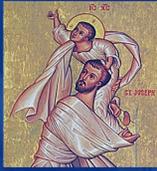


St. Joseph
BASILICA



Year of St. Joseph
DECEMBER 8, 2020 - DECEMBER 8, 2021

1109 Chestnut Street Alameda CA 94501
Ph: (510) 522 0181 | email: parish@sjbalameda.org
Website: www.sjbalameda.org
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Our Mission: Live As Jesus Teaches

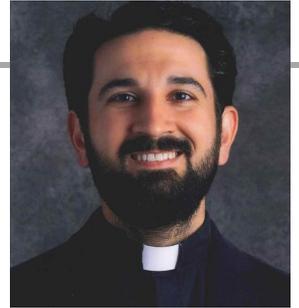
THE ASCENSION OF THE **Lord**

MAY 16, 2021



*Go into the whole world and
proclaim the gospel to every creature.
Mark 16:15*

Clergy Bulletin Message



Dear St. Joseph Family,

I'd like to begin with an update on a few happenings around the Basilica. First, the Sacristy retrofit is moving along. We should be painting and installing new counters within two weeks. This includes the Flower Room. Next will be the Grotto. For the Sanctuary, the Finance Council and Parish Council will be reviewing final plans and contracts to approve the acquisition of the marble high altar. Thank you to all who have contributed to the Capital Campaign to fund these projects.

Lastly, in the past month we have had three sound technicians visit the Basilica to look at our current setup of speakers. As of right now, it looks like we will be moving toward installing speakers that are more appropriate for our space. The current speakers project sound in all directions; we need ones that project away from the ceiling, which acts as a megaphone. The speakers will also be placed in a better position to enhance intelligibility. Thank you for your patience as we modify our sound system.

Now, onto more spiritual matters. This Sunday's feast, the Ascension of Jesus, is a bitter-sweet one. Bitter because it marks the end of the 40 days Jesus spent with Mary and the Apostles after His Resurrection, and yet sweet, because Jesus' going away brings about a greater union with Him, since His return to the Father signifies Jesus bringing us up into heaven with Him. This is what St. Augustine meant when he said, "Out of compassion for us he descended from heaven, and although he ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in him by grace." Wow! Even though we remain here on Earth, our faith teaches us that even now we can experience heaven. To do this, we have to put on the eyes of faith, or, as I told the First Communion children this weekend and last, our Sacramental glasses. Just like at a 3D movie in the theaters, we need the eyes of faith to help us see that something is happening around us that we cannot see without faith. And that is that we are in union with Jesus Christ, who reigns in Heaven. This can be difficult to recognize during the routines of daily life, so I invite you to close your eyes, put on the eyes of faith, and recognize that while you are reading this from Alameda, or Oakland or San Leandro, that you are also in Christ's presence, you are also in heaven.

This is because Heaven is not so much a physical state, but a state of being. God, the Trinity, is not in heaven because it is the best place. No, wherever God is, there is heaven. Heaven is being with and living like God. This adds to the sweetness of this feast of the Ascension, because it also marks the time when the Holy Spirit was gifted over to the Church. As Jesus said, "But I tell you the truth, it is better for you that I go. For if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you" (John 16:7). Jesus gifting us His Spirit means He has desired that we always live with and like Him, as he makes us temples of God, little tabernacles, little points of contact with Him and Heaven.

During this last week of the Easter season, let us savor this truth, that through us God wishes to bring heaven to Earth. And so, I share with you the prayer we have been praying at daily Mass. Pray this every day to continue to become the temple of God that He made you to be.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the Earth. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant, that by the same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever enjoy his consolations.

With much love,
Fr. Mario Rizzo

The Ascension of the Lord

Today, we celebrate The Ascension of the Lord!

On the Feast of the Ascension, the church celebrates the return of Christ to the Father, his physical body leaving the earth behind.

Catholic Charities Collection

Today's second collection supports the Catholic Charities. Your gifts to Catholic Charities East Bay solely support the mission and programs of Catholic Charities

Next Weekend: Catholic Communications Campaign. Help our local communications projects! Fifty percent of funds raised stay here in the diocese. The other fifty percent support projects across the US and in developing countries.



Solidarity with Seafarers as Key Essential Workers

Each year, the Coalition of Catholic Organizations Against Human Trafficking (CCOAH) launches a campaign to raise awareness of forced labor in the fishing industry. This year, due to the global pandemic, a new humanitarian crisis has emerged that is severely impacting all men and women who work at sea. Thus in 2021, CCOAH - together with Stella Maris and the Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America (AOS-USA) - are urging Catholics and all people of good will to pay witness to the life of the seafarer and to leverage their voices as community members and consumers to uphold the safety and labor rights of one of the world's most invisible group of essential workers.

Join us in urging Walmart to acknowledge their reliance on seafarers for the healthy functioning of their business model, and to show concern for seafarers' wellbeing by signing the Neptune Declaration. (*CatholicContent/USCCB*)

Celebrating Sacraments

Please hold in prayer the members of our parish who are celebrating sacraments: forty-one children who received First Eucharist the past two weekends (May 8 & 9 and May 15 & 16), eight adults who will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Cathedral this coming Saturday, and 31 teens who will be confirmed on June 26.

God Bless Our Newly Baptized!

Zachary Jacob R. Valdez, Leana Adele Hernandez Ford, Kyle Anthony M. Samoranos, Eden Skylar Wong and Ivy Lien Dinh. Please keep the children, their parents and godparents in your prayers.

Parish Office Update...

The Office is open for in-person assistance, Monday through Friday, from 10 am to 4 pm.

Please observe the following when visiting the Office:

- Face covering/mask at all times;
- Social distancing;
- One person at a time;
- Please do not go beyond the counter and remain in front of the plexiglass.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Bulletin Information Submission

For request to advertise events in the Bulletin, please submit information **two weeks** prior to the event.

Feast Of Pentecost Sunday, May 23

Prayer To Holy Spirit



Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Don't forget to wear red for Mass next weekend!

33 Day Group Consecration on May 1, Feast of St. Joseph the Worker

Another group of parishioners completed their 33 Day Group preparation and consecration to St. Joseph. They professed their Act of Consecration to St. Joseph on the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker on May 1. As a gift of the gratitude the group has for the blessings of doing this spiritual exercise together, they have purchased a number of Fr. Calloway's Consecration to St. Joseph books. Those books are available in the office for any interested parishioner. If you would like to form your own group and complete a 33 Day Group preparation and consecration, please feel free to use the Reading and Meeting Guide to get you started. You can edit and customize it to your group's preferences. (Link to Reading and Meeting Guide: <https://tinyurl.com/sjb33day>)

We are praying for you and hope that you take advantage of the blessings and connections that doing a group consecration will bring you, especially in this Year of St. Joseph. If you have any questions about starting a group, feel free to contact us at sjbasilica.outreach@gmail.com. Go to St. Joseph and join our Spiritual Family!

How is your family celebrating this Pentecost? (Activity for at-home or online)

Looking for Pentecost activities to do with your children or those who are young at heart?

Create Holy Spirit fire crowns, a crown for Mother Mary, or make candles and holders celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit - and the birthday of the Catholic Church! The Pentecost "Party Kit" templates and instructions are available from Margo Ponce Diaz at drmaponce@yahoo.com.

Also, the Special Needs Inclusion Ministry invites you in joining them in celebrating Pentecost on Sunday, May 23 with a Pentecost Birthday Party via Zoom from 3:00 to 3:30 (please contact Margo for the Zoom link). All families are invited! See flyer for more details: <https://sjbalameda.org/outreach-service>.

FORMED - Video Pick Of the Week:

*Reaching Out To Today's Culture
Answering The Four YouTube Heresies - By
Bishop Robert Barron*

Link to Video: <https://watch.formed.org/reaching-out-to-today-s-culture-answering-the-four-youtube-heresies-by-bp-robert-barron>

In this highly relevant talk, Bishop Robert Barron shares observations from his dialogue with critics of his YouTube videos. He eloquently illustrates how our Catholic intellectual tradition can clarify the confusion that is so prevalent in our culture about matters of Christian faith and life.

Not registered with FORMED? Register at: <https://formed.org/>. It is easy and free - follow the steps and search for St. Joseph Basilica



Community Prayers

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 15

11:00am † Alfonso & Teresita Colobong
5:00pm Vigil 1) † David McGaffey
2) † John Leo Bergman

Sunday, May 16

9:30 am 1) † Feliciano Ramos
2) † Luisa Bonifacio Gardner
Noon & 1) Richard & Mavis McGaugh - 57th
Live-stream Anniversary
2) People of the Parish - Living and
Deceased

Monday, May 17

11:00am Amanda Ye

Tuesday, May 18

11:00 am Yolanda Handy - Birthday

Wednesday, May 19

11:00 am Mrs Mao Dao's Family - Living &
Deceased

Thursday, May 20

11:0 am 1) † Don Camara
2) Rose Aghaji Egbunu - personal
intention

Friday, May 21

11:00 am 1) † Santiago Parading
2) † Nick R. Santos - Death Anniversary

Saturday, May 22

11:00 am † Juana B. Torio - Birthday Remembrance
5:00 pm Vigil 1) Peter Dinh Lien & Therese Pham Li
2) Andrea Pena - 80th Birthday

Sunday, May 23

9:30 am People of the Parish - Living & Deceased
12 noon Mass 1) † Feliciano Ramos
2) † Emma Umali

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp for
week of May 15th & 16th is sponsored
in loving memory of
MIGUEL CASUSO
on his one year death anniversary.

Let Us Remember

All those who have died, especially
Gilbert 'Gil' Salas & Reena Salud
As a Community of faith, we offer our prayers
and support to their families and friends.
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.

Please Pray For The Sick & The Suffering In Our Community

Sandy Anderson, Ronald M Bautista, Romelita
Baustita, Lhiza Brown, Jazlynn &
Nia Cain, Mary Cronin, Greg
Falkner, Amelia Miguel, Nory A.
Reyes & Ramon N. Tirona

The List is refreshed monthly.
If you like a name added to the
Sick List, please email:
secretary@sibalameda.org
or call (510) 995 9420.



To request a Mass Intention, please email
secretary@sibalameda.org, or call 510 995 9420. There
is no guarantee of the availability of Mass for a requested
date. We will confirm the request by email. The suggested
donation is \$10.

(Note: Mass Intention Request for May and June is closed
as dates are filled.)

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Seventh Sunday of Easter;
World Communications Day;
Shavuot (Jewish observance) begins at sundown
Tuesday: St. John I
Thursday: St. Bernardine of Siena;
Friday: St. Christopher Magellanes and Companions
Saturday: St. Rita of Cascia; Vigil of Pentecost

Important Information

Mass Times

Daily In-person Mass

11 am, Basilica

Monday - Saturday

Livestreaming available on our Facebook Page:

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/sjbalameda/>

Reminder:

Catholics in the Diocese of Oakland are dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation until further notice. Those who are unable to attend Mass in person are encouraged to participate via livestream.

Drive-through or walk through Communion on Sundays

Starts 1.30 pm and ends 2 pm, weather permitting. For updates visit Parish's Website: sjbalameda.org

Sunday In-person Mass:

5:00 pm Saturday Vigil - Basilica

9:30 am - Quad

12 pm - Basilica (Live-streaming available on Basilica's YouTube Channel)

Reservation is required to attend the in-person Mass. Please click on the following link to reserve a ticket: <https://sjbalameda.org/sunday-mass-schedule>

Reservations open on Monday afternoons and close at 2 pm on Fridays, or when capacity is filled. (Please note reservation is on **Eventbrite** and not longer on FaithDirect)

For link to live-streaming on YouTube and Worship Aid: <https://sjbalameda.org/sunday-mass-schedule>



Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays, 3:30 - 4:30pm

Reconciliation will held in the Basilica, not in the confessional.

Basilica Open for Private Prayer

- Monday-Friday: 9am-7pm
- Saturday: 9am-5pm
- Sunday: 9am - 11 am; 1pm-5pm

Please continue to practice the recommended hygiene and social distancing. We ask you to refrain from gathering in groups, and to avoid touching surfaces and to wash hands as often as possible.

Note: Bathrooms are closed during weekdays.

General Information

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9am - 5:00pm

Note: The Parish Office remains CLOSED during Shelter in place but we continue to serve you remotely. If you need to contact members of the Parish Staff, please communicate with us via EMAIL or phone.

Sacrament of Marriage

Preparation for registered, active parishioners should begin at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date. Please contact Fr. Mario Rizzo directly to begin the process. Call (510) 995-9421 or email: frmario@sjbalameda.org.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please visit our website under “Sacraments” for information.

- For infant baptism (6 or younger) contact Sherley Lim 510-995-9420, or email: secretary@sjbalameda.org
- For adults or children over age 6 please contact Anne Marie, 510-995-9409, or email: afourre@sjbalameda.org

Clergy:

Rev. Mario Rizzo - Parochial Administrator
(510) 995-9421 / frmario@sjbalameda.org

Rev. Sunil Orathel - Priest In Residence
(510) 301-5975 / sunil@sjbalameda.org

Parish Staff:

Stan Schonberg - Business Manager
510-995-9411 / business@sjbalameda.org

Anne Marie Fourre - Director of Faith Formation
510-995-9409 / afourre@sjbalameda.org

Sherley Lim – Parish Secretary
510-995-9420 / secretary@sjbalameda.org

David Howitt - Music Director
510-995-9403 / dhowitt@sjbalameda.org

Michael Chinnvaso – 7:00pm Music Coordinator
510-522-0181 / mchinnvaso@sjbalameda.org

Community Staff:

Julie Guevara - Principal, SJND High School
510-523-1526 / jguevara@sjnd.org

Katherine Francisco – Principal, Elementary School
510-522-4456 / kfrancisco@csdo.org

Parish Ministries During Shelter In Place

Most events or gatherings are canceled during SIP, although some are continuing through video conference or other means. For information on how to connect, contact:

- Bible Study: ebmcgaffey@gmail.com
- CRS Chapters - spippen@msjdominicans.org
- Grief Ministry: billkueppers@gmail.com
- RCIA Inquiry: afourre@sjbalameda.org
- St. Vincent de Paul Hotline: (510) 995-9471
- Shelter-in-place ministry: sjbasilica.outreach@gmail.com
- Special Needs Inclusion Ministry: drmaponce@yahoo.com
- Pastoral Care Ministry: sunil@sjbalameda.org
- Young Adults Ministry: AlamedaYAG@gmail.com
- Legion of Mary: Terecita@terecitadean.com

St. Joseph Online Ongoing Programs

If you're new to the parish, you might like to know that many programs are continuing online during this time.

Children's Liturgy of the Word helps youngsters connect with the day's gospel every Sunday at 10 am, RCIA Inquiry for adults thinking about becoming Catholic meets at 7:30 pm Wednesdays, and the Scripture Reflection Group offers a chance to reflect together on the upcoming Sunday's readings at 7 pm on Thursdays. The Young Adults Group offers opportunities for those in their 20's and 30's to gather virtually twice a month. Visit our website at www.sjbalameda.org for details on any of these, and more.

ADS HERE

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