



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE LORD, YOUR GOD, IS IN YOUR MIDST,
A MIGHTY SAVIOR;
HE WILL REJOICE OVER YOU WITH GLADNESS,
AND RENEW YOU IN HIS LOVE.

—ZEPHANIAH 3:17

ST. JUSTIN PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Christopher Bransfield, Pastor
408-296-1193, ext. 107,
chris.bransfield@dsj.org

Rev. Gerald Nwafor, Parochial Vicar
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**Mr. Noel Balce,
Confirmation & Youth Ministry
Coordinator**
408-296-1193 x 104, noel.balce@dsj.org

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office 408-296-1193 ext. 100
Fax: 408-244-9437

Website: www.st-justin.org

Liturgical Ministry Ext. 107
Ministry to the Sick Ext. 113
Outgrown Shop Ext. 150
School Office 408-248-1094

Upcoming Second Offerings

Your generosity is appreciated.
**Denotes Parish Second Collection.*

1/14	Menstasti Scholarship Fund
1/28	St. Justin School

Third Sunday of Advent: Who are You?

I was privileged to have been born in Nigeria in an era when there was no social media. Television was the biggest hit. We would climb windows and doors to catch a glimpse of the movie playing on the television in someone's sitting room. The most prominent among those movies were THE LONGEST DAY; THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY; and BRUCE LEE movies. At the end of each movie, we would walk back home in groups, discussing the action we had seen and guessing what the dialogue had been because we did not understand a word of English. But in that group, there was the presence of persons and their real images. Nobody had two or three names. And everyone in the crowd knew everyone else, and even their brothers and sisters. Fast forward to 2023.

You are able to watch movies in the palms of your hands (phones), in your bags (laptops/ipads), in your rooms (TV). Going to the theater to watch a movie is only a formality. Your friends are on Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, Snapchat, and X (Twitter). Most kids have more than four accounts on social media. Sometimes they will mask their identity as a boy or a girl on social media or show up with different names. They have a name for classmates, another name for extracurricular activity, and a new name for their circle of friends. Sometimes they are so good online that when people discover them in real life, they begin to doubt if it is the same person.

Today John the Baptist has given us a clue that we should not change our identity. We should not claim what we are not, simply because we are shy or ashamed. Stay focused on your course. Do not act the Messiah when you are not. The problem of identity has destroyed many people who could have been successful. Imagine if John had claimed to be the Messiah and suddenly the real Messiah appeared, thinking about the level of disgrace he could have brought to himself. Be yourself, be proud of yourself, be proud of what you have achieved. It may not be huge and extraordinary, but people would know you for that which you have achieved.

I recall a time when I went to visit our village catechist to register our youngest two siblings, Tony and Paschal, for catechism classes. When I told him that I was one of the sons of Mr. Ephraim Nwafor, immediately he asked if I was William. I said "no," but that question was tempting because I knew the reason why he had posed that question. That year, our local state newspaper had published the story that William had achieved the perfect score in the West African Examination Council (WAEC) exams. Resisting temptation, I said, "William is my brother." The catechist said, "I know."

Fr. Gerald

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

	Sunday 12/03/2023	Fiscal Year To Date 7/1/23-12/03/2023
Goal	\$10,600	\$242,800.00
Collected	\$11,943.62	\$238,234.85
Over/(Short)	\$1,343.62	(\$4,565.15)
<p>Thank you for your contributions. For a one-time or recurring electronic gift, go to www.st-justin.org and click the ONLINE GIVING link. Choose ACH to link your giving directly from your bank with the least amount of transaction fees charged to St. Justin.</p>		

Weekly Prayer

Mass Intentions

December 18- 24, 2023

Monday 8:30am

All Souls

Tuesday 8:30am

James R. Shoaf, III +

Wednesday 8:30am

No Intention

Thursday 8:30am

No Intention

Friday 8:30am

No Intention

Saturday 8:00am

No Intention

Saturday 5:00pm

John Maese +

Gary Gardner

William Paul Saporito +

Val T. Wilson +

4th Sunday in Advent

7:30am

No Intention

9:00am

Kane David Carlin

Audrey Zampedri +

10:30am

For All Parishioners

12:15pm

Gheorghe & Eva Cosmin +

John Maciazek

Christmas Eve

4:00pm

No Intention

6:00pm

For All Parishioners

11:00pm

No Intention

We pray for those who are ill or suffering from



loneliness, sadness, or depression. We pray for those who care for them. We pray for our deceased family and friends. We pray for our men and women who are serving in the military.

This week we pray especially for those who are ill or preparing for surgery:

Mary Lee Bottelli,
Monica Kieu Do Duy,
Kane David Carlin,
Susy Carter, Diane Cribari,
Ursula Duncan, Kathleen Farinas, Rodolfo Feliciano, Pilar Ferrer, Patrick Foster, Henry Goldenberg, Jacqueline Green, Ray Grotzinger, Curtis Hambrick, Sr. , Clorinda Hite, Balwant Khaira, Efrain Linares, Armando Lujan, Joe Lombardi, Giuseppina Marinaro, Shirley McDonell, Angelina Medina, Caridad Mendoza, Barbara Murtzulst, Deacon Greg Ortiz, Jr., Janet Osbourne, Mark Walsh, Maria Vergano, Richard Valdez.

and for those who have died this week: Conchita Lee, Carmen Perry



Saint of the week

Blessed Maria Franziska Schervier was a German Catholic nun who devoted her life to serving the poor and the sick. She founded the Franciscan Sisters of Aachen and began chapters in the United States where she and her sisters also founded a number of hospitals.

Prayer

Almighty, just and merciful God, Blessed Frances Schervier spent her whole life giving back to You all the gifts that You had given her. She cared for the poor and the sick and radiated Your loving presence to all that she met. We beseech You now to glorify your servant, Frances. Give her the honor of sainthood if it is in accordance with Your will.

We ask this through Jesus, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

(Prayer Source: http://franciscansisters-en.sfp-poor.org/images/stories/2016/PDF_2016/pr_canoniz_en.pdf)

CATECHETICAL MINISTRY NEWS

*Catechesis is more than just religious education.
It is a life long journey towards a deeper relationship with Christ.*



Ongoing Faith Formation Has Begun and It's Not too Late to Register!

4yr olds and Kindergarten: Sunday, 9-10:00 a.m.
1st grade – Jr. High: Sunday, 10:15-11:30 a.m.

Registration forms are available at st-justin.org or in the Parish Office.

Sacramental Preparation Program (2nd grade and up)

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist

Your child must be baptized. You may register for this program if your child has already completed one full year of Ongoing Faith Formation with consistent attendance or was enrolled at a Catholic School last year. Concurrent enrollment in our Ongoing Faith Formation Program or a Catholic School. Registration forms will be mailed for returning students, and are available on the Parish website beginning in August.



High School Confirmation Program

Sunday, December 17th

Session: *The Bible*

4:15-6:45 p.m.

Parish Ministry Center

Contact noel.balce@dsj.org for more information.

RCIA

This program is for adults who are seeking baptism, or were baptized Catholic but have not celebrated the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. This is a process marked by liturgical rites that are celebrated with the community. This process is centered on the Sunday readings and includes attending Mass. For more information email laura.ortiz@dsj.org



Holy Baptism

Infant Baptism

Our next infant baptism preparation class is
Wednesday, December 20th at 7 p.m.

Please email laura.ortiz@dsj.org to register.

MINISTRY NEWS

COMMUNITY MINISTRY



HANDS TO SERVE - WE NEED HELP!

“Let us not be satisfied with just giving money. . . I would like more people to give their hands to serve and their hearts to love.”

(Mother Teresa)

St. Justin Community Ministry is very appreciative of the generosity of its parishioners, who have supported its mission over so many years. We are now experiencing some needs that require “hands to serve” to keep our operation running and to relieve the pressures on those volunteers who work so hard on its behalf.

The St. Justin Pantry served over 2,800 individuals and 460 families in the month of July. It requires a lot of volunteer work, coordination, and outreach to make this happen every month!

Please consider volunteering a few hours of your time each month to help with the following tasks in the St. Justin Pantry:

1) HELP with picking up grocery donations at our local

Lucky supermarket

Days: Sun thru Sat
Time: 7:30 – 10 am



2) HELP with registering clients and distributing lunches

Days: Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat
Time: 9:15 am - 12:15 pm



3) HELP with unloading Second Harvest Food Bank deliveries

Day: Friday
Time: 8:30 - 9:30 am

IMPORTANT: You may volunteer once a week, every other week, or once a month. Any of those options will be appreciated!

If you can fill any of these needs or would like more information, please contact our Food Pantry Manager, Nancy Uyeda at (408) 296-1193 ext. 105



Readings for the week of December 17, 2023

Sunday:

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday:

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday:

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday:

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday:

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Friday:

1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Saturday:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday:

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38



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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

God sends a John the Baptist into every person's life — someone who prepares His way, who calls out His truth. Look for the John the Baptist in your life. Pray you can be this person for someone else.

Observances for the week of December 17, 2023

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Thursday: St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Saturday: St. John of Kanty, Priest

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve

St. Justin Filipino - American Organization invites you to:

SIMBANG GABI 2023

A 9-DAY ADVENT NOVENA MASSES

December 16-24, 2023

6:00 AM

St. Justin Parish Church

2655 Homestead Rd. Santa Clara, CA 95051



PARISH
Reconciliation
SERVICE

Please join us in preparing
for Christmas through the
Sacrament of Reconciliation.

DECEMBER 20th
7:00 p.m.

Mass • Candle lit Procession • Rosary

Pray for Peace

Our Lady of Peace Parish

December 22, 2023

5:15 pm



St. Justin Parish Advent and Christmas Schedule

4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23rd - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 24th

**7:30a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,
and 12:15 p.m.**

The Nativity of the Lord

Sunday, December 24th - Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. *Family Mass*, 6:00 p.m., and 11:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25th - Christmas Day

7:30a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 12:15 p.m.



St. Justin Community Ministry Christmas Project December 2023

Now preparing for 400 Families

Due to the support that we received from many of you, we were able to assist 350 families with their Thanksgiving Dinner. In just a few weeks, we hope to feed those same families and more. We also want to provide them with Christmas presents or Gift Cards for their children and grandchildren.

The entire community is invited to help by providing the needed food items for these Christmas meals. The families requesting food are given a choice of a Ham, Turkey or \$20 Grocery Store Gift Card.

The menu is as follows:

Ham (5 pound canned) or
\$20 Grocery Store Cards or
Turkey
Pork or Turkey Gravy
Cranberry Sauce, Yams
Corn, Green Beans, and Fruit

Community Ministry will be purchasing fresh **potatoes, carrots, apples, oranges, and onions** to include in the Christmas parcels.

Here is how you can help.....

Food: Please help us to collect the needed food items by bringing them to Church or the Parish Ministry Center before **Thursday, December 14**. We would appreciate you waiting until **December 16 to drop off Turkeys**, but Hams can be brought in anytime.

Gifts: We are once again allowing the parents and grandparents of the children receiving our gifts to pick out presents, so we need the gifts to be donated

unwrapped. We are also collecting **Department Store Gift Cards**. There is a **Gift tag tree** located in the front entrance of the Church or you can pick up gift tags in the Parish Ministry Center during the week. **We would appreciate presents begin dropped off by 5:00 pm on Friday, December 15th.**

This year we have decided that we will not be Wrapping Gifts.

Packing the food and organizing the gift tables will take place beginning at **5:00 PM on Friday, December 15**. You are more than welcome to join the fun.

Distribution to families will take place: **Saturday, December 16th from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm**
Sunday, December 17th from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Monday, December 18th from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
you are once again invited to take part.

Most importantly, if you know any family who would benefit from our Christmas Meal and Gifts or if you need more information about our Christmas project, please contact:

Joe Bauer at 296-1193 ext. 109 or joseph.bauer@dsj.org or
Nancy Uyeda at 296-1193 ext. 105 or nancy.uyeda@dsj.org

Financial contributions to St. Justin Community Ministry are most welcome. God Bless you and your family during this season of giving.



WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday to Friday

8:30 a.m.

Saturday

8:00 a.m.

Livestream via YouTube

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday

5:00 p.m.

Sunday

7:30 a.m.

9:00 a.m.

Livestream via YouTube

10:30 a.m.

12:15 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

(CONFESSION)

By appointment only.

Please email Fr. Chris and or Fr. Gerald directly
chris.bransfield@dsj.org
gerald.nwafor@dsj.org

OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will close at 1:00 p.m. on Friday December 22nd and will on reopen on Monday, January 8th.

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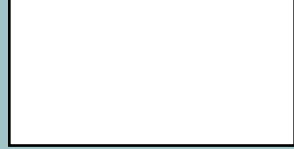
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