Malzahn, Will Piepenbring, Scott Ruston, Michael Strong, Jonathan Zimmerman and Steve, that they may be kept from harm's way.

Those who are ill or recovering from surgery: Andrea, Aidan and Lorcin, Barbara, Bob and Jane Africano, Stephanie Bezner, Howard Dale, Ceri Falk, Ann Godfrey, Sally Hill, Marjorie Morris, Karla Nicole, Nathan Reddall, Shelley Reece, Doug and Gwynne Shaw, and Steve Smith, that they may know your healing power.

We pray for all who have died,
that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

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www.stfrancispalosverdes.org