



Saint Joseph Basilica
Roman Catholic Church

Mass Schedule: Weekdays: 8:30 am/ Saturday: 8:30 am & 5:00 pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Sacrament Of Reconciliation: Saturdays, 9:00 - 9:30 am & 3:30 - 4:30 pm,
or by appointment

1109 Chestnut Street, Alameda, CA 94501

Email: parish@sjbalameda.org / Phone: 510 522 0181

Website: sjbalameda.org / Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sjbalameda/>

January 16, 2022

Second SUNDAY

IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus' mother said to the servers: Do whatever He tells you.
—John 2:5

Clergy Message



Dear St. Joseph Family,

My prayers are with you as we continue to forge further ahead into this surge of the most recent Covid variant, Omicron. I ask that you increase your prayers for health care workers especially. We have many of these valiant people in our community, and I know that the stress they are under at this time is a significant burden to bear. Pray for them, and reach out to them, offering words of encouragement, as well as other forms of support, like a homecooked meal. During this time, we may feel the temptation to further distance ourselves from one another, and while we may need to be more cautious when it comes to physical distancing, we should not sacrifice the social connections that are so vital to our well-being, connections that, at a minimum, can be easily maintained through the technology we all possess.

I would like to take this time to focus on a special group of people who have helped me through the pandemic since its beginning; you know them as the BRAT (Business Resumption Advisory Team). For almost two years now the BRAT has helped me wade through the plethora of public health and diocesan notifications and regulations in order to come up with protocols that fit our parish. They helped me design drive-through Communion, and the return to indoor Mass, which to my knowledge, did not result in one outbreak of Covid, unlike at some other religious institutions around the area. This was due to the BRAT's diligence. What other parish had three separate seating sections, as we had at our outdoor Mass, to give at-risk persons a little extra buffer of protection? 😊

It may seem counter-intuitive, but at this time, I have decided to bring the BRAT to a close. After nearly two years, I, like all of you, have developed a greater knowledge of the virus and of what steps we can take to mitigate its spread. With the measures we have in place, thanks to the BRAT's assistance, and with the medical interventions available to us (vaccines/therapeutics, effective masking), we will make it through this surge.

This does not mean that I am letting my guard down. I will continue to monitor the circumstances closely, as well as consult with trusted individuals on a needs-be basis. Together, we will use the knowledge we have acquired to keep ourselves and others safe, and remember, the obligation to attend Mass does not apply to those who are sick. Stay home if you develop cold/flu-like symptoms.

Please join me in thanking the BRAT, all of whom not only volunteered for this ministry, but also either had another position in the parish, or volunteered to take on other volunteer positions. They are Eric Bertelsen (usher coordinator), Teresa Courville (usher at 9:30 Mass), Gia DeGrano (usher at 9:30 Mass), Anne Marie Fourre (director of Faith Formation), and Stan Schonberg (Business Manager). Thank you all!

Switching gears, I want to mention the Walk for Life, which will be held on Saturday, January 22. The Walk, which began in 2005, has steadily grown. Beginning with roughly 7,000 attendees, it has reached an estimated 50,000 in recent years. The message of protecting the life of the unborn is not going away, but is only getting stronger, as people come to see that abortion not only ends the life of an innocent individual, but also hurts the parents as well. As an educated, advanced society, we should be able to offer more choices for these parents, choices that seek to preserve life and prevent a lifetime of emotional pain. This is a tragic issue, but you should feel a sense of pride that many of the leaders of this movement are Catholics, especially Catholic women. These people are guided by our faith, which sheds light on the fundamental truth that all people, no matter how young or how old, deserve respect, since they are made in the image and likeness of God. All people have an inherent dignity and value that is priceless and must be preserved. Unfortunately, not everyone, not even all Catholics, are in accord with the Church's teaching on this issue. Thus, I would like to suggest that, if you are in this group, you consider attending the Walk, which begins with a rally in Civic Center Plaza on Saturday the 22nd at 12:30 pm, followed by the walk to the Ferry Building on the Embarcadero. Come and experience the people (whose numbers may be diminished this year due to the Covid surge). Come see the families, the young adults, the women, who are there to pray for those who have been impacted by abortion, and for its end.

If you cannot make it to the Walk, or are not comfortable attending, then consider joining us for an evening of Eucharistic Adoration the week leading up to the Walk, or for silent Adoration on the day of. You might even look into the leading ministries of the pro-life movement, like Students for Life and Liveaction, or the life of some of the leaders of the pro-life movement, like Abby Johnson, a former employee of Planned Parenthood, who left that job after what she experienced there. Her testimony led to the creation of the movie, *Unplanned*, which is available on Amazon.

The Church teaches that this issue is the preeminent issue because it is a direct attack on human life. Therefore, let us pray for the courage to face this issue, and to do what we can to help make a difference, by prayer, and by reaching out to help parents who find themselves faced with an unplanned pregnancy. Three local ministries you can get involved with are 40 Days for Life, Birthright of Concord, and Options Health. These people and their child deserve our help, and we have much to offer them.

With much love,
Fr. Mario

Upcoming Events

Martin Luther King Holiday Monday, January 16

Parish Office will be closed in observance of the holiday and reopen on Tuesday, January 17

Interested in an Overview of the four Gospels? Sign up for the class!

Ann Naffziger, MDiv, MA will be teaching a 6-week *Overview of the Four Gospels* course on Zoom. She'll lead you through reading all four Gospels in their entirety (it doesn't take that long!) so you can see for yourself what's included and what's not. Two identical sections of the class will be taught on Tuesday evenings 7:00 - 8:30 pm and Wednesdays 1:00 - 2:30 pm, **starting January 18 and ending February 23**. To register, go to: <https://pastoral.center/reading-the-gospels-jan-2022> or email Ann for more information: ann@gospelliving.org



5 DAYS OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION SAINT JOSEPH BASILICA

**January 17 - 21, 2022
6:00 pm—7:00 pm**



Join Us. Pray with us. Walk with us
18th Annual Walk for Life
Saturday, January 22, 2022
Civic Center Plaza, San Francisco
Info Faire: 11 am / Rally: 12 pm

Walk For Life Eucharistic Adoration Saturday, January 22 9 am - 4 pm, Basilica

Join us after the morning Mass to pray for all the pilgrims participating in the Walk and for the protection of the unborn.

American Red Cross/Knights Of Columbus Community Blood Drive Saturday, January 22 10 am - 4 pm, Notre Dame Hall

Have you scheduled your appointment yet?

Visit Redcrossblood.org for more information and enter sponsor Code:

ALAMEDAKOFC, or call 1-800-733-2767. Masks and social distancing required for donors and volunteers.



Note: If you have questions regarding your eligibility to donate blood, call 1-866-236-3276.

Events around the Diocese: Sew Fest! Dress a girl around the World

Saturday, January 22, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Consider this an invitation to make simple dresses for girls in third-world countries! Sew Fest meets once a month from 9 am to 3 pm at Holy Cross Lutheran, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. They need all kinds of help, sewing, ironing, cutting; bring your sewing machine or serger, iron, ironing board, scissors, along with your helping hands and they will put you to work!



You can come for as long as you want - an hour or all day! (Please bring a bag lunch if you plan to stay all day!) They are always accepting cheerful cotton fabric donations!

If you can't make the Sew-Fest but would like to sew, please contact Sew Fest! for kits that you can sew from home. Questions? Contact Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447 or suzbeck@yahoo.com.

Ongoing News

Have you subscribed to

FORMED? It's an online service for accessing thousands of Catholic videos, audios and eBooks On Demand anytime, anywhere!

As a member, you will have access to entertaining movies, inspiring audio talks, informative bible studies, and much more, in English and Spanish. The resources will help our parishioners learn and grow in their faith. Registering is easy and free. To register: Formed.org and follow the steps. Search for **St. Joseph Basilica**.



Get Involved

Faith Formation – Finding Jesus

On a cold clear morning, January families and individuals gathered after the 9:30 Mass for a Parish Family Epiphany celebration. The gospel encounter of the Magi with Herod and the Holy Family was presented live, Notre Dame Hall received the traditional Epiphany house blessing from Fr. Sunil and everyone got chalk and handouts to bless our homes, and creativity flourished with the making of crowns and Three Kings posters. Epiphany reminds us that Jesus came for everyone and will be found by those who seek Him and that we should be ready to change direction if God sends us that message. (Speaking of seeking God – Wednesday night Inquiry for those interested in exploring a call to Catholicism is resuming in the Parish Center and newcomers are welcome; contact Anne Marie at afourre@sjbalameda.org to confirm.) **Mark your calendar for the next Parish Family Activity on February 27, with a Mardi Gras theme.**

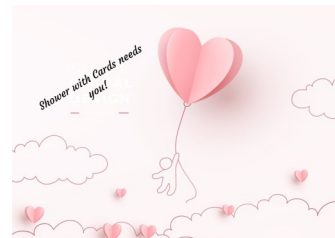


Shower with Cards Valentine Campaign

Your words of love and encouragement over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays touched over 300 hearts! As we head into the third year of pandemic limitations for many, the need to continue to share our hearts and our loving words carry an even stronger urgency. If you are able, please write Valentines to "Dear Friend," and sign as "Your Friend from St. Joseph Basilica."

We will be collecting completed cards in the drop-box on the rectory porch until Sunday,

February 6. If you would like to get more involved with the SJB Community Outreach Ministry, please contact us at: sjbasilica.outreach@gmail.com or 510-332-9940. Thank you for your continued support!



Active Parish Ministries

- All God's Children Prayer Group (*In-person: Mondays, 9-11:00 am, Parish Center*)
- Bible Study - Thursday Morning Scripture: ebmcgaffey@gmail.com (*Virtual*)
- Community Outreach Ministry: sjbasilica.outreach@gmail.com
- CRS Chapters - spippen@msjdominicans.org
- Grief Ministry: billkueppers@gmail.com
- Knights of Columbus: (*2nd Thursday, 7-8:30 pm, Parish Center*)
- Legion of Mary: terecitadeandentist@gmail.com (*4th Fridays, 7-8:30 pm, Parish Center*)
- Our Lady of Guadalupe: mlopezox@gmail.com (*1st Thursdays, 7-8 pm, Parish Center*)
- Pastoral Care Ministry: sunil@sjbalameda.org (*1st Saturdays, 8:45 am, Parish Center*)
- Christian Initiation (for those interested in becoming Catholic): Contact Anne Marie for details afourre@sjbalameda.org
- St. Vincent de Paul Hotline: (510) 995-9471
- St. Vincent de Paul Ministry: louisea.svdv@gmail.com (*4th Saturdays, 9-10:30 am, Parish Center*)
- Special Needs Inclusion Ministry: drmaponce@yahoo.com (*Virtual*)
- Taize: (*4th Fridays, 8-9 pm, Basilica. Note: November & December on 3rd Fridays*)
- Welcome The Stranger: amrossi1238@aol.com (*Virtual, 2nd Tuesdays. Contact Anna Rossi for details*)
- Young Adults Ministry: AlamedaYAG@gmail.com (*In-person & Virtual options, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 8-9pm, Parish Center*)

Devotions

Rosary

8:10 am, Basilica, Monday - Saturday

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesdays, after Daily Mass

First Tuesday Eucharistic Adoration In Vietnamese

7:00 - 8:00 pm, Basilica

First Friday Eucharistic Adoration

1:00 - 7:00 pm, Basilica

Virtus Re-training

Parish volunteers are required to complete a mandatory **Safe Environment/Virtus**

training prior to volunteering, and every 3 years thereafter. If you are an active member of any ministry and you have completed Virtus training in **2017-2019**, retraining is now required. Please log into your Virtus account to complete the online retraining titled "**Keeping the Promise**". Kindly update Sherley Lim upon completion, or if you have any questions: secretary@sjbalameda.org.



Praying Together

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 15

- 8:30 am Carmen Sandoval (Birthday) & Family - Thanksgiving
5:00 pm Lim & thong Families - Thanksgiving Intention

Sunday, January 16

- 7:30 am Amelia Nabaza - Birthday
9:30 am Angela Smith - Birthday
12:00 pm People of the Parish - Living & Deceased
7:00 pm †Tate Eugenio

Monday, January 17

- 8:30am Roenna & Chris Alegre - 13th Wedding Anniversary

Tuesday, January 18

- 8:30 am †Deceased Members of Silva & Lydon Families (Remembrance)

Wednesday, January 19

- 8:30am 1)†Peggy, Midge & Jack Heymes - Death Anniversary
2)†Ramon Leones

Thursday, January 20

- 8:30 am 1)†Bob Keys
2)†Quentin & Neil Correa

Friday, January 21

- 8:30 am Matthan Magno - Thanksgiving Intention

Saturday, January 22

- 8:30 am Living & Deceased Members of the Barrentes Family
5:00 pm Averlado & Teodora Tibayan - 50th Wedding Anniversary

Sunday, January 23

- 7:30 am †Antonio Finuliar
9:30 am †Tyler Ward
12:00 pm Living & Deceased Members of the Apel Family
7:00 pm People of the Parish - Living & Deceased

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

(Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Almighty ever-living God,
who govern all things,
both in heaven and on earth,
mercifully hear the pleading of your people
and bestow your peace in our times.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, forever and ever.

Recent Passing

*May our Lord Bless and Comfort the Families
during this time of grief, Rest In Peace.*
**Michael McParland, Emmy Lou Dow
and Lance Hanceford**

Sanctuary Lamp Sponsor

*The Sanctuary Lamp
for the month of January is sponsored
by anonymous for Parish Community of
St. Joseph Basilica.*

Please Pray For The Sick & The Suffering In Our Community

Sandy Anderson, Lhiza H. Brown,
Jane Burgelin, Ronald M Bautista,
Romelita Bautista, Dwayne Eugene
Brown, Nia Lorelei Cain, Mary
Cronin, Mila Eugenio, Rino Gacad,
Elvie Mendoza, Mary Rocca,
Amelia Miguel, An Nguyen,
Dalmacio Quinto, Nory A. Reyes,
Michael Ricica and Ramon N.
Tirona.



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

To request a Mass Intention, please visit the Parish office,
Monday - Friday, 10 am - 4 pm. Or, email:
secretary@sjbalameda.org. Dates are subject to availability.

REVELATION OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Today's first reading from Isaiah arises out of the ordeal of the people of Jerusalem and Judea as they anticipate the end of seventy years of exile in Babylon. Their sufferings and their oppression will end, and they are promised joy like that of a great wedding upon returning to their homeland. Although this passage is probably set in the early sixth century B.C., it is free of historical particulars. Accordingly, the Church has understood its imagery universally, as it proclaims God's promise of healing, hope, and happiness for all peoples, in this world and in the next. When read against this background, the story of Jesus' turning water into wine at the wedding at Cana becomes a revelation of God's presence in the person of Jesus, making these promises real for us in the here and now, in the transformation of our own lives.

Reflection question: *What can I do to help to bring about God's peace?*

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General Information



Daily Mass

8:30 am, Basilica
Monday - Saturday

Livestreaming available on our
Facebook Page: Link: [https://
www.facebook.com/sjbalameda/](https://www.facebook.com/sjbalameda/)

Sunday Mass

5:00 pm Saturday Vigil - Basilica
7:30 am - Basilica (no singing)
9:30 am - Quad
12:00 pm - Basilica
7:00 pm - Basilica



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays, 9:00 - 9:30 am &
3:30 - 4:30 pm

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9am - 4:00pm (for in-person help)
(close for lunch: 1 - 2 pm)

For assistance, please contact Parish Office
510-522 0181, email: parish@sjbalameda.org

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

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Christian Burials: Funerals and the Rite of
Christian Burial are made in conjunction with the Mortuary
of your choosing. Please contact the Mortuary first.
Note: For Funeral Mass scheduling, please contact the
Parish Office.

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

Danielle Colvert - Principal, Elementary School
510-522-4456 / dcolvert@csdo.org

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Reflections from the Sidewalk

*A reflection on the dignity of human life and how to protect it by Tom Grenchik.
Tom Grenchik is the Executive Director of the USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities.*

I was praying the rosary recently on the sidewalk outside of a very busy abortion center in the Washington, D.C., area, where I live. The building, a seedy-looking structure that used to be a convenience store, is located on a busy, divided thoroughfare. Three lanes of traffic head in one direction, and three lanes run the opposite direction. With a major intersection a half block away, heavy traffic often backs up at the red light. Some drivers pretend not to notice the peaceful folks praying or offering pro-life assistance to the mothers, fathers and family members heading into the abortion facility. Some drivers give encouragement, and some will occasionally shout a profanity or give a “thumbs-down.”

The sidewalk is in such a busy location, one really must tune out much of the noise to pray with any concentration for the mothers heading into the abortion facility.

During one of the green light cycles when the cars began to move again, a driver yelled out “Black lives matter!” as he sped off. As his comment sunk in, I realized that his words were both prophetic and challenging. Most of the mothers heading into the abortion facility were black. Most of the children who would die there that day were also black. Their lives have incredible significance to all of us outside the abortion facility who were offering prayers and life-affirming alternatives. To those doing business inside the abortion center, little mattered other than the money.

The abortion industry itself admits that, in the United States, the abortion rate for black women is almost five times that for white women. While every abortion is a tragedy, we should ask ourselves why black children are dying so disproportionately. Why are so many black women abandoned to, and victimized by, abortion? Why has the disproportionate rate of abortion among black women been so ignored by the media, policy makers and abortion advocates? From the child in the womb to her strong and courageous mother, every life matters. But do I really act accordingly, as the driver proposed? Am I supporting or volunteering at my local pro-life pregnancy care center, maternity home or prenatal care program? Do I work to alleviate poverty, as many women cite lack of financial support as a reason for seeking an abortion? Am I regularly praying for those in great need? Am I working to address racial disparity in its many forms? Now, every time that I return to pray outside that abortion center, I am reminded anew that all black lives matter, and I recommit myself to ensuring their right to life.

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