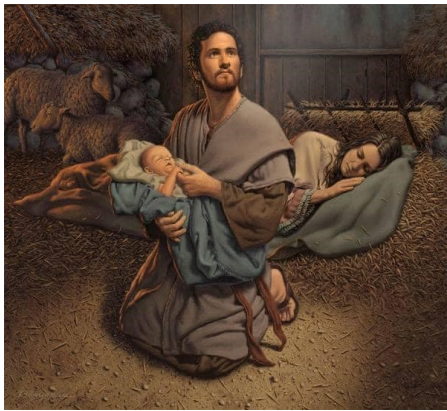


FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH.

Among the more popular reality shows are about families. Some of the things these shows highlight are conflicts between a husband and wife, parents spending more time working than with their children, parents yelling at their children, children spending more time with nannies or cellphones than with their parents, children lying to their parents. The list goes on. While these shows also present moments of where people give each other love, care and respect, there appears to be more scenes showcasing the challenges and struggles of families today. The message we get, therefore, is what is more real are the challenges and struggles more than the love, care and respect found in families. *The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*, however, reminds us that conflicts and chaos in families are really the antithesis of a reality that we have lost as a result of sin. Prior to the fall of Adam and Eve, there was harmony and peace between them. That was the **original reality**. The reality that we see happening in families highlighted by these shows is **not the original**, but a **distortion of that original** because of *sin*. The whole meaning of Advent that we just finished celebrating is not only waiting for the second coming of Christ in which he will restore reality into its original state, **but also** to become aware what God has been doing in our lives, in families towards that restoration.



Today's feast of the Holy Family is dedicated to the life of Jesus, Mary and Joseph commemorating their life in Nazareth, and calling us to focus on the Catholic family life. The Church presents to us the Holy Family as the benchmark for our own family life, because the Holy Family is what the *original reality* looks like. Jesus, Mary and Joseph lived as a community of persons reflecting the community of the Trinitarian God in which each of the three persons of God manifest their love for each other all having a union of will with God as the center. Because of this, there is harmony, peace, love, respect, and collaboration. The Holy Family also manifested harmony, peace, love, respect, and collaboration because what was central to their lives was the will of God. For that matter, their life is a family of prayer.

A family is a sacrament pointing to the reality of God as a community of persons. Unfortunately, the reality of a family that the world presents is the opposite of the family as a sacrament. The world has highlighted that everyone is entitled to whatever they want.

That is reality. When each assert to one's own wishes, then hardly will there be harmony, peace, respect, and collaboration.

In 2002, Pope John Paul II said in his Angelus talk of December 29, "Every Christian family is called to show *"convincingly that it is possible to live marriage fully in keeping with God's plan and with the true good of the human person - of the spouses, and of the children who are more fragile"*. He continues to say, "A united family that follows these principles will more easily overcome the trials and difficulties it encounters on its way. In the faithful love of the parents, a gift ceaselessly to foster and safeguard, children can find the best conditions for their growth, helped by Jesus who "increased in wisdom and in stature, and in the favor with God and man (2:52)". (*Novo Millennio ineunte*, n. 47) God invites all families to work with Him in restoring the original reality of a family life. Let each family be a reality show witnessing to the world as a sacred sign to the community of persons of the One God.

Fr. Reynaldo Sarmiento.

☞OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, **9:00 AM-4:00 PM**
Staff Direct Line 408-223-1770

☞STAFF + extension

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Therese Nguyen

YOUTH, YOUNG ADULT COORDINATOR

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

COORDINATOR

x324



Find us on
Facebook

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

Masses	\$ 9,903.97
Online	\$ 5,910.00
Mail	\$ 1,215.00
OLPH	\$ 131.00
1st Collection	\$ 17,159.97
Worship Expansion	\$ 290.00
CCHD	\$ 43.00
Star of Hope	\$ 2,463.14
Christmas Flowers	\$ 40.00
Simbang Gabi	\$ 513.00
Immaculate Concep	\$ 75.00
Religious Retirement Fund	\$ 3,888.20
All Saints	\$ 100.00
Christmas	\$ 620.00
Villages	\$ 5.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe	\$ 1,059.00
2nd Collection	\$ 4,488.14
1st & 2nd Collection	\$ 21,648.11

Thank you in advance for your generous giving.

ParishSOFT® Giving

QUESTIONS?

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



Monday, January 1

Tuesday, January 2

Poly & Deepa Palamuttam (30th Wedding Anniv)

Laurie Birney+

Carl Howard Buffington+ (Repose of his soul)

Wednesday, January 3

George Rossy (Health/Recovery)

Nor Jocson, Vicky Emy (Health/ Recovery)

Juanita Pagatpatan+

Thursday, January 4

George Rossy (Health/Recovery)

Nor Jocson, Vicky Emy (Health/ Recovery)

Perry James Crooks+

Friday, January 5

Franco Borlaza+

All Souls in Purgatory

Tarun Rodairaj (Bday)

Saturday, January 6

Tyre Lim+ (Bday)

George Rossy (Health/Recovery)

Alejandra Reyes Sr.+ (Bday)

Saturday/Sunday, January 7, 2024

4PM

Juanito Juinio+

Nor Jocson, Vicky Emy (Health/ Recovery)

Pham Ngoc Kim+

5:30PM

Tuyen Vu+

Sunday 8AM Chapel

Anthony Hole+

Pedro G. Angeles+

Danilo Ignacio (Recovery)

8:15 Villages

George Pratte+

10AM Chapel

Dong Nguyen+

Rodelio Balan+

George Rossy (Health/Recovery)

12PM Chapel

Gods Mercies & Favors (Bday & Wedding Anniv)

Kim Dang & Keo Vu+

Franco Borlaza+

2PM Chapel (Spanish)

George Rossy (Health/Recovery)

4PM Chapel (Vietnamese)

Tuyen Vu+

6PM Chapel

Alessanora Valleso (Bday)

Victor Franco Borlaza+

Bill Lavine+ (Bday)

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



In a few hours, we will celebrate the coming of the New Year. Like all other new year's celebration, I'm sure it's going to be another carnival-like atmosphere celebration. In the midst of all the noise, fun and excitement, however, comes a reminder to put aside a time to make the most important resolution of all: to take the first hour of the new year to thank the Lord for all the blessings and challenges last year that made us a better person, and for the grace that we need to start of a new life, reborn and renewed. We are invited to pause and review the life that we had, ponder on the many events that transpired in our lives during this year that is about to end, look into the path we have found ourselves on and where we seem to be heading and resolve to have a fresh start as if that first hour of the new year is the hour that we are first born. We cannot, however, do all these things in the midst of a noisy world both from within and without, noises that cancel out the Spirit speaking to us in a faint voice, inviting us contemplate on what it is that God might have been doing all this time to us individually.

Not all of us, perhaps, will greet the New Year with a bash. Perhaps, this year that is about to end proved to have been a trying year. Perhaps, we experienced a death of a loved one; or our home was foreclosed; or a relationship ended up broken. Perhaps, we recently received news that we or a loved one has cancer or a debilitating disease. For some of us, we look at the future of our nations with great anxiety as we face a lot of uncertainties. In all these challenges, however, we look to Mary as our model. Mary, in faith, kept all that she encountered in her heart always contemplating on what God was perhaps doing. She spent her life in discernment trying to put together disparate pieces of the mystery trusting that God was using all these to work on something greater, something that perhaps she would never fathom. Tomorrow's feast of Mary the mother of God, opens the new year with a foundational Christian faith reality: that God so loved the world that he sent his only begotten Son to save us from eternal death.

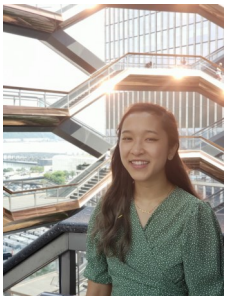
As we prepare to greet the new year may we, like Mary, trust without a single doubt that Jesus, as the Word made flesh, is indeed our Savior. Jesus encounters us in our daily struggles to open us to his ultimate purpose to make us sharers in his divinity. May we make the resolution to begin the first hour of the new year with a life renewed and reborn by making Mary's heart our own, a heart that is open to the fullness of God's grace.

May the Lord bless you and keep you! May He let His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you kindly and give you His peace (Numbers 6:24-26).

On behalf of Fathers Lieu and Robain, and the parish office staff, we wish you and your families a blessed New Year!



OUR NEW YOUTH MINISTRY AND COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR



THERESE NGUYEN, is our new Youth Ministry and Communications Coordinator, effective January 2, 2024. She graduated Summa Cum Laude with a degree in Music at the Catholic University of America. Therese is no stranger to our community. She started as a participant to our youth ministry program for many years, and have worked with Kevin in our Youth Ministry. She is excited to take on her new role as a youth ministry coordinator and explore the

new department in our parish, which is the Office of Communications. Aside from leading our youth ministry program, she will oversee our parish bulletin, constant contact, website, and other social media platforms. She will help develop a plan, and implement ways to better communicate our programs and activities with you, our parishioners as well as with our greater community in our mission to share the Good News to those who have not heard it. SFOA is blessed to have you, Therese! Please give her your awesome welcome!

06-07 January 2024

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Saturday (Anticipated)

4:00p.m. - Fr. Rey (Assist Dcn. Andrzej)

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

Sunday

8:00 am – Msgr. Mitchell

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

10:00 am – Fr. Rey (Dcn. Joe)

12:00 pm – Fr. Rey

2:00 pm – TBD (Spanish)

4:00 pm – Fr. Lieu Vu (Vietnamese)

6:00 pm – Fr. Francis Nguyen (SJ)



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

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS MARY, AND JOSEPH

Reading I:

Genesis 15:1 - 6; 21:1 - 3

Reading II:

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Gospel:

Luke 2:22 - 40

NEXT WEEK'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



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

Thank You.

I want to thank you the following people for making our fundraiser such a success:

Oscar Martin, Joy Ocmeja, Irene Camerino, and Mary Kolb for helping with stuffing envelopes and promoting sales. Special thanks to Mary Kolb for helping with material distribution and mailing.

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*)