

CHRISTMAS 2008 MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve
Wednesday, December 24

No morning mass

Masses: 5:00 (Church & Hall), 8 & 10:00 P.M.
(The 5 P.M. mass in the church will have a special focus on children.)

Christmas Day
Thursday, December 25
Masses: 8, 9:30, & 11 A.M.
No mass at 5 P.M.

Feast of the Holy Family
December 27-28
Regular Weekend Schedule

New Year's Day
(Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)
Thursday, January 1, 2009
Mass at 10 A.M. only
(This day is *not* a holy day of obligation this year.)



Simbang Gabi – An Advent Novena
Dec. 17, 18, 19, 20, 7pm
Special Mass followed by a reception

Even before Christmas, we have a special time to celebrate on its own – Advent – the expectant preparation for the birth of Jesus! Everyone is welcome to Simbang Gabi (evening mass), which is a specially joyful, praiseful, thankful and hopeful Mass. We bring our families and friends to the Eucharist while joining the entire community in waiting. Then after the Mass, we continue to celebrate by sharing the bounty of our food with each other.

Each night will be celebrated by a priest from another diocesan church. The choir, from different ministries at St. Joseph, will sing in English and Tagalog (the Filipino language). On one evening, the choir will be composed of seminarians. The servers, participants, reception sponsors – all will gladly offer their shared, heartfelt participation in this wonderful tradition. So in this way, we fulfill the spirit of Advent, not only as an individual preparation, but as a call to prepare as a community and as a family of God - **united in worship and in prayer**. Do come.

Please see the enclosed flyer for more details or contact Fr. Chady at 408--252-7653 (rectory), frchadsjc@yahoo.com; Linda Buhay 408-394-9125, lindabuhay@hotmail.com.

MEASURING SUCCESS

Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles that one has overcome while trying to succeed



A SPECIAL OFFER FROM THE HARVEST RESTAURANT ON DE ANZA BLVD: All St. Joseph of Cupertino parishioners get a 25% discount! Just mention that you are from the parish. Harvest has been very good to us, supporting our bingo and school, so stop by to express appreciation and have a fine meal at the same time. Also, the restaurant is currently collecting gently used or new toys, clothing, and other gift items for donation to local charities. Bins are located in the restaurant. ***Please patronize all who advertise on the back of our bulletin; they make it possible for us to receive the bulletin at no cost.***



CHRISTMAS PLANT WATERING. Would you like to care for all our Christmas plants twice weekly (checking to see if they need a drink — snipping dead leaves, etc.) in our church, chapel and vestibule? If so, please phone Totsie @ (408) 252-7653x61. I would like a phone call this week so I can plan ahead. Thank you.



BOY & GIRLS: Santa will soon be at your house with toys and books. Would you like to share your toys, etc. with other children who use our cry room? If so, have Mom or Dad bring them to church and deposit them in this room. Thank you so much.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTA'S FOR OUR CHURCH Would you care to make a gift of a poinsettia in memory of a loved one or to honor someone special? If so, we will purchase and place a poinsettia in our sanctuary at Christmas-time. Special envelopes are located on the table in the vestibule of church, outside the chapel door or at the parish office. A list of names will be published in our bulletin after Christmas.



The parish offices will be closed from 12 p.m. on December 24, 2008 through January 1, 2009. The offices will re-open on Friday, January 2, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. We wish everyone a lovely holiday season.

BE PREPARED NEXT WEEK'S MASS:
The FOURTH Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2008

Read: Luke: 1:26-38(the Annunciation of the Lord)

Question for Adults:

Who is Mary for you? What role does she play in your life?

Questions for Children:

What do you know about Jesus Mother, Mary?

ACTION

ATTEND AT LEAST ONE NIGHT OF SIMBANG GABI ---Mass at 7 p.m. Dec. 17,18,19,20

Prayer:

Pray the Hail Mary often this week.



GROWING IN FAITH



(If you are interested in any of the offerings below, please contact Janice LaMotte in the parish office---252-7653 ext. 30)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec. 14 **Movie: "A Christmas Story"**
3 p.m. ---Community Center
(come one and all---refreshments will be served!)

Dec. 17, 18, 19, 20
Simbang Gabi---7 p.m Mass---Church
(come join us and help prepare spiritually for Christmas)

Dec. 21
Choir Concert---7 p.m.-Church
(put on by our choir---special musical arrangements & songs)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: What are you doing to prepare for the spiritual meaning of Christmas? Check out the following resources: <http://www.usccb.org.advent> or <http://www.usccb.org/cchd/edshopping.shtml>.

Our RCIA is in full swing!!! Persons interested in Catholicism are invited to attend the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children over 7 years of age.**

This process of faith formation is for those who have never been baptized, or who were baptized in another faith, and who now seek to know more about Catholicism. We also welcome Catholics who were baptized but never celebrated the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. After a period of informal inquiry, participants are then invited to embark on a process of instruction, prayer, and discernment in preparation for the reception of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at the Easter vigil. We meet Wednesday evenings form 7-8:30 p.m. and we invite anyone interested to "come & see". (for more information, please contact Janice LaMotte at 252-7653 ext. 30)

HELP SPREAD THE FAITH. INVITE SOMEONE TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH!

GRIEF SUPPORT: Meets the **1st SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AT 3 P.M. IN THE PARISH OFFICE.** Next meeting--- **Jan. 4, 2009** Anyone who has suffered a loss of any kind is most welcome. "Grief shared is half grief; Joy shared is double joy. Honduran Proverb

MOM'S GROUP : A good way to meet other mothers and share spiritually, and socially. This group will **now MEET ON THE SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH,** usually at a park. If you are interested, please call Carol Ruiz at 777-2966.

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S QUESITON: WHAT IS THE LITURGICAL YEAR? The church runs on a yearly calendar, sanctifying the times and seasons. This is one of the ways Christians have to mark the sacred or holy events. The most important feast of the church year is Easter, which is preceded by the TRIDUUM (three days, which begins on Holy Thursday and ends with Easter. We are now in the season of Advent which begins the liturgical year. The ordinary color used is purple except on the third week when pink is used to because we are getting closer to Christmas and therefore joyful.



SJC SCHOOL NEWS

LIFE Donations Coming In



Many thanks to those who have generously contributed to the St. Joseph of Cupertino LIFE (Legacies In Faith and Education) Development Fund during the month of November. The LIFE Fund is designed to build long-term financial stability for our parish school, ensure equitable teacher salaries and help struggling families provide a Catholic education for their children.

If you would like to make your tax-deductible contribution in time for the 2008 tax year, simply send in your donation before the end of the calendar year. You may also choose to spread out your gift by using our pledge program.

The success of our development fund is critical to the future of SJC School. Please consider joining this effort if you have not already done so. For further information, contact the school office at (252-6441.) Thank you for your continued generosity!

A Special Invitation for Parish Families....

SAVE THE DATE!

St. Joseph of Cupertino School Open House
Tuesday, January 27th, 2009
9am - 12 noon

Prospective students and their families for the 2009-2010 school year are invited to come for a tour at our open house. Come see our classrooms, students and teachers in action! Tours will be lead by current school parents and applications for all grades will be available. To reserve your spot, please call Kama Belloni in the school office at 252-6441.

SCRIP SUNDAY IS THIS WEEKEND!

Do some convenient holiday shopping right after mass! Come see our huge assortment of restaurant and retail store gift cards. There is something for everyone on your list. Don't forget, we also have scrip for places that you shop at everyday - Safeway, Lucky's, Marina Foods, Han Kook Market, Long's, Starbucks, Walgreens, Panera, etc.

Thanks for supporting the SJC SCRIP program!



ATTENTION LUCKY'S SHOPPERS:

Do you shop at LUCKY'S? Save your RECEIPTS for SJC School! Lucky's has a program called "Apples For Students" where schools can receive FREE classroom supplies and educational products based on your register receipts. Please keep your Lucky's receipts and deposit them in the designated box in the vesti-

ROTATING SHELTER NEWS

The Faith in Action Rotating Shelter for Men will be housed at Congregational Community Church at Remington Drive and South Bernardo Avenue in Sunnyvale for the month of December. **Help is needed!!** They need help filling the calendar for meals. The following dates are still open and in need of dinner for 15 men plus the supervisor: **December 19, 24, 25 (Christmas Day!)26,27,30,31 and January 2nd.** If you can help please call Mary Ellen Hennig at (408) 255-6382. Thanks you so much!!



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27
 Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32
 Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17
 Thursday: Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25
 Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25
 Saturday: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38
 Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89;
 Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



FIRST RECONCILIATION will take place on **TUESDAY, DEC. 16** at **7pm** in the Church.

Christmas Alviso Outreach: Thank you very much to the Catechetical families and the staff of St. Joseph of Cupertino who have brought in their gifts for the Alviso families. Thank you for your kindness and generosity. Gifts will be delivered on Thursday, Dec. 18.



MOMENTUM FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Due to prior commitments we are not collecting for the mentally handicapped this Christmas. If you have saved the items that we usually ask for, we suggest that you donate them to another charitable organization. Look for this collection to start again in December, 2009. Thank you.

COME & PRAY FOR AN HOUR---ALL ARE INVITED TO COME TO OUR PRAYER GROUP MEETING in the community center at 12 noon on Mondays. Come and help pray for your needs, the needs of our parishioners and our parish. **NO MTG. DEC. 8. WE WILL MEET ON DEC. 15, 22., THEN BREAK FOR CHRISTMAS UNTIL JAN. 12, 2009.**

YOUTH MINISTRY



If you are between the ages of 11 and 19 our Youth Ministry Needs you. Come and make new friends with other youth as they share their desire to learn and grow in the Catholic Faith while forming great friendships. We meet every Sunday in the Youth Ministry Center from 6:15pm – 8:00pm.



Stewardship at St. Joseph of Cupertino

All of the people in today's readings – the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist – seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?

For more information on the many ways to practice stewardship at St. Joseph of Cupertino, please call L. T. Guttadauro, Stewardship Council, at 253-2449.

Stewardship in Action

Dear God and Father, You have given me a mission to help bring about your reign on earth as it is in Heaven through my life and the gifts You have given me. May I use the gifts of time, talent and treasure to follow Your plans and accomplish Your will. Help me go in peace to love and serve You!

Mass Intentions For the Week

Dec. 13	5:00 PM	Lucy Lobo Conder (L)
Dec. 14	8:00 AM	Courtney Metzger (+)
	9:30 AM	
	11:00 AM	Jay Butera (+)
	5:00 PM	Carl Brown (+)
Dec. 15	8:30 AM	
Dec. 16	8:30 AM	
Dec. 17	8:30 AM	
Dec. 18	9:00 AM	
Dec. 19	9:00 AM	
Dec. 20	8:30 AM	Norman Parent (+)
	5:00 PM	David Rosinski (L)
Dec. 21	8:00 AM	Mary Amos (+)
	9:30 AM	
	11:00 AM	Suzanne Good (+)
	5:00 PM	



PLEASE PRAY FOR

All victims of war & terrorism, All serving our country in the military, PEACE, and our relatives and friends



WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

Ms. Jessica Chang and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Chou

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Harris and Family

Mr. Doug Hodges and Ms. Maria Eustaquio

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Malang and Family

Ms. Kaaren Martin and Son

Ms. Lourdes Rodriguez and Daughter

Mr. & Mrs. Ajay Shingal and Family

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Triner and Family

The financial update that appeared in last week's bulletin was missing some information. This week's update shows the correct information. We apologize for any inconvenience. Thank you.

St. Joseph of Cupertino Monthly Financial Update For 5 mos. Ended November 30, 2008

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Weekly & other Collections	\$247,588	\$242,292	\$5,296
Gifts & other income	\$131,077	\$194,526	(\$63,449)
Total Revenue	\$378,665	\$436,818	(\$58,153)
Total Expense	\$396,673	\$447,080	\$50,406
Net Gain (Loss)	(\$18,008)	(\$10,262)	(\$7,747)

In an effort to keep the lines of communication open, the Finance Council has requested that a financial report appear in the bulletin Each month.

