



### A REFLECTION FROM FR. VINCENT PINEDA, PASTOR

*"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home." - Matt 1:20*

Dear St. Francis of Assisi Family,

We stand on the threshold of Christmas, and today's Gospel focuses on Joseph – that quiet, faithful man who receives surprisingly little attention in scripture but plays a crucial role in salvation history.

St. Matthew tells us Joseph was "a righteous man" who, discovering Mary's pregnancy, planned to divorce her quietly. According to the law, he could have exposed her to public shame or worse, but his righteousness expresses itself in mercy. He chooses the path that will cause the least harm.

Then an angel appears in a dream: "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her." The angel calls Joseph to trust in something beyond his understanding, to participate in God's plan even when it doesn't make sense.

"Do not be afraid." How often these words appear in scripture! Fear is a natural response to divine interruption, to calls that require us to step beyond our comfort zones. But faith means trusting God's presence and promises even when the path ahead is unclear.

Joseph's response is remarkable: "When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." No recorded words, no questions, no negotiation – just obedience. He accepts Mary, protects her reputation, embraces the mystery of Jesus' identity, and becomes the guardian of God's own Son.



Joseph shows us what it means to be a person of faith in practical, everyday ways. He listens to God, even in dreams. He acts with compassion and mercy. He protects the vulnerable. He steps into roles for which he feels unprepared. He trusts God's plans even when they disrupt his own.

As we prepare for Christmas, Joseph's example challenges us. Like him, we're called to say yes to God's plans, which often interrupt our own. Like him, we're called to protect and nurture the presence of Christ in our world. Like him, we're called to trust even when we don't fully understand.

Advent Blessing,

*Fr. Vincent*

#### ☞ OFFICE HOURS

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## UPCOMING PRESIDER SCHEDULE AND FEATURE ARTICLE

**December 27-28, 2025**

***Feast of the Holy Family***

*(Presiders Subject to Change)*

**SATURDAY VIGIL**

**4:00PM**

*Fr. Vincent Pineda w/Dcn Joe*

**5:30PM**

*Fr. Phong Nguyen*

**SUNDAY**

**8:00 AM**

*Fr. Phong w/Dcn Sunny*

**8:15AM(Villages)**

*Msgr. Michael Mitchell*

**10:00AM**

*Fr. Eddie Obero w.Dcn Andrzej*

**12:00PM**

*Fr. Vincent Pineda w/Dcn. Joe*

**2:00PM (Spanish)**

*Fr. Joseph Page*

**4:00PM**

*Fr. Phong Nguyen*

**6:00PM**

*Fr. Eddie Obero w/Dcn. Joe*



**FROM THE  
EXTREMELY  
BUSY DESK  
OF ROSIE  
OLIVAS,  
PARISH  
ADMIN**

Hello SFOA Family,

As we enter this blessed week before Christmas, I wanted to share something special with you — a poem my daughter Larissa wrote years ago when she was a student at Most Holy Trinity. Every year during Advent, I like to read it and share it.

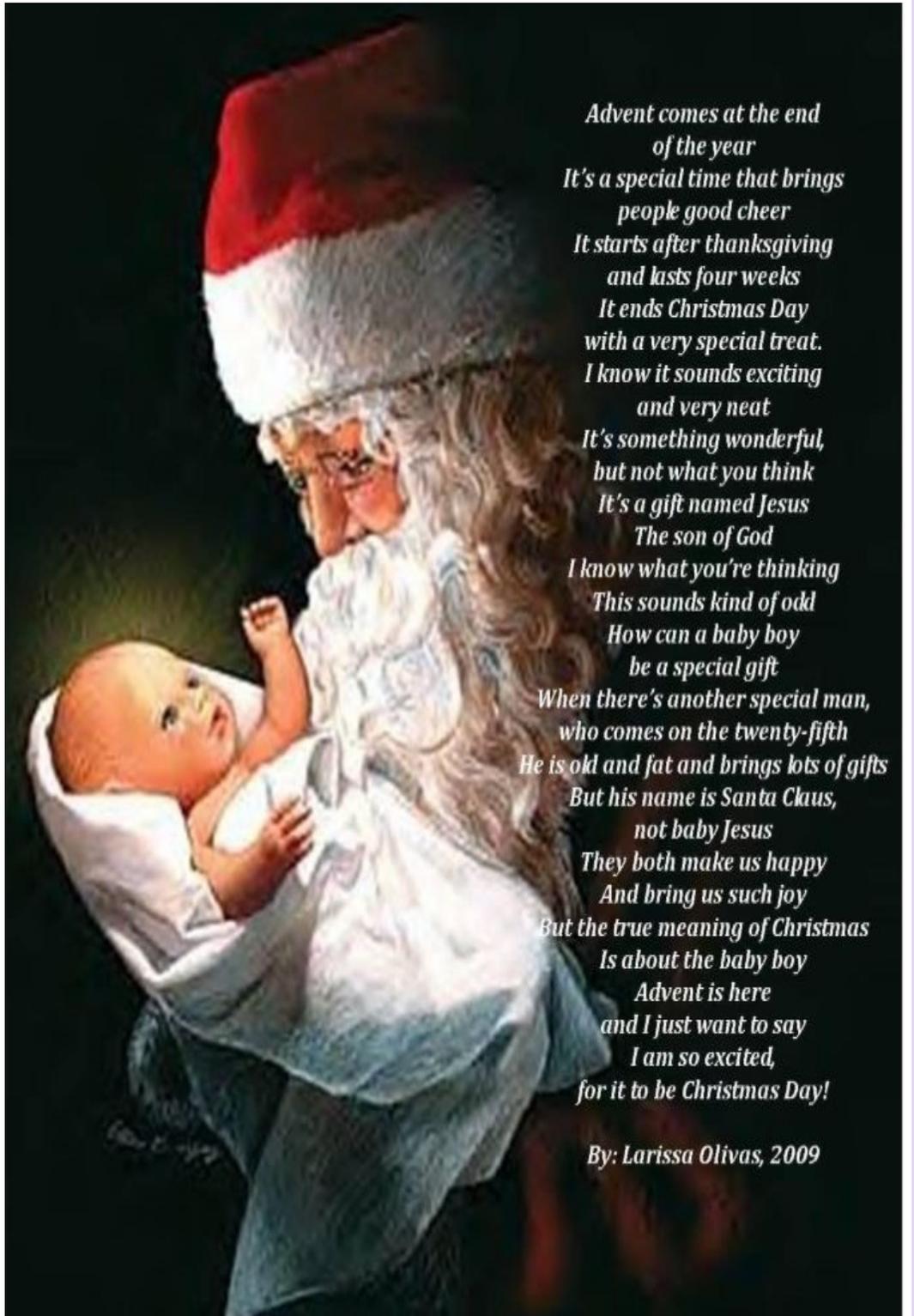
There's something so pure in the way a child captures the joy of waiting... waiting for Christmas morning, waiting for Santa, and most beautifully, waiting for the birth of Jesus in our world and in our hearts.

May this simple gift remind us of the wonder, hope, and holy excitement of the season.

Wishing each of you a safe, joy-filled, and grace-filled Christmas.

Blessings to you and your families.

*Rosie*



*Advent comes at the end  
of the year  
It's a special time that brings  
people good cheer  
It starts after thanksgiving  
and lasts four weeks  
It ends Christmas Day  
with a very special treat.  
I know it sounds exciting  
and very neat  
It's something wonderful,  
but not what you think  
It's a gift named Jesus  
The son of God  
I know what you're thinking  
This sounds kind of odd  
How can a baby boy  
be a special gift  
When there's another special man,  
who comes on the twenty-fifth  
He is old and fat and brings lots of gifts  
But his name is Santa Claus,  
not baby Jesus  
They both make us happy  
And bring us such joy  
But the true meaning of Christmas  
Is about the baby boy  
Advent is here  
and I just want to say  
I am so excited,  
for it to be Christmas Day!*

*By: Larissa Olivas, 2009*



## FAITH FORMATION DATES TO REMEMBER:

J.O.Y.

January 15 Session

**First Communion Second Year Preparation**  
(8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM)

January 4 Session

**Adult Confirmation**

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

January 18 Session

**OCIA (ADULTS)**

(Sessions begin at the 10 AM Mass)

December 21 Session

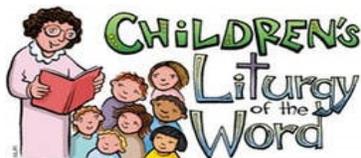
January 4 Session

January 11 Session

**OCIA (CHILDREN/YOUTH)**

(Sessions begin at the 10 AM Mass)

January 11 Session



**Children's Liturgy of the Word**

(8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 12:00 PM Masses)

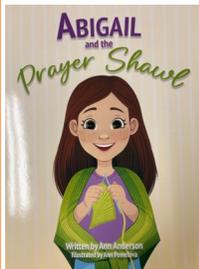
January 11 and January 25

All children are welcome!



The **Knights of Columbus** is a brotherhood of Catholic men committed to faith, charity, and service. If you've ever felt called to make a difference in our parish and community, now is the perfect time to join us. Learn more after on our

website [kofc.org](http://kofc.org)



### What a great Gift! Did You Know?

Our very own St. Francis of Assisi Prayer Shawl Ministry — and one of our parishioners — is featured in a new children's book!

*Abigail and the Prayer Shawl* is a heartwarming story that shares the kindness, comfort, and faith behind prayer shawls. It's perfect for children and adults alike. I truly love this book and highly recommend it. Available on Amazon and in various bookstores.

### THE HOLY FAMILY: A MODEL FOR US TODAY

When we hear the words *Holy Family*, we think of Mary, Joseph, and the baby Jesus — three people who trusted God even when life felt confusing or scary. Mary was young, Joseph had doubts, and Jesus was born in a humble manger. Yet together, they showed the world what real love, courage, and faith look like.

The Holy Family reminds us that holiness doesn't mean being perfect. It means trying our best to love God and each other every day. Mary teaches us to say "yes" to God, even when we're unsure. Joseph shows us what it means to protect and care for others quietly, without needing attention. And Jesus shows us that God is always close — especially in the ordinary moments of our lives.

As young people, you might face pressure, confusion, or tough choices. The Holy Family understands that. They walked through challenges and trusted that God was guiding them. And He was.

This week, ask yourself:

- How can I bring more kindness into my home?
- How can I be patient like Joseph?
- How can I say "yes" to God like Mary?
- How can I bring peace like Jesus?

The Holy Family is not just a story — they are our example. And like them, you are called to shine God's love wherever you go.



**Wishing you a Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year!**

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, December 22, 2025

Antonio Miranda de Jesus+  
 Francisco Abalos+  
 Donna Vinoli+  
 Gary Gaughoran (Health)  
 Miguel Oppus (Health)

### Tuesday, December 23, 2025

Pastor Juson+  
 Elbert Eltanao+  
 Voni Rahardja (Bday/health)  
 Marivic Borlaza Ochoa (Bday)

### Wednesday, December 24, 2025

*Blessings to Mother Mary as we  
 await the birth of Jesus*

### Thursday, December 25, 2025

*Rejoice! He is born. Welcome Baby  
 Jesus*

### Friday, December 26, 2025

Maria Dung Nguyen+  
 Kim Sirhan (Conversion/Healing)  
 Joseph Sam Tran+  
 Jacob Caleb Moral (Birthday)

### Saturday, December 27, 2025

Maria Do Thi Nga+  
 Anna Maria Hai Nguyen+  
 Santina Aviles (Bday)  
 Nguyen-Thong -Tuan Conversion

### Saturday/Sunday, December 27-28, 2025

#### 4:00PM Vigil

Cora M. Lu & Family (Thanksgiving)  
 Ed Vallejo+  
 Barbara Kennedy+ (Bday)  
 Larry Zuniga+

#### 5:30PM Vietnamese Vigil

Maria Tran Thi Tranh+  
 Leo Hồ Quý Chương+  
 Theresa Vuong Tran+  
**Sunday 8AM Chapel**  
 Cindy Juleson (bday)  
 Steven Justin Parcutilo+  
 Dominic Chinh Nguyen+  
 Oscar Yatco, Sr+ (Birthday)

#### 8:15AM Villages

Jeff Schlagete+  
**10AM Chapel**  
 Alan Lamantia (Bday)  
 Conversion of Dinh-Mai's Family  
 Giancarlo Bello+  
 Glenda Jimenez (Healing)

#### 12PM Chapel

Joshua Bascos (Bday)  
 Madison Bascos+  
 Eva Lansang+  
 Bibiana and Teodoro Mendoza+  
**2PM Spanish**

Steven and Lisa Martin (Health)  
 Phil and Arlene Chavez (Health)  
 PJ and Melinda Chavez (Health)

#### 4PM Vietnamese Mass

Deacon Joseph Chuong Do+  
 Joseph Sam Tran+  
 Joseph John Vu Pham+  
**6PM Chapel**  
 Pons and Bunny Cordero (Anniversary)  
 Guise Nguyen Van Dong+  
 Pragasam Family (SI)  
 Anthony Concepcion Artymiak+

### PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURE

#### NOTICE

Please be advised that the  
 St. Francis of Assisi Parish Office will be  
 closed from **Thursday,  
 December 24, 2025, through  
 Sunday, January 4, 2026.** We will  
 resume normal office hours on  
**Monday, January 5, 2026.**  
 We kindly ask that you plan any parish  
 visits or administrative needs  
 accordingly.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ◆ **Daily Rosary and Prayer**  
8:00AM, Chapel
- ◆ **Adoration**, First Friday of  
month, 9:30AM-5:00PM, Chapel
- ◆ **Our Lady of Perpetual Help**  
hosted by Legion of Mary,  
Wednesdays, Chapel, Rosary &  
Novena, 6:30PM, Mass, 7:00PM.
- ◆ **Spanish Community Prayer  
and Rosary**, Wednesdays,  
4:30PM, Chapel Tabernacle
- ◆ **Prayer Shawl Ministry**  
Thursdays, 3:00-5:00PM,  
Fireside Room
- ◆ **Praise and Thanksgiving  
Ministry** Thursdays, 5:30PM,  
Chapel Tabernacle

### 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. Amen.*

## WEEKLY OFFERTORY TOTALS

### COLLECTION TOTALS

#### DECEMBER 1-7, 2025

Masses	\$ 15,336.00
Online	\$ 6,398.00
Mail	\$ 1,916.00
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	
	\$ 136.00

**Grand Total \$ 23,786.00**

**Second Collection \$ 5,244.00**

*(Worship Space Expansion Fund)*

*Thank you in advance for  
 your continual  
 generosity and financial  
 contributions to the needs of  
 our parish!*

**We Also Pray For...**

- Those battling cancer — may God grant them endurance, healing, and compassionate hands to care for them.
- Those who have no one to pray for them — we lift them up with love, trusting that God knows each of their names and needs.
- Those beginning new journeys — may the Holy Spirit guide their steps, bless their decisions, and lead them toward grace-filled paths.

**SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE  
PASSAGES**

**TODAY'S READINGS**  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Reading I:**

Isaiah 7:10-14

**Reading II:**

Romans 1:1-7

**Gospel:**

Matthew 1:18-24

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**  
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

**Reading I:**

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

**Reading II:**

Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

**Gospel:**

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

**PARDON OUR  
PROGRESS  
EXCITING CHANGES  
IN THE WORKS**

**Dear St. Francis of Assisi Memorial Garden Families,**  
We kindly ask that you **refrain from bringing new flowers or plants until the completion of the ongoing construction.** This will help us maintain safety and preserve the dignity of the space throughout the improvements.  
***Thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and continued care for our Memorial Garden.***  
**Memorial Garden**



**Schedule of Masses**

Auxiliary Bishop Andy Ligot Monday 15 Dec | 7:00 PM

Fr. Robain Lamba Tuesday 16Dec | 7:00 PM

Msgr. Gene O'Donnell Wednesday 17 Dec | 7:00 PM

Fr. John Phong Thursday 18 Dec | 7:00 PM

Fr. Tito Cartagenas Friday 19 Dec | 7:00 PM

Fr. Eddie Obero Saturday 20Dec | 7:00 PM

Fr. Art Yabes Sunday 21Dec | 6:00 PM

Fr. Ritche Bueza Monday 22Dec | 7:00 PM

Fr. Vincent Pineda Tuesday 23Dec | 7:00 PM

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

# ADVENT 2025 SCHEDULE



## FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH AT 8:30AM, 5:00PM (VIETNAMESE)



## FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH, 7:00PM



## SIMBANG GABI NOVENA MASSES

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15 TO SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 7:00PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 6:00PM

MONDAY & TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22-23, 7:00PM



## CHRISTMAS EVE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

4:00PM, 5:00PM (VILLAGES), 6:00PM (VIETNAMESE)



## CHRISTMAS DAY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

12:00 MIDNIGHT, 8:00AM, 10:00AM, 12:00PM, 2:00PM (SPANISH)

4:00PM (VIETNAMESE)



## NEW YEAR'S EVE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST, 5:00PM



## SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1ST, 2026

8:30AM, 12:00PM, 5:00PM (VIETNAMESE)