

St. John the Baptist Church

11150 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530 • Phone (510) 232-5659 • Fax (510) 236-0960

www.sjtbc.us • E-mail: stjohns@sjtbc.us

Welcome!

*Our warmest welcome to all who worship with us,
whether a long-time parishioner or newly arrived in the parish.
As Catholic Christians, we are committed to knowing,
loving and serving God by obeying His commandments
and serving our brothers and sisters with love and respect.*

Schedule of Masses

For Holy Week: Monday-Wednesday at 8am. Limited Seating. Thursday at 7pm, Gym. Friday at 12Noon, Veneration of the Cross, Gym. 3pm, Brazilian Service, Church.
Easter Vigil, Saturday at 8pm, Gym.
Easter Sunday, 10am. Gym. 1pm (Chinese). 6pm (Brazilian).

Sacraments

Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday

For inquiries,
please call, e-mail stjohns@sjtbc.us
or check website www.sjtbc.us



Priests

Rev. Thuong Hoai Nguyen, Pastor
Rev. Thang Nguyen, In Residence

Deacons

Thom McGowan: (707)-653-4920
Loch Sekona: (510)-837-1052

Parish Office

Temporarily closed

Bulletin Editor:

Ed Bautista, OCDS

Accountant/Bookkeeper:

Arthur De Leon

Children's Religious Education

Camille Herrera: (510) 220-3839

Confirmation – Youth Ministry

Gina DeLaTorre: (510)-815-0050

Adult Inquiry – RCIA

Christine Hickey: (510)-815-6022

Pastoral Council

Thomas Fleming: (510)-502-0080

St. Vincent de Paul Society

(510)-232-5659 for messages

St. John's Elementary School

Principal: Dina Trombetta
(510)-234-2244 • www.stjohnec.org

St. John's Community Center

6500 Gladys Ave.

St. John's Divine Mercy

Adoration Chapel

11152 San Pablo Ave.



Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 28, 2021

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (B)

Mk 11:1–10 or Jn 12:12–16

Is 50:4–7

Phil 2:6–11

Mk 14:1–15:47 or 15:1–39

Those preceding him as well as
those following kept crying out:
“Hosanna! Blessed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord!”

MARK 11:9

Empty Praise

How could anyone think that the joyous cry
“Hosanna!” would be viewed as empty praise?

Though the word has come down to us in the Greek Gospels, it probably has Hebrew roots as a form of the verb “to save” (see Psalm 118:25). Thus, it is more than an exuberant cry; it is a plea for salvation. How could this possibly be empty praise?

The answer to that question is found in human fickleness. So often we—not simply the people of Jerusalem, but we human beings—wholeheartedly offer someone our support, only to turn our backs on that person when the going gets tough. We know from experience how this works.

This is precisely what today’s readings describe. The passage for the procession with palms describes an enthusiastic group of people showing Jesus great respect and crying out: “Hosanna!” Later, in the Gospel we hear, “Crucify him!” Were these the same people? Does it matter? Presumably these were people who were in Jerusalem to celebrate Passover, the feast of their deliverance from Egyptian bondage. Now they are caught in another oppressive political system—Roman occupation. Are these heartless people? Or are they like us: often afraid to take an unpopular stand lest we lose face or, even worse, suffer serious consequences? And so, Jesus stands alone before those who have planned to silence him. Might he have considered the earlier “Hosanna” empty praise? Probably not. Jesus does not hold our fickleness against us.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

For Reflection

- ✦ *How steadfast have you been in your support of others?*
- ✦ *Thank Jesus for his willingness to forgive your fickleness.*

Mass for the Intentions for the Week

| | Intention (s) | Requested by |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Saturday, March 27 5 pm Vigil | Antonio Rodrigues † | Gina Rodrigues |
| Sunday, March 28 | Antonio Rodrigues † | Gina Rodrigues |
| Monday, March 29 | St. John Parishioners | St. John Parish |
| Tuesday, March 30 | Suresh Vasa † | Hampton and Co Families |
| Wednesday, March 31 | Angelito Cruz and Family-Healing | |
| Thursday, April 1 7pm | Josefina Amisola-Birthday | |
| Friday, April 2 | (No Mass on Good Friday) | |
| Saturday, April 3 | (No Mass on Holy Saturday) | |

CRS Rice Bowl for Lent

<https://www.cceb.org/crseb/donation/>

Stewardship

Online giving at www.sjtbc.us/give

Thank you for your generosity.

Holy Week

Fast and Abstinence are observed on Good Friday, April 2.

Holy Land Discovery with Jordan- (Israel and Jordan)

Destinations: Tel Aviv, Israel, Jaffa, Caesarea, Megiddo, Nazareth, Beth-She-An, Magdala, Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, Cana, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Masada and Dead Sea, Petra, Jordan, Amman, excursion to Jerash, Ajloun, Anjara. Mass will be offered on your journey. Land prices begin at \$2,349 per person double occupancy. \$ 500 Deposit. Call 860-399-1785 or Brian@CatholicCruisesandTours.com

2021 Bishop's Appeal

Please make checks payable to Bishop's Appeal.
Memo: St. John, El Cerrito.

Offering Prayers for Healing

Virginia Alday, Niani Barber, Pearl & Patrick Batiste
Irene Blair, Robert Britto, Gustavo Caceres and
Friends Evelyn Canepa, Al Carlson
Brenna Clark, Jennette
Cleadenger, Linda Crittendon,
Cora Dongon, Mary Dong, Tami
Duncan, Juanita Estrellas, Eduardo
Garchitorena, Frank Gardner
Filomena Giese, Mike Giovannini,
Joseph Golinveaux, Victoria Gregorio, Andy
Gutierrez, James Gutierrez, Ruben Gutierrez, Joanne,
Marvin & Maurice Haynes, Sherry Highlander,
Tamaya Hunt, Ann Jones, Avelina Juat, Tom Kennedy,
Marija Limon, Bernice Lockett, Marian & Michael
Luoma, Mary Agnes, Nancy McVey, Cecilia
Mendiola, Francis Mondragon, Judith Padilla, Theresa
Parella, Angelina Patacsil, Pam Paun, Victoria Payless,
Marlen Pineda and Friends, Wayne Price, Rose Anne,
Fely Sabares, Jovita Santos, Linda Schneider, Dimitri
Smith, Salvador Tejero, Rose Texara, Pat Tilley, Isaac
Tiongson, Joseph Vidal, Sarah Vidal, Evodio Walle,
Winston Williams, Jan Williamson



Passion Sunday

Good stewards strive to conform their lives to that of Christ-emptying themselves of all pride and putting themselves at the service of others

This Week's Service Schedule

Sunday Readings: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16.
Is 50:4-7. Phil 2:6-11. Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39.
Monday Readings: Is 42:1-7. Jn 12:1-11.
Tuesday Readings: Is 49:1-6. Jn 13:21-33,36-38.
Wednesday Readings: Is 50:4-9a. Mt 26:14-25.
Thursday Readings: Chrism Mass Is 61:1-3a,6a,
8b-9.Rv1:5-8. Lk 4:16-21. Evening Mass of the
Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14. Cor 11:23-26.
Jn 13:1-15.
Friday Readings: Is 52:13-53:12. Heb 4:14-16,
5:7-9. Jn 18:1-19:42.
Saturday Readings: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a
Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18. Ex 14:15-
15:1 Is 54:5-14. Is 55:1-11. Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4.
Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28. Rom 6:3-11. Mk 16:1-7
Lk 5:27-32.

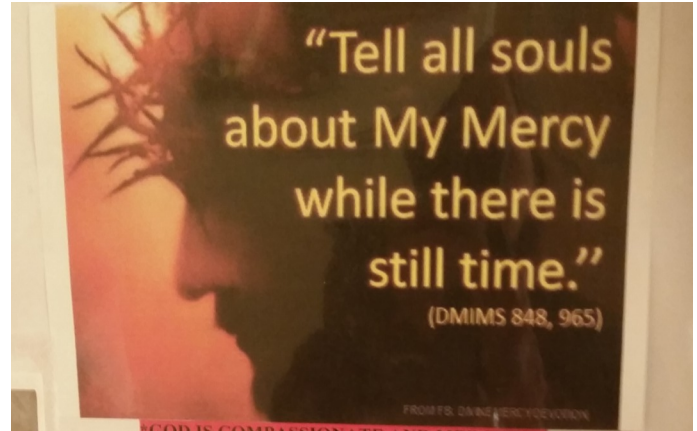
Daily. 24-Hour Eucharistic Adoration.
Chapel.
Confessions. Sat., 4pm.

Calls for Help & Hope

The Contra Costa Crisis Center has provided
a lifeline of help and hope for 57 years.
Call 1-800-833-2900

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

As we celebrate Palm Sunday, let us be open to the
love from our spouse and God by participating in
a virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter. Go to [https://
wwme.org/](https://wwme.org/) to find the next virtual Worldwide Marriage
Encounter Experience that works for your schedule
from the comfort of your own home!



Baptism Classes

For information, E-mail: stjohns@sjtbc.us Or
check website: www.sjtbc.us or call the church at
510-232-5659.

The Camino, a Walking Journey for the Soul

Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY with our Camino,
a Walking Journey for the Soul, You will enjoy this
11-day experience. September 5th – September
15th, 2021. Your included destinations while on this
Journey: MADRID, SPAIN -SARRIA-PORTOMARIN-
LESTEDO-MELIDE- ARZUA-AMENAL- SANTIAGO
DE COMPOSTELA-FINISTERRE-MUXIA- and back
to MADRID, SPAIN. Plus, Mass will be offered daily
throughout your journey. Land prices begin at \$2399
per person, based on double occupancy. Deposit of
only \$500 per person will reserve your space. This is
a SMALL GROUP JOURNEY. For further info or to
register, contact Brian or Eileen at 860-399-1785/
Brian@CatholicCruisesandTours.com.

2021 Lenten and Easter Observance

A Day of Abstinence: Every Friday.

A Day of Fast and Abstinence: Good Friday, Apr. 2.

Stations of the Cross: Every Friday at 8:30am. (until March 26).

Stations of the Cross and Benediction: Every Friday at 7:30pm. (Until March 26).

March 27, 28. Palm Sunday.

Saturday, 5pm. at Church. Limited Seating.

Sunday, 8am, 11:30am at Church. Limited Seating.

Sunday, 10am. Gym.

Sunday, 1pm (Chinese).

Sunday, 6pm (Brazilian).

March 29, Monday of Holy Week.

8am Mass at Church. Limited Seating.

March 30, Tuesday of Holy Week.

8am Mass at Church. Limited Seating.

March 31, Wednesday of Holy Week.

8am Mass at Church. Limited Seating.

April 1, Holy Thursday.

Mass of the Lord's Supper. 7pm, Gym.

The Blessed Sacrament will be reposed after Mass. (Until Easter Vigil).

April 2, Good Friday. A Day of Fast and Abstinence.

The Blessed Sacrament in repose.

Good Friday Service. Veneration of the Cross. 12Noon, Gym.

Good Friday Service (Brazilian). 3pm.

April 3, Holy Saturday.

The Blessed Sacrament in repose.

Easter Vigil Mass. 8pm, Gym.

April 4, Easter Sunday.

Mass at 10 am. Schoolyard/Gym.

Mass at 1pm (Chinese).

Mass at 6pm (Brazilian).

Safe Environment-Diocese

Dear Friends,

I hope this finds you all well. As we move towards the celebration of Easter, I wanted to reach out once again and thank all of you for all you are and do. We can see the light at the end of the tunnel, the light of the celebration of the Morning Star Jesus, and of an end to the pandemic. I am reminded daily of the gift of all of you to your communities – know you are loved, appreciated and celebrated.

Virtusonline.org has now provided a home page for anyone who has trained in the system. When you login, your home page will appear. It will also show to you if you are due to retrain.

Re. live scan the box marked in red indicates when a background check is missing. The link goes directly to our diocese safe environment website for a volunteer or employee's live scan form. Volunteers or workers need a live scan when their ministry interacts with vulnerable adults or minors. Once live scan is completed and cleared thru the box will read updated.

A report will also show volunteers and workers that are not fingerprinted. It is time for updates of volunteers and workers, including inactivate members who are no longer with the parish or school and any who have registered but never finished their training. Let us know if you have not completed your retraining. If you need help let us know or call. Volunteers or workers that indicate *Awaiting Approval* have not completed training. Completed trainings are updated daily. All volunteers or workers require background screening (live scan or Megan's Law) and trained on virtusonline.org within the last three years. **More news on children's training to come, we will be using only Virtus Children's Empowerment training moving forward, or the approved religion series that include SE material.** May these waning days of Lent bring you closer to the heart of Jesus.

Diana Bitz
Safe Environment Coordinator
Anti-Harassment Training Coordinator
Diocese of Oakland
510-267-8315
www.oakdiocese.org

First Saturday Devotion

Our Blessed Mother appeared to St. Lucia of Fatima on December 10, 1925. It was there Our Lady requested the Five First Saturdays Devotion and gave a great promise.

Appearing with the Queen of Heaven in that apparition was the Infant Jesus, Who said to Lucia: “Have pity on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother. It is covered with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment, and there is no one to remove them with an act of reparation.”

Our Lady then spoke: “See, my daughter, my Heart encircled by thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. Do you, at least, strive to console me. Tell them that I promise to assist the hour of death with the graces necessary for salvation all those who, in order to make reparation to me, on the First Saturday of five successive months, go to confession, receive Holy Communion, say five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for a quarter of an hour, meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary.”



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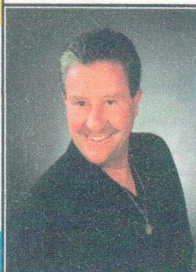
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