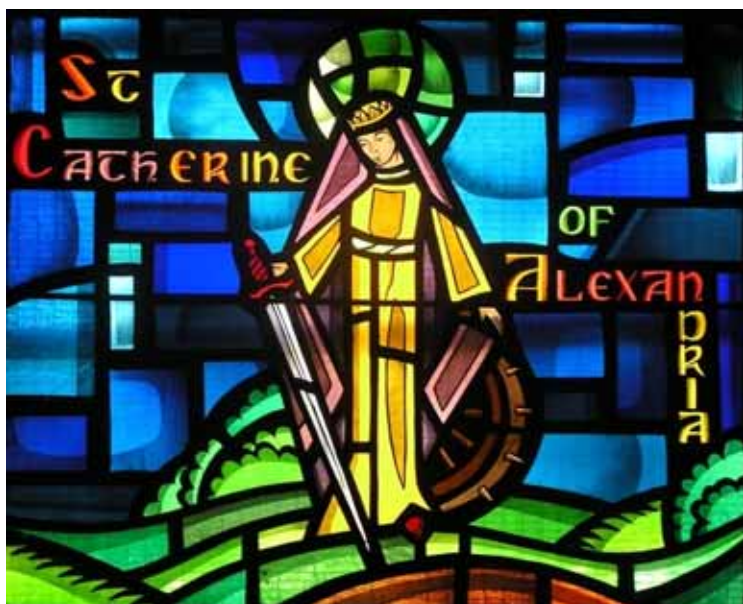


Saint Catherine catholic community
Comunidad católica de santa catalina



We, at St. Catherine Parish, are a growing, diverse, and welcoming Catholic Community, called to live and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ through Worship, Discipleship and Service.

La Parroquia de Santa Catalina de Alejandría, es una comunidad en crecimiento, acogedora y diversa, llamada a vivir y proclamar la Buena Nueva de Jesucristo por medio de la Oración, el Discipulado y el Servicio.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

MASSES / MISAS

Monday-Saturday: 8:15am
Saturday: 5:30pm
Sábado: 7:00pm
Sunday: 7:15, 8:45, 10:30am
5:30pm
Domingo: 12:15pm

CONFESSION / CONFESIÓN

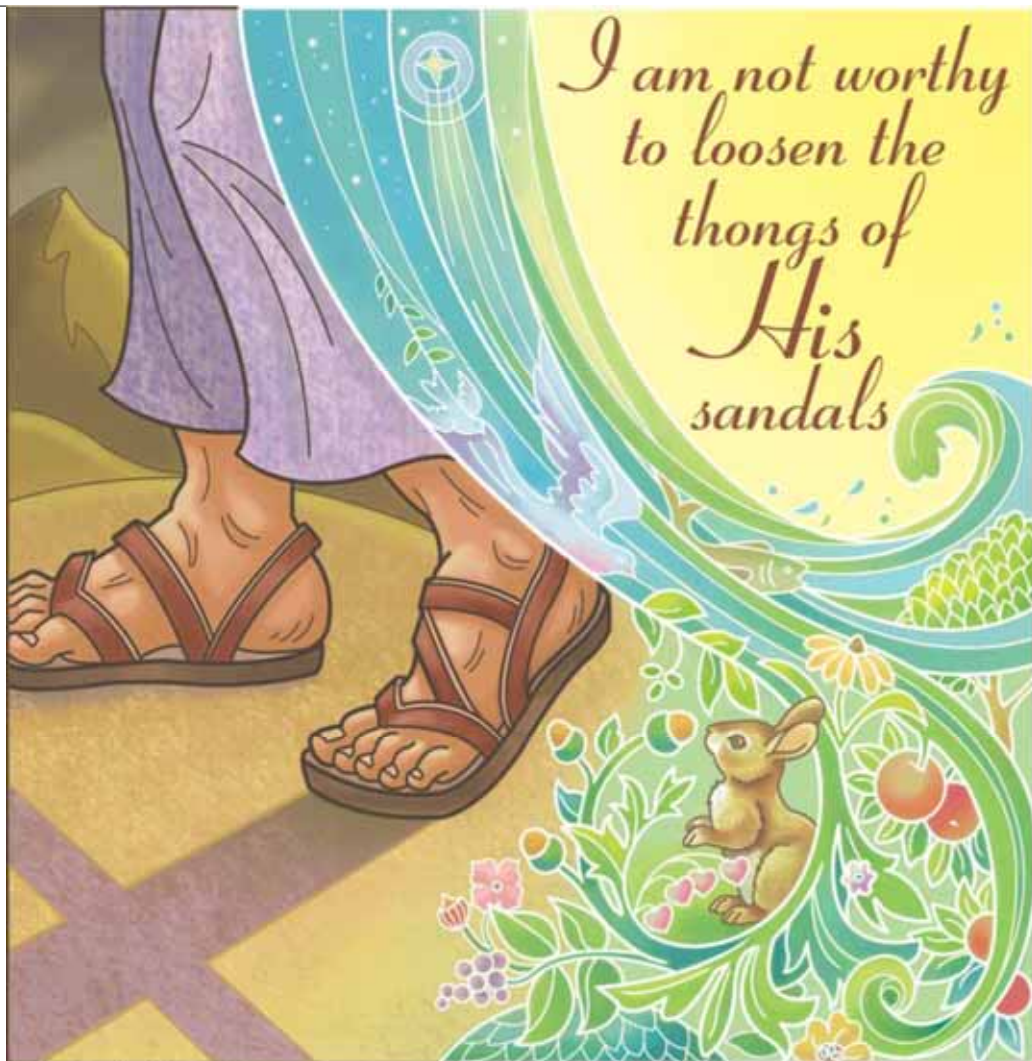
Saturday / Sábado: 4:00 -
5:00pm (Or by appointment /
O hacer una cita.)

ADORACIÓN / ADORATION
Wednesday / Miércoles 7:00pm

17400 Peak Avenue
Morgan Hill, CA 95037
(408) 779-3959
Fax: (408) 779-0289
www.stca.org
Email: Office@stca.org

Catechetical Ministry
(408) 779-9604

St. Catherine School
(408) 779-9950
www.stcatherinemh.org



Rectory Office Hours / Horarios de la Rectoría

Monday - Friday (*Lunes - Viernes*)
8:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday (*Sábado*) / Sunday (*Domingo*)
Closed/*Cerrado*

Pastoral Staff / Equipo Pastoral

Fr. Sergio Ovando, Pastor - sovando@dsj.org
Msgr. Francisco Rios, Parochial Vicar - frios@dsj.org
Fr. Francis Kalaw, Parochial Vicar - fkalaw@dsj.org
Deacon Rick Haeckel, Deacon - rhaeckel@dsj.org
Deacon Phil Flowers, Deacon - pflowers@dsj.org
Deacon Juan Aquino, Deacon - jaquino@dsj.org
Lou Villano, Business Manager - lvillano@dsj.org
Carmelo Jimenez, Hispanic Ministries Coordinator, cjimenez@dsj.org
Rose Pucan-Meagor, Director of Family Faith Formation & Evangelization - rosepm@dsj.org
Deepu Kochuparambil, Youth & Young Adult Ministry - deepuk@dsj.org
Anna Quiñones, Director of Stewardship & Development - aquinones@dsj.org
Fabienne Esparza, Principal - fesparza@stcatherinemh.org
Diana-Lynn Inderhees, Liturgy Coordinator, dinderhees@dsj.org
Maria Dominguez, Office Manager, mdominguez@dsj.org
Juanita Martinez, Administrative Assistant, jumartinez@dsj.org

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Your God will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals (Zephaniah 3:14-18a).

Psalms — Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12:6).

Second Reading — Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! (Philippians 4:4-7).

Gospel — Whoever who has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. Whoever who has food should do likewise (Luke 3:10-18).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Tuesday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Thursday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38
Friday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Saturday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

THE WEEK AHEAD/LA SEMANA PRÓXIMA

Sunday/Domingo, December 16

2:00-5:00pm *Gym, CR1-4, Kit* Annual Sweepstakes Raffle
3:30-5:30pm CH Worship Band & Singers
4:30-9:00pm Rm. 11 *Grupo Amigos – Leadership Mtg.*
7:00-9:00pm MC Life Teen Youth Group

Monday/Lunes, December 17

11:00-2:00pm CR1-4, Kit Over 50's Luncheon
6:00-7:00pm CR3-4, Kit Community Supper
6:30-8:30pm NUR Handmaids - Stitching Group
7:00-8:00pm CH Angelica Choir Rehearsal
7:00-8:30pm Rm. 8,10 JPC - Junta de Equipo

Tuesday/Martes, December 18

6:30-7:30pm CR1-2 Cub Scouts 766 - Den Meeting
6:30-9:00pm Rm. 11 JPC Coro
7:00-9:30pm MC Spanish Catechist Training
7:00-8:15pm CR3-4, Kit KoC Assembly Board

Wednesday/Miércoles, December 19

9:00-11:00am CR1-2 Women's Group - Study
4:00-8:30pm NUR Choir Practice/FIAM Choir
6:00-7:30pm CR1-2 UPDE Meeting
6:30-9:00pm Rm. 11 JPC Coro
7:00-8:30pm MC EDGE Middle School Ministry
7:00-8:30pm LR RICA

Thursday/Jueves, December 20

6:00-7:30pm NUR UPDE - Volunteer Meeting
6:00-9:00pm CH Spanish Choir
7:00-8:30pm Rm. 11 *Grupo Amigos - Teen Leader Mtg.*
7:00-8:30pm CR1-2 Capital Campaign Meeting

Friday/Viernes, December 21

9:00-11:00am CR1-2 Bible Study
6:00-10:00pm *Gym, CR1-4, Kit* Posada General

Saturday/Sabado, December 22

MC = Milani Center CR1-4= Parish Center Conference Rooms
CH = Church Room LR = Living Room DC = Daycare Nur. = Nursery
CV= Church Vestibule Rm. 8,10,11 = School Rooms

SAINTS CHAPEL HELP

Clean the chapel area and put new candles out. Help is needed throughout the day and evening. Small candles need to be changed every four hours. Contact: Ralph Ortega at ralphndebbie@icloud.com.

8:15am Mass Intentions

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Monday, December 17 | † Dede Mariani |
| | † Virginia Ardizzone |
| Tuesday, December 18 | † Peter Nguyen |
| | † Anthony Tran |
| Wednesday, December 19 | Luis Alfonso Lua |
| | † Tom Tacci |
| Thursday, December 20 | † Tony Justino |
| | Helen Justino |
| Friday, December 21 | † Sergio Madrigal |
| | † Rodora Catacutan |
| Saturday, December 22 | † Joseph Ky & Ngoan Vu |
| | † Lucrecia Madrigal |

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

STEWARDSHIP IN SCRIPTURE

by Deacon Rick Haeckel

John the Baptist, such a pivotal part of the Gospel. There were baptisms performed by other “groups” where it signaled an initiation into the membership in that group. We know John the Baptist had followers, today’s Gospel gives us a vignette of their experiences. What separated John from others was his recognition of Jesus as the promised one. In Christian history, after Jesus’ resurrection, the Church continued to baptize but with an important difference. As Jesus instructed, people then, as today, are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and Holy Spirit. Water is still used but the sacramental presence of Jesus asks that the one being baptized recognize this truth (or his/her parents for infants). John preached repentance, asking for recognition of one’s failures and a commitment to reform. The Gospel describes the willingness of different types of people to hear and believe John’s message. So much so that they wondered if he himself could be the promised one. Lest there be any confusion, John clearly dispels any thought of his own prominence. He had little regard for any of life’s trappings; he lived an austere life ... pointing to the one who would follow him, Jesus. It may seem a little too much to assume but we are to emulate John the Baptist. We grow in faith and our ability to share it publicly. We are called to pass on faith but in doing so we need to avoid any sense of self importance; like John the Baptist we are to point to the one who came after him, Jesus. Most us won’t live in the desert or eat locusts and wild honey, at least not physically. But having that spirit is a big help in tamping down our assessment of what is important in our faith journey. John the Baptist, like the prophets before him, spoke the truth about our relationship with God and with one another. When asked what “the crowds” should do, John emphasized the need to be men and women for others. Placing the needs of others before any excesses we desire for ourselves focuses us on being Christ for one another. In a larger sense, John the Baptist is our Advent guide, calling us out of daily diversions, asking that as we anticipate the Christmas miracle we place ourselves in the posture of the shepherds who recognized and came to revere him. We too are called to worship Jesus, the living God who beckons us. Even with our graced knowledge of who Jesus is we are called to stand in awe of God come among us as one like us. Understanding of that gift is beyond us but lives lived patterned after love incarnate call us to be love also.

GREEN TIP OF THE WEEK

Kitchen freezers are a boon, allowing us to buy food for the future. But it becomes easy to accumulate more than we need. Take time to investigate, perhaps have a “freezer” meal once a week to avoid too many “bargains” that rest uneaten.

*FROM THE DESK OF MSGR. FRANCISCO RIOS,
PAROCHIAL VICAR....*

My dear brothers and sisters,
Today is Gaudete Sunday. It is the Third Sunday of Advent; we light the Third candle, which is the pink one. Gaudete means rejoice. The first reading says: “Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel!” and St. Paul says: “Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!”

Rejoice because the Lord is closer, there is more light, there is hope.

What should we do? John the Baptist says give, help others and be honest. These actions are very rewarding, make us feel good and give us peace of mind; at the same time we are being light for others setting a good example.

Rejoice because God gave us the greatest gift, his Only Son.

Mary rejoiced when she sang the Magnificat and when Jesus was born. Can you imagine that joy?!

Rejoice in your family and friends that are a gift from God too.

There is nothing better than being around a joyful people.

SIMBANG GABI

Our Fil-Am community invites you to join us in this wonderful tradition of the Simbang Gabi which our parish will celebrate both on December 15 and 22, 5:30pm. This tradition began in 1587, Fray Diego Soria, a missionary to the Philippines, petitioned the Pope for permission to hold Christmastide Masses outdoors because the church could not accommodate the multitude that attended the services. The request was granted and thus, Simbang Gabi became a Filipino spiritual tradition. Vatican II encouraged the church in the Philippines to continue the tradition and uphold its significant role in the life of the people, to express the love of the people for God through His Mother Mary. Filipino Americans brought Simbang Gabi to the U.S. and found it to be an effective way to stay connected to their faith and enables them to share their God-given gifts with the wider Church in the United States.

TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — ¡Canta! ¡Da gritos de júbilo! ¡Gózate y regocíjate! El Señor tu Dios está entre ustedes y es un poderoso salvador (Sofonías 3:14-18a).

Salmo — El Señor es mi Dios y salvador (Isaías 12).

Segunda lectura — ¡Alégrense! El Señor está cerca. Presenten sus peticiones a Dios (Filipenses 4:4-7).

Evangelio — Juan dice a sus oyentes que compartan sus posesiones con los necesitados (Lucas 3:10-18).

Salmo responsorial: *Leccionario I* © 1976, Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano. Usado con permiso. Todos los derechos reservados.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Sal 72 (71):1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Martes: Jer 23:5-8; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Miércoles: Jue 13:2-7, 24-25a; Sal 71 (70):3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lc 1:5-25

Jueves: Is 7:10-14; Sal 24 (23):1-6; Lc 1:26-38

Viernes: Cant 2:8-14 o Sof 3:14-18a; Sal 33 (32):2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lc 1:39-45

Sábado: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lc 1:46-56

Domingo: Mi 5:1-4a; Sal 80 (81):2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lc 1:39-45

¡BIENVENIDO!

Nuestra más cordial bienvenida a todos los que están celebrando con nosotros, ya sean residentes de largo plazo o recién llegados a la parroquia. Damos gracias a Dios por ustedes. Si aún no estás registrado, por favor, llene este formulario y colóquelo en la canasta de la colecta o mandarlo por correo a la oficina de la parroquia.

Nombre (s): _____

Dirección: _____

Ciudad: _____

Código postal: _____

Numero teléfono: _____

Email: _____

¿Desea recibir sobres de contribución?

_____ Yes _____ No

¿Desea recibir información de la parroquia?

_____ Yes _____ No

DESDE EL ESCRITORIO DE MSGR. FRANCISCO RIOS, VICARIO PARROQUIAL

Queridos hermanos

Hoy es domingo de Gaudete. Hoy se enciende la tercera vela de adviento, que es la de color rosa. Gaudete significa alégrense. La primera lectura nos dice: "Grita de gozo oh! Hija de Sion. Canta alegremente oh! Israel!" y San Pablo nos dice "alégrense en el Señor siempre. Se los repito alégrense!

Alegrémonos porque el Señor esta cerca, por nacer. Hoy hay mas luz y esperanza.

Que debemos hacer le preguntan a Juan Bautista. Juan les responde: den, compartan, ayuden a otros, sean honestos. Estas acciones nos dan satisfacción en el Corazón y nos dan paz y tranquilidad en el alma. A su vez estamos siendo ejemplo para otros.

Alegrémonos porque Dios nos ha dado el mas grande regalo de todos y el mejor, su propio Hijo.

Maria se alegro cuando canto el Magnificat y como toda madre con el nacimiento de su hijo. Se imaginan cuanta alegría?!

Alegrémonos en nuestra familia, en nuestros amigos que son regalo de Dios también.

No hay nada mejor que andar alrededor de gente alegre y feliz.

EL CLUB MÁS DE LOS 50'S

¡Todos son bienvenidos! Para que todas las denominaciones compartan amistad, oración y sociales. Las reuniones son al mediodía en el Centro Parroquial de Sta. Catalina. Traiga su propio servicio de mesa, plato de comida y / o postre como se sugiere en el calendario de reuniones a continuación. Proveemos los refrescos. Se recolecta un dólar para los gastos del club en cada reunión, excepto el Día de Acción de Gracias y Día de San Patricio, que son cinco dólares. Las contribuciones son bienvenidas (alimentos enlatados o dinero) para el Programa Reach Out.

Calendario de reuniones para 2018/2019

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Dic. 17 | Sándwiches, chips y salsa por club, Postres y galletas todos los miembros. |
| Ene. 28 | Pastel de cumpleaños por club, comida común todos los miembros. |
| Feb. 25 | Comidas y / o postres todos los miembros. |
| Mar. 18 | Corned beef & repollo por club, Ensalada y / o postre todos los miembros. |
| Abr. 15 | Comidas y / o postres todos los miembros. |
| May. 20 | Lasagna, chips y dip por club, Ensalada y postre todos los miembros. |

Para obtener más información, llame a Alicia (408) 842-6928.

TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

FORMACIÓN DE FAMILIAS EN LA FE

Las catequistas asistimos a la Conferencia de Formación de la Fe de Santa Clara. El lema de este congreso fue “Construyendo Puentes de Esperanza”

En este congreso aprendimos la importancia de seguir *construyendo* esos puentes de amor, fe y esperanza y seguir *trabajando* para poder realizar nuestra misión. En este tiempo de Adviento sigamos preparándonos y seamos esos puentes para todos nuestros hermanos. Que no pongamos divisiones por el lenguaje, diferencias de culturas o del país de origen. Ante los ojos de Dios todos somos sus hijos y juntos no solo podremos construir puentes, sino que también podremos edificar la iglesia que Jesús quiere y que nosotros tanto necesitamos.



TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

Los cristianos latinos tenemos unos cinco siglos en nuestra trayectoria de fe y como todo cristiano aguardamos la segunda venida del Mesías, Jesús. Nuestra espera forma parte de dos milenios de cristianos que buscan verlo llegar en las nubes.

Desde el siglo VII la oración oficial de la Iglesia clama el retorno de Cristo con las exclamaciones llamadas las “Antifonas Oh”. Estas llaman a Jesús pidiéndole que venga bajo los títulos de Emmanuel, Sabiduría celestial, Señor de gran poder, Vara de Isaí, Llave de David, Alba de la luz, y Deseo y Rey de gentes, y algunos más. Estos refranes se usan aún todavía hoy durante los días 17 al 23 de diciembre, y unidas en un acróstico latino forman las palabras *ero cras* (estaré mañana), como respuesta a la petición cristiana. Eventualmente en el siglo X o XI estas antifonas fueron unidas en el canto gregoriano *Veni, veni Emmanuel* (Oh ven, oh ven Emmanuel).

Este adviento mientras cantamos las antiguas antifonas hay que preguntarnos si de veras estamos listos para el regreso del Hijo del Hombre que viene para juzgar a vivos y muertos.

—Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA

Adulto: “¿A quién han traído alegría tus pasados actos de bondad? ¿Qué acto de bondad podrías hacer esta semana?”

Niño: “¿Qué tipo de cosas has hecho por alguien últimamente? ¿A quién podrías hacer feliz por tu amabilidad esta semana?”

LOS SANTOS Y OTRAS CELEBRACIONES

Domingo: Tercer Domingo de Adviento;
Las Posadas comienzan

Martes: Día Internacional del Emigrante

Viernes: San Pedro Canisio; Invierno



TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

16 DE DICIEMBRE
TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

HORA SANTA TODOS LOS MIÉRCOLES
DE 6:30 PM A 7:30 PM



El tercer domingo de Adviento es llamado “domingo de gaudete”, o de la alegría, por la primera palabra del introito de la Misa: Gaudete, es decir, regocíjense.

En esta fecha se permite la vestimenta color rosa como signo de gozo, y la Iglesia invita a los fieles a alegrarse porque ya está cerca el Señor. En la Corona de Adviento se enciende la tercera llama, la vela rosada.

Domingos de “gaudete” y “laudete”

Hay dos domingos en el año que se permite usar el color rosa en la vestimenta y estos son el cuarto domingo de Cuaresma (laetare) y el tercer domingo de Adviento (gaudete) porque en medio de la “espera”, se recuerda que ya está próxima la alegría de la Pascua o de la Navidad, respectivamente.

En la corona de Adviento también se suele encender una vela rosada.



Cantemos al
Amor de los amores,
cantemos al Señor.
¡Dios está aquí!
Venid, adoradores;
adoremos a
Cristo Redentor.

¡Gloria a Cristo Jesús!
Cielos y tierra,
benedicid al Señor.
¡Honor y gloria a ti,
Rey de la gloria;
amor por siempre a ti,
Dios del amor!

Durante los momentos mas dolorosos, Jesús nuestro Señor pidió a sus discípulos que oraran una hora con El en el huerto de Getsemaní. Todos los miércoles a las 7:00pm tenemos la oportunidad de orar una hora con el Señor en frente de Santísimo Sacramento. No pierda la oportunidad de pasar este tiempo con el Señor.

GRUPO DE ORACIÓN ALPHA Y OMEGA

El grupo se reúne los miércoles al terminar la Hora Santa. De 6:30 pm a 9:00 pm. Acompáñenos a alabar al Señor con cánticos y oración.

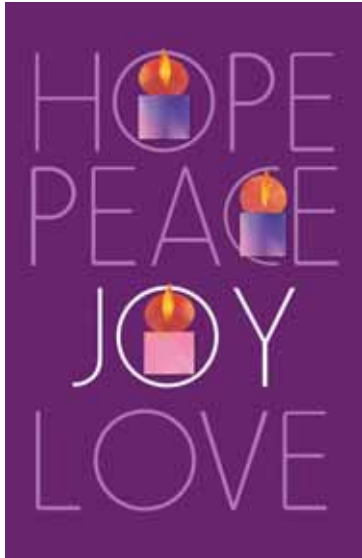
SAN VICENTE DE PAUL

El ministerio parroquial de San Vicente de Paul está disponible para cualquier persona que lo necesite en nuestra comunidad. Los feligreses donan dinero generosamente para que otros puedan obtener ayuda para pagar la renta, las facturas de PGE, o recibir una tarjeta de regalo para comida, gasolina o cualquier artículo necesario. Llame a nuestra línea de ayuda SVdP al 408-778-2928 y deje un mensaje en inglés o español.

CENAS COMUNITARIAS PARA LAS FIESTAS

Community Suppers será anfitrión de nuestra cena regular de lunes por la noche en la víspera de Navidad (24 de diciembre) y en la víspera de Año Nuevo (31 de diciembre) en el Centro Parroquial de 6-7pm. Venga a compartir con nosotros una cena deliciosa, caliente y gratis en la compañía de sus amigos y vecinos. Todos son bienvenidos.

Equipping Families to Pass On the Faith



JOY

The third week of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday, brings us most of the way through the season. We rejoice as we can more clearly see that the “Lord is near!” The joy that fills us is based not on a feeling, but on who God is - Love! Reflect on Joy this

week as a family by reading these scripture verses and quotes from Mother Teresa. Reflect on what they mean to family members and which one resonates the most. Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel!

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near.” ~ Philippians 4:4-5

“You will show me the path to life, abounding joy in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever.” ~ Psalm 16:11

“Blessed be the LORD, who has heard the sound of my pleading. The LORD is my strength and my shield, in whom my heart trusts. I am helped, so my heart rejoices; with my song I praise him.” ~ Psalm 28:6-7

“A Christian should be an Alleluia from head to foot.” ~ St. Augustine

*“One filled with joy preaches without preaching.”
“If you are joyful, do not worry about lukewarmness. Joy will shine in your eyes and in your look, in your conversation and in your countenance. You will not be able to hide it because joy overflows.”
~ St. Teresa of Calcutta*



Tomorrow is the LAST DAY for open registration for the Winter Retreat! After that registrations will have to be approved based on numbers and how angsty Deepu's feeling that day. ;-)

Thank you everyone who came out and supported the fundraiser at Mr. Pickle's! We really appreciate you supporting the youth of our community. Retreats can be a transformative experience and we want every teen to have the chance to go, regardless of their family's financial situation.

Hey Parents of Middle Schoolers! We have our Edge Family Christmas social this Wednesday in the Milani Center. We ask that you bring a white elephant gift (just one for the whole family) between \$10-20. Even if your child has never been to Edge, this is a great night to start coming!

Life Teen is going caroling and also a potluck dinner & a white elephant gift (just not with families) this Sunday. Come dressed up festive (ugly Christmas sweaters are welcome). White Elephant gifts should be between \$10 and \$20.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

OVER 50'S

All denominations are welcome! To share friendship, prayer and socials.

Meetings are at noon in the St. Catherine's Parish Center. Bring your own table service, potluck dish and/or dessert as suggested in the meeting schedule below. Refreshments are furnished. One dollar is collected for club expenses each meeting except for the Thanksgiving turkey and the St. Patty's Day corned beef and cabbage which are five dollars.

Contributions are welcome (canned foods or money) for the Reach Out Program.

Meeting Schedule for 2018 / 2019

| | |
|---------|--|
| Dec. 17 | Sandwiches, chips & Dip by club, dessert and cookies all members |
| Jan. 28 | Birthday cake by club, potluck all members |
| Feb. 25 | Potluck and/or dessert all members |
| Mar. 18 | Corned beef & cabbage by club, salad and/or dessert all members |
| Apr. 15 | Potluck and/or dessert all members |
| May 20 | Lasagna, chips & dip by club, salad and dessert all members |

For more information call Alicia (408) 842-6928.

COMMUNITY SUPPERS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Community Suppers WILL host our regular Monday night Community Supper on Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) and New Year's Eve (Dec. 31) in the Parish Center from 6-7pm. Join us for a delicious, free, hot meal, and the company of your friends and neighbors. All are welcome.

SIMBANG GABI

The Fil-Am organization is preparing for Christmas this year with two [2] Simbang Gabi masses, a devotional series of Masses practiced traditionally by Filipinos in anticipation of Christmas and to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. It will be held on two Saturdays, December 15 and December 22 at the 5:30pm mass. There is a Fil/Am sponsored reception after the December 15 mass in the Parish Center conference rooms. All, along with your families, are invited. Please come and celebrate with us.

JOIN US SUNDAY DECEMBER 16TH AT 2PM IN THE PARISH CENTER FOR THE 36TH ANNUAL ST. CATHERINE'S SWEEPSTAKES LIVE DRAWING!

- Enjoy complimentary refreshments and snacks provided by the Staff of St. Catherine's School
- Enter to win free door prizes!
- Join in the excitement of the live drawing you just might be a lucky winner! You don't have to be present to win, but it sure is fun if you are!

A \$60 **Vehicle Sweepstakes** ticket may put you behind the wheel of a brand new car with a sticker price up to **\$40,000**. As an alternative to the car, the lucky winner can choose to receive **\$30,000 in cash**.

A \$20 **Vacation Sweepstakes Ticket** offers a Trip of a Lifetime! You name the place and your winning ticket funds it up to **\$7,500** or alternatively the lucky winner can choose to receive \$5,000 in cash. This ticket has 5 great prizes to win, including a new **Drone**, cash and a trip to **Disneyland!**

Good Luck to Everyone participating in this year's Sweepstakes!

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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Years ago, the trick question on religion quizzes would be to name all the liturgical colors, or the colors of the vestments worn at Mass. Rose is a color seldom seen, used at most two days a year. Today, "Gaudete Sunday," is one of those days. The name of the day is drawn from an opening verse in the old Latin Mass texts: *Gaudete* is Latin for "Rejoice!" This year's Gospel certainly reflects that mood as Elizabeth feels her infant within her leaping for joy at the presence of Mary. Mary's visit to her aged cousin is an act of compassion between women, as two kinswomen who are bearing children into the world share their joy.

Some churches retain the custom of having the priest wear rose vestments today, and many will use a rose candle in the Advent wreath. Violet is the official color for Advent and Lent, but many parishes employ different hues for each season, trying to keep them distinct. In medieval times, dye was costly, and poor parishes used unornamented plain cloth for vestments. Dyes were expensive and some colors, particularly purple, difficult to achieve. In England, purple dye was made from mollusks, yielding at best a deep indigo or blue and not the desired violet. Thus, the color of Advent in the British Isles has long been a deep blue, reminding many people of Mary's presence at the heart of the Advent mystery. That theology is largely unplanned: it's all because of the clams!

James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent;
Las Posadas begins
Tuesday: International Migrants Day
Friday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins

MASS TIMES

When traveling and don't know the mass times for the local church go to www.masstimes.org, search by zip code or by address and locate any church's mass times anywhere.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Adult: "To whom have your past acts of kindness brought joy? What act of kindness could you do this week?"

Child: "What kind thing have you done for someone lately? Whom could you make happy by your kindness this week?"

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Have you noticed ladies and gentlemen going up to the sanctuary at the end of Mass and the Presider handing them something? Have you wondered who they are? What they are being given? These parishioners are "Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist to the Sick and Homebound". These devoted Ministers bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are sick or homebound and unable to come to Mass. St. Catherine parish is very fortunate to have many trained ministers. If you have a family member or know someone who is unable to come to Mass and would like to receive Communion at home, please let them know that they, or a family member, can call the Rectory and make a request for visits. A Minister is then assigned to bring Eucharist to them once a week. Please keep these Ministers and the sick of our parish in your prayers.

God is great all the time,
all the time, God is great!

IT'S CONFIDENTIAL!

Just getting it off your chest can help. A Stephen Minister cares about you and your problems.

Call Claranne @ 408-782-1413 or Kenny @ 408-722-6700



Welcome! Our warmest welcome to all who celebrate with us, whether long-time residents or newly arrived in the parish. We thank God for you. If you are not registered, please fill out this form and place it in the collection basket or mail it to the parish office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Would you like to receive envelopes? Yes / No

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Business Office Update

ST. CATHERINE'S COMMUNITY CLOSET

St. Catherine's Community Closet is one of the great organizations in the Parish. We are known for providing a successful **Back to School giveaway** one week every summer. But we are also there all year to offer to those in need an opportunity to collect adult and children's clothing, household items, and some types of furniture and appliances. As we approach the winter months, **please donate these items**. You can do so at the Parish office, or at our location at **13570 Depot Street, San Martin**. If you are so inclined and want to volunteer, come to San Martin Hall and talk to Debbie or any other volunteer. The facility is open every **Tuesday, Thursday, and the first Saturday** of the month from 10am to Noon.

SUNDAY COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS

There will be no Sunday Hospitality for the remainder of the year because of the many other events in December. We will return in January. Thank you for your support.

HAVE YOU MOVED?

Have you moved recently and need to update your mailing information with the parish? Email us at office@stca.org, drop us a note in the Sunday collection or call us at (408) 779-3959. We need your complete name, old & new address and your new telephone number if that has changed. Don't miss out on all the great news we mail/email to our parishioners!

DID YOU KNOW?

The **Bright Beginnings Nursery** is open on Sundays during the 8:45 and 10:30 Masses. There are toys and activities for children from 1 to 4 years old. Hiedi Betancourt is the Nursery Supervisor, she has led the Nursery for years. Enter the Parish Center, and the Nursery is off to the left. We are open when you see the **Bright Beginnings** sign in the front of the Parish Center.

TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

The charts below show the collection results for last week. Thank you for your continued generous support of St. Catherine Parish.

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------|
| | Sunday | |
| | 12/9/18 | |
| Week | \$22,469 | |
| Goal | \$23,000 | |
| Difference | -\$531 | -2% |



ST. CATHERINE PRAY US!

St. Catherine School News

ADVENT PROGRAM

Please join us for our annual Advent program scheduled for Wednesday, December 19, at 7:00pm in the church. Our 8th grade teacher, Mrs. Nowell, is already busy working with her class on the dramatic portion of the program. Other classes are learning the songs and movement for their performances with our Music Director, Mrs. Fernandez. We look forward to seeing everyone there.



Doors open at 5:30. No seats may be saved before that time. All empty seats being saved must be relinquished at 7:00 when the show begins. We always have a FULL house, so don't be late!



Advent is the period of the year when we prepare ourselves for Christ's coming. Our preparations are threefold: to prepare for the commemoration of Christ's birth at Christmas, to prepare for the continued presence of Christ in our hearts and minds, and to prepare for Christ's second coming. Make this your best Advent ever with your focus on Christ.

APPLICATIONS FOR 2019-2020

Applications for the 2019-2020 school year are available on the school website, www.stcatherinemh.org, under the Admissions tab. Please note the application deadline for kindergarten is December 19th, applications for grades 1-8 are due March 6th. Kinder testing takes place in January and testing for grades 1-8 is held in March.

The California Schools in the Diocese of San Jose, mindful of their mission to the love of Christ for all, admit students of any race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the schools. The Catholic Schools in the Diocese of San Jose do not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and/or ethnic origin, age, sex or disability in administration of educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs.



Christmas Card

Each year students at St. Catherine submit drawings for our school Christmas card. This year 7th grader Faith Fernandez's design was chosen. Faith received a matted and framed copy of her design and a gift card. Additionally, the works of several other students received Honorable Mentions: Abigail Dieter, Brady Kirk, Presley Malech, Jasmine Haygood, Tonantzin Aldana, and Madison Etie. The Honorable Mention students received gift cards as well. Congratulations to all!



Save the Date---eWaste Drive

The next eWaste Drive, sponsored by our Green Team, is Saturday, March 9th. Please save appliances and tech items you no longer use. Help St. Catherine School and our environment at the same time. The money raised by this event helps fund ceiling replacement in the classrooms which enhances energy efficiency when heating and cooling the rooms as well as improving acoustics. Contact Arlene Handa at

ecosafehome1@yahoo.com