Epiphany

Today we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, a manifestation of Jesus, as son of God, to the world. It happened historically after Jesus' birth, but it also happens to us on a personal level at different points in our lives.

Some people touched by a life threatening illness describe an experience of a personal encounter with God in a moment of weakness when the world seems to crash for them. When they hit the bottom, and completely lose control over their lives, some surrender themselves fully to God. And then their Epiphany happens. They are filled with the presence of unconditional love and a deep sense of peace. From that point on they know that no matter what happens, God will always accompany them, hold them, and sustain them. And moving forward, they are able to sense God's presence all around them, in everything that surrounds them. God is there in the tree leaves shimmering in the sun and wind, God is there in the beauty of the flowers, and God is there in every person that they meet.

People who fall deeply and profoundly in love, also go through a similar process. It can happen when they meet their significant other, or when their child is born. Struck by love, they give up some of their need for control, letting love lead them, and enable them to be more giving, in an unconditional way. There is less "I" and "me," and more "we," more space for love and sharing; an Epiphany happens, and their world enlarges.

Can it only happen to us when we fall gravely ill, or deeply in love? It's more difficult without a big catalyst, but it's possible, and it does happen in everyday life. It happens on a smaller scale every time we are at awe over something: a beautiful sunset or sunrise, a beautiful view, immersion in nature, interaction with other people in whom we recognize the presence of Christ. It helps to cultivate a sense of mindful presence and awareness by some practice, such as meditation. God is always near, but we often walk through life half asleep, and do not notice that presence. May we wake up to the fullness of life, and experience an Epiphany every day.

-Dcn. Andrzej Sobczyk

∞OFFICE HOURS

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

∞STAFF + extension Fr. Revnaldo Sarmiento,

PASTOR AND WEDDINGS

reynaldopineda.sarmiento@dsj.org or x340

Fr. Lieu Vu

PAROCHIAL VICAR, HOMEBOUND, AND BAPTISM— lieu.vu@dsj.org or x304

Fr. Robain Lamba

PAROCHIAL VICAR, FUNERALS, AND **OUINCEANERAS**—

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Lerma Simpson

FAITH FORMATION

lerma.simpson@dsj.org or x316

Therese Nguven

Youth, Young Adult Coordinator Administrative Communications COORDINATOR

x324





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			
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	\$	3,888.20	
All Saints	\$	100.00	
Christmas	\$	620.00	
Villages	\$	5.00	
Our Lady of Guadalupe\$		1,059.00	
2nd Collection	\$	9,096.34	

1st & 2nd Collection \$ 26,256.31 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 8

Nor Jocson, Vicky Emy (Health/ Recovery)

Vu Thi Lac+

va im zao

Victor Franco Borlaza+

Tuesday, January 9

George Rossy (Health/Recovery)
Nor Jocson, Vicky Emy (Health/ Recovery)
Pham Doanh+

Wednesday, January 10

Santha Attokaran (Bday) Sandra da Silva (Bday)

Nor Jocson, Vicky Emy (Health/ Recovery)

Thursday, January 11

Nor Jocson, Vicky Emy (Health/ Recovery)

Hoang Thi Thin+

Victor Franco Borlaza+

Friday, January 12

Victor Franco Borlaza+

Nguven Thi Thao+

Victor Franco Borlaza+

Saturday, January 13

Victor Franco Borlaza+

Aranda Rosalie (Bday)

Margaret Joanne Cole+

Saturday/Sunday, January 14, 2024

4PM

Tony Lu+ (3rd Anniv)

Cora Mendoza - Lu & Family

Eugelio & Priscilla Belen+

5:30PM

Tuyen Vu+

Sunday 8AM Chapel

Anthony Hole+

George Rossy (Health/Recovery)

Dossavi Ambroise+

8:15 Villages

Gregg Shain+

10AM Chapel

Phalo Huynh Thong+ Santiago Uminga+

Ave Jan Cadabona (Thanksgiving)

12PM Chapel

Victor Franco Borlaza+

Tony Lu+ (3rd Anniy)

Bibiana & Teodoro Mendoza+

2PM Chapel (Spanish)

4PM Chapel (Vietnamese)

6PM Chapel

Rodolfo & Cristina Aviles (Good Health & Safety)

Rowena & Satnia Aviles (Good Health & Safety)

Dory Aviles (Thanksgiving)

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,

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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 07 January 2024

...to Christine Nguyen, our volunteer Gift Shop Manager.

Christine is retiring to venture another field of interest to serve the people of God. Thank you very much for sharing your talent and time to help our community of St. Francis of Assisi for almost six years. You are in our prayers. Christine, you are awesome!

REVS vs. SEMS BASKETBALL CHALLENGE.

It's that time of the year to support our priests and seminarians, on Sunday, January 21, 2024 @ St Francis High School, 1885 Miramonte Ave, Mountain View, CA 94040, United States. Please type the link for more information. https://www.dsj.org/catholic-life/vocations/basketball/

MEN'S DISCERNMENT WEEKEND RETERAT FOR AGES 18-35.

Find out if God is calling you to the priesthood. Meet the priests and seminarians of San Jose. Experience their life and get your questions, doubts, concerns answered. Meet other men like you who are discerning. It will be on January 26-28, 2024 at Saint Patrick's Seminary & University, 320 Middlefield Rd, Menlo Park, CA 94025, United States.

Please type the link below for more information. https://
rcbsj.sharepoint.com/sites/Vocations/
layouts/15/Event.aspx?ListGuid

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

Please mark your calendar on February 17, 2024,10:00 am, at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph. Couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversaries (1st, 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and greater) this year are invited to attend the celebration mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph in downtown San Jose. The couples will renew their wedding vows and receive a blessing at the celebration by the Bishop Oscar Cantú. Wedding Anniversary certificates will be mailed. Please type this link for more information: https://rcbsj.sharepoint.com/ sites/FamilyLifeSpirituality/ layouts/15/

13-14 January 2024

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Saturday (Anticipated)

4:00p.m. - Msgr. Mitchell

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

Sunday

Even

8:00 am – Fr. Rey

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

10:00 am – Fr. Rey

12:00 pm - Fr. Rey

2:00 pm - TBD (Spanish)

4:00 pm – Fr. Lieu Vu (Vietnamese)

6:00 pm - TBD



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-orderform) 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 live 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

information contact: The Office 408-223-1562

Buscamos Voluntarios

La tiendita de artículos religiosas 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



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 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Reading I:

Isaiah 60:1 - 6

Reading II:

Ephesians 3:2 - 3a, 5-6

Gospel:

Matthew 2:1-12

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reading I:

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19

Reading II:

1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20

Gospel:

John 1:35-42



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:

<u>IOY (and first year preparation for children's sacraments)</u>

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)

<u>- sessions 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM in the parish office</u>

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

<u>Middle School ECHO - meet in the Gathering Hall 6:00 to</u> 8:00 PM

December 15-29 Christmas Break

<u>High School IGNITE - meet in the Gathering Hall 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM</u>

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-savy and interested in getting involved, please contact Leslie in the parish office. Thank you!"

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



What comes to mind when you think about the New Year? One thing that people often do is to make resolutions to which they hope to commit during the entire year. People resolve to lose weight or declutter their closets and garages. However, the grownups in the family aren't the only ones who could be making new year's pledges. Why not make resolutions together as a family? One thing that your family can place on your to do list this year is prayer. Prayer is one of the most important parts of our Christian lives, but we don't do enough of it.

But this year, you can change that. Prayer is communicating with God. When we talk to God He will listen, but don't forget to listen yourself. You may not hear words because God often speaks to our hearts and minds. Ask for the Holy Spirit to help you listen to His words better.

When Jesus prayed, he asked for daily bread, not weekly or monthly bread. He asked for nourishment on a daily basis; therefore, we should seek the nourishment of prayer daily – not just whenever we find it convenient. So this year, make a family pledge to include prayer in your routine every day. You will find your family's relationship with God growing stronger with every prayer said.

Your family will be in my prayers for a bright and joyous new year!

Happy New Year! Lerma Simpson Faith Formation



BUSINESS HOURS

Fridays 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sundays 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

5111 San Felipe Rd. | San Jose, CA 95135 408-223-1562