



**Important Covid Safety Reminders**

In accordance with LA County Public Health requirements, Bishop Taylor has requested that although social distancing is no longer required, masks must be worn at all times indoors, regardless of vaccination status.

**Welcome to St. Francis Church**

We are glad you are here.

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](mailto:mary.sanchez@stfrancispalosverdes.org).

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES. THANK YOU.

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

Celebrant:..... The Rev. Jerry Sather

Deacon/Preacher:..... The Rev. Celeste Stump

*Prelude* ..... *Veni Domine (Hymn for Peace), Pietro Yon*  
*Please STAND as able, and if you are fully vaccinated, join in singing.*

Processional Hymn: **Comfort, Comfort Ye My People**..... **Hymn #67, v. 1-3**  
*(you will find the hymns in the blue 1982 Hymnal in your pew rack)*

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. 160

The First Lesson ..... Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgments against  
you,  
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
Do not fear, O Zion;

do not let your hands grow weak.  
The LORD, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing  
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.

And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the LORD.

The Response: Canticle 9, The First Song of Isaiah, *Ecce Deus, Isaiah 12:2-6* .....p. 86

The Second Lesson.....Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Holy Gospel Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Sermon ..... The Rev. Celeste Stump

The Nicene Creed.....p. 327

The Prayers of the People .....p. 328

The Confession of Sin.....p. 331

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory Prayer All things come of thee O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee

The Great Thanksgiving .....p. 333

*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.*

*Gluten-free Communion wafers are now carried alongside regular wafers at Holy Communion.*

*If you require one of these, simply ask at the Altar rail.*

Post Communion Prayer .....p. 339

Blessing and Dismissal .....p. 339

Recessional Hymn—**On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry**..... **Hymn #76, v. 1-5**

Postlude .....*Creator of the Starry Heights, Pietro Yon*



# Welcome!

We warmly welcome you if you are here with us for the first time today. We joyfully welcome *all* people into our community – without exception. Whoever you are, and whatever the status of your relationship with God, you will find fellow travelers here.

*With blessings and peace from the community of St Francis Church.*

## Coming Up!

**Advent Taizé for Healing and Wholeness—This Tuesday December 14, 7:00 p.m.**

Back in person! A simple service of chants and scripture, all by the light of a million candles. Light in the darkness to calm your soul and heal your mind and body. Refreshments after the service.

**Harbor Interfaith Holiday Toy and Food Drive—**Holiday food, unwrapped toys (infants to 18 years), gift cards—please bring to the church up until Sunday December 19.

## Ongoing

**Bible Study on Zoom—**Contacts: Jack Hailwood, [john.w.hailwood@outlook.com](mailto:john.w.hailwood@outlook.com) or Suellen Eslinger, [suellenesl@verizon.net](mailto:suellenesl@verizon.net)

**Yoga—Mondays from 11:15am -12:45pm - Level 1/2 Hatha Yoga** for Strength and Mobility.

**Wednesdays 9:00-10:15am Level 1 Gentle Yoga** for Vital Mobility and Balance.

(free-will offering). Contact: Jill, [jillfenskelynych@gmail.com](mailto:jillfenskelynych@gmail.com)

**Meditation—**Thursdays 9:30-10:30am—in the library. Contact: Kristina Pelá, [krab3@yahoo.com](mailto:krab3@yahoo.com);

**AA—**Thursdays & Sundays 7:30 pm, **Al-Anon—**Thursdays 7:00pm

## Clergy

**The Rev. Jerry E. Sather, Priest in Charge (Interim),** [jerry.sather@stfrancispalosverdes.org](mailto:jerry.sather@stfrancispalosverdes.org)

Direct Line: (310) 594-7984, Church Office: (310) 375-4617

**The Rev. Celeste Stump, Deacon, Chaplain at The Canterbury,** [cstump@thecanterbury.org](mailto:cstump@thecanterbury.org)

Children and families—free childcare in the nursery on the Parish Hall stage, during 10am worship; pre-K thru 5th grade—Meet in classrooms at 9:55 a.m. Children re-join their families in Church in time for Communion. Contact: Kristina Pelá, [krab3@yahoo.com](mailto:krab3@yahoo.com);

Teens (6th-12th grades)—Meet Sundays 4:00—6:00 p.m. Contact: Wayne —901-219-6564; [wayne@stfrancispalosverdes.org](mailto:wayne@stfrancispalosverdes.org).

Need help or Prayers? Contact: Jerry+ 310 594-7984 [jerry.sather@stfrancispalosverdes.org](mailto:jerry.sather@stfrancispalosverdes.org)

## Staff

**Dr. Mark Bennett,** (310) 594-7416, [mark.bennett@stfrancispalosverdes.org](mailto:mark.bennett@stfrancispalosverdes.org), Director of Music

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*Names of those in the armed forces we pray for this week.*

**All those who serve in the armed and foreign services, and for their families:** Drew Deley, Michael Herredia, Mark Kappelmann, Maia and Tom Lainis, Will Piepenbring, Scott Ruston, Michael Strong, Jonathan Zimmerman and Steve.



St Francis Palos Verdes



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