

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 30, 2025 ♦ 8:00 am

Celebrant and 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.

St. Francis Episcopal Church welcomes all people to receive Holy Communion. If you have not been baptized but would like to be, please talk to Father Jason after the service.

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Laura Fenn in loving memory of all the animals rescued after Hurricane Katrina 20 years ago, and in honor of Best Friends Animal Society and St. Francis Animal Sanctuary.

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

Sunday, November 30 – First Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist (Rite I, Chapel)
- 9:10 am "Who is Jesus" Spiritual Formation Class (Library)
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
- 11:30 am Christmas Eve Concert Rehearsal
- 5:00 pm Blue Christmas Service

Monday, December 1

- 6:30 pm Christmas Eve Concert Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm Sunday Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, December 2

- 4:30 pm Teen Tuesday (Parish Hall)

Wednesday, December 3

- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (Rite II, Chapel)
- 11:00 am Good Grief Group
- 7:00 pm Lectionary Study (Library)
- 7:30 pm Camerata Catalyst Candlelight Christmas Concert

Thursday, December 4

- 1:00 pm Quilting and Knitting Group

Friday, December 5

- 9:00 am Beaders Group

Sunday, December 7

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist (Rite I, Chapel)
- 9:10 am "Who is Jesus" Spiritual Formation Class (Library)
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
- 11:15 am Advent Breakfast and Family Activity
- 11:30 am Christmas Eve Concert Rehearsal
- 11:30 am ECW Meeting

The Processional Hymn: Savior of the Nations, Come!..... Hymnal #54

Sa - vior of the na - tions, come!
 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child
 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears,
 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son,

2
 Vir - gin's Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both heaven and earth,
 of the Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and Ma - ry's son,
 grac - ing his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and hell de - scends,
 who o'er sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your king - dom be;

4
 that the Lord chose such a birth.
 ea - ger now his race to run!
 then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.
 grant that we its glo - ries see.

Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546) after Ambroise of Milan (340-397); tr. William M. Reynolds (1812-1876) and James Waring McCrady (b. 1938), sts. 3-4, © 1982 James Waring McCrady.

Music: "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland," melody from "Erfurt Enchiridia," 1524;
 harm. Melchior Vulpinus (1560?-1616).

The Opening AcclamationBook of Common Prayer p. 323
 The Collect for PurityBook of Common Prayer p. 323
 The Summary of the Law.....Book of Common Prayer p. 324
 The Kyrie.....Book of Common Prayer p. 324
 The Collect of the DayBook of Common Prayer p. 325
 The First Lesson..... Genesis 16:7-13

⁷The angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. ⁸And he said, "Hagar, slave- girl of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am running away from my mistress Sarai." ⁹The angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress, and submit to her." ¹⁰The angel of the LORD also said to her, "I will so greatly multiply your offspring that they cannot be counted for multitude."

¹¹And the angel of the LORD said to her,
 "Now you have conceived and shall bear a son;
 you shall call him Ishmael,
 for the LORD has given heed to your affliction.

¹²He shall be a wild ass of a man,
 with his hand against everyone,
 and everyone's hand against him;
 and he shall live at odds with all his kin."

¹³So she named the LORD who spoke to her, "You are El-roi"; for she said, "Have I really seen God and remained alive after seeing him?"

The Response Psalm 71:4-11 (Book of Common Prayer p. 683)

The Epistle Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death —
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The Holy Gospel Luke 1:26-38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth,

²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Sermon The Rev. Jason Shelby

The Nicene Creed Book of Common Prayer p. 327

The Prayers of the People Book of Common Prayer p. 328

The Confession Book of Common Prayer p. 331

The Peace Book of Common Prayer p. 332

The Welcome and Announcements

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

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 Great ThanksgivingBook of Common Prayer p. 333

The Post-Communion Prayer.....Book of Common Prayer p. 339

The Blessing and Sending Forth.....Book of Common Prayer p. 339

The Recessional Hymn: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers..... Hymnal #68

Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap -
See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - plen - ish them with
Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap -
4
pear! The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is
oil; look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and
pear; a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened
8
near. The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw
toil. The mar - riage feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen
sphere! With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to
12
nigh; up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the
stand; rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride-groom is at
see the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with
16
cry.
hand!
thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt.

Music: "Llangloffan," melody from "Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasaneth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru," 1865.

The Postlude

Variations on "Stuttgart"

arr. David Knight

Advent & Christmas at St. Francis

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, Nov. 30

8:00 am – Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00 am – Holy Eucharist Rite II
5:00 pm – Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday, Dec. 3

10:00 am – Midweek Holy Eucharist Rite II
7:30pm – Long Beach Camerata Singers
Catalyst Chamber Candlelight Christmas Concert

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, Dec. 7

8:00 am – Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00 am – Holy Eucharist Rite II
11:15 am – Advent Breakfast and Family
Nativity Set Craft

Wednesday, Dec. 10

10:00 am – Midweek Holy Eucharist Rite II

Friday, Dec. 12

6:00 pm – St. Anne's Christmas Auction

Saturday, Dec. 13

6:00 pm – Las Posadas (Nativity Reenactment)

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, Dec. 14

8:00 am – Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00 am – Holy Eucharist Rite II

Wednesday, Dec. 17

10:00 am – Midweek Holy Eucharist Rite II

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, Dec. 21

8:00 am – Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00 am – Holy Eucharist Rite II
11:15 am – Christmas Cookie Coffee Hour

Tuesday, Dec. 23

7:00 pm – Taizé

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, Dec. 24

Church office closed
4:00 pm – Christmas Eve Family Service
8:00 pm – Christmas Choir Concert
9:00 pm – Christmas Holy Eucharist Rite II

Christmas Day

Thursday, Dec. 25

Church office closed
9:00 am – Christmas Morning Holy
Eucharist Rite II (Chapel)

First Sunday after Christmas

Sunday, Dec. 28

8:00 am – Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00 am – Holy Eucharist Rite II

**Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2025
through Friday, Jan. 2, 2026**

Church office closed

For more events and small discussion groups
at St. Francis, visit our church calendar:
<https://bit.ly/stfranciscalendar>



St. Francis Episcopal Church
2200 Via Rosa
Palos Verdes Estates 90274
www.stfrancispalosverdes.org



Long Beach Camerata Singers Catalyst Chamber Candlelight Christmas Concert at St. Francis Wednesday Dec. 3 at 7:30pm

Bask in the peaceful glow of the season at a candlelit evening of music, where cherished carols meet inspiring new choral pieces. In this serene and soulful setting, Catalyst Singers welcome you to a moment of stillness, wonder, and celebration of Christmas's quiet beauty.

Tickets: https://lbcamerata.ludus.com/index.php?show_id=200489182

Advent Sunday Breakfast & Nativity Set Craft Sunday, December 7

Come and celebrate the Advent season together with one of our favorite St. Francis traditions! On **Sunday, December 7, following the 10 am service**, join us in the Parish Hall for our annual Advent Sunday Breakfast — a time to gather as a parish family, share a meal, and embrace the joy of the season.

The Friars will be serving up a delicious pancake breakfast, complete with hot cocoa, warm cider, and plenty of cheer. It's the perfect way to slow down, reconnect, and prepare our hearts for the Advent journey ahead.

Something new this year! We'll also be hosting a Nativity Set craft, where everyone is invited to create a one-of-a-kind Nativity scene. All the materials will be provided, so you can design and assemble your set, as a family or on your own, as a meaningful keepsake to bring the spirit of Advent into your home.

Come enjoy good food, great company, and the warmth of community as we begin this holy season together.

Contact: Mary Deley (mary_deley@yahoo.com)

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Meeting Sunday, December 7

The St. Francis ECW will meet on **Saturday, December 7, at 11:30 am in the St. Francis Library** to discuss the distribution of funds raised this year.

We extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported the Antiques Show—whether through generous gifts in response to the Angel Letter or through the many hours of hard work that made the show such a success! This annual event is our primary fundraiser, enabling us to give generously to both the parish and local community organizations.

A detailed report of ECW giving will be shared at the Annual Meeting.

More information about next year's Antiques Show will be coming soon!

Contact: Anna Eakins (annatkozaki@gmail.com)

St. Anne's Christmas Auction Friday, December 12

Mark your calendars for one of our favorite St. Francis traditions! On **Friday, December 12 from 6–9 pm, the Parish Hall** transforms into a festive marketplace filled with Christmas cheer, homemade treats, and gifts waiting to find new homes.

Hosted by the St. Anne's Guild, this live auction raises funds for local charities—and it's always a joyful evening of fellowship, fun, and holiday spirit. ✨

Enjoy refreshments, browse beautiful Christmas items, and take home something special for the season. Admission is free, and everyone is welcome!

Come celebrate generosity, community, and the joy of giving.

Las Posadas (Nativity Reenactment) Saturday, December 13 at 6:00 pm

Come experience the beauty and tradition of **Las Posadas on Saturday, December 13 at 6:00 pm** at St. Francis! This beloved celebration reenacts Mary and Joseph's search for shelter before the birth of Jesus. We'll begin outdoors with singing and the traditional procession, then move inside to enjoy delicious Mexican food and fellowship.

Las Posadas has been celebrated for over 430 years, and we're delighted to share this meaningful tradition with our whole community. All are warmly invited to participate.

For more information, please contact Ed Hinz at 310-418-8138.

Christmas Cookie Coffee Hour Sunday, December 21

Join us after the 10:00 am service for a festive Christmas Cookie Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall! Everyone is invited to bring a plate of cookies to share — homemade, store-bought, fancy, simple... all are welcome.

Come enjoy sweet treats, warm fellowship, and a joyful moment together as we celebrate the final Sunday of Advent. Bring cookies, bring friends, bring Christmas cheer — we can't wait to see you there!

Prayers this Week

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

Those who are ill, recovering from surgery, or in any other kind of need or trouble: Andrea, Anne Sharp, Barbara Shelby, Billy Whelan, Brad, Bruce Schaefer, Carlos, Celeste Stump, Ceri Falk, Chris, Colette Furbush, Connie, Dana Genzel-Diaz, Daniel Drayling, Elizabeth Beadle, Erica, Gail Winters, Judy Morgan, Kathy Falk, Kerry Myers, Kristen, Krystal, Loren, Miguel Diaz, Natalie Massey, Patt Parker, Phyllis Massey, Richard Cantine, Roxanne Wall, Roz Hadley, Sally Hill, Susie Zimmerman, Tommy, 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.

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