

## Laetare Sunday

The Fourth Sunday in Lent is known as *Laetare Sunday* as the mother Church invites us to rejoice with her. **Laetare** in Latin means to “rejoice” which reminds us that the Lenten season is not a time of grief, but rather a time to recharge our spiritual life and a time to seek a new intimacy with God. The Readings present to us an important truth in the Bible, expressed through the most celebrated verse, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” ( Jn 3:16)

The God of the old Testament is the definition of “Love” and “Mercy” ( Ex 34:6-7). Even despite the sin and rebellion of Israel, which is graphically explained in the book of Chronicles in this Sundays’ Mass’s First Reading, God does not withdraw His LOVE at all. He has left His imprint on us and each of us is made in the image and likeness of God. We reflect God’s beauty and goodness even more than the sun, the stars, and all the other wonders in this universe. God has left His imprint on us because He has formed each of us individually and uniquely. We should not read the challenges in our life as a sign that God has abandoned us. Instead, the challenges serve as a temporary time of cleansing before God reinstates us.

## Deacon Sunny Offorjebe

### COMMUNICATIONS NOTICE:

Our bulletin will be undergoing a restructuring of content to optimize your reading experience and access to upcoming events! Starting next Sunday, March 17, the table of contents will be as follows:

**Front Cover — Article/Contact — Tidbits — Faith Formation Updates — Mass Intentions — Business**

#### ☞ OFFICE HOURS

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

#### ☞ STAFF + extension

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**The Offertory totals for the week of February 19 - 25, 2024:**

Masses	\$ 13,435.47
Online	\$ 6,650.00
Mail	\$ 630.00
OLPH	\$ 74.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>\$ 20,789.47</b>

*Thank you in advance  
for your generous giving!*

**16-17 March 2024  
FIFTH SUNDAY  
Of Lent**



**Saturday**

4:00PM — Fr. Rey

5:30PM — Fr. Lieu (Vietnamese)

**Sunday**

8:00AM — Msgr. Mitchell

8:15AM — Fr. Robain

(The Villages)

10:00AM — Fr. Rey

(3rd Scrutiny)

Assisted by Deacon Sunny

12:00PM — Fr. Robain

Assisted by Deacon Andrzej

2:00PM — TBD (Spanish)

4:00PM — Fr. Lieu (Vietnamese)

6:00PM — Fr. Rey

Assisted by Deacon Joe

**ParishSOFT<sup>®</sup>  
Giving**

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



<b>Monday, March 11</b>	Nolita Angeles Dizon+ Peter Phan Quang Le (Birthday) Remodios Sariano (Birthday)
<b>Tuesday, March 12</b>	Bill Madden+ Luis Flores+ Rolando A. Santiago+
<b>Wednesday, March 13</b>	Anna Theralynne Tran (Birthday) Anna Therabelle Tran (Birthday) Cat Cecilio+ (8th Anniversary)
<b>Thursday, March 14</b>	Victor Franco Borlaza+ Marcia Hobica (Thanksgiving/Healing) Andrew Nguyen Van Thanh+
<b>Friday, March 15</b>	Andrew Nguyen Van Thanh+ Arvin & Matthew De Guzman (SI) Edilberto Pizarro (75th Birthday)
<b>Saturday, March 16</b>	Cesarlia & Theodoro Roque+ Andrew Nguyen Van Thanh+ Tania Ventura Makalinao+
<b>Saturday/Sunday, March 17, 2024</b>	
<b>4PM</b>	Esperanza B. Nicolas+ Manuel Alegre+ Anita Peregrino+
<b>5:30PM (Vietnamese)</b>	Leo Chuong Ho+ Andrew Nguyen Van Thanh+
<b>8AM Chapel</b>	Thelma F. Rodin+ Nathan Palamuttam (Birthday) Emil & Mila (Wedding Anniversary)
<b>8:15 Villages</b>	All Souls
<b>10AM Chapel</b>	Santiago Uminga+ Hung Nguyen+ Peter Huan Nguyen+
<b>12PM Chapel</b>	Tony Lu+ Bibian & Teodoro Mendoza+ Milagros Pedroza Roble+
<b>2PM Chapel (Spanish)</b>	All Souls
<b>4PM Chapel (Vietnamese)</b>	Teresa Angela Tran (Birthday)
<b>6PM Chapel</b>	All Souls

**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

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Laetare Sunday

10 March 2024

**Shout  
OUT**

... to the Legion of Mary, Prayer Shawl Group, Music Ministry, Faith Formation (children and parents), OCIA, Youth Group, and Spanish Mass Liturgical

Ministers for hosting the Soup Supper and Stations of The Cross for the first four Fridays. Thank you for providing our physical and spiritual nourishment. You are all awesome!

**Shout  
OUT**

... to all who made their ADA pledges, and to all those who are still discerning and praying to support our ADA. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

You are all a blessing!

## LAETARE SUNDAY

“**Laetare**” means “Rejoice” in Latin. This is the fourth Sunday in the season of Lent, and it is 21 days before Easter. It is a day where the church recognizes that people need a break from sorrow. It is a day of hope where the joy of Easter is within sight. Happy Laetare Sunday!



**The SCRUTINIES** are a series of rites for adults who wish to be baptized. They are celebrated in the third, fourth, and fifth weeks of the Lenten season. This is considered a time of purification and enlightenment for the elect. There are prayers of exorcism which are intended to help purify the elect from sin and sinful desires.

The overall prayers and laying on of hands are to help the elect be enlightened by the Word and grace of God. Please continue to pray for our catechumens as they prepare for their big day where they will receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist).



## EASTER EGG HUNT

Our Youth Ministry will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt after the 10:00 am Mass on Easter Sunday, March 31.

Calling all children, grandchildren, boys, and girls to have fun as we celebrate Christ's resurrection!



## SECOND COLLECTION

To help our Church environment look prayerful and beautiful on Easter Sunday, please consider donating for our Easter flowers this weekend.

Thank you for your awesome generosity ☺



## GOOD FRIDAY SCHEDULE

In addition to our Good Friday service, we will have

**Seven Last Words at 8:30 am** (Chapel)  
followed by  
**Outdoor Stations of The Cross at 9:00 am**

Together, as one family let us reflect on the passion and death of our Lord, Jesus Christ.



## 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 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](mailto: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: 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 working and continues to work in our lives, sometimes without our even knowing it!

You are welcome to share those stories in a confidential small group setting as we reflect on how Scripture speaks to us through our own life experiences. It might be a memory of when God touched our lives or it might be a challenge we are dealing with in the present moment. Sharing these stories and hearing the stories of God's presence in other's lives helps us deepen our own personal faith, bringing 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](mailto:lerma.simpson@dsj.org)



The parish gift shop is seeking volunteers who can assist with sales on 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 tienda 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...**

Benjamin Oribello  
(Special Intention -  
For Healing/Recovery)

those who suffer in silence

those with cancer

those who have no one to  
pray for them

graduating classes of 2024

those beginning new  
journeys

### **SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE PASSAGES**

**TODAY'S READINGS**  
4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

**Reading I:**  
2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

**Reading II:**  
Ephesians 2:4-10

**Gospel:**  
John 3:14-21

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**  
5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

**Reading I:**  
Jeremiah 31:31-34

**Reading II:**  
Hebrews 5:7-9

**Gospel:**  
John 12:20-33



**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

D A T E S   T O   R E M E M B E R

## ALL PROGRAMS

**March 24** Palm Sunday (Attend any Mass)

**March 28** Holy Thursday Mass at 8:00pm

**March 29** Good Friday (Attend any liturgy)

**March 31** Easter Sunday (Attend any Mass)

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

**April 14** sessions (High School Students at 3:30pm)

### First Communion Second Year Preparation

**March 10 & April 21** sessions

(Attend your assigned session time)

### Youth Confirmation Second Year Preparation

(Sessions 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM in the Evergreen Rooms)

**April 9** session

### Adult Confirmation

(Sessions 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM in the parish office)

**April 7** session

### OCIA (ADULTS)

(Sessions 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM in the parish office)

**March 10** Second Scrutiny (10:00 AM Mass & session)

**March 17** Third Scrutiny (10:00 AM Mass & session)

### OCIA (CHILDREN/YOUTH) Second Year Preparation

(Sessions 10:00 AM to 11:30 PM in the parish office)

**March 17** session

**March 24** session

Attend 10:00 AM Mass for dismissal to the session

### High School IGNITE

(Meet in the Gathering Hall 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM)

**April 14** session

**THE SCRUTINIES** - Last Sunday at the 10 AM Mass, our parish community along with the Elect (those who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil) celebrated the first Scrutiny.

Today, we will celebrate the second Scrutiny with them at 10 AM Mass, and next Sunday, we will celebrate the third Scrutiny with them again at the 10 AM Mass.

To *scrutinize* means to examine something very closely. When we celebrate the Scrutinies at Mass, we are not scrutinizing the Elect. Rather, they are scrutinizing their own lives before God, and we are called to do the same along with them. The goal is to be strengthened to overcome the power of sin.

Together with the Elect, we identify concrete issues that they and we need to confront - we name our thoughts and actions that prevent us from living the Gospel fully. Reflecting on the Scrutinies can also be a source of renewal in our own spiritual journey.



## **E.C.H.O. Youth Ministry Schedule—Season 2**

**March 22nd** session in Evergreen Rooms

**April 12th** session in Gathering Hall

**April 19th** session in Gathering Hall

**April 26th** session in Gathering Hall

**May 3rd** session in Gathering Hall

**May 10th** session in Gathering Hall

**May 17th - 19th** Retreat at CityTeam Camp Maymac

**May 24th** session in Gathering Hall

\*\*\*Registrations for retreat will open after Easter!

## **CONFIRMATION PROGRAM**

**April 9th** session in Evergreen Rooms

**May 14th** session in Evergreen Rooms

**Late May** —> **Rehearsal** (TBD; might need date/time change)

**June 2nd** Confirmation Mass & Ceremony

## **FRONT DESK VOLUNTEER**

The parish office is seeking volunteers who can work **at the front desk** from **1pm to 4pm** on **Thursdays & Fridays** until June.

Prerequisites for Role:

- basic technological skills (phone calls, reference calendar...)
- a willingness to serve and learn

**To join our team or for additional information contact:**  
**The Office at (408) 223-1770**

## **St. Francis of Assisi Parish Weekend Tech Assistance Needed!**

We are looking for volunteers 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!

# 2023 Contributions Statements

were mailed out the week of January 22, 2024.

Should you find an error in your statement please contact the parish business manager: Victor Espinoza at [victor.espinoza@dsj.org](mailto:victor.espinoza@dsj.org).

In your email regarding this error, please include:

- † a brief **description** of the error
- † your **contact information** (name, phone, etc.)
- † the **date of the contribution**
- † the **intended fund**
- † the **amount of the contribution**,
- † and the **check number or a payment verification** by your financial institution.

Requests for statement amendments need to be received **before April 5<sup>th</sup>** for our office to issue a corrected statement before the Federal Tax Filing Deadline.

Thank you for your contributions & your generosity!

## ADA PARISH UPDATE:

As of 2/27/24, the total for the ADA is \$132,291.

*"For it is in giving that we receive." Thank you for your generosity and let's get to 100% participation!*

