

FROM THE DESK OF MALENY QUIROZ-HERNANDEZ

After finishing the Marian consecration, and Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass and celebration, I've been reflecting on this: we don't need Mary. In fact, we don't need the saints or the angels either. After all, God is enough. God is so generous! We don't need a spiritual mother, Jesus didn't need a mother, God could've poofed into Earth out of thin air, but He chose to have a mother, and not only that, He chose to give her to us. He chose to give us a family. He not only chose to place us into the earthly family that He gave us, but He also wants to make our cup overflow with the beautiful community of saints that keep inspiring us to grow closer in our relationship with Him.

Our families aren't perfect. Jesus's lineage wasn't perfect. The people who came before Jesus struggled with some horrible sins. But something that really inspired me during advent while going through the *"Blessed is She Advent Journal All the Generations from Genesis to You,"* was how God can take all of the wounds in our families and transform them into something beautiful, or as Father John Parks put it:

"If you open your Bible to the beginning of Matthew's Gospel and begin to read the Genealogy of Jesus, you may feel...well, boredom. That is, unless you are familiar with the characters that are mentioned: murderers, liars, adulterers, a prostitute, and a lot of other broken people. Not the ideal family that you would imagine being the ancestors of Jesus, King of Kings and Savior of the World, the Son of God, God Himself. Even more than that, Jesus could have chosen to be a member of any family, and yet, He chose to be a member of this one! Why?

When you read the Old Testament, you realize that God loves to make use of failure. God loves to take the shattered pieces of our lives and make something beautiful from them. Every time it looked as if God's ancestors had gone too far off course, He would simply "recalculate" and draw them to His purposes and plan despite their constant veering from His. Jesus chose the broken family of Salvation History—the characters we encounter through the Scripture readings—to heal and redeem it."

Allow God to help you be receptive to the graces that he wants to shower you with through the earthly and spiritual family he has gifted you, and ask him to enter into your wounds and those of your family to transform them into something that will help you blossom.

☪ OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday 9:00—4:00 PM
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Senior Activity Center
408-270-4900

Sr. Patricia Galli, RSM
Spiritual Direction and Retreats
pagrsm@gmail.com



Next Weekend's Readings
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary,
and Joseph
Reading I
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Reading II
Colossians 3:12-21
Gospel
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Weekend's Readings
The Epiphany of the Lord
Reading I
Isaiah 60:1-6
Reading II
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Gospel
Matthew 2:1-12

Monday, December 30, 8:30am

Dominic Bien Nguyen +
Margret Paul+

Feliza and Jacito Yapo+

Tuesday, December 31, 8:30am

Baldomero Sanchez +
Dominic Bien Nguyen +
Maria Roi Nguyen+

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

The People of the Parish

Thursday, January 2, 8:30am

Dominic Bien Nguyen+
Elnora and Victorio Rafanan+
Glenn and Myrna Rafanan+

Friday, January 3, 8:30am

Dominic Bien Nguyen+
Paul Schrieber+

Brendan Gaughran +

Saturday, January 4, 8:30am

Dominic Bien Nguyen+
Jaime Ay-Ay+ (Death Anniversary)

Saturday/Sunday, January 4-5

5:00 Vigil, Chapel

John Bui+

Elnora and Victorio Rafanan+
Glenn and Myrna Rafanan+

8:15am Villages

8:30am Chapel

9:00am Gathering Hall

9:30am Grange Hall

10:30am Chapel

Mai Vu (Birthday)

Dominic Bien Nguyen+

Anthony Tuyen Vu+

Marta Nguyen Mat+

11:00am Gathering Hall

Guise Dong Nguyen+

Kim Keo Dang+

Thoa and Thinh Dang+

12:30pm Chapel

Eliazer Visenio+

Juanito Juinio+

Maria Tho Nguyen+

Maria Teresa Kim+

2:00pm Spanish Mass

4:00pm Vietnamese Mass

Fr. Dublin+

Ignatio Pham Van Tuong +

Ana-Maria Vu Thi Thuoc +

6:00pm Chapel

Tarun Dorairaj (Birthday)

Enrile Layno-SI

REFLECTIONS

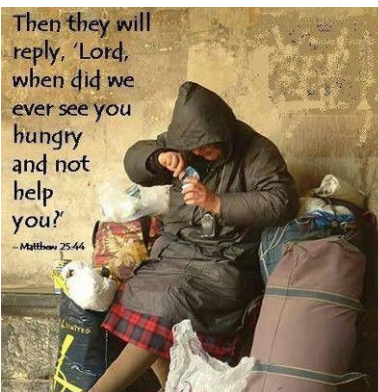
"Wives, be subordinate to your husbands...Husbands, love your wives...Children, obey your parents in everything...Fathers, do not provoke your children..."

(Colossians 3:18-21)

Pope Francis said that families, through their life of prayer and love, become "schools of true human growth." Being credible witnesses of Christian love, especially that of family members, exerts the most positive influence on our children. We are all children of God, let us pray and love each other as God, Our Father, does for us.

"Lord, When Did We See You Hungry?"

After Mass each Sunday, we collect the non-perishable food items that parishioners bring to Church. These food items are picked up mid-week by Casa de Clara, the San Jose Catholic Worker House on Julian Street. After sorting, these precious gifts are hand delivered by the Catholic Workers to hungry families in downtown San Jose. If parishioners could simply bring food once a month, we would be able to share with many more hungry people. Your generosity is always a blessing and we are deeply grateful.



Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and not help you?'
— Matthew 25:44

stewardship

December 14-15 (615 envelopes)

Offertory	\$16,129.82
Retirement	\$ 10,118.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	\$ 1,291.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 903.00
Christmas	\$ 625.00
OLG Hospitality	\$ 168.00
Star of Mercy	\$ 354.00
Misc.	\$ 963.00

If you are interested in donating on-line, please visit our webpage at www.sfoasj.com and click on

Online Giving 

Or scan



to get started with this convenient giving option.

**Thank you in advance
for your generous giving.**

January 5, 2020

Epiphany of the Lord Chapel

5:00pm – Fr. Alfred Amos

8:30am – Fr. Stanley

10:30am – Msgr. Cilia

12:30pm – Fr. Stanley

2:00pm (Spanish) – Fr. Syjueco

4:00pm (Vietnamese) – Fr. Vu

6:00pm – Fr. Vu

Gathering Hall

9:00am – Msgr. Cilia

11:00am – Fr. Weisbeck

Ecclesial Communities

8:15am (Villages) – Msgr. Mitchell

9:30am (Grange) – Fr. Syjueco

FROM THE DESK OF OUR PASTOR, FR. MATTHEW STANLEY



Wednesday, January 1, 2020 (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God World Day of Prayer for Peace, A Holy Day of Obligation)

Our New Year's Day

Masses. Vigil on December 31 at 5:00pm. January 1, Rosary for Peace at 8:00am, Masses at 8:30am & 10:30am – 4:00pm in Vietnamese. *We invite you to this prayerful way to begin the New Year.*



NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY

The Parish Office will be closed on Wednesday, January 1, 2020. We will be open again on Thursday, January 2, 2020.

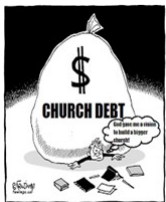
A CHRISTMAS "THANK YOU" FROM YOUR PARISH STAFF



Thank you for your expressions of kindness and love, for your remembrance of us in your prayers, and for your generous support of

our work throughout the year. We are privileged to be called to serve you. We also extend our deepest gratitude to those who helped prepare our worship spaces for Christmas. We are also grateful to those who donated cash gifts towards our poinsettias and flowers. A special thank you to all those who served as Environment Team, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Hospitality Ministers and Ushers, Musicians, and Choir Members. All of you made this a prayerful and festive Christmas.

First Sunday of the Month – Second Collection – Mortgage Debt Reduction



Next Sunday, there will be a second collection to reduce our \$2.3 million-dollar parish debt. At the conclusion of the prior fiscal year, due to the generous donors to the Shine the Light campaign, we made a

\$200,000 principal payment. We also made monthly principal & interest payments of \$225,000 (\$93,000 of those dollars were from the first of the month mortgage debt reduction collection) An additional payment of \$49,000 was made from our 2018 ADA re-



bate. We also received an \$875,000 estate gift designated for debt reduction. Thus, our total debt was reduced by \$1,350,000 over the last twelve months! The sooner we pay off this debt, the more funds we will have available to support other vital services in our growing parish. Thank you for your generosity.

Weekly Stewardship

Thank you for your generosity in this year's Christmas collection. Although we are not yet able to give you a complete report of the size of your gift given in that collection, we assure you that the love which these gifts represent will enable us to continue the work which we must undertake here at St. Francis of Assisi Parish. If you were not prepared for our Christmas collection, we encourage you still to make your gift. Your generosity will help us more than you can imagine.



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH – FINAL 2019



UPDATE

The 2019 ADA Campaign officially concludes on December 31. Our pledge balance is \$15,000. Our rebate (\$75,000) is being directed to reduce parish debt and fund continuing improvements to our parish facilities. Thank you for your support of Bishop Cantú and our local Church.



COME SEEK & PRAY

JANUARY 24-26, 2020

Open to Men 18 years and older

St. Lawrence the Martyr Parish
Santa Clara, CA

RSVP at bit.ly/DJIV-men20

djiv.org/vocations | vocations@djiv.org | 408-983-0155



DIocese of SAN JOSE
VOCATION
RETREAT

FROM THE PASTORAL CENTER



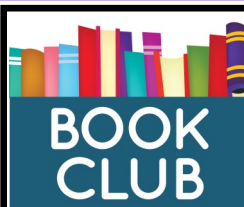
THE POWER OF GOD'S GRACE: ANGELBERT CHIKERE – BY DEACON SUNNY

Knowing Angelbert Chikere and his journey to answer God's call to serve as a Priest has been a blessing. I first met him in the ministerial field, engaging the Cameroonian Community, during their community Mass at St. Lucy. As I grew in knowledge of him and his desire to serve, I was really impressed and encouraged.

Angelbert was not only engaged with the Cameroonian Community, he was also involved with the Nigerian Community at St. Francis of Assisi and in a Catholic parish in Hayward. His passion for ministry and serving the people of God could be seen in his two hours of travel (by train and bus) from Berkeley to come to engage the Youth Group at St. Francis of Assisi and to join me during Eucharistic visits to families. Angelbert is truly driven, dedicated and very open to learn and engage different ministerial situations with a joy and smile that is irresistible.

As he prepares to respond to this call to Holy Orders, I am filled with hope and joy as I continue to pray for God's grace and guidance on him. I see his journey to Holy Orders as an example of the power of God's grace. May God who started this good work in him bring it to completion.

(Deacon) Angelbert will be ordained as a transitional deacon by Bishop Cantu at Holy Family Parish (San Jose) at 11:00 am on January 4. He will serve as a deacon at our 5:00 pm Mass that same day.



There will be no January book club meeting.

Please join us in reading 'The 100-Year Old Man' by Jonas Jonasson for our February 4 meeting. Info, call Donna 408 238 6781.



DAILY:

Rosary-Monday-Saturday, 8AM, Chapel

Divine Mercy-Monday-Saturday, 7:50AM Chapel

WEEKLY:

AA-Mondays, 7PM
Fireside Room

Adoration First Friday, Chapel, 9am-5pm, other Fridays in Garden Rooms, 9am-5pm

Legion of Mary (English) Wednesday, 8PM, EV 2-3

Legion of Mary (Español) Thursday, 7PM, Evergreen 3

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena Mass

Wednesday, 7pm, Chapel

SFOA Lectio Divina

Wednesdays, 10AM, Chapel

Marian Intercessory

Prayer Group

Thursdays, 9:15AM, Chapel
(Drop-ins WELCOME)

Prayer Shawl Ministry,

Thursdays, 4PM, Fireside Room

MONTHLY:

13th of Month Rosary Group

One complete Rosary after 8:30 AM Mass each month

Book Group, First Tuesday, 7:30PM Fireside Room

Filipino Ministry Team (FMT)
Third Thursday, 6pm, Gathering Hall

Holy Family Institute

First Saturday, 2-4PM, EV1-EV2
Ministry of Consolation and Bereavement : Third Wednesday of the month at 3:30PM in EV1

Spanish Ministry : First Monday, 7PM, Gathering Hall
Social Justice:

Fourth Monday, 7PM, Garden Rooms



You Can Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just

stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. . For confidential information about or to register for the February program beginning with a weekend on February 7-9, 2020 call 408-605-4998 or email: SanJose@RetroCA.com or visit the web site at

www.HelpOurMarriage.org

YEAR END GIVING



As disciples of Jesus, we know all too well the secular temptations and the challenges we encounter this time of year. It can be very easy to lose sight of the true meaning of the birth of Jesus and our call to prepare for His return. The season of Advent is the perfect time to reflect upon the many blessings that Jesus has bestowed upon us and to recognize all of the gifts that God has entrusted to our care throughout the year! Intentionally celebrating with gratitude, sharing our diverse gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure with others and committing ourselves to prayer can lead us into an even deeper understanding and encounter with Jesus.

A sacrificial year-end gift of your time, talent or treasure to St. Francis of Assisi Parish can help to enhance this Advent and Christmas season for you, your family and for our community of faith. If you choose to offer a gift of your treasure by December 31st, it can also secure a charitable income tax deduction for the current tax year. We invite you to reflect on the following benefits of Year-End Giving of Treasure and methods of giving as we approach the end of 2019.

BENEFITS

- ✦ Celebrate the joy of Advent and Christmas by giving in the true spirit of the season and share your gratitude for all of the blessings that you have received throughout the year, confidently knowing that your gift is assisting our parish in advancing the mission of the Church.
- ✦ All gifts made before December 31, are tax-deductible for the tax year in which your gift was made.
- ✦ If you are an itemizer, your gift may lessen your tax liability for the year in which your gift was made. If you are not an itemizer, a financial gift to the parish may be just the right decision to allow you to itemize and lower your tax bill (check with your tax professional) *
- ✦ "Carry-Over Deductions", depending on your income and the size of your gift, you may be able to "carry over" your charitable gift tax deduction to the subsequent year. *



METHODS OF GIVING

Cash or check- Simply write a check, make a cash donation in a parish envelope making sure to include your contact information, or sign up for online giving on our parish website:



www.sfoasi.com or click on the QR links at the bottom of this page and make your contribution. Envelopes can be dropped in the offertory basket, mailed in or brought directly to the parish office.

Giving Securities- You can save and give at the same time! Stocks, bonds, and even shares in mutual funds that have appreciated can be given and your deduction is for the full market value at the time your gift is made- not just your original cost for the securities. You can also save by paying no capital gains tax on the sale of the stock as you would if you sold the stock and held the cash. To make a broker-to-broker transfer, please visit the Diocese of San Jose webpage and submit the corresponding online form at <https://www.dsj.org/ways-to-give/stock-transfers/>

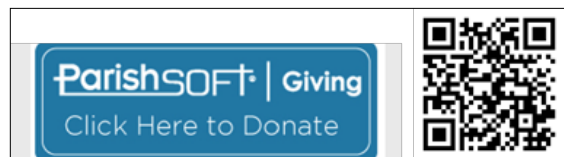
Please make sure to indicate that this stock gift is for the benefit of **St. Francis of Assisi**

Business Gifts –Businesses can give gifts of inventory, equipment, materials, and service as well as cash. Giving through your business is another way to benefit your parish and positively impact your taxes.

No matter what your individual situation, we pray that you consider sharing the gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure that God has entrusted to all of us. We can all do something good, even if you can't claim a donation; donate a lightly used winter coat to a person in need, share a meal with someone that is hungry or alone, donate a new toy for a child in need, deliver meals to the homeless, visit a nursing home or even offer a simple smile to a neighbor. Never underestimate the difference that we can make in the life of another and in the life of the parish, not just during this time of year but throughout the year!

For additional information on how to give, contact our Business Manager, Victor Espinoza at Victor.Espinoza@dsj.org
All donations for 2019 must be received or postmarked prior to January 1, 2020.

*"What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?" –
Psalm 116:12*



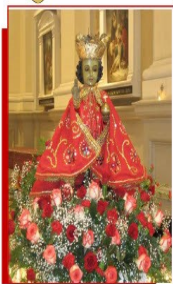
Paybee Quick Give

**This information is not intended as legal advice. For questions of a specific nature, please contact your accountant, attorney or financial professional.*

FROM THE PASTORAL CENTER



Diocesan Council of Filipino Catholics
Diocese of San Jose



Santo Nino Fiesta

January 18, 2020
Saturday

Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph
80 South Market Street
San Jose, CA 95113

- 11:30 AM Sinulog • 11:45 AM Karakol
- 12 Noon Eucharistic Celebration

Presider: Most Reverend Bishop Carlos Sevilla, SJ

6:30 PM Dinner Dance

Pavalkis Hall at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

279 S. Main Street
Milpitas, CA 95035

Tickets: \$40.00 Prepaid / \$50.00 At The Door

NOVENA SCHEDULE

Jan. 9	Thursday	St. Julie Billart	7:00 PM	San Jose
Jan. 10	Friday	Our Lady of Peace	7:00 PM	Santa Clara
Jan. 11	Saturday	St. Catherine/St. Mary (or St. Catherine)	5:30 PM	Morgan Hill
Jan. 12	Sunday	St. Maria Goretti	11:00 AM	San Jose
Jan. 13	Monday	St. Elizabeth	7:00 PM	Milpitas
Jan. 14	Tuesday	St. Justin	7:00 PM	Santa Clara
Jan. 15	Wednesday	St. Victor	7:00 PM	San Jose
Jan. 16	Thursday	St. John the Baptist	7:00 PM	Milpitas
Jan. 17	Friday	Most Holy Trinity	7:00 PM	San Jose

For more information,
please contact:

Lou

408-439-9414

Poi

408-729-7228

Marilyn

408-834-9577



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH
FILIPINO MINISTRY TEAM

VALENTINE'S DAY MASQUERADE DINNER-DANCE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2020, 6PM -11PM



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI GATHERING HALL
MUSIC BY DJ EARL

COST \$35

TICKETS ON SALE AFTER EACH MASS
(EXCEPT VILLAGES, 2PM AND 4PM)

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT LERMA AT
(408) 223-1770 x 310

Hispanic Ministry

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION-EN ESPAÑOL

We would like to invite you to come to the Sacrament of Confession in Spanish. Fr. Rudy will be available at 6pm every first Friday of the month and after 2pm Sunday Mass when he's the presider.

Nos gustaría invitarlos al sacramento de la confesión en español. El padre Rudy estará disponible a las 6pm el primer viernes de cada mes y después de misa de 2pm los domingos que él celebre la misa.

¿Te gustaría servir en la parroquia? ¡Ahora es cuando! Necesitamos monaguillos, ministros de eucaristía, saluadores, acomodadores, lectores, sacristanes y ministros de hospitalidad. Si no tienes experiencia, nosotros te podemos entrenar. Responde al llamado de Dios de servir y contacta a Maleny Quiroz ma-leny.quirozhernandez@dsj.org si estás interesado.

JOY FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR 2019-2020

408-223-1770 x316 L Nakamura@dsj.org

KBernaga@dsj.org, HS Confirmation LSimpson@dsj.org, First Eucharist

High School JOY, 7:00PM-9:00PM **JOY, 6:30PM-8:30PM**

2020

January 13	Monday HS JOY	January 14, 16, 17	JOY
February 10	Monday HS JOY	February 11, 13, 14	JOY
March 9	Monday HS JOY	March 10, 12, 13	JOY