

# 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

Daily at 8am.  
Saturday Vigil Mass, 5pm.  
Sunday at 8am, 9:30am,  
11:30am, 1pm (Chinese),  
6pm Brazilian

### Sacraments

Anointing of the Sick, Every 1st Saturday  
of the month at 8:30am  
Confessions, Every Saturday at 4pm.  
For other inquiries, please call, email, log  
in by website, visit the church office.



#### Priests

Rev. Thuong Hoai Nguyen, Pastor  
Rev. Joseph Tran, In Residence  
Rev. Chrisantus Bemer, In Residence

#### Deacon

Dcn. Lochlein Sekona

#### Parish Office

Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm

#### Bulletin Editor

Ed Bautista OCDS

#### Bookkeeper

Chien Nguyen

#### Children's Religious Education

Camille Herrera: (510) 220-3839

#### Confirmation-Youth Ministry

Gina de la Torre: (510) 815-0050

#### Adult Inquiry-RCIA

Reyline Artiaga: (510) 502-0080

#### Pastoral Council

Thomas Fleming: (510) 502-0080

#### St. Vincent DePaul Pantry

Open: 9 am - 10 am First and  
Third Saturdays of the month

#### St. John the Baptist Elementary School

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

#### St. John Community Center

6500 Gladys Ave., El Cerrito

#### The Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel

11152 San Pablo Avenue

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 3, 2023

**First Sunday of Advent (B)**

Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 / 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 / Mark 13:33-37



**Be watchful! Be alert!  
You do not know when  
the time will come.**

**MARK 13:33**

## How Has God Shaped You?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**S**

ometimes it seems as if life is a laboratory of designed experiments on how to become human, all of them allotted ten-year blocks.

Have you noticed how nine- and ten-year-olds can be easy to be around? Then about the time we've gotten being a kid down to a science, life begins to move us into adolescence. We want to be independent and responsible, but we don't yet have all the skills. We have sexual feelings, but we're expected not to act on them. About the time we reach adulthood and move into our twenties, it seems we can finally do what we want, but then we might drink too much, spend too much, drive too fast, and party too long. Once we begin to settle down around year thirty, we have to learn how to live with another person. One likes it warm, the other cool. One seeks to save, the other spends. One is a homebody, the other enjoys going out on the town. By the time we've gotten to our sixties and seventies, we may have figured out life, but by then we've used up most of our energy.

What's going on?

Faith suggests it's the hand of God shaping us into the sort of persons we're meant to be. "Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you our potter: we are all the work of your hand" (Isaiah 64:7). Advent may be a time to figure out how God is acting in your life now and look back to see that God was shaping you all along. ●

### Reflect

***What did you learn in your last ten-year block of life?***



***Dear Brothers and Sisters,***

***We know Jesus is always with us, always eager to walk with us in our times of pain and in our moments of joy. The Eucharistic Revival we are celebrating in our country is a way for us to draw closer to Jesus, who is fully present in the Eucharist.***

***From that encounter of Christ in the Eucharist, our prayer life becomes a deeper source of comfort. And when we pray together, we find even greater hope.***

***I am deeply touched by the special intentions you share with me, both as I travel around the diocese and through this outreach.***

***In your church, you will find an envelope for your prayer intentions to be returned by mail. You can also confidentially email your intentions to [bishop@oakdiocese.org](mailto:bishop@oakdiocese.org) or fax to 510.496.7253. I will keep your intentions in my heart in a special way during the Season of Advent. Each day as I come before our Lord in prayer and celebrate the Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, your intentions will be lifted to the Lord. I will pray for your loved ones, for those individuals in need of special intercession, for our beloved Church, in thanksgiving for our many blessings and for our challenged, yet hope-filled world.***

***I humbly ask you to remember me, your shepherd, and all the priests of our diocese in your prayers during this holy season. Let us pray together, knowing God made Himself incarnate because of His great love and desire for everyone to know Him more deeply.***

***With the assurance of my prayers for a blessed Advent, Christmas season and New Year, I am***

***Yours sincerely in Christ,***

***Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, SJ  
Bishop of Oakland***

The Parish of St. John the Baptist invites  
you to the annual celebration for our Lady  
of Guadalupe on  
December 10, 2023 at 11:30AM.  
Come and celebrate this day alongside her.



La Parroquia St. John the Baptist les invita  
a la celebración anual de la Virgen de  
Guadalupe  
el día 10 de Diciembre del 2023 a las 11:30AM.  
Ven y celebremos con ella este día.

## Mass for the Intentions *Week*

Saturday, December 2      5pm  
 Sunday, December 3      8am  
                                  9:30am  
                                  11:30am  
                                  1 pm (Chinese)  
                                  6 pm (Brazilian)  
 Monday, December 4      8am  
 Tuesday, December 5      8am  
 Wednesday, December 6      8am  
 Thursday, December 7      8am  
 Friday, December 8      8am  
                                  7:30pm  
 Saturday, December 9      8am

Denise Keller †  
 John Paul Setnicky †  
 Jose and Maria Ferreros †  
 Mr. and Mrs. Israel Gold  
     -For Safety and Peace  
 St John Parishioners  
 St. John Parishioners  
 St. John Parishioners  
 Andreina Landrini †  
 St. John Parishioners  
 Helen Stubbs-Healing  
 Ambrose Loyola †  
 Fr. Ray-49th Anniversary  
 St. John Parishioners  
 Felicidad Rodrigues †  
 Birthday Blessings

### *Requested by*

Keller Family  
 Joe Lewis  
 Ferreros Family  
 Kathy and Art  
 St. John Parish  
 St. John Parish  
 Gina Lencioni  
 Kathy Klatt and Fr. Ray  
 Lu Tipping  
 Kathy Klatt and Helen Stubbs  
 Nick and Linda Samson

### Stewardship

Plate Collection, Nov. 27, 2023  
 Envelopes. \$1,130.00  
 Loose. \$1,012.50  
 EFT, Weekly. \$210.00  
 Online. \$ 495.00  
 Thanksgiving Day. \$ 1,349.00  
 All Souls Day. \$20.00  
 Chapel. \$73.00  
 Candles. \$49.00  
 Envelopes/ Loose. \$217.00  
 Envelopes/ Loose. \$167.00  
 Campaign for Human Development. \$ 10.00  
 Total. \$ 4,027.50  
 Campaign for Human Development. \$ 50.00  
 All Saints Day/ Thanksgiving. \$ 30.00  
 All Souls Day. \$ 20.00

*Thank you for your generosity*

### Advent Penance Service

December 13, Wednesday, 7:30pm

St. John Senior Center/6500 Gladys Ave.

Every Tuesday, 9am-3pm. Senior Activity and Lunch. See  
 Buddy Akacic, Instructor, WCC Adult Education.

### St. John Christmas Party

Come on Dec. 16, Saturday, 6pm (at the Gym)

### The Lay Mission Project

You are called and sent by Our Lord Himself. As a lay Catholic, our  
 Lord has chosen, called, and gifted YOU

### Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve: 5pm, 9pm  
 Christmas Day: 8am, 10am

### Prayers for Healing

Virginia Alday, Niani Barber, Patrick Batiste Eleanor and  
 Juan Beltran, Julia Bustamante  
 Gustavo Caceres Family,  
 Al Carlson, Brenna Clark Jennette  
 Cleadenger Linda Crittendon  
 Cora Dongon, Mary Dong  
     Tami Duncan, Juanita Estrellas,  
 Eduardo Garchitorea, Filomena  
 Giese, J. P. Giorgi, Sonny Go,  
 Joseph Golinveaux, Victoria  
 Gregorio, Jovita de Guia Andy Gutierrez James Gutierrez  
 Ruben Gutierrez, Marvin & Maurice Haynes, Sherry  
 Highlander Tamaya Hunt, Ann Jones Avelina Juat, Tom  
 Kennedy, Marija Limon, Marian & Michael Luoma,  
 Mary Agnes, Nancy McVey Cecilia Mendiola, Judith  
 Padilla, Theresa Parella Angelina Patacsil, Pam  
 Paun, Victoria Payless Melvin Perreira, Marlen Pineda  
 Family, Wayne Price Rose Anne, Lito Rosaroso, Fely  
 Sabares, Jovita Santos, Linda Schneider Sol Simkin,  
 Dimitri Smith Elsie Sowinski, Salvador Tejero, Isaac and  
 Corazon Tiongson, Jr. Virginia Velasquez, Joseph Vidal,  
 Sarah Vidal, Jan Williamson, Jonathan Zumwalt



St. John the Baptist Church Centennial Anniversary, 1925-2025

## This Week's Service Schedule

### First Sunday of Advent

We are the servants of God, each with his or her own task. We will be judged good stewards if, at His coming, He finds us ready and conscientiously pursuing the tasks to which we have been called.

**Daily Mass:** 8am.

**Sunday:** Isaiah 63: 16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7. I Corinthians 1:3-9. Mark 13:33-37

**Monday:** St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church. Isaiah 2:1-5. Matthew 8:5-11.

**Tuesday:** Isaiah 11:1-10. Luke 10:21-24.

**Wednesday:** St. Nicholas, Bishop. Isaiah 25:6-10a. Matthew 15:29-37.

Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena. 8:30am at Church and 6pm at the Chapel.

**Thursday:** St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church. Isaiah 26:1-6. Matthew 7:21, 24-27.

Devotion to the Holy Infant of Prague Novena. At Church.

**Friday:** The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. A Holyday of Obligation. Genesis 3:9-15, 20. Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12. Luke 1:28-38.

**Saturday:** Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin. Isaiah 13:19-21, 23-26. Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8.

**Monday-Saturday:** Morning Prayer at 7:40am. At Church. Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 8:30am. At Church.

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Daily. 24 hours a day. At the Chapel.

## Bishop's Ministries Appeal-2023

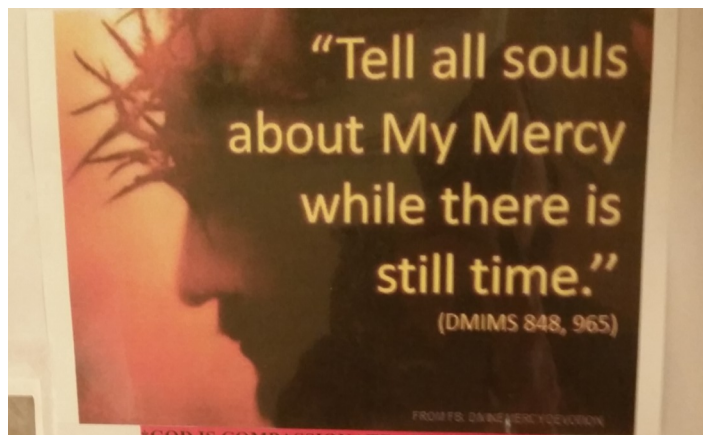
As of Nov. 15, our parish has exceeded the annual goal by 3.14%. Thank you for your contributions to the ministries of our diocese.

## Simbang Gabi-Advent Evening Novena Mass

December 15-23. Weekdays at 7pm. Saturdays at 5pm. Sundays at 6pm. (Reception at the Fr. Maxwell Conference Room).

### Get On The Bus

Center for Restorative Justice Works  
West Beverly Boulevard, Suite 200,  
Montebello, Ca 90640  
*keeping families together*



**I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS**  
BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL 2023

**To: All Volunteers**

Log in [virtusonline.org](http://virtusonline.org)

Complete the first training session entitled, Protecting God's Children. The following session entitled, Keeping the Promise Alive, is due in 3 years after completing the first session. Thank you for serving in church ministries.

## Prayer for the 2023 Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Congress

God our Father, we ask You to look with favor upon Your Church as we prepare with joyful hope to celebrate the Eucharistic Revival Congress here in the Diocese of Oakland.

Help us to better welcome the gift of Your Son Jesus Christ who assured His disciples with these words: "I Am With You Always", the same words inspiring us to embark on this journey of missionary discipleship.

Send forth Your Holy Spirit upon us that we may appreciate You more fully each time we gather for the Sacred Banquet, and become messengers of the Good News to a world hungry and thirsty for Your truth and love.

Following the example of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, may we always stay beneath Your cross, and at the same time, offer ourselves in service as Your beloved and faith-filled sons and daughters.

We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Synod On Synodality

To Learn More Go To: [www.oakdiocese.org/synod](http://www.oakdiocese.org/synod).

St. John the Baptist Church Centennial Anniversary, 1925-2025






# *Simbang Gabi*

*St. John the Baptist Catholic Church*

**DECEMBER 15 to 23**

**TO SPONSOR A MASS,  
Please contact any of the following:**

- **Jocelyn Limos-Tatum 510-712-0793**
  - **Carole Cosio 510-439-6122**
  - **Alma Lyons 510-219-2528**
- 



# *Simbang Gabi*

*St. John the Baptist Catholic Church*

**DECEMBER 15 to 23**

## **SCHEDULE OF MASSES**

- |                         |                       |                          |        |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| • DECEMBER 15, FRIDAY   | 7:00PM                | • DECEMBER 19, TUESDAY   | 7:00PM |
| • DECEMBER 16, SATURDAY | 5:00PM                | • DECEMBER 20, WEDNESDAY | 7:00PM |
| • DECEMBER 17, SUNDAY   | 6:00PM                | • DECEMBER 21, THURSDAY  | 7:00PM |
| • DECEMBER 18, MONDAY   | 7:00PM                | • DECEMBER 22, FRIDAY    | 7:00PM |
| •                       | DECEMBER 23, SATURDAY | 5:00PM                   |        |

*Hospitality and fellowship  
follows right after the  
mass...*





**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Invites you to**

# *Christmas* **PARTY**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023**

**(after 5:00PM Vigil Mass)**

**@ the SCHOOL GYMNASIUM**  
*of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church*

*to donate, please call:*

- **Jocelyn Limos-Tatum (510) 712-0793**
- **Maria Campos (510) 685-8615**

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