



St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 9, 2022

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

St. John the Evangelist Parish is a welcoming and responsive faith community, nourished by the Word of God and the Eucharistic Table. We are open and trusting in the love of Jesus Christ to advance the power of the Holy Spirit, within the Parish and beyond, by living the Gospel.

PARISH INFORMATION

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

5751 Locust Avenue
Carmichael CA 95608-1320
Parish Office: (916) 483-8454
Web: www.sjecarmichael.org
Email: office@sjecarmichael.org



--PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN--

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION
SATURDAYS from 3:45 PM to 4:45 PM

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

SUNDAY MASS:

SATURDAY VIGIL: **5 PM**

SUNDAY: **8 AM, 10 AM & 5 PM**

DAILY MASS:

6:30 AM & 8:30 AM (MON-FRI)

8:30 AM (SATURDAY)

HOLY DAYS:

6:30 AM & 8:30 AM; 7:00 PM

HEALING MASS:

1:30 PM - 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH



SUNDAY MASS LIVE-STREAMED THROUGH FACEBOOK @ 10 AM



PARISH CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor	Fr. Bernardin Mugabo
Parochial Vicar	Fr. Bit-Shing Abraham Chiu
Pastor Emeritus	Fr. Thomas Bland
Mercy San Juan Hospital Chaplain	Fr. Alban Uba
Deacon	Keith Johnson
Deacon	Jack Wilson
Deacon Emeritus	Larry Niekamp
SJE Business Manager	Linda Gospodnetich
SJE Parish Secretary	Bernadette Hicks
Religious Education Coordinator	Joanne Giffard
Director of Music & Liturgy	William Becker
SJE Pastoral Council Chairperson	Tom Ennis
SJE Finance Council Chairperson	Mary Ellen Meier

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST SCHOOL

WWW.STJOHNEV.COM

5701 Locust Avenue
Carmichael, CA 95608
Phone: (916) 481-8845
Fax: (916) 481-1319
Email: office@stjohnnev.com
Principal: Christie Horton



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (916) 483-2161

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (916) 483-4628

Registration/Change of Address: Allow at least 3 months to receive envelopes or for any changes.

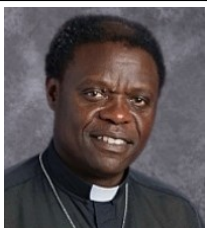
☐ I want to register in the parish. ☐ I have changed my address; my envelope # is _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

PASTOR'S PAGE



HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022:

Dear Parishioners, as the year 2021 has ended, and we have started into the New Year 2022, we, Saint John's priests and staff, would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a blessed and Happy New Year 2022.

Usually, people look forward to the new year by shooting off fireworks, staying awake until the new year comes in at midnight, or by people gathering together as friends, eating and drinking, forgetting the hard times they may have had through the past year and looking for a better one in the year to come.

Looking in general and all over the world, these two last years were not the best. This plague called COVID-19 and the strongest measures taken by some leaders, have made it much worse. People have been forbidden from traveling, thus handicapping our freedoms; so many people died from COVID-19 and many others were stuck in their nursing homes without any visits from their loved ones. People are asked to be vaccinated in order to work or travel, and so many people died from the so-called vaccines anyway, but, so far, nothing is being done to stop it. What a mess and what a confused world we are living in. These evil rules may have happened to one country in the past, but not to the entire world as it is today.

The solution is what the Blessed Virgin Mary has been telling us. We need to turn to Jesus, by means of **PRAYER FROM THE HEART**. We also need **TO FAST**. We Catholics need to take our weapons against the evil one, that is, the **HOLY ROSARY**. **READING YOUR BIBLE** can help you to know that God is with you as He was to the Israelites in the past. While **GOING TO CONFESSION MONTHLY** helps us to be always clean so that if we may have to pass on, we have no remorse or fear of landing in hell.

Now, so many school children are moving from one class to another one; they are looking forward to the next challenge, and this will be done until their graduation. It is good to grow, but there is a price to pay for being a grown up; you have to be responsible in all you do. For those good students who persevere in their hard studies year after year until the end, there is a great reward. Their family and friends gather at their graduations and thank them for their courage. But for those who failed in their studies; what a shame, that remorse which may follow them for the rest of their lives.

In business, the end of the year is the time to balance the budget. To see if one has earned or lost. If your business has gained, you make possibilities to keep it gaining or even improving more. If your business has lost, you don't give up. You try to change the way you were doing business or even ask for advice in order to gain and keep moving ahead.

Dear Parishioners, how was your faith during the last year? Was it fruitful, such that you can say that you were really a good servant of Jesus Christ? The truth is that there is room for improvement in all of us. We have to keep moving forward and developing the talents God has given us. The reward, said Jesus, is **beyond this world**.

Dear Parishioners, we have a purpose, we have a goal, we have a destiny in the Baby Jesus born in Bethlehem of Judea. Let us be His true brothers and sisters in our times that are overloaded by so many evils of atheism and hatred.

Once again, Happy New Year 2022, Father Bernardin MUGABO

SANTA VS. JESUS (IT STILL IS THE CHRISTMAS SEASON THROUGH TODAY)

Santa lives at the North Pole.

JESUS is everywhere.

Santa rides in a sleigh.

JESUS rides on the wind and walks on the water.

Santa comes but once a year.

JESUS is an ever present help.

Santa fills your stockings with goodies.

JESUS supplies all your needs.

Santa comes down your chimney uninvited.

JESUS stands at your door and knocks; and then enters your heart.

You have to stand in line to see Santa.

JESUS is as close as the mention of His name.

Santa lets you sit on his lap.

JESUS lets you rest in His arms.

Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly.

JESUS has a heart full of love.

Santa doesn't know your name; all he can say is

"Hi little boy or girl, What's your name?"

JESUS knew our name before we did. Not only does He know our name, He knows our address too. He knows our history and future and He even knows how many hairs are on our heads.

All Santa can offer is HO HO HO.

JESUS offers health, help and hope.

Santa says, "You better not cry."

JESUS says "Cast all your cares on Me for I care for you."

While Santa puts gifts under your tree,

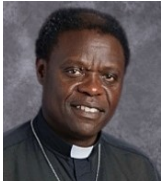
JESUS became our gift and died on the tree.

It's obvious there really is no comparison. We need to remember WHO Christmas is all about.

We need to put CHRIST back in Christmas.

JESUS is still the reason for the season!!

FR. BERNARDIN'S HOMILY (JANUARY 9, 2022)



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD:

Today we remember the Baptism of the Lord. This feast ends the Christmas season. It also shows us the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. Tomorrow, Monday, we start the ordinary time by wearing green. We, too, were baptized one day, but because we do not live up to our baptismal promises, let us confess our sins.

Need of cleansing/purification/be "Pure": the Readings today are teaching us how to be pure; that is, living up to our baptismal promises.

There is a need for purification. We wash our hands, sanitize our hands, and take showers. All these help us to be clean and to avoid the microbes with all their diseases.

To remain clean, the Jews in the Old Testament used to do the ritual **ablutions**.

The Baptism of John stands out as something different from the traditional ablutions and purification rites (Lv 4-5;12-15). While these are repeatable, the Baptism that John enjoins cannot be repeated and is meant to be a concrete celebration of a conversion that gives the person a whole new life direction forever. It is a baptism characterized by a confession of sins, with the goal of leaving one's sinful life behind.

The greater novelty in the Gospel event today, however, is this: Jesus – the Sinless One – comes to be baptized with John's Baptism of repentance! He blends into the mass of sinners waiting at the banks of the Jordan. With this gesture, He underscores that He comes in the name of God to express solidarity with the humanity who has incurred sin and guilt but longs for righteousness. That is why John the Baptist said: I need to be baptized by you yet you come to me? As Saint Paul explained, Jesus became counted among sinners for us so that in Him "we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21)

The Baptism of Jesus is the Baptism with water and fire/and the Holy Spirit. This Baptism erases all our previous sins, including that sin of Adam and Eve. Jesus' Baptism makes us children of God. John the Baptist introduces Jesus as "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (Jn1:29). This Baptism is done once and for all. It cannot be repeated. Jesus never committed any sin and He has always been the Son of God. He didn't need to be baptized. We all have received this Baptism and it is well recorded in our baptismal records. Baptism is our ID as Christians. We received **a light** that is to drive away the darkness of sin. **A white cloth**, that is to remain pure all the days of our lives.

There is the **Baptism on the Cross**: He once told His disciples, "There is a baptism with which I must be baptized and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!" (Luke 12:50). When James and John wanted Jesus to guarantee them a special place in Heaven, He replied: "Can you be baptized with the Baptism with which I am baptized?" (Mark 10:38). He knew that His cross was the culmination of everything that His Baptism in water began. All the sin that He accepted, was put to death, and we were redeemed!

Today's feast is an invitation for us to ask, "Do I know the freedom from sin that Jesus's Baptism won for me?" It is also an invitation to ask, "How well do I know the Holy Spirit?" Just as the Spirit came upon Him when He was baptized, this same Spirit wants to come upon us and empower us to live a godly life.

Remember, dear Parishioners, your day of Baptism. It is a special Day we should try to remember. Remember most of all, your baptismal promises that are: Rejecting sin, rejecting the devil and all his empty promises. But we must believe in God the Father the Almighty and all His commandments.

Jesus' Baptism in the Jordan River accompanied by the descent of the Holy Spirit and the voice of God the Father saying "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased" is also a manifestation to us who Jesus is and the obligation to listen and to follow Him.

The Prophet Isaiah in the First Reading calls us to be pure by:

- Making straight in the wasteland a highway for our God, - by making low every mountain and hill (sin), - the rugged land shall be made a plain. Isaiah ends by saying that when we become pure, God will come to us. He will speak to us like a shepherd feeds his flock. God will gather us in His arms; He will care for us.

Saint Paul in the Second Reading tells us to be pure by:

-Rejecting godless ways and worldly desires, by living temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age as we await the blessed hope of the appearance of God when He comes again, to be delivered from all lawlessness and to be cleansed, to be people owned by God and to be good.

Remember, dear Parishioners, that Jesus said to Nicodemus, that unless he is born from above, somehow baptized, he will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Being dirty by hands or body can kill you or make you sick. But being dirty by sin; it may lead you to hell, that is, eternal punishment.

"Be pure as your Heavenly Father is Pure. Do not be afraid of the one who can kill the body but cannot do nothing more, but be afraid of the one who can kill the body and send your soul to Gehenna."

LITURGY (INTERCESSORY PRAYERS) FOR JANUARY 9, 2022

We turn now to the God of all ages, whose promises never go unfulfilled. In hope, we offer these prayers:

For the Church: that we may recognize our calling to be daughters and sons of God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to manifest God's love and compassion through our words and deeds. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For the Synod on Synodality: that the Holy Spirit will renew the Church and guide all members to take greater responsibility for sharing the Gospel message. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For all who have been baptized in our community, particularly those during this last year: that they may be faithful disciples of Jesus and continue to grow in their knowledge and love of God. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For all who need a shepherd's care: that God will provide for those lacking food or heat, guide refugees and those fleeing violence, and bring freedom to those unjustly detained. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For courage: that God will strengthen us to bear the challenges of daily life and thus give witness to the faithfulness of God. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For all who are sick: that God will heal those who are ill, bring an end to the COVID pandemic, and sustain all who care for the sick. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For all our deceased Parishioners, relatives, and friends, that our merciful God may give them eternal rest. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For these intentions, the intentions shared by this community during the week that we bring to the Altar, and for the intentions of all those whom we promised to pray. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

God, throughout history, You have promised to remain close to Your chosen people. Remain with us now and hear the prayers we offer, through Christ, our Risen Lord. Amen.

SJE WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Week of:	Actual (Week):	Budget (Week):	Surplus/ (Deficit):
January 2, 2022	\$10,439	\$10,365	\$74

Many thanks for your ongoing generosity to St. John's Church!!

PARISHONER UPDATE INFORMATION

We ♥ love
having you as part of our flock



Keep in touch
with us via
email & text

- Choose to get updates from groups you're interested in
- Unsubscribe anytime, no spam we promise

PLEASE VISIT OUR
WEBSITE
sjecarmichael.org
OR USE OUR EMAIL

[office@
sjecarmichael.org](mailto:office@sjecarmichael.org)
To update your
address, phone
number and
email address

WEEKLY ADORATION

Adoration
of the
Blessed Sacrament



**Fr. Bernardin invites you to spend an hour/
some time with Jesus on Wednesdays
& Fridays from 9 am to 5 pm.**

**Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Rosary are
prayed beginning at 4:10 pm.**

Benediction at 5:00 pm. God bless.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

**Please Note: BAPTISMS ARE SCHEDULED
MONTHLY.**

For more information and instructions, please visit
our website, www.sjecarmichael.org to download and
complete our Baptismal Registration Form or contact
Deacon Jack or Deacon Keith through our

"baptisms@sjecarmichael.org" email address
for Baptism and Baptism Class Schedules.



PARISH NEWS

SJE CHOIR REHEARSAL

Calling all SJE Choir Members, past, present, and potential, to attend our next rehearsal on:

Wednesday, January 12, at 7pm

For up-dates, please email **Bill Becker** at

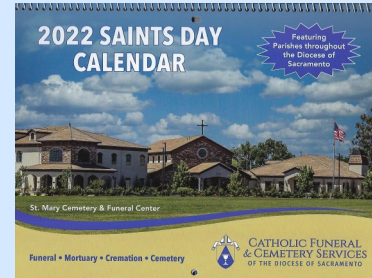
music@sjecarmichael.org

Let's sing!!!



SJE 2022 CALENDARS

St. John's 2022 CALENDARS, courtesy of the Diocese of Sacramento Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services,



are still available in **very limited quantities** on the Church Narthex table; one Calendar per family, please.

LOCKING OF CHAPEL – UPDATE

Due to homeless issues, our *SJE Blessed Sacrament Chapel* is locked Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. For now, the door will be open Wednesday and Friday for Adoration.

If someone wants to visit our Chapel on the days it is locked, they must first call (916) 483-8454 or stop by the SJE Office for admittance and the door will be locked behind them. This new procedure is for the safety of all concerned.

CHAPEL KEYPAD FUND – UPDATE

WOW!!!, AGAIN, our wonderful Parishioners' generosity overwhelms us!!!!

By Wednesday, January 5th, we had reached our goal!!!!

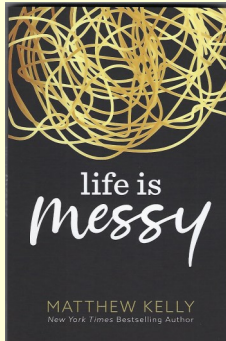
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

JOKE OF THE WEEK

Dear Lord: So far this year, I've done well. I haven't gossiped, I haven't lost my temper, I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish or overindulgent. I'm very thankful for that.

But, in a few minutes, Lord, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on, I'm probably going to need a lot more help. Amen (as prayed on January 1st...)

"LIFE IS MESSY" BOOK BY MATTHEW KELLY



As a gift from St. John's Parish, the book "LIFE IS MESSY" by Matthew Kelly will be available (for free!) at all our Christmas Masses (and after, if copies of the book remain).

Please look for copies of the book on the Church Narthex tables and take one per family, please.

We plan to have a Parish group book discussion in early 2022.

—Deacon Keith and Pam Johnson

REGISTERED AT ST. JOHN'S PARISH???

Please help us account and update your information along with all of our members of this great faith community!!

We are blessed to have over 2,500 Parish Families and Individuals registered at St. John the Evangelist Parish. With that, we have discovered that some of our Parishioners' contact phone numbers, addresses and emails have been changed over the years and are no longer valid.

To update or register your current information with our Parish, please complete the "Registration/Change of Address" strip located on the lower portion of the front page of our Bulletin and drop in the Mass collection baskets or Offertory Boxes, or call us at (916) 483-8454, stop by our office, drop the form in the mail or send an email to us at office@sjecarmichael.org.

We want to make sure you know we are here for you and that we are able to get ahold of you in times of need.

Thank you again for all you do for us at SJE Parish and God bless!

ST. JOHN'S GIFT SHOP NEWS...



SJE CHURCH GIFT SHOP IS OPEN
AFTER 5PM VIGIL, 8AM AND 10AM MASSES

THE 2022 ST. JOSEPH MISSAL HAS ARRIVED
Proceeds benefit St. John's School

SJE PRAYER LIST

Please Pray for our sick and their caregivers: Andrea Armstrong, Bob Bodem, Nancy Born, Robert Burns, Chuck Carly, Geoff Carter, Ollie Claussen, Alicia Cortez, Corrine Davidson, Russ Davis, John DePiazza, Rick DiRegolo, Melissa Duran, Brenda Elazier, Kate Ellis, Karen Emmons, Madeline Endres, Debbie Erichs, Teri Erickson, Velia Escalante, James Espinoza, Juanita Estrellas, Martin Fiorino, Anthony Gabriele, Frank Gianattasio, Ella Gomes, Jimi Grant, Steve Guerrero, Donna Harris, Tom Harvey, Gabe Howser, Mary Jeffries, Eduardo Jimenez, Yelena Kanavalchuk, Tom Karras, Reggie Keyawa, Dalice Lee, Ray Lloyd, Pat Lobrovich, Karen Lydon, Mary Mandara, Angelica & Cheryl Martin, Jennifer Martin, Arielle McLeskey, Pat Minnard, Manuel Molina, Marie Murillo, Tony Nolasco, Baby Dylan Ochoa, Gilles Ouellet, Mary Pai, Lynn Parry, Julie Paul, Mike Peterson, Alex Quiroz, Max Rankin, Jeff Reynolds, Sarah Rizzardo, Aida Saca, Ruth Salazar, Monique Sandoval, Rena Scherman, Robert Scholtes, Kim Schultz, Christopher Scott, Paul Scurti, Aurora Simental, Lili Simic, Carol Smith, Joan Smith, Hank Thompson, Kim Van Blaricom, Deanna Vest, Bob Walker, Katie Walker, Theresa West, Amanda Young and all those with COVID-19.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

January 9, 2022

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/CCD/CFE

Grades: Kindergarten through Junior High

Phone: 916-483-4628 Email: ccd@sjecarmichael.org

Our devoted catechists and their students are delighted to be together again. In this new year of 2022, many of our children will be preparing for the reception of First Communion, First Reconciliation, or Confirmation. Likewise, all of us will be recognizing the holiness in the lives of the saints, who listened to God and allowed Him to work through them.

The feast day of St. Hilary of Poitiers, our Saint of the Week, falls on Thursday, January 13. Many years ago in 310 A.D., Hilary was born in Pictavium, Gaul (modern-day Poitiers, France). Both his mother and his father were pagans from the most noble of families, and Hilary received an excellent education, which included a high level of Greek studies. Later on, Hilary studied both the Old Testament and the New Testament writings, which elevated his desire to become a Christian. As a result, Hilary, his wife, and also his daughter Abra were baptized and received into the Catholic Church. Around the year 353 A.D., Hilary was chosen by the laity to become Bishop of Poitiers.

At this time there were many Arians, who did not believe in the divinity of Jesus Christ in the Catholic Church, and these Arians had a great deal of power. They were supported by the Arian Emperor Constantius II, who also condemned our Nicene faith and St. Athanasius.

As Bishop of Poitiers, Hilary refused to support Arianism, so he wrote to Emperor Constantius II remonstrating the Arians' persecution of the orthodox Christians in 355 A.D. He likewise submitted one of his earliest writings "Commentarius in Evangelium Matthaei", which was an allegorical analysis of the first Gospel of St. Matthew. Then in 356 A.D., Hilary was banished for over three years to Phrygia for his political opposition to the emperor. In Phrygia, Bishop Hilary continued to govern his diocese, while he learned everything that he could about what the Arians were saying, and how the orthodox Christians were responding to the Arians. This banishment gave him plenty of time to write and think, and Bishop Hilary also wrote his major theological work "De Trinitate", a compilation of twelve books, which he finally completed upon his return from exile. It has been recorded that after Bishop Hilary was sent back to his home, instead of returning straight back to Poitiers, he took a leisurely trip through Greece and Italy preaching against the Arians and writing hymns, which spread the faith as he traveled. Soon at the Council of Seleucia in 360 A.D., Bishop Hilary bravely defended the decrees of Nicaea.

Although St. Hilary of Poitiers was not fighting a war, he was indeed fighting a battle for the eternal life of those souls, who after hearing the false words of the Arians, would stop believing in the Son of God, who would be their true hope for salvation. Likewise, St. Hilary was the first Latin writer to introduce Greek doctrine to Western Christendom, and he is venerated in five different faiths.

St. Hilary of Poitiers died in either 367 A.D. or 368 A.D. and was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church in 1851 by Pope Pius IX. Lastly, he is the patron saint of attorneys and the patron saint of those who need to regain their health after snake bites.

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Joanne Giffard, Religious Education Coordinator

ccd@sjecarmichael.org

jkoecgiffard@aol.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of January 10-15, 2022

Monday:

6:30 am John Lubecki (I)

8:30 am Mary Mentel (I)

Tuesday:

6:30 am Kathi Hamlon †

8:30 am Ramon Coronado †

Wednesday:

6:30 am Wesley and Meghan Covert (I)

8:30 am Kyle Heskett (I)

Thursday: St. Hilary, Bishop

6:30 am Mercedes Lorenzo †

8:30 am Gerald † and Arlis † Bragg

Friday:

6:30 am Janet Burns †

8:30 am John Lubecki (I)

Saturday: BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

8:30 am William (Will) Cooney †

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-19; Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday: Is 62:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-10; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS 2021



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PRAYER (CON'T)

OUR PRAYER: GRANT, WE BEG YOU, ALMIGHTY GOD, THAT WE MAY BOTH READILY UNDERSTAND AND TRULY PROFESS THE DIVINITY OF YOUR SON, WHICH ST. HILARY, YOUR BISHOP, CONSTANTLY PROCLAIMED. AMEN.

A GLIMPSE OF SPIRITUALITY BY FR. ABRAHAM

Self-centeredness divides people into different circles. As a result, the ideal of "God and humans are one" finds its difficulty to accomplish.

Jesus gives us the solution to self-centeredness: he makes us a new family by his incarnation. In this family, everyone is equal as sisters and brothers since he calls us his friends. (John 15:15)



Nevertheless, many of them only behave themselves religiously, not spiritually. They just observe what the Law requires but not live in spiritual love. Thus, transforming self-centered people to live together as a family is difficult in this imperfect world, even Jesus is not privileged.

Jesus is not a popular idol but a sign of contradiction. His presence is already the discernment within the people Israel, so that some fall and some rise. Jesus' ministry shows us that even he wants to bring the scattered into God's family, some will reject his invitation because for them, Jesus will not be a hope of promise fulfilled, but a figure that is to be opposed as Simeon says: "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against."

The verb "set" (keitai) indicates the intention of God. That is to say, the incarnation of Jesus is to make the idea of "God and humans are one" come true. However, Simeon knows that although Jesus is God's hope, not everyone will respond positively to him. They still remain self-centered. Actually, Jesus is not a divider. The purpose of his ministry that divides is so that the thoughts of the hearts might be made manifest. In fact, those who fall (ptōsin) because of Jesus will bring upon themselves ruin i.e. the loss of salvation that is their misery.

Jesus is like a rock, whoever climbs up on him will reach heaven ultimately. To the contrast, those who reject this rock by kicking on it will go to their final dwelling place, i.e. hell.

How humans respond to God's promise is made evident by how they respond to Jesus, whose presence reveals their true colors. Jesus comes, humans choose. Some oppose him and fall. Indeed, whoever accepts Jesus is accepted into God's family, the eternal family.

Fr. Abraham Chiu

MASK UPDATE (12/15 -1/15/22) DIOCESE

For Parishes Statewide - **USE OF MASKS:**
ONE MONTH MANDATE

PER CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (CDPH)

1. **Face coverings shall be worn, regardless of vaccination status, over the mouth and nose, in all indoor public settings. The exceptions are:**

- Persons younger than two years old.
- Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition or disability that prevents wearing a mask. This includes persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a mask could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove a mask without assistance.
- Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
- Persons for whom wearing a mask would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.

MONTHLY HEALING MASS

ST. JOHN'S HEALING MASS

Our Monthly "Healing Mass" is celebrated **NEXT SUNDAY,**

January 16th at **1:30 pm** in our **Church**

Confessions from **12:30 pm** to 1:25 pm



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Our St. Vincent de Paul Conference thanks you for your continued support throughout the year, which allows us to help the poor and needy in our neighborhood. It is appreciated more than you know.

SVdeP's food closet is open on **Wednesdays** from **8 am to 10 am** if you find yourself in need of food. Everyone is welcome and meat, fresh veggies, and fruits are in abundance!

A successful Kids Can! Campaign has our shelves stocked.

YOU make a difference! God bless you! Wear a Mask! Stay safe!

The generosity of local merchants keeps the Food Closet supplied with all sorts of essentials. Please support them when you can:

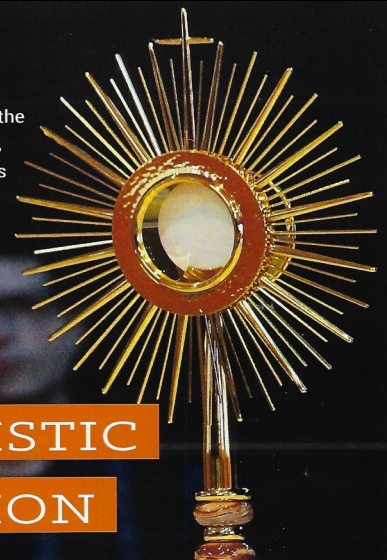
SaveMart, La Bou, Noah's Bagels, Smart & Final, The Farmer's Wife, and the Sunday Farmers' Market in Carmichael Park. *are a few of the businesses we depend on.*

Thank you for your support throughout the year, we couldn't do this without you!

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Let us take some time to pray for the unborn, their mothers and fathers, and pray for state and federal laws that harm those most vulnerable.

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Questions? **Moises De Leon**, Associate Director, Family & Respect Life Ministry
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