



### A REFLECTION FROM DEACON ANDRZEJ SOBCZYK

During a recent stroll through the Stanford University campus, I stumbled upon an art installation, called “Apart-Together,” which honors those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. It contrasts five dead tree stumps, on one side of a path, with a garden of 600 hand-painted flowers that stand together on the other side.

Each flower commemorates a thousand lives lost during the pandemic, but also the beauty of those lives, and their contribution to society. The artist engages themes of grief, loss, and remembrance, as well as celebration, gratitude, and joy. It acknowledges the role of healthcare workers, educators, and scientists— expressing hope and healing when all of us come together— driven by compassion and an understanding.

Another “pandemic” threatening our society is income and wealth inequality. Many young people are struggling to make a living, crushed by student debt and the high cost of housing. On top of that, parents are facing the high costs of raising their children. The New York Times ran an article on October 9, quoting the annual average cost for childcare at \$10,000. At the same time, teachers that work at childcare facilities make on average \$24,000 a year. The President’s legislative proposal would tax the richest people in the nation and use that money to subsidize childcare for the poor and the middle class, while also raising the salaries of teachers; however, “pro-life” politicians claim that we cannot afford to expand the safety net, labeling the effort as “smacking of socialism.”

If the billionaires cannot afford to fund the social safety net, perhaps the politicians can explain how a single mother, earning \$24K per year as a preschool teacher, can afford a caregiver for her own children. Another NYT article, from October 6, compared government spending on childcare in the richest nations. The US, the most powerful nation in that group, spends 28 times less per child than its peer nations.

In today’s gospel, Bartimaeus, a blind man, cries out to Jesus for healing, and Jesus responds with compassion. As disciples of Christ, we also have a moral obligation to hear the cries of the poor and respond in a compassionate and healing way. They should not have to beg us for our help. Our rich nation can afford a true living wage, and a set of comprehensive pro-life policies, which enable all our citizens to lead a life of dignity. We can make it happen if we come together, instead of standing apart. Otherwise, we should cry out to Jesus to cure our blindness as a nation.

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**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

(CONFESSIONS)

Saturdays from 11am - 12pm, in the  
confessional in the chapel.



Find us on  
**Facebook**



### Monday, October 25

Michael Meschke (Birthday)  
Crisanta Aviles (Birthday)  
Le and Meschke Family (Thanksgiving)

### Tuesday, October 26

Renao Dato (Birthday)  
Alfonso Iringan+  
Leonora Liban+ (Birthday)

### Wednesday, October 27

Maria Do Thi Nga+  
Eligio B Perez+  
Roel Flora (Bday)

### Thursday, October 28

Jeffrey Lagdamen (Birthday)  
Eduardo Manansala+

### Friday, October 29

Marsh Mendez (bday)  
Anna-Maria ViThi Thuoc+  
Ignacio Pham Van Tuong+

### Saturday, October 30

Margrat Paul+  
Anna Thanh Ky+  
Moises Borlaza+

### Saturday/Sunday, October 30-31

#### 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Nghi Van Pham and Ty Pham+  
John Noi Bui+  
Gioan John Tran +

#### 5:30 Vietnamese Vigil

##### 8AM

Gioan John Tran +  
Ludivina Apostol+ (45days)  
Bernarbe and Eugena Apostol+

#### 8:15AM Villages

##### 9AM

Felicidad Santiago+ (vbirthday)  
Santina Aviles (Health and Safety)  
Crisanta & Rodolfo Aviles (Health and Safety)

##### 10AM

Rudy Ordes+  
Rodolfo M Segura+ (Birthday)

##### 11AM

##### 12PM

Eliazar Visenio+  
Ron Davis+  
Francis X Nguyen Dinh Thach+

#### 2PM Spanish

Javier Rodriguez+

#### 4PM Vietnamese

Rosa Dav Nguyen +  
Francis Xavier Nguyen Dinh Thach+  
**6PM Youth and Young Adult**

## LET US PRAY

### WE ALSO PRAY FOR...

- Matthew Adam De Guzman (SI)
- Joseph Tieu Huu Long+
- Dick Gravelle+
- Roel Flora (bday)

## stewardship

### October 4-10

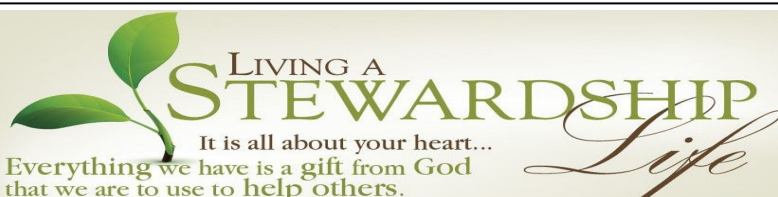
Masses	\$ 12,296.77
Online	\$ 5,928.00
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	\$ 111.00
Mail/Drop	\$ 1,890.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 20,225.77</b>

If you are interested in donating online, please visit our webpage at [www.sfoasj.com](http://www.sfoasj.com) and click



to get started with this convenient giving option.

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



### Stewardship of Treasure Report – September 2021



Thank you to everyone for your support of the mission and ministries of our parish. During the month of September, our average weekly collection was \$19,023 (6% increase vs. August 2021). You also generously donated to various important causes in our September (second collections) at \$29,929 (\$5,732 a week.) This brings our September weekly average to \$24,755. We budgeted our Sunday Offertory income for the Jul-Sep, 2021 (13 weeks x \$16,000) at \$208,000 and received \$250,000. Additional income helps us to pay-down our \$1.6 million debt. As you know, we are dependent upon you, our parishioners, for living-out our parish mission.

**October Update:** ADA 2021 - DSJ Goal: \$180,000, Pledged: \$232,090  
Paid: \$212,256 - Average Gift: \$540



**You are amazing!** Despite the tremendously difficult times, we are living in, your outpouring of generosity and support for our local Church of San Jose is a true sign of God's goodness. We have gone over our parish goal of \$220,000. We are so grateful to the **433** parishioners participated in this year's ADA. St. Francis of Assisi can earn a minimum rebate of **(\$53,000)** which we will use to reduce our \$1.6 million debt. Thank you for your generosity.

# Question of the week

*Ever been asked a tough question about our Catholic faith? We continue a new series of the ten most asked questions and the answers that should help you satisfy both your questioner and yourself.*



**Q. Why do you pray to idols (statues)?**

No Catholic who knows anything about the Catholic faith has ever worshiped a statue (as in pagan idolatry). If we cherish the memory of mere political heroes with statues and that of war heroes with monuments, then there can be no objection to honoring saints and righteous men and women: "Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor" (1 Pet 2:17 - see also Rom 12:10; Heb 12:22-23).

Statues are simply a visual reminder of great saints and heroes of the faith (Heb 11), who are more alive than we are (2 Cor 3:18), as is evident by their praying: "O Sovereign Lord ... how long before thou wilt judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell upon the earth?" (Rev 6:10 - see also Ps 35:17). The saints in heaven were never intended by God to be cut off from the Body of Christ on earth. They are involved in intercession, just as the saints on earth are and they are described as "so great a cloud of witnesses" (Heb 12:1).

## CANDLELIGHT PRAYER VIGIL REMEMBRANCE AND HEALING

Wednesday, November 3, 2021 | 7pm  
Shrine of Our Lady of Peace



Submit names of your loved ones  
who died of COVID-19  
to be prayed for at the Vigil



Scan QR Code to submit their names

October 2021

## RESPECT LIFE MONTH



*St. Joseph, defender of life, pray for us!*

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Adult Lectio Divina, Wednesday, 10:00AM in the white tent in the upper parking lot area.
- Daily Rosary/prayer, 8:00AM, Chapel

### IMPORTANT CONTACTS:

#### Suicide Hotlines

Santa Clara County 855-278-4204

Text Line: 741741  
(Text "BAY" for Crisis Support in Bay Area)

California Youth Crisis  
800-843-5200

National 800-784-2433

Santa Clara County Emergency  
Psychiatric Service (EPS)  
485-885-6100

NAMI Warm Line  
(open Mon-Fri, 10AM-6PM)  
408-453-0400





# Winter Mass Schedule

## ANNOUNCING OUR MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE LATE FALL AND WINTER SEASON

Having enjoyed the  
wonderful Spring and

Summer weather during our Sunday outdoor Masses, we pray, that Fall, and Winter will bring abundant rain to end the worrisome drought that has been with us for the past couple of years. Starting on the **first Sunday of November**, we will be keeping our present Sunday Mass schedule, although we will be moving all of our Masses to the chapel and gathering hall.

### **The anticipated Winter Mass Schedule will be Saturday Vigil (Chapel)**

4:00pm, 5:30pm (Vietnamese)

### **Sunday (Chapel)**

8am, 10am, 12pm 2pm (Spanish), 4pm (Vietnamese),  
and 6pm

### **Gathering Hall**

9am, 11am

The tents will remain for outdoor events. We will determine in the spring our future plans.

## Children's Liturgy of the **Word**

The Faith Formation Ministry is looking for Catechists to upstart our Children's Liturgy of the Word program at the 10:00AM and 12:00PM Masses. The commitment is every other Sunday. You must be vaccinated and over the age of 14, as well as complete the Volunteer Compliance required by the Diocese of San Jose. This is also a great opportunity for high school volunteer hours!

We are also in need of some office filing. If you are interested, please contact me. Lisa Nakamura at [lisa.nakamura@dsj.org](mailto:lisa.nakamura@dsj.org)



## THE UPSTANDERS

Monday, October 25

A documentary about **resilience**  
and the power of **connection**  
to end bullying

**FREE Online Screening with Spanish Subtitles**  
for ages 13+ followed by an Interactive Panel Discussion

Sponsored by Holy Spirit Parish, Saint Irenaeus Parish, Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, Saint Lucy Parish, Saint Martin de Porres, Saint Nicholas & Saint William Parish, Saint Simon Parish, Saint Thomas of Canterbury Parish and Santa Teresa Parish from the grant by the Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers

## Learn more

October 17

If you have yet to register for our virtual screening of The Upstanders that will be next Monday, April 26, you can do so on our website. This film will be followed by an interactive Q&A with Deacon Rubén Solórzano, Principal at Sacred Heart; Pastor Fr. Matt Stanley and youth minister Kevin Bernaga, both from St. Francis of Assisi; a pediatrician with an emphasis on mental health, a therapist





## STEWARDSHIP MOMENT



After healing the blind man in today's Gospel Jesus told him to go, to be on his way; however, the man chose to follow Jesus. Being a disciple of Jesus is a

choice. The stewardship way of life likewise involves a choice, in fact many choices. We choose to be grateful, we choose to live generously, and we choose to trust that God will always provide for our needs. These are three choices central to the stewardship way of life. What choices will we make this week that give witness to our decision to follow Jesus Christ?

**NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31**, at the 9am & 12pm



Masses, we will have the Celebration of the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens & Rite Welcoming the Baptized Preparing for Confirmation and/or Eucharist or Reception into the Full Communion of the

Catholic Church. This will be our first time to meet some of the people with whom we will journey on the road toward the Easter Sacraments

## NOVEMBER 2ND - ALL SOULS DAY



All Souls Day is unique on the liturgical calendar. Neither a solemnity, nor a feast, this *commemoration* outranks other feasts and even takes the place of a Sunday in Ordinary Time. Our annual Mass of Remembrance will be celebrated at 7pm This is in addition to our regularly scheduled daily Mass at 8:30am.) You may bring your All Souls Day envelope to Mass then or on Sunday. These envelopes will remain near the Easter Candle, along with the Book of the Names of the Dead, throughout the month of November as we pray for all our beloved dead throughout the month.

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## ALL SAINTS DAY - MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1



*The Solemnity of All Saints is one of the most important days in the liturgical year; however, in 2021, since this Holy Day falls on a Monday, the obligation is dispensed. Believing that celebrating the Eucharist on two consecutive days is not much of*



*a hardship for many Catholics, we will have a Mass at 8:30am & 5:00pm & 7:30pm (Vietnamese) in the Gathering Hall.*

## THE BOOK OF THE NAMES OF THE DEAD

During the month of November, the Book of the Names of the Dead will be placed in the narthex of the chapel. You are invited to inscribe the names of your departed family members and loved ones in this book. These people will be remembered in the prayers of our parish community throughout the month. The envelopes for All Souls Day will also be placed with a similar book near the Easter Candle in the sanctuary.



## HAVE YOU UPDATED YOUR INFORMATION WITH US?

Communication is very important to us. We sometimes like to send you very important information via email or a phone call. If you haven't done so lately, email Rosie or call her in the parish office to update your contact and family information. Her email is [rolivas@dsj.org](mailto:rolivas@dsj.org) or call her at 408-223-1562.



## October 31, 2021 Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Saturday (Anticipated)

4:00pm – Fr. Kikoba  
5:30pm – Fr. Vu (Vietnamese)

### Sunday

8:00am – Msgr. Mitchell  
8:15am – Fr. Vu (Villages)  
9:00am – Fr. Kikoba  
10:00am – Fr. Stanley  
11:00am – Fr. Weisbeck  
12:00pm – Fr. Stanley  
2:00pm – Fr. Page (Spanish)  
4:00pm – Fr. Vu (Vietnamese)  
6:00pm – Fr. Kikoba

## St. Francis of Assisi Garden Gift Shop

is now open Every Sunday  
from 9AM-2PM

Please stop by for  
religious items  
and gifts!



**THE JESUIT INSTITUTE FOR FAMILY LIFE IS  
NOW ACCEPTING CLIENTS.**

We are an association of Catholic therapists offering Marriage counseling, Family therapy and Child, Adolescent and Individual counseling. For further Information please call:  
(650) 948-4854.



Join Fr. Matt Stanley on a  
Pilgrimage to MEXICO  
& Our Lady of Guadalupe

**April 22 – 27, 2022**  
\$1,998 from San Francisco

Group Coordinator:  
Jacqueline Nguyen, Classique Travel

Telephone: 408-859-4411 |  
Email: [classiquetravel@gmail.com](mailto:classiquetravel@gmail.com)



**Our 2019  
St. Francis of Assisi  
Red Zinfandel is  
ready with your  
donation to our  
Wine Club.**

*Our Red Zinfandel is made from a red wine grape, grown extensively in California since the mid-1800s, and is grown in few other places in the world. The grapes can produce wines with plenty of character. High in natural alcohol and tannin, grown carefully it can be rich and complex, with dark berry fruit and peppery spice. The most known example of Zinfandel outside of California is Italy's Primitivo, which can be similar in style, but is often a bit lighter and less alcoholic than West Coast examples.*

**\$12 Donation per bottle or  
\$125 donation per case**