

Rejoice and Be Glad

You may have noticed that the purple liturgical color during Advent is the same color as Lent. They both have penitential themes, getting ourselves ready for the two biggest mysteries in our religion: (1) the incarnation, where God enters into our humanity in Jesus and (2) the resurrection, where God conquers sin and death for us. On the third Sunday of both seasons, we pause and remind ourselves of what we are preparing for. On this *Gaudete Sunday*, we wait in joyful anticipation for the birth of Jesus, a reason to rejoice and be glad.

Rejoicing is a sentiment that abounds in today's scripture readings as we await the coming of Jesus. The prophet Isaiah describes him as the one who heals and liberates us from our suffering, saying he "rejoices mightily in the Lord". His mother Mary sings praises exclaiming that her spirit "rejoices in God". St. Paul exhorts us to "rejoice always" and to pray and give thanks.

At the same time, we are called to give testimony that Jesus is our Lord, just as John the Baptist did in our gospel story. John knew that his role was to bring people to God, to testify to the light that all might believe in Jesus. Similarly, our role is to live our lives in such a manner that we bring Jesus to others.

As we enter this busy week amidst the frenzy of all the Christmas parties and last-minute shopping, remember that we are all baptized with Christ's spirit. Smile. Accompany the lonely. Be kind and gentle. There are so many waiting for the light of Christ to shine upon them. Be that light, and the joy of Christmas will be yours. Rejoice and be glad.

Dcn. Joseph Cabrido

☞OFFICE HOURS

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Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

The Offertory totals for the week of Nov. 27 - Dec. 3, 2023:

Masses	\$ 14,494.36
Online	\$ 6,905.00
Mail	\$ 2,405.00
OLPH	\$ 156.00
1st Collection	\$ 23,960.36
Worship Expansion	\$ 4,629.10
CCHD	\$ 762.00
Thanksgiving	\$ 35.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 130.00
Catholic Com	\$ 8.00
Immaculate Concep	\$ 117.00
Religious Retirement Fund	\$ 65.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 20.00
2nd Collection	\$ 5,681.10
1st & 2nd Collection	\$ 29,641.46

*Thank you in advance
for your generous
giving.*



QUESTIONS?

PLEASE CONTACT OUR
PARISH BUSINESS &
OPERATIONS
MANAGER VICTOR
ESPINOZA AT
408-223-1770
EXT. 302



Monday, Dec 18

Sally Branco+

Sally Branco+

Franco Borlaza+

Tuesday, Dec 19

Alfons Rosales+ (Bday)

Librada Rosales+ (Bday)

Corazon Pabelico Gonzales+ (40th day)

Wednesday, Dec 20

Theresa Tuong Thuong Nguyen (Bday)

Maria Luz Bautista+

Ted & Marlene Lu & Family (Thanksgiving)

Thursday, Dec 21

Manuel Araujo+

Joseph Sam Tran+

Anotonio Miranda De Jesus+

Friday, Dec 22

Antonio De Jesus+

Paul Pham+

Yolanda Rossy (Bday)

Saturday, Dec 23

Pastor Juson+

Jose Alday+

Dato Family (Thanksgiving)

Elbert Eltanal+

Saturday/Sunday, December 24, 2023

4PM

5:30PM

Dominico Ty Nguyen

Teresa Pauline Nguyen+

Sunday 8AM Chapel

8:15 Villages

10AM Chapel

For the People of the Parish

12PM Chapel

2PM Chapel (Spanish)

4PM Chapel (Vietnamese)

6PM Chapel

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

...to our FMT
(Filipino Ministry Team)
for planning and
organizing our
Simbang Gabi this year. You are all
awesome!



...to our sponsors and
volunteers for the recent
Advent Recollection. Thank you for
your support and generous
contribution.

SIMBANG GABI.

This is a cultural tradition that our
Filipino Community wishes to
share with our Parish in
preparation for Christmas. Simbang
Gabi is a 9-day novena masses
leading to Christmas Day. It is a way
among Filipinos to prepare for the
celebration of the birth of our
Savior, Jesus Christ. It started on
Friday, December 15th, and it will
end on December 23rd at the 4:00
pm Mass. The last Simbang Gabi
Mass will be celebrated by Most
Rev. Bishop Oscar Cantu. You are all
welcome!

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE.

Please mark your calendars. As one
community of faith, I invite you to
our upcoming Advent & Christmas
events and Masses.

Vigil of Christmas

4:00 pm	Fr. Lieu
5:00 pm	Fr. Robain
6:00 pm	Fr. Lieu (Vietnamese)
8:00 pm	Msgr. Gene (Bilingual)
11:30 pm	Lessons & Carols
12:00 mn	Frs. Rey, Lieu & Robain

Christmas Day

8:00 am	Msgr. Mitchell
10:00 am	Fr. Rey
12:00 pm	Fr. Robain
4:00 pm	Fr. Lieu (Vietnamese)

23-24 December 2023

Fourth Sunday Of Advent

Saturday (Anticipated)

4:00p.m. - Bishop Oscar Cantu
(Simbang Gabi)

5:30p.m. - Fr. Lieu Vu
(Vietnamese)

Sunday

8:00 am – Fr. Rey (Assist Dcn. Ryan)

8:15 am - Msgr. Mitchell (The Villages)

10:00 am – Fr. Robain (Dcn. Joe)

12:00 pm – Fr. Rey (Dcn. Ryan)



Mass Intentions for 2024 are now open.

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 **June 30, 2024.**



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. The Garden, it is a quiet space in which you can pray, reflect, and remember. 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.

PAVING STONES

Also part of the Memorial Garden are paving stones and the Stations of the Cross. If you wish to fill out an order form for the paving stones, you can download the order form (<https://www.sfoasj.com/paving-stones-order-form>) and mail it or drop it by the office.

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: The Office
408-223-1562**

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

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 2024

Those beginning new journeys

SUNDAY'S SCRIPTS READINGS

TODAY'S READINGS

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Reading I:

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Reading II:

2 Peter 3:8 - 14

Gospel:

Mark 1:1 - 8

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Reading I:

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Reading II:

Romans 16:25-27

Gospel:

Luke 1:26-38



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)

December 24/25 Christmas Eve/Day
– Holy Day of Obligation

January 7 sessions (Attend your assigned session time)
High School students attend JOY through IGNITE
3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

First Communion Second Year Preparation

December 24/25 Christmas Eve/Day
– Holy Day of Obligation
January 21 sessions (Attend your assigned session time)

Youth Confirmation Second Year Preparation

– sessions 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM in the Evergreen Rooms
December 24/25 Christmas Eve/Day
– Holy Day of Obligation
January 9 session

Adult Confirmation

– sessions 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM in the parish office
December 24/25 Christmas Eve/Day
– Holy Day of Obligation
January 7 session

OCIA (ADULTS)

– sessions 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM in the parish office
January 7 Attend 10:00 AM Mass for dismissal to the session

OCIA (CHILDREN/YOUTH) Second Year Preparation

– sessions 10:00 AM to 11:30 PM in the parish office
January 7 Attend your assigned JOY session time
High School students attend JOY through IGNITE
3:30 PM to 4:30 PM
January 21 Attend 10:00 AM Mass for dismissal to the session

Middle School ECHO – meet in the Gathering Hall 6:00 to 8:00 PM

December 15-29 Christmas Break

High School IGNITE – meet in the Gathering Hall 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

January 7 session

**St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Weekend Assistance Needed**

“We are looking for volunteer to assist our music director in setting up the parish laptop, screens and projectors for weekend liturgies. If you are tech-savvy and interested in getting involved, please contact Leslie in the parish office. Thank you!”

Raffle Winners Announced!

Grand Prize Winner

Christine Bui

Second Prize Winner

Tommy Le

Third Prize Winner

Trinh Tran

Fourth Prize Winner

Trang Le

The Christmas season is here! Christmas is not just one day – it is a whole season, and after four weeks of preparing, the celebration has just begun! And since Jesus is the reason to celebrate, why not make Jesus part of your Christmas celebrations. Here are some ideas to include Jesus in your Christmas celebrations: Go to Mass with your family. Invite friends to join you.

Read the Christmas story (Luke 2:1-20) and other Christmas stories before going to bed each night.

Make a birthday cake for Jesus.

Dress up for Sunday dinners – Jesus the long awaited guest is coming to your house!

Light a fire in the fireplace, sip some cocoa, and snuggle on the couch for classic Christmas movies.

Sing nightly lullabies to baby Jesus before going to bed.

Keep the Christmas decorations up at least until January 9, and light candles at all octave dinners.

Remembering that Jesus came as a baby, who does your family know has just had a baby? Can your family bring them a home-cooked meal? Is there a family shelter in the area that needs diapers and other baby supplies?

Make each day of your Christmas celebrations special, and relish Emmanuel, “God With Us”, in the manger and in your loved ones. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULES

Vigil of Christmas

Sunday, December 24th

4:00 pm: 5:00 pm Masses (The Villages)

6:00 pm Mass (Vietnamese)

8:00 pm Mass (Bilingual)

11:30 pm (Lessons & Carols)

12 midnight Mass

Nativity of Jesus (Christmas Day) Masses

Monday, December 25th

8:00 am; 10:00 am; 12:00 noon

4:00 pm (Vietnamese)

Solemnity of Mary

The Mother of God

Monday, January 1, 2024

9:00 am (Rosary for Peace)

9:30 am Mass

5:00 pm Mass (Vietnamese)

Advent Schedules

Christmas Tree Lighting & Sweepstakes Raffle Draw

Saturday, December 2nd

6:45 pm Hospitality/Gathering Space

The Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Thursday, December 7th Vigil Mass 7:00 pm

Friday, December 8th Masses

8:30; 10:30 am

5:00 pm (Vietnamese)

7:00 pm (Bilingual)

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Tuesday, December 12th, 7:00 pm

Simbang Gabi (Advent Novena-Masses)

December 15, 18 - 22, 7:00 pm

December 16th, & 23rd, 4:00 pm

December 17th, 6:00 pm

Advent Recollection

Wednesday, December 13th, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Sandersfeld Hall

Advent Communal Reconciliation Service

Thursday, December 14th, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Chapel

4th Sunday of Advent Masses

8:15 am (*The Villages*)

10:00 am, 12 noon (*Chapel*)