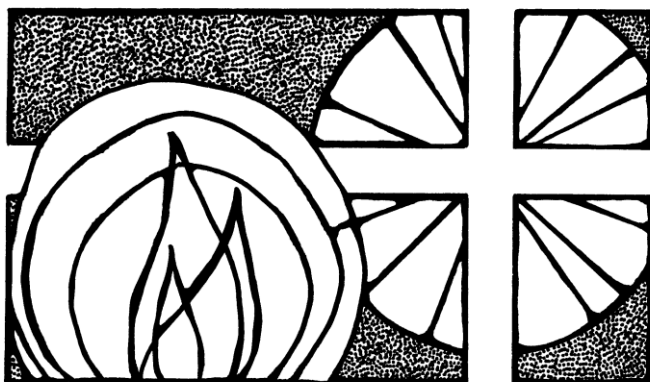


Third Sunday of Advent December 16, 2018



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**The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.**

— *Zephaniah 3:15b*

✦ Mass Intentions ~ St. John the Baptist ✦

Sat 15	7:30a	Mike & Dion Mangan (living) by Disciples of Jesus & Mary
	5:00p	✦ Colleen Howard by Gayla
Spanish	7:00p	✦ Francisca Alvarez
Sun 16	8:00a	✦ Darrel Cobb by Muriel Alexander
	10:00a	✦ Doris Arend by Tony & Beth Shingler
Spanish	12:00p	Maria Guadalupe Guillen & Family (living)
	5:00p	✦ Tyler Vitt by Mary K
Mon 17	7:30a	Juan & Narcisa Jauregui (living)
	6:00p	no mass
Tues 18	7:30a	Special Intention
	6:00p	Fr. Godwin Xavier (living)
Wed 19	7:30a	no intention
	6:00p	✦ George Binks by Daughter
Thur 20	7:30a	no intention
	6:00p	Javier & Ilda Lopez (living)
Fri 21	8:30a	no intention
	6:00p	✦ Francisco & Maria Luisa Garcia
Sat 22	7:30a	Camp Fire Victims
	5:00p	✦ Patricia Ahern by Helma Williams
Spanish	7:00p	✦ Concepcion Castro by Jose Dueñas ✦ Ramon Colmenares
✦ Mass Intentions – St. James ✦		
Sun 16	9:00a	✦ People of the Parish

Operating Income & Expense (updated weekly)

	Received	Needed	Shortfall
Offertory Collection Sunday, December 9, 2018			
St John's	\$10,983	\$11,600	\$617
St James	\$740	\$850	\$110
	\$11,723	\$12,450	\$727

Retirement for the Religious Collection:

St. John's: \$3,521 St. James: \$376

Immaculate Conception Collection: \$1,114

Thank you...may your faithful generosity bring you blessings of joy, for the Bible says, "God loves a cheerful giver!"

Parish Advent Penance Service:
Monday, Dec. 17th - 6:00pm in the church
NO EVENING MASS

Please keep in your prayers:

Craig Hill	John Corina
Nate Hinderman	JJ Rodriguez & Family
Camp Fire Victims and Relief Efforts	
Adam Fideli	Special Intention
Evelyn Coupe, for the repose of her soul	
Maria Lopez, for the repose of her soul	
Francisca Alvarez, for the repose of her soul	
Raquel Zamudio-Hernandez, for the repose of her soul	
Steven John Muders, for the repose of his soul	

If you or someone you know needs prayer please contact the parish office (530)343-8741 or email your requests to stjohn33@sbcglobal.net. The names will remain in the list for 3 weeks.

FYI: Monday masses have resume to the regular schedule 7:30am and 6pm with confessions at 5:30p.

Dear Camp Fire Disaster Recovery Center Volunteers,

Thank you so much for your generosity in serving those who have suffered great loss in the Camp Fire. The DRC is still going and there are some slots that only have 2 or 3 people in them. It would be great if we could have at least 5 people per slot for the next week if you wouldn't mind taking a look at the schedule

here <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C4DABAA23A5FE3-volunteers2> to see if you may be able to help during those times.

As a reminder, the current hours it is open is:
Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
The shifts go from 9-12, 12-3 and 3-6

Once again, thank you with your patience with these emails and for the time you've already served there!
May God bless you abundantly!

John T Donohue Assembly, Knights of Columbus: Is once again offering See's candies. This is the annual fund raiser for our scholarship program but this year all proceeds are being donated to Paradise Knights of Columbus Council for their members. Over Half of the 110 members lost everything in the Camp Fire. Please be as generous as possible for these unfortunate families.

Library Hours

Sundays - 9am to noon Fridays – 8am to 10am

The Parish Library is open after the 8am and 10am Masses and we have many books about Advent and Christmas for both adults and children. Learn the customs and traditions of these holy seasons of the Church year by checking out the books that are on display on the central table along with coffee and refreshments. If you haven't been in our library come in and introduce yourself as we are always pleased to welcome new patrons.

We are approaching the end of the year which means a great deal of activity for everyone. This is a good time to search your lodgings to see if there is a stray book or DVD that belongs to the Parish Library and return them, so you can start the New Year just right. If you can't make it into the library the wonderful ladies at the parish office will be glad to accept any book or DVD and place it/them in the library. The library hours are Friday from 8-10am, Sunday after the 8:00am Mass to about 12:00pm and the parish office hours are 11:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Friday. **The coffee is hot, the treats irresistible and the company grand.**

The Knights of Columbus are Catholic Gentlemen who are deeply committed to charity, protecting our faith and strengthening families through God's calling to serve.

1. A special thank you to all parishioners who volunteered to assist the St. Vincent de Paul Society in serving the victims of the Camp Fire. Thank you also to the members of the Knights who assisted with the coffee and treats for the training sessions.
2. Our Council 1137 wants to thank the Knights of Columbus from Our Divine Savior Parish for mutual support to spiritually, and physically nourish the families from St. Thomas More Parish. Much more is needed and it is gratifying to see members from all three councils working together in times of need.
3. Please join the Knights for a cup of coffee and donut the first Sunday of each month in front of the rectory.
4. "Save the Date" February 2, 2019 for the annual **CRAB FEED!**
5. There will be a business meeting for all Knights on Thursday, Dec 13 at 7:00 pm in the cafeteria. All eligible Knights should join us as we discuss ways to serve our parish and extended community.
6. If you would like more information about the Knights or about joining our team please see one of our members or go to our email: knightofcolumbus1137@gmail.com

Please join us for a series of workshops to bring support, information and caring to our community. Registration and attendance are FREE and open to everyone in the community!

Thursday, Dec 20th, 6-8pm: Preparing for the Holidays - Christmas and New Year's (adults only)

Thursday, Jan 3, 6-8pm: Self Care (open to all ages)

Thursday, Jan 10, 6-8pm: Expressive Art around the Fire (open to all ages)

All Workshops will be held in the St. John's Cafeteria.

416 Chestnut Street Chico, CA

Please call (530) 343-8741 to register for any of the workshops.

Society of St. Vincent the Paul: Preparing the way of the Lord is what Advent is all about. As we continue to reach out to those in need, please know that your generous gifts of time, prayers, and donations for the Camp Fire victims have brought much needed assistance to many. Your continued support is needed, and very much appreciated. Thank you so much for caring.

Parish Bulletin Submissions: The holidays are fast approaching and with shorter work days, we need all New Year's bulletin announcements earlier. **Please submit announcements Dec. 29/30 bulletin by Mon., Dec 17., at 10am.**

Please Join the 8am Sunday Mass Choir: We are looking for choir members, sopranos, altos, tenor and bass. This is a joyful ministry. We have a wide range of ability, so don't be shy! Practice is Tuesday nights at 6:30 and Sunday morning at 7:30am before 8:00am Mass. For further information please call Michele Jordan at (510) 590-3390 or George Wing at (530) 432-4472. Or just show up for practice.

ESL Classes for Adults: Sign-ups for ESL Classes for Adults: Those interested in ESL classes can sign up after the 12:00pm Mass or call the church office. The classes will take place starting January 15 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm at Notre Dame School. The only cost is \$5.00 for a book. Call Yvonne Freeman (956)358-7741 or Yolanda Holt (530)518-3988 if you have questions. Yvonne Freeman, Ph.D. Professor Emerita University of Texas Rio Grande Valley <http://davidandyvonnefreeman.com>

The Rite of Christian Initiation News



As we prepare our hearts to receive the Christ Child this Advent Season, let us remember that we can give no better gift to others than Jesus, the Word made flesh. Give the gift of the invitation to become Catholic to someone you know who may be considering entering into a deeper relationship with Christ. Perhaps you could invite them to attend Mass with you during Advent or Christmas.

RCIA inquirers are always welcome! **Please call the office at 343-8741, check out our website at stjohnthebaptist.org, or email Lori Smith at avemaria003@gmail.com for more information about becoming Catholic. It's never too late to join us!**



All parishioners at St. John's are encouraged to make use of our subscription to FORMED- the best Catholic content- all in one place! If you have not yet been to the site, go to stjohnthebaptist.formed.org and click "Register". Enter your name, email address and desired passcode.

PICK OF THE WEEK

Brother Francis: O Holy Night – Celebrate the Birth of Jesus. Recall the wonder and joy Christmas with Brother Francis in this heartwarming presentation that will remind you Who we celebrate during the Christmas season!

Natural Family Planning (Creighton Model) Classes: *Love. Mercy. Life. Opening the Heart of Marriage.* Are you ready to do a great thing for yourself and your marriage? Classes are available right here in Chico. Contact Jenni Schaeffer (530)893-5474 or Jackie Hollcraft M.S.; P.A.C. (530)519-5081.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study - Special Holiday Support meetings: The Tuesday Morning Bible Study is open to ALL in Chico (and to our Paradise guests) and meets every Tuesday morning from 9-11 in the ODS Prayer Room. This has been a tumultuous time for so many in our communities. We will be spending our Bible Study time on Dec. 11 and Dec. 18 offering prayer support, companionship, encouragement, and a DVD presentation on dealing with stress. Everyone is welcome! We are between studies, but on Jan. 8 we will begin to study the Gospel of Luke. We use a guidebook by Scott Hahn which includes helpful footnotes to put the readings in context and thought-provoking questions for discussion. We begin and end our two-hour session with prayer! No experience is required: please consider joining us. For more information call Terry Matthews, 893-1644.



Adoration Chapel



Please consider watching just one hour with the Lord. Please call Denise Marine (530)520-4176 or Javier Lopez (530)566-0358 for more information, to find out about empty time slots and sign up for an hour.

DIVINE MERCY YOUTH GROUP

Youth Minister Tanner Sheffield
(530) 218-7771

REJOICE!

Today has traditionally been called "Gaudete Sunday." The Latin tag is derived from Paul's appeal in the second reading to "rejoice always in the Lord," and the Latin Mass text based on that reading. The irony and paradox of this Christian joy is underlined by the fact that Paul wrote those words in prison. But from there he could see the progress of God's work.

Is it obvious to us? We feel that this is not the time for joy when there is so much suffering and moral evil. It is interesting, then, that the first reading is from the prophet Zephaniah, who is almost exclusively concerned with gloomy visions of Judgment Day. Today the Church selects the only optimistic text in Zephaniah, in which the prophet has been touched by the spirit of joy.

This, we are assured on all sides, is "the season of joy." Let us recapture that feeling of joy in our lives and reflect it to those who are joyless.

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Fundraiser for the participating students of Notre Dame headed to Washington D.C. this coming spring. **Your support of this fundraiser and your donations are greatly appreciated!**

December 23rd

Bring your un-wrapped gifts to either the **8:00 am or 10:00 am mass on Sunday, to the downstairs cafeteria.** For quickest service bring your un-wrapped gifts to the cafeteria before mass and we'll have them ready by the end of mass for you!

•We'll **Beautifully gift wrap** and bow them, ready for pick-up by the end of mass or within minutes afterward.