



Welcome to St. Francis Church

We are happy to welcome you! For your health and safety, we strongly recommend all persons be vaccinated against COVID and influenza. Masks are not required, but encouraged, particularly for unvaccinated and immunocompromised persons. Please take advantage of our online worship to stay home if you are feeling unwell in any way.

Please see the enclosed sheet to donate for our celebratory Christmas decorations and music. Your generous music donations also help to maintain our regular year-round program.

Thank you!

Celebrant/Preacher: The Rev. Jerry Sather

Deacon: The Rev. Celeste Stump

Prelude: *Wexler Prelude* (arr. David Knight)

Processional Hymn— Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus **Hymn #66, v. 1-4**

Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy
Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the
Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and
By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our
4
peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our
earth thou art: dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery
yet a king, born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gracious
8
hearts a - lone; by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy
rest in thee.
long - ing heart.
king - dom bring.
glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: "Stuttgart," adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870).

The Opening Acclamation..... Book of Common Prayer, p. 323

(this and all similar page refs. refer to Book of Common Prayer—the red book in the pew rack in front of you)

The Kyrie p. 324

The Collect of the Day p. 160

The First Lesson	Isaiah 7:10-16
<p>Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."</p>	
The Response: Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18, <i>Qui regis Israel</i>	p. 702
The Second Lesson.....	Romans 1:1-7
<p>Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,</p> <p>To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:</p> <p>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.</p>	
The Holy Gospel	Matthew 1:18-25
<p>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"</p> <p>which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.</p>	
The Sermon	The Rev. Jerry Sather
The Nicene Creed.....	p. 327
The Prayers of the People	p. 328
The Confession of Sin.....	p. 331
The Peace.....	p. 332
Welcome and Announcements	
The Great Thanksgiving	p. 340
The Lord's Prayer.....	p. 336

The Breaking of the Bread p. 337
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 Sending Forth p. 339
 Closing Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Hymn #56, v. 1-3, 6, 7

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 And ransom captive Israel,
 That mourns in lonely exile here
 Until the Son of God appear.**

*Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
 And order all things, far and nigh;
 To us the path of knowledge show,
 And cause us in her ways to go. *Refrain***

**O come, O come, Thou Lord of might
 Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height
 In ancient times didst give the law
 In cloud, and majesty and awe. *Refrain***

**O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
 Our spirits by Thine advent here;
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain***

**O come, Desire of nations, bind
 In one the hearts of all mankind;
 Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
 And be Thyself our King of peace. *Refrain***

Postlude: Advent Acclamation (arr. David Knight)

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.

Christmas Services

Saturday, December 24,

Family-friendly Christmas Eucharist - 4pm in the Main Sanctuary

Bring your out-of-town visitors and all your family and friends (including the very littlest who are more than welcome!), to this joyful, family-friendly Christmas Eucharist. All the traditional carols, and the Christmas Story told through scripture and music. Plus! St. Nicholas (aka Santa) will be dropping by for a visit during this service.

Saturday, December 24,

Winter Glow! 8:15pm in the Main Sanctuary

The voices of our angelic St. Francis choir, with instrumental accompaniment, will transport you to a heavenly Christmas experience. From quiet, soulful carols — ‘Who but the Lord’ by Craig Courtney — to a final triumphant ‘Joy to the World’.

This special choral offering will end at approximately 8:40pm and will be followed by:

Holy Eucharist with Candles, Carols and Choir

9pm Main Sanctuary

With a candlelit start to the service, celebrate the joy of the birth of our Lord. A beautiful, warm service of light and music will fill your heart with the deepest spirit and peace of Christmas. Silent Night sung by the light of tapers is a long-standing St. Francis tradition and a most holy experience.

Sunday, December 25, 10am, Main Sanctuary

Christmas Day is here! Holy Eucharist, again with all the much-loved carols and music.

This service will be livestreamed. All others are in-person only.

Prayers this Week

We pray for all those who serve in the armed and foreign services, and for their families, especially Drew Deley, Michael Heredia, Mark Kappelmann, TJ Malzahn, Will Piepenbring, Scott Ruston, Michael Strong, Jonathan Zimmerman and Steve.

Those who are ill, recovering from surgery, or in any other kind of need or trouble: Andrea, Amy Clute, Daniel Drayling, Pauline Duley, Ceri Falk, Colette Furbush, Sally Hill, Mick Mohuchy, Marjorie Morris, Anne Marie Morris, Greg Morris, Mike Morris, Bruce Schaefer, Patricia Stewart, and Stephen.

Need help or Prayers? Contact: Jerry+ 310 594-7984 jerry.sather@stfrancispalosverdes.org



Don't miss out!—scan the code to join our electronic mailing list.



St Francis PalosVerdes



@saintfrancisepiscopal



**[https://www.youtube.com/c/
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