

The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church - Parts II

In my first reflection on the U.S. Bishops' document "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church," I highlighted the fact that the Eucharist is the Gift of Christ Himself. Today, I would like to focus on the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. A survey conducted by RealClear Opinion Research from June 15-23, 2022, found that only 50% of Catholic likely voters believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that "in the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained." (CCC, § 1374) *The Catechism* adds that this presence is called "real" because "it is presence in the fullest sense: that is to say, it is a substantial presence by which Christ, God and man, makes himself wholly and entirely present." The U.S. Bishops write that "in the Eucharist, with the eyes of faith we see before us Jesus Christ, who, in the Incarnation became flesh (Jn 1:14) and who in the Paschal Mystery gave himself for us (Ti 2:14), accepting even death on a cross (Phil 2:8)." (§19) Now, how can Jesus Christ be truly present in what still appears to be bread and wine? The U.S. Bishops explain that "in the liturgical act known as the *epiclesis*, the bishop or priest, speaking in the person of Jesus Christ, calls upon the Father to send down his Holy Spirit to change the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ, and this change occurs through the institution narrative, by the power of the words of Christ pronounced by the celebrant." (§20) In other words, by the words of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ without ceasing to appear as bread and wine to our bodily eyes. We call this transubstantiation, a term used at the Fourth Lateran Council in 1215. The real, true, and substantial presence of Christ in the Eucharist can only be perceived through the eyes of faith. Every time we respond "Amen" after the eucharistic minister says to us the "the Body of Christ" or the "the Blood of Christ," we profess our faith in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Our belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist is also reflected in our reverence and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. In addition, the U.S. Bishops maintain that, "the practices of reverently genuflecting before the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the tabernacle, bowing one's head prior to the reception of Holy Communion, and refraining from food and drink for at least one hour before receiving Communion are clear manifestations of the Church's Eucharistic faith." (Ibid. § 23) Let us reflect this week on concrete actions that we can take to better express our belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

- Blessings, Fr. Robain

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Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

The Offertory totals for the week of Sept. 11 - 17, 2023:

Masses	\$ 11,477.32
Online	\$ 5,150.50
Mail	\$ 1,170.00
OLPH	\$ 142.00

Second Collection

Catholic Education	\$ 3,445.28
St. Francis Fund	\$ 550.00
Total Amount	\$ 21,935.10

*Thank you in
advance
for your generous
giving.*

Let's Honor The Lord With Our Giving

"Remember this, whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly.
And whoever sows generously will also reap generously."
2 Corinthians 9:6



You may not be here every Sunday, but your generous contributions are needed to help cover our regular operating expenses. We invite you to sign up for automated recurring offertory contributions. To do so, choose any one of the simple and convenient giving options. Simply go to www.sfoasj.com on any device and click on the [Online Giving](#) button.

Or Scan this QR Code with your mobile device.

Or Text "Give" to 408-479-5858 on your phone

Or If you would like an account to be created for you, please contact our Parish Business/Operations Manager Victor Espinoza at 408-223-1770, ext. 302. Get started today and ensure that your generous contributions are received even if you are not here. It's quick, easy, and convenient!



Monday, Oct 2

Pedro Ocon+

Anna Troung Thi Phuoc-Lanh+

John Stratakos (Bday)

Tuesday, Oct 3

Paul Schreiber+

Dana Schreiber & Trevor Beatty (Health/Healing)

Brian Madden+

Wednesday, Oct 4

Anna Miranda Do Tran (Bday)

Roland Fajilan (bday)

Patricia A. Stanley+

Thursday, Oct 5

Anna Troung Thi Phuoc-Lanh+

Aline Adjina+

Friday, Oct 6

Rolly Fajilan (bday)

Oscar Cada+

Dominador De Jesus Jr.+

Saturday, Oct 7

Mercedes Layola+

Lino Layola+

Lucia Tagaban+

Saturday/Sunday, October 8, 2023

4PM

Bert Belisario (Bday)

5:30PM

Teresa Pauline Nguyen+

Sunday 8AM Chapel

Thelma Rodin+

Joseph Tu Pham+

Iris Morris+

8:15 Villages

10AM Chapel

John Bui+, David & Ty Pham+

Jane & James Branham+

Thank you God, Mary, & Joseph

12PM Chapel

Jaime Caricungan+

Cora Mendoza-Lu & Family (Thanksgiving)

Milagros Pedroza Roble+

2PM Chapel (Spanish)

Abigail Machado+

Francisca Camacho+

Jose Rodriguez+

4PM Chapel (Vietnamese)

Theresa Anh Le+

Maria Luu Pham+

Anthony Guong+

6PM Chapel

Maricar Calso (Birthday)

Thanksgiving

Manuel Lyulores+

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

♦ Daily Rosary and Prayer

8:00AM, Chapel

♦ Adoration, First Friday of month, 9:30AM-5:00PM, Chapel

♦ Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesdays, Chapel

Rosary/Novena/Mass 6:30PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

Saturdays, 11am - 12pm, Chapel

IMPORTANT CONTACTS:

Crisis Mental Health Services
988

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

Santa Clara County Emergency

Psychiatric Service (EPS)

485-885-6100

NAMI Warm Line

(open Mon-Fri, 10AM-6PM)

408-453-0400

The Peace Prayer of St. Francis



Lord, make me an
instrument of your peace;
where there is hatred,
let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master,
grant that I 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.

AWESOME TIDBITS FROM FR. REY



... **KEVIN BERNAGA** for all he did for the community particularly for our youth. Kevin will assume a new assignment in the Diocese of San Jose as Associate Director for Youth Ministry effective Monday, October 2nd. Kevin served our Parish for a little over six years. He started as a Summer Program Director and moved to Director for Youth and Young Adults. He helped also as a Liturgy Director for a few years. But even before he worked with the Parish as an employee, he had already served our youth as a volunteer. He practically grew up in our Parish! To all that you did for the Parish, thank you! You will be greatly missed!



... **our operations staff and volunteers** who helped us solved our water problem. Two weeks ago, our main water pump needed some works. We did not have water for almost two days, Sunday until Monday. Thank God, we had our water back before noon, on Monday. **God is awesome!**

... **our Feast Day volunteers** who signed-up in various committees to help set up and clean up. We have a good turnout of volunteers! Yay! You guys are awesome! God bless your generous hearts!

... **our Social Justice Ministry** who successfully hosted yesterday's event entitled **Living the Season of Creation Every Day: The Ecological Vision of Laudato Si**. I would like to give a shout out also to Dr. Paul Schultz who gave us an awesome talk, and to all who attended the event. Thank you! You are all awesome!

JOIN US AS ONE FAMILY! LET US CELEBRATE OUR AWESOME DIVERSITY!



✦ **ST. FRANCIS GOT TALENTS.** Calling all musicians, singers, dancers, athletes, comedians, and more! If you are gifted with a talent, then come and join our annual SFA Got Talent show on **Saturday, October 7th at 10:30AM**. Please contact Leslie at 408-223-1770 ext 330, or email her at llegacion@dsj.org. We would love to see or listen to your awesome God-given talents!



✦ **FEAST DAY SCHEDULE.** Our celebration begins with the blessing of animals at 9:30 am at the sanded patio. This is followed by kids' activities such as face painting, photo booth, and the much awaited "talent show" until 12:00 noon. The afternoon activities begin with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 5:00 pm. Bishop Oscar Cantú will preside over the Mass. Coinciding with the celebration of the Solemnity of St. Francis of Assisi will be my installation as pastor of our awesome Parish. **Our regular 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm (Vietnamese) anticipated Sunday Masses are cancelled to give way to the Mass for our Feast Day.** After mass, everyone is invited to a reception with live band music. Come with your national costume to celebrate our awesome diversity. Excited to see you all!



✦ Our second collection for this weekend is for the St. Francis Building Expansion. Your generous contribution will help realize our dream to have a bigger church to accommodate our growing Parish!

September 30th - October 1st
27th Week in Ordinary Time

Saturday (Anticipated)

5:00 p.m. - Most Rev. Bishop Oscar Cantu

(The 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Masses are cancelled.)

Sunday

8:00 am – Fr. Rey (Assist. Dcn. Sunny)

8:15 am - Fr. Lieu Vu (Villages)

10:00 am – Fr. Rey

12:00 pm – Fr. Robain

2:00 pm – TBD (Spanish)

4:00 pm – Fr. Lieu (Vietnamese)

6:00 pm – Fr. Robain



Due to the changes in the Mass schedule. All Mass Intentions scheduled for the 9AM Masses have been moved to the 10AM Masses and the 11AM Mass intentions to the 12PM Masses.

Sorry for any inconvenience.

We understand how important it is to have Mass intentions for your loved ones and would like to accommodate all if possible. We are limited to 3 per Mass.

Please plan your Mass intentions in advance if possible (Birthdays, anniversaries, death anniversaries). Our Mass Intention calendar is open through December 31, 2023.



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH MEMORIAL GARDEN

"It is in dying that we are born to eternal life"

- St. Francis of Assisi

The Memorial Garden is a place for the cremated remains of those who have gone before us, and to memorialize others who have died but are buried elsewhere. St. Francis is unique in offering this service to the Catholic Community.

This Garden space is set aside because those who have died form with us the Communion of Saints and are always present with us in prayer. We stand with all people, both living and dead, to sing our one song of praise to God for those who have died with Christ, have risen with Him and for the one Spirit that binds us together as one people.

The Garden is a quiet space in which you can pray and remember those who have died. We also honor the four periods and peoples of the history of Evergreen: the Ohlone Native Peoples, the Spanish and Mexican settlers, the ranchers and vintners, and those who have developed the land and reside here now.

If you would like information about the Memorial Garden, please contact **Claudia Bernaga (Monday-Wednesday 9AM-4PM, Thursday-Friday, 9AM-1PM)** to schedule an appointment at claudia.bernaga@dsj.org, or 408.223.1770, ext. 102.

ALL ARE WELCOME FOR MORNING FAITH SHARING EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 10:00 AM IN THE PARISH OFFICE

"Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." Matthew 10:40

We all have a story to tell, especially of how God has been and continues to work in our lives, sometimes without our even knowing it. You are welcome to share those stories in a small group and in a confidential setting as we reflect on how scripture speaks to us through our own life experiences. It might be a memory of a time when God touched us, it might be a challenge with which we are dealing in the present moment.

Sharing stories helps us deepen our own personal faith, and hearing others' stories of God's presence in their lives brings us into deeper relationship with each other and with God.

For more information, please contact **Lerma Simpson at (408) 223-1770 ext. 316 or at lerma.simpson@dsj.org**



The parish gift shop is seeking volunteers who can assist with sales one Fridays and or Sundays. Do you have retail experience? Would you like to gain retail experience? Training will be provided to all. This is a great opportunity for anyone who would like to help our parish for a couple of hours per week. Come join our wonderful team of volunteers and help to serve our community!

To join our team or for additional

**information contact: Christine Hoang
1-650-272-9289.**

Buscamos Voluntarios

La tiendita de artículos religiosos de la parroquia busca voluntarios para ayudar a vender después de la misa de 2:00 pm por una hora en un domingo por mes. No se necesita experiencia, se ofrecerá entrenamiento. Para más información en español o para apuntarse, puede llamar a la oficina de la parroquia 408-223-1562 o en ingles con Christine Hoang 1-650-272-9289 ¡Gracias!

PRAYER REQUEST WE ARE HERE TO PRAY FOR YOU



We also Pray for...

Those who suffer in silence

Those with cancer

The who have no one to pray for them

Graduating classes of 2023

Those beginning new journeys

SUNDAY'S SCRIPTS

READINGS

TODAY'S READINGS

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reading I:

Ezekiel 18:25 - 28

Reading II:

Philippians 2:1 - 11

Gospel:

Matthew 21:28 - 32

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

TWENTY - SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reading I:

Isaiah 5:1 - 7

Reading II:

Philippians 4:6 - 9

Gospel:

Matthew 21:33 - 43



LEGION OF MARY

Our Lady of Perpetual Help is hosted by Legion of Mary every Wednesday in the Chapel, with a Rosary/Novena at 6:30PM followed by Mass.

Faith Formation Dates to Remember:



JOY (and first year preparation for children's sacraments)

October 1 Virtus online Safe Environment forms due (**Past Due**)

October 29 Joy sessions (attend your assigned session time)

First Communion Second Year Preparation

October 1 Virtus online Safe Environment forms due.

October 22 First Eucharist session (attend your assigned session time)

Adult Confirmation – sessions 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM in the parish office

October 1
November 5

OCIA (ADULTS) sessions 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM in the parish office

October 1
October 8

OCIA (CHILDREN/YOUTH) Second Year Preparation – sessions 10:00 AM – 11:30 PM in the parish office

October 1 Virtus online Safe Environment forms due

October 1 OCIA session

October 29 Joy sessions (attend your assigned session time)



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, October 7

FOR A DAY OF CELEBRATION

All are invited to join in the celebration of our parish feast day and the installation of our new pastor, Father Rey Sarmiento. This joyful day includes:

- ✦ Morning Mass and donuts and coffee Afterwards.
- ✦ 930AM - Blessing of the Animals.
- ✦ Free hot dog lunch for everyone.
- ✦ Installation Mass of Father Rey at 5PM followed by a reception.
- ✦ Sampling of cultural foods, displaying the wonderful diversity of our community.
- ✦ Live band and dancing throughout the Evening.

As we celebrate the rich diversity of our parish community, we encourage you to wear your favorite cultural attire to the installation and throughout the evening.

ParishSOFT®
Giving



SUMMER IS HERE AND BETWEEN TRAVELING AND CHANGING SCHEDULES, SUNDAY OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS OFTEN DROP OFF SIGNIFICANTLY DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS. YOU MAY NOT BE HERE EVERY SUNDAY, BUT YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NEEDED TO HELP COVER OUR REGULAR OPERATING EXPENSES.

WE INVITE YOU TO SIGN UP FOR AUTOMATED RECURRING OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS. TO DO SO CHOOSE ANY ONE OF THE SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT GIVING OPTIONS.

SIMPLY GO TO WWW.SFOASJ.COM ON ANY DEVICE AND CLICK ON THE ONLINE GIVING BUTTON.

SCAN THIS QR CODE WITH YOUR MOBILE DEVICE.

TEXT "GIVE" TO 408-479-5858 ON YOUR PHONE.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE AN ACCOUNT TO BE CREATED FOR YOU, PLEASE CONTACT OUR PARISH BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS MANAGER VICTOR ESPINOZA AT 408-223-1770 EXT. 302

2023 St. Francis of Assisi Sweepstakes



**Early Bird Entry
Special Ends
October 20th!**

35 for \$25
95 for \$50
230 for \$100
440 for \$150
650 for \$200

Grand Prize \$20,000.00

Second: \$2,000.00

Third: \$1,000.00

Fourth: \$500.00

**SCAN
ME!**



Automatic Drawing will take place on December 2, 2023
During the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony



Entries After
October 20th

25 for \$25
75 for \$50
200 for \$100
400 for \$150
600 for \$200



To order Sweepstake entries by mail, complete this form and return it with your check in the enclosed envelope. All entries are electronic; an email will be sent with your entry numbers. No physical entry coupons will be mailed back. Entry totals will be automatically adjusted for Early Bird Entries.

Make checks payable to: "St. Francis of Assisi"

Entry Selection(s): _____ 25 entries for \$25 _____ 75 entries for \$50 _____ 200 entries for \$100 _____

400 entries for \$150 _____ 600 entries for \$200

Total amount Enclosed: \$ _____

(Please print clearly and complete all information)

Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Email Required: _____

Mail orders must be received no later than 2:00 PM Wednesday, November 29, 2023 to qualify for the drawing on Saturday December 2, 2023. Winners will be notified by phone and e-mail. Winners do not need to be present. For more information, contact the parish office at 408-223-1562. All prizes are subject to IRS regulations. Online entries must be received by Tuesday November 28th 11:59 PM Pacific Time.

NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT OF ANY KIND IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN THE SWEEPSTAKES

() Please enter my name in the drawing. I do not wish to make a donation at this time.