

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

A Holy Day of Obligation

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Masses: Wednesday, December 7 at 7 P.M.;

Thursday, December 8 at 6:30 A.M., 9 A.M. and 7 P.M.

Prepare the way of the Lord!

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Thursday, December 15 at 7 P.M.

With holiday season quickly approaching, many people, possibly including yourself, will be out and about doing some shopping in the coming weeks. While you're out shopping, would you consider adding one more child/family to your "Good" list? The Christmas

December 2016						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Giving Tree is now standing at the parish chapel in support of the West Valley Community Services and Sacred Heart Community Services annual drive. Each ornament on the tree represents an item that will be useful and/or give happiness to the underprivileged children and family. Please stop by the Christmas Giving Tree to pick out one or more ornaments and/or gift tags. **Unwrapped** gifts should be back to the parish **no later than**

Tuesday, December 13. 🌸



Christmas Eve Mass with Focus on Children

The Christmas Eve Mass in the church on Saturday, December 24 at 5:00PM is a Mass with focus on children. There are many ways for your child to participate in this mass. If your child would like to participate, please let us know by December 18. Practice will take place on Friday morning, December 23. Need more information? Contact Tam Tran at [408-252-7563](tel:408-252-7563) or ttran@dsj.org.

Candleholders: 3rd grade and up
Gospel Nativity roles: Kinder up to 4th grade

SIMBANG GABI IS BACK!

DEC. 15 -22 , Thu-Thu, 8:30am regular daily mass (Sun., Dec. 18, 8am mass), Dec. 23, Fri. 6:30pm, followed by fellowship gathering.

"Simbang Gabi" is a beautiful Advent tradition, originated in the Philippines, that captures the joyful, excited, spiritual waiting that pervades Advent. Simbang Gabi is a novena dedicated to the expectant Blessed Mother, usually during the 9 days immediately preceding Christmas.

"Simbang Gabi" was observed at SJC as an Advent parish event for 7 years. It has been an inclusive Advent celebration that is shared with, embraced, and excitedly anticipated by our wonderfully multi-ethnic parish. The mass is the focal event, with special, uplifting songs and a "parol" (star lantern) offering ritual on the last night.

WATCH FOR THE FLYER
(in next week's bulletin)

Kay Sweeney, representative of the **Kateri Tekakwitha Mission Fund**, will be at St. Joseph's on Sunday December 11, 2016. The Fund works in Guatemala helping people develop their talents through education. They will have information related to the Fund and will be selling Guatemalan handicrafts to support our projects. When you buy from Mission: Guatemala and support the Kateri Education Fund, you are helping people improve their lives by supporting what they are doing to help themselves.

2016 OUTREACH THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKET PROGRAM

We had another successful year: the Program distributed over 200 food baskets to needy families in our community. Thank you to our parish community for their generosity and support. Special thanks to Anonymous SJC parishioner for their generous funding of the Program and to our amazing team of volunteers.

DIVORCED? SEPARATED?

If you are divorced or separated and interested in being part of a **new support group** in our area, we would like to hear from you! Please call the parish office and leave your name and contact information.



GROWING IN FAITH



(If you are interested in any of the offerings below, please contact Janice LaMotte in the parish office (408 252-7653 ext. 30)

“ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT!”

Stay tuned for events such as talks, discussions, and movies!!!

- DEC. 08** FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - CHECK MASS TIMES
- DEC. 09** FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE 6:30 PM ROSARY, 7 PM MASS AND ENACTMENT FOLLOWED BY RECEPTION
- DEC. 15** PARISH RECONCILIATION

CATHOLICISM 101- QUESTION FROM LAST WEEK:
What gospel is mainly read for this liturgical year. Are we following A, B, or C readings? ANSWER: *We have the A readings which is the gospel of Matthew.*

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH INVITES YOU TO COME & SEE:

Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith?

Are you baptized in another Christian tradition or baptized Catholic, but without formal religious education?

Our RCIA sessions are held on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Community Center. For more information, please call Janice LaMotte at (408) 252-7653 ext. 30



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BE BETTER PREPARED FOR NEXT WEEK'S MASS THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 11, 2016

Read :Isaiah 35:1-6,10; James ;
Matthew 3:1-13

QUESTION FOR ADULTS

What would Jesus see to praise you about right now?

QUESTION FOR CHILDREN

What good thing have you done so far during Advent to be like Jesus?

ACTION

CREATE A SIMPLE, QUIET ENVIRONMENT AT HOME ONE NIGHT EACH WEEK OF ADVENT. UNPLUG DEVICES

Prayer

Dear Jesus, help me to be an example of you for the world. Amen



SJC SCHOOL NEWS

Dining for Dollars\$ Restaurant Fundraiser THANK YOU

To all our supporters that attended the Island's restaurant fundraiser!
The school earned \$162.96.
Thank you!



We “kicked off” our school's Annual L.I.F.E. Development Drive, and we have received over **\$14,000 in donations!**

We are so grateful for your generosity, which inspires us each day. Because of your support, St. Joseph of Cupertino is among the healthiest and most innovative schools in the area. But even more importantly, we are committed to our identity as a Catholic school. If you find yourself in a position to support our efforts, we would be most grateful. God Bless you!

If you have not received a copy of the mailing or have any questions, contact the school office (408) 252-6441 or development@sjcschool.org

Accepting Kindergarten Applications Now!

The first round of Kindergarten Testing will take place in December. Submit your Kindergarten applications by Wednesday, December 7th to get an early decision.

If you have any questions, contact:
Principal Michael Lee at (408) 252-6441
michael.lee@sjcschool.org

Or go to the school website www.sjcschool.org

Gift Cards on Sale! Next Weekend!

Gift cards make great Christmas gifts.

Gift cards will be sold after the 8am, 9:30am, and 11am Sunday masses only, December 11th. Stock up on dining cards and gas cards in time for the Holidays. We have plenty of low denomination cards that make great stocking stuffers.

- **Panera Bread** (\$5/\$10) or **Le Boulanger** (\$25) for rolls
- **Starbucks** (\$5/\$10/\$25), **Peet's** (\$20) for coffee after dessert
- **Arco** (\$50) and **Chevron** (\$50) for your travels
- **Target** (\$10/\$25), **Toys R Us** (\$20) for toys
- **iTunes** (\$15/\$25) and **Barnes & Noble** (\$5/\$10/\$25) for fun
- **Bath & Body Works** (\$10/\$25) for pampering Mom
- **Amazon** (\$10/\$25/\$100) for virtually everything else

And don't forget we have grocery stores too:

Safeway (\$25/\$100), **SaveMart** (\$25/\$100), **Nob Hill** (\$25/\$100), **Sprouts** (\$25/100), and **Whole Foods** (\$100).

A portion of the sales will benefit the school.

Bring your checkbook, but we accept Credit Cards too.

Pray for our 2nd graders as they go through a reconciliation retreat next Saturday.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
 Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
 Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
 Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Mass Intentions for the Week

Dec. 03	5:00 PM	Mary Cay Sherman (+)
Dec. 04	8:00 AM	John, Margaret & Nick Mardesich (+)
	9:30 AM	Fernando Pazos (+)
	11:00 AM	Francois & Mary Ma (+)
	5:00 PM	Mary Cay Sherman (+)
Dec. 05	8:30 AM	Olivia Gray (L)
Dec. 06	8:30 AM	Mabel O'Hara (L)
Dec. 07	8:30 AM	Mabel O'Hara (L)
	7:00 PM	Patsy Luniewski (+)
Dec. 08	6:30 AM	Pat Dishman (+)
	9:00 AM	Salvacion Arcilla (+) & Cecilia Rodriguez (+)
	7:00 PM	Zenaida Bailon (L)
Dec. 09	8:30 AM	Pat Dishman (+)
Dec. 10	8:30 AM	Mabel O'Hara (+)
	5:00 PM	Eniel Solleza (L)
Dec. 11	8:00 AM	Bonifacio & Maria Balay (+)
	9:30 AM	Bill Egan (+)
	11:00 AM	Albert Fabilli (+)
	5:00 PM	Mary Cay Sherman (+)



Meant4More Youth Ministry is open to all students in high school. We meet every Sunday from 6-8pm. Come join us and make new friends, learn your faith, play games, sing, go on trips and watch movies. For more information email primomartinez@yahoo.com.

Human Trafficking is the world's fastest growing criminal enterprise and is an estimated \$150 billion a year industry. If you think someone is a victim of trafficking, call 1-888-373-7888. For more information, visit <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking>

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Did St. Francis of Assisi invent the Christmas crib? Not exactly, but his devotion to the Incarnation and his love for the poverty of the Christ Child certainly popularized this beloved custom. Long before Francis, it was a custom at the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome to enshrine a rich image of Mary, gilded and bejewelled, embracing the child Jesus. This church was founded as a kind of home for the feast of Christmas in the fourth century. In 1223, Francis was ready to celebrate this feast in a new way. In the tiny city of Greccio, he asked friends to prepare a place where they could experience the poverty and suffering embraced by Christ in his birth. It was a living scene: an ox from the barn, an ass from the stable, and peasants standing in for shepherds and kings. The night of the celebration was beautiful, the weather was warm, and people came in crowds, bearing candles and singing hymns that echoed through the forest. Francis himself chanted the Gospel and preached. The custom spread quickly, and by the sixteenth century cribs were seasonal features not only in church, but in the home.

On December 17, the liturgy begins to unfold the Lord's birth before us, and it's the right time to follow this beautiful tradition. In Germany, each night throughout Advent children prepare a bedding for the manger. At bedtime prayer, a child places a single straw in the manger for each act of devotion or virtue performed during the day. If the children are good, then the Christ child will have plenty of soft bedding when he is placed in the manger on Christmas.



PLEASE PRAY FOR

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



Stewardship at St. Joseph of Cupertino

Stewardship at St. Joseph of Cupertino

We must be good stewards of God's gifts to us, receiving them gratefully and cultivating them with care – or we will be the ones about whom John the Baptist speaks today, cautioning us, "Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." What good fruit will I produce?

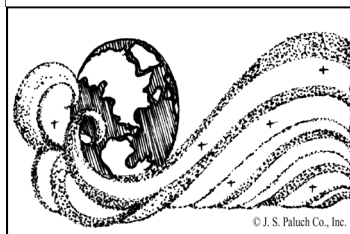
Stewardship Prayer

Rev. Gregory Kimm, 2009

God rich in kindness and generous in love,
 You call us to be your people, a church, a community of faith.
 You have entrusted St. Joseph of Cupertino Parish to our care.
 Help us to be good stewards, always worthy of your trust.
 As you are attentive to the needs of each of us,
 Enable us to be attentive to the needs of our parish,
 using the gifts you have given us not just for our own good,
 but for the good of all.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Brother, and in the Spirit, who makes us one.

Amen!

"BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY" This ministry is for grieving families. Teams from the parish supply **salads or desserts for a small group** of people in the family's home or our community center following a funeral. *(If you would like to be part of this ministry, please call Marlene at (408) 741-1615)*



**Second Sunday of Advent
 December 4, 2016**

The earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD,
 as water covers the sea.
 — Isaiah 11:9

Automated Giving is here—Have you signed up yet?
 All parishioners are encouraged to give a set monthly amount. There are a number of ways this can be accomplished. You can sign up for online giving by clicking on “donations” on the St. Joseph website home page (www.stjoscup.org). You can use your bank’s online bill pay service to set up a recurring monthly payment to St. Joseph, or you can write one check each month and either drop it in the collection basket or send it to the parish office. If you have questions, please contact the Planned Parish Giving team at ppcteam@stjoscup.org or call Mike Hoffman at (408) 315-1463.

PARISH WEBSITE!!--(stjoscup.org) have you checked out our parish’s website lately? You will find the **bulletin**, a **calendar of events** including **funerals**, and links to other **resources** as well as **Sunday homilies**.

PRAYER LINE! (Prayerline@stjoscup.org)

OTHER WEBSITES:

Diocesan Website— www.dsj.org

AmericanCatholic.org —you’ll find information about the Catholic Faith, Saint of the Day, as well as a place for prayer requests!

Vatican—www.vatican.va in English, Italian, French, German, and Spanish

The Christophers website at www.christophers.org.

Loyola Press —www.loyolapress.com

Sacred Space—<http://sacredspace.ie>(good for spirituality & prayer)

Busted Halo —www.bustedhalo.com(good for young adults)

USCCB.org (the U.S. bishops website)

WARNING!!! Not all websites are created equal---be careful that they follow the true Catholic teaching!

CATHOLIC RADIO: 1260 AM (Immaculate Heart Radio)

PARISH OUTREACH We welcome your donations of dry and canned foods for our Out reach Closet. Please continue to bring these items with you when you attend weekend Masses. Unfortunately, **we cannot accept any articles of clothing**. All other clothing should be taken to other charitable organizations. Thank you for your support of our program.

WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS. Your presence helps enliven our community and we thank and praise our God for each and every one of you. **If you would like to register with our parish, registration forms are in the vestibule and outside the chapel, or online.**

WAYS TO REPORT MISCONDUCT

Safe Environment *If you suspect abuse in your parish, school or in the Diocese of San Jose, please contact:*

Child Protective Services 408.299.2071 / Police 911

Office for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults

Anthony Gonzalez 408.983.0141 or email protection@dsj.org

Financial Mismanagement *If you suspect financial mismanagement or misconduct in your parish, school or in the Diocese of San Jose, please contact:*

Ethics Point: dsj.ethicspoint.com or the hotline telephone number 1-888-325-7863

The Finance Office

Teresa Conville, Director of Compliance & Parish Financial Services, 408.983.0241 or email at tconville@dsj.org

DID YOU KNOW?

We run a **BINGO** game every Monday and Saturday night. **BINGO** is a source of significant funds for our school, along with other donations to outreach, scholarships and other needed charities.

BINGO is in the parish hall. Warm-ups games start a 6:30 PM with the regular games at 7:15 PM. If you are a first time player there, you will receive a free dauber. Come join the fun--and spread the news! Information is also on the parish website under **ACTIVITIES**.

PRAYER REQUESTS? We have a prayer request form on our **website**. All requests are welcome & confidential.

**St. Joseph of Cupertino
 Staff Information**

Parish Office: (408) 252-7653

Secretary: Free Draga

Fri. Asst. Kathy Liccardo

stjparish@stjoscup.org

fdraga@dsj.org

kliccardo@dsj.org

Bingo Information – x37

Business Administration – x23Monica Viruegas-Ferrante

Catechetical Ministry – x60.....Tam Tran (catmin@stjoscup.org)

Liturgy – x32.....Dan Morris

Ministry to the Sick – (408) 252-7653.....Diane Ikeda

Organist –(408) 996-9352.....Lothar Bandermann

Outreach.....Dick Sherman

Pastoral Associate – x30.....Janice LaMotte
 (adulted@stjoscup.org)

School –(408) 252-6441.....Michael Lee (www.sjcschool.org)

Wedding Coordinator – (408)252-7653.....Janice LaMotte

Youth Ministry Coordinator --x38Primo Martinez
 (Primo.Martinez@yahoo.com)

.....Andy Sartori
andysartori04@gmail.com

Young Adult Coordinator - x28 Rev. Athanasius Kikoba

Deacon..... Ron Hansen
 (ronnebr@aol.com)

Altar Server Coordinator..... Rev. Athanasius Kikoba

Infant Baptism..... Rev. Athanasius Kikoba

Hospital Ministry - x26.....Rev. Don Morgan
 (wmorgan@dsj.org)

Parish Advisory Council..... advisory@stjoscup.org

Finance Council.....finance@stjoscup.org

Liturgy Committee.....liturgy@stjoscup.org

Communications Committee.....communications@stjoscup.org

Baptism

Please call the parish office to begin the required preparation process.

Marriage

Please contact one of the priests at least six months in advance.

Adult Initiation

If you are interested in becoming a Catholic call the parish office. Our RCIA program looks forward to hearing from you.

Illness

If someone from our parish is ill and would like to receive communion and/or the anointing of the sick, please call the parish office.

Bereavement Ministry

This ministry provides food after a funeral or memorial service. Advance notice is necessary. Volunteers are always welcome to join.

IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT PARKING

Through an agreement with the property owner, parishioners may use the Apple/Comera parking lot for weekend masses and evening events. **However, on weekdays, parishioner access to the lot is limited to daily mass and the dropping off and picking up of students.** Parishioners using the lot beyond these specified times MAY BE TOWED. Please be respectful of these limitations and help show that St. Joseph of Cupertino is a good neighbor. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Fr. Greg or our school principal, Michael Lee.