First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ



Sunday, January 12, 2025 * 10:00 am

Celebrant/Preacher: The Rev. Jason Shelby

Deacon: The Rev. Celeste Stump

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. Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the service.

Coming Events

Sunday, Jan. 12

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I in the Chapel

Please take a moment to silence your cellphone. Thank you.

- 9:10 am Spiritual Formation Class: "Who is Jesus?"
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Monday, Jan. 13 - Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, Jan. 14

- 6:00 pm Finance meeting
- 7:00 pm Vestry meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 15

- 10:00 am Healing & Reconciliation Holy Eucharist
- 10:00 am Blue Bin Sorting
- 5:00 pm Good Grief meeting

Thursday, Jan. 16 – 1:00 pm Quilting and Knitting Group **Sunday, Jan. 19**

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I in the Chapel
- 9:10 am Spiritual Formation Class: "Who is Jesus?"
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II
- 11:30 am Antique Show 2025 meeting

Monday, Jan. 20

- Church office closed (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

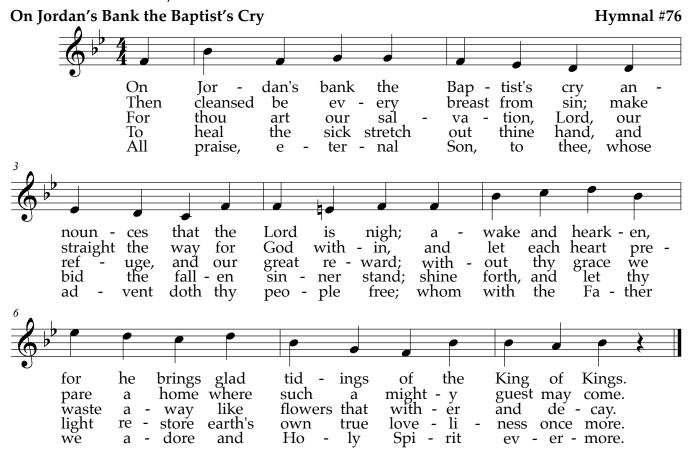
Tuesday, Jan. 21 – 7:00 pm C.S. Lewis on Joy, Suffering, and Inbetween

For more events, dates and times, visit our church calendar: https://bit.ly/stfranciscalendar

The Word of God

Please stand as able and join in singing.

The Processional Hymn



Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt.

Music: "Winchester New," melody from "Musicalishes Hand-Buch," 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: **+** Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;
People There is one hope in God's call to us;
Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People One God and Father of all.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen*.

Please be seated.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

Reader A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Now thus says the LORD,

he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the LORD your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,

Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious in my sight,

and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you;

I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you;

⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up,"

and to the south, "Do not withhold;

bring my sons from far away

and my daughters from the end of the earth—

⁷everyone who is called by my name,

whom I created for my glory,

whom I formed and made."

Reader The Word of the Lord People Thanks be to God.

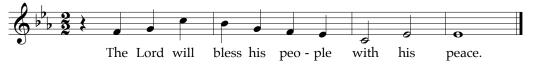
The Response: Psalm 29

Reader Let us read from Psalm 29 responsively (the People reading the text in bold).

Refrain

Refrain

Refrain



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Music: Michel Guimont, from "Lectionary Psalms: The Revised Grail Psalms," Copyright © 1994,
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Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *

ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *

worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;

the God of glory thunders;*

the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; *

the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; *

the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *

and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

⁷The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;

the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; *

the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁸The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe *

and strips the forests bare.

⁹And in the temple of the LORD *

all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *

the LORD sits enthroned as King forevermore.

¹¹The LORD shall give strength to his people; *

the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace. Refrain

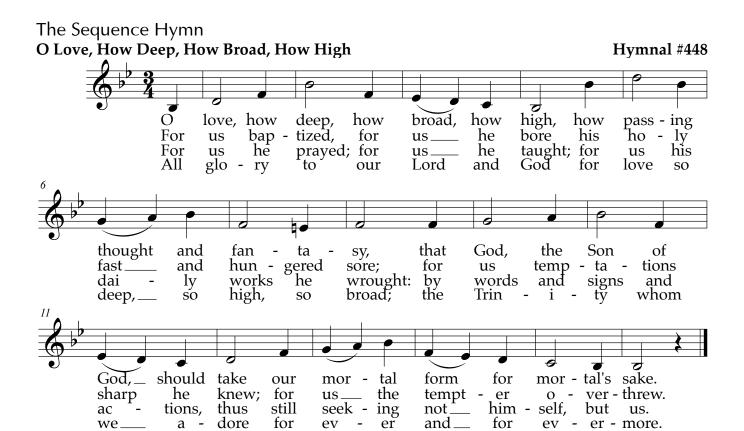
The Second Lesson: Acts 8:14-17

Reader A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able and join in singing.



Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: "Deus tuorum militum," from "Antiphoner," 1753; adapt. "The English Hymnal," 1906, alt.; harm. after Basil Harwood (1859-1949).

Please remain standing as able.

The Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John 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. ¹⁷His 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."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

The Sermon The Rev. Jason Shelby

There will be a moment of silence for reflection following the sermon.

Please stand as able and join in saying the affirmation of your Baptismal Covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the

bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and

return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of

every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Please remain standing as able.

The Prayers for the Candidates (the People read the responses in **bold**)

A Person appointed leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver us, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open our hearts to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill us with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep us in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach us to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send us into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring us to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son

may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory;

who lives and reigns now and forever. Amen.

The Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And also with you.

CelebrantPeopleLet us give thanks to the Lord our God.It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved

in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into

everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the

Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Celebrant Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that

those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in

the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.

All Amen.

Celebrant Let us remember the waters of our baptism.

The Celebrant anoints the congregation with the water of baptism.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Ministers and People exchange signs of peace in the name of the Lord.

Please be seated.

The Welcome and Announcements

Anyone who has a birthday or anniversary in the next week is invited to come forward for a blessing:

All

Watch over your child(ren), O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may the peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

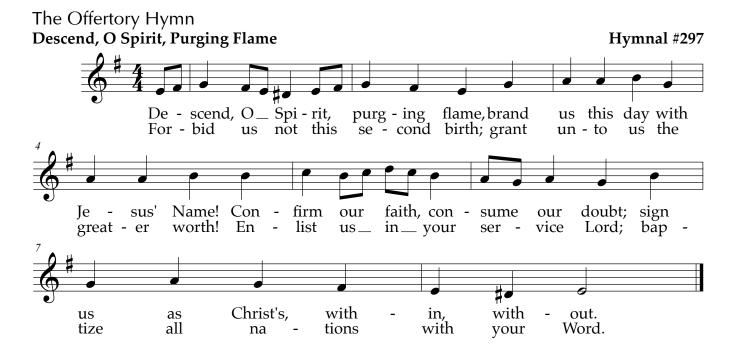
Celebrant Walk in love as Christ loves us, bring offerings of praise and thanksgiving to his table.

The Offertory Anthem **Down to the River to Pray**

American Traditional, arr. Sheldon Curry

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good ol' way And who shall wear that starry crown. Good Lord, show me the way. O sisters, let's go down, come on down, down to the river to pray. O brothers, let's go down, come on down, down to the river to pray. O fathers, let's go down, come on down, down to the river to pray. O mothers, let's go down, come on down, down to the river to pray. O sinners, let's go down, come on down, down to the river to pray.

St. Francis Choir



Words: Francis Scott Brenner (1903-1991), alt. Music: "Erhalt uns Herr," melody from "Geistliche Lieder," 1543, harm. J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please stand as able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And also with you.Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

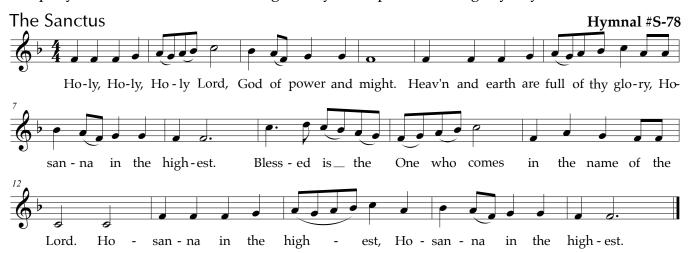
People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in Jesus Christ our Lord thou hast received us as thy sons and daughters, made us citizens of thy kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Music: "Forest Green," English melody; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958).

Please kneel or stand as able as the Celebrant continues.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Francis and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

Celebrant And now, as Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

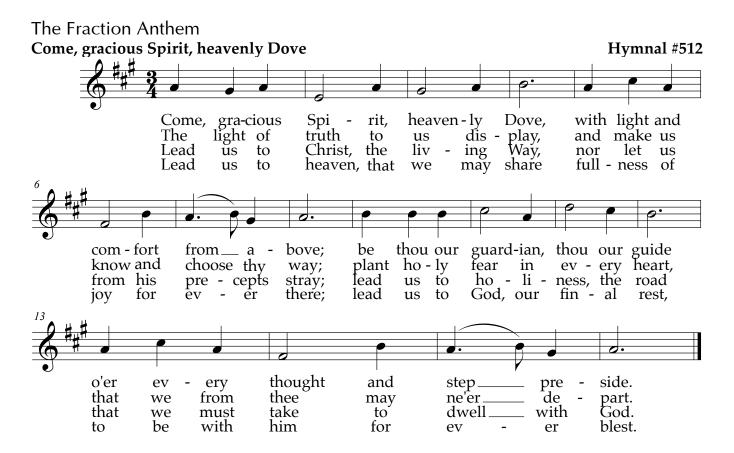
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.



Text: Simon Browne (1680-1732), alt. Music: "Mendon," melody from "Methodist Harmonist," 1821; adapt. and harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)`

The Invitation

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God, Holy gifts, for Holy people.

For our online community: an invitation to pray together the spiritual communion prayer from the National Cathedral. A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

If you have come with a particular prayer concern today, after receiving Communion you may come to the Nason Prayer Chapel to the right of the altar rail where you may light a candle and, if you wish, someone will be available to pray with you.

The Communion of the People

All are invited to receive Holy Communion. Please follow the directions of the ushers. If you do not wish to receive, we encourage you to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply fold your hands across your chest when you come forward. The clergy will carry Communion to anyone in the congregation who is unable to come forward. Please notify an usher if you wish Communion to be brought to you. Gluten-free Communion wafers are available. If you require one of these, simply ask.

The Communion Song Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

Hymnal #510







Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: "Saint Agnes," John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).

Please kneel or stand as able as able.

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Celebrant And, the blessing of God Almighty, **→** The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit be with you always.

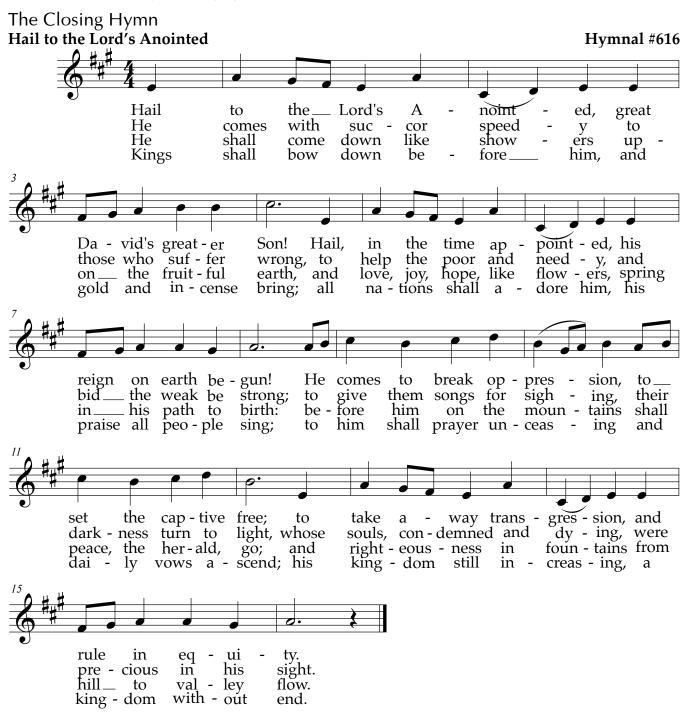
All Amen.

The Sending Forth

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Please stand as able and join in singing.



Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 72. Music: "Ellacombe," 1784, melody from "Gesangbuch. . .der Herzogl. Wirtembergischen katolischen Hofkapelle, " 1784, alt.; adapt. "Katolisches Gesangbuch, "1863; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).



SATURDAY February 1, 2025

St. Francis Parish Hall 6:00 to 8:00 PM

\$ 10 Advance Purchase \$ 13 At the Door

Kids Under 4 are FREE!

WINE, FOOD & FUN for the FAMILY LIVE & Chance Auctions

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SERIES

C.S. Lewis on Joy and Suffering and Inbetween Tuesdays beginning January 21

This discussion-based course explores C.S. Lewis's insights on joy, suffering, and the human experience. We will look at works such as, *Surprised by Joy, The Problem of Pain*, *Mere Christianity*, and other essays and talks. We will explore questions of why we suffer, what joy truly is and how we can find meaning in both. We will engage with Lewis's reflections, consider our own perspectives, and explore how joy and suffering shape our lives.

When: Tuesdays beginning January 21

Time: 7:00pm - 8:15pm Where: Board Room Leader: Dale Westervelt

RSVP: dswestervelt@gmail.com or 310-977-3014

St. Luke's Breakfast Update

St. Francis will be preparing and serving breakfast to the homeless at St. Luke's in February and March this spring, not January. If you wish to help, please keep these dates in mind:

Feb. 14 and 15 (prep at St. Francis, serve at St. Luke's) March 14 and 15 (prep at St. Francis, serve at St. Luke's)

Contact Gayle Taylor (gaylentaylor@gmail.com) if you wish to help.

Prayers this Week

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

Those who are ill, recovering from surgery, or in any other kind of need or trouble: Albert, Andrea, Barbara Shelby, Billy Whelan, Bruce Schaefer, Carlos, Ceri Falk, Charlotte Baker, Chris, Chris Goldsmith, Colette Furbush, Daniel Drayling, Erica, Gail Winters, George Ginis, Hector Gutierrez, Jayne, Judy Morgan, Kristen, Loren, Patt Parker, Richard Cantine, Roxanne Wall, Sally Hill, Stephen, Tommy, Tony Deley, the people of the Middle East, victims of violence everywhere, and for all those who have been impacted by the wildfires, especially the people of St. Matthew's and St. Mark's.

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

Our Staff

Gina McQueen

Office Administrator & Receptionist

(310) 375 4617, gina.mcqueen@stfrancispalosverdes.org

Elaine Mistele, Business Manager

(310) 594-8268, elaine.mistele@stfrancispalosverdes.org

Dr. Mark Bennett, Director of Music

(310) 594-7416, mark.bennett@stfrancispalosverdes.org

David Knight, Organist

Joel Miranda, Sexton

mirandajoel@outlook.com

Wayne Hastings, Communications

(901) 219-6564, wayne@stfrancispalosverdes.org

Children and Families

Kristina Pelá

krab3@yahoo.com

Our Clergy

The Rev. Jason Shelby, Rector

jason.shelby@stfrancispalosverdes.org Direct Line: (310) 594-7984 Church Office: (310) 375-4617

The Rev. Celeste Stump, Deacon

Chaplain at The Canterbury cstump@thecanterbury.org Direct Line: (310) 913-1069



2200 Via Rosa Palos Verdes, CA 90274 (310) 375-4617 www.stfrancispalosverdes.org





