

ST. CALLISTUS CHURCH



THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

As I announced last Sunday, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception has been moved to tomorrow, Monday the 9th. Even though, because it is on a Monday, it is not observed as a Holy Day of Obligation, please make every effort to go for Mass tomorrow. Mary is so important in our Christian life. It is she who leads us to Jesus; it is she who is the Mother and protector of us, disciples of the Lord and of Christian families.

We need to have a deep love and devotion to her.

Fr. Jimmy.

*Masses tomorrow, Monday:
8:30 AM and 7:30 PM*

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — He shall bring justice for the afflicted; the earth shall overflow with the knowledge of the Lord (Isaiah 11:1-10).

Psalm — Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — Glorify God by living in harmony with one another, welcoming each other as Christ welcomed you (Romans 15:4-9).

Gospel — Produce good fruit worthy of your baptism; repent, for the reign of God is near.



MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Hope is what gives us motivation and strength to live our life in the midst of all kinds of problems and struggles. Advent is the greatest season of hope, because in it God Himself gives us the assurance that He knows what we are dealing with and so He is coming to help us and to be part of our life, and we know that God will never fail.

The Israelites were at a great crisis situation. But through the prophet Isaiah God told them not to be afraid because better days of great peace and prosperity were on the way: days when “the wolf would be the guest of the lamb, calf and young lion browsing together, the baby playing by the cobra's den”, etc. This message gave great peace and tranquility to the people. It is the same message that God gives us also through Advent.

But the second Reading today reminds us that we need to do something to receive the blessings of God at this time. One of the things He is asking us to do is that we read and reflect on the Scriptures. “By endurance and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope”.

The Gospel reminds us that a wishy-washy attitude will not do. True repentance is what is called for. “The ax is laid at the root of the tree. ... only the wheat will be gathered into the barn, the chaff will be burned”. What is required is sincere sorrow for our sins. **Repentance means change of heart, change of attitude and behavior.**

Let us seriously reflect upon how our life is and make the necessary changes. God comes with His offer of help, support and peace. But **true inner peace is the fruit of obedience to the will of God.**

Fr. Jimmy

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

In preparation for Christmas, our Advent Penance Service will be on **Thursday, Dec. 19th at 7:30PM in our Church**. Please plan for it, and use this opportunity to make your confession and get better ready for Christmas.



O HOLY NIGHT...

Come Little Children, be part of this great event...

St. Callistus children are invited to play a special part in this year's celebration of Christmas. They will be singing and reenacting some of the events of the Christ-

mas story at the **Christmas Eve Children's Liturgy on December 24 at 6:00PM.**

All St. Callistus children (not only those in Faith Formation classes) are invited to participate. There will be practice times. Spread the light of the world!

For questions or to sign-up, please contact **Sr. Anitta**, at **510-222-0432** or at **aan.stcal@gmail.com**

DO YOU HAVE A VEHICLE TO DONATE?

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County accepts cars as donations. They take cars that need only minor repairs and give them to those in need. Will you help?

For more information, please visit svdp-cc.org/donations-by-vehicle/ or call 925-439-5060.



....and the homebound in our parish family,

Raoul Martinez	Faye Eaton	Gilbert Estrada, Sr.
Lino Destacamento	Lee Peres	David Trejo
Venancio Talao	Carrie Chew	Judy Robinson
Liling Hernandez	Dan Craighead	Robert Maloney
Vincent Dimalanta	Fred Granzella	Carole Freeman
Thinh Tran	Ma. Christina Zamora	
Aurea de Alza	Fr. John Itzaina	

And all the family and friends listed in our Prayer Book.



Our Lady of Guadalupe
Feast Day
December 12



The Virgin of Guadalupe is the patron saint of Mexico and all the Americas. On December 9, 1531, in Mexico, Our Lady appeared to Juan Diego, a poor humble Aztec Indian who had recently converted to the Catholic faith. She asked him to go to the Bishop and tell him to build a church where she said "I will show and offer all of my love, my compassion, my help and my protection to my people." Juan Diego did as she asked, but the Bishop asked for a sign that this message was really from Our Lady.

Mary granted his request. On December 12, she showed Juan where the most beautiful Castilian roses were and told him to gather them. It was a miracle that the roses were there and in bloom because there was frost on the ground, and the ground was an infertile place where only cactus and thistles grew. After he gathered them, she helped arrange them in his tilma, or poncho, and told him to show them to the Bishop. When he brought them to the Bishop, the Bishop was amazed at the roses, but was even more amazed at what began to happen to Juan Diego's tilma. Right before their very eyes, the image of Our Lady began to form on the cloth. The picture of Mary was beautiful and the Bishop fell to his knees. He had the church built at her request. The tilma is still intact after 470 years. The colors have not faded and the cloth has not deteriorated. It has been on display in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe for all this time.

Source: USCCB

Welcome

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...to the new members of our Parish Family. We welcome also those who are visiting the area, and for coming to worship with us.



CHRISTMAS GIFT-GIVING TREE

We ask you to please "Adopt a Family" and help to bring a little extra joy to the needy families this Christmas. Please bring your wrapped and tagged gifts with the identifying Christmas card to the Parish hall on Saturday, December 21 between 12:00Noon and 3:00PM. Thank you.

Hospitality Ministry

Contact: Josie Rocco 510-222-9411 or 406-2707.



Schedule of Devotions

Rosary and Chaplet of The Divine Mercy - Monday to Saturday 9:00AM

Holy Hour and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - Wednesdays 9:00AM

Mother of Perpetual Help: Thursdays 9:00AM

Hispanic Prayer Group - First & Third Thursdays 7:00PM

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - First Fridays 9:00AM to 3:00PM. Benediction at 3:00 PM.

~ EVENTS' SCHEDULE - WEEK OF DECEMBER 8TH ~

MON.	6:55 P.M.	Youth Confirmation Class
TUE.	7:00 P.M.	RCIA Class
	7:00 P.M.	Young Adults Meeting
THU.	7:00 P.M.	Leadership Group Meeting - in Church
	7:00 P.M.	Knights of Columbus Meeting
FRI.	6:00 P.M.	Choir Practice - St. Cecilia's Room
SAT.	9:30 A.M.	Faith Formation Class

MASS INTENTIONS FROM DEC. 8 THROUGH DEC. 14

SAT.	5:15 P.M.	People of the Parish of St. Callistus
SUN.	8:00 A.M.	Agnes Uldricks (Living, Birthday) by Dennis Uldricks
	10:00 A.M.	Irene & Felix Alpay ☩☩ by The Alpay & Villas Family
	12:00 Noon	Thanksgiving by The Fabella Family
MON.	8:30 A.M.	Aniceta Talao ☩ & Angel Delossantos ☩ by Mila Delossantos
	7:30 P.M.	People of the Parish of St. Callistus
TUE.	8:30 A.M.	Bernardino & Gorgonia Juat ☩☩ by Carmencita Ferreros
WED.	8:30 A.M.	Augusto F. Ferriols, Jr. ☩ & Rolando M. Cordova ☩ by The Ferriols & Cordova Families
THU.	8:30 A.M.	Lyda Mata (Living, Birthday) by Lyda & Romeo Mata
FRI.	8:30 A.M.	Gerardo Ancheta ☩ by Lilian Esguerra & Family
SAT	8:30 A.M.	Azaleah Tianero (Living, Birthday - Dec. 7) by Rey Tianero

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA REMEMBRANCE

Christmas remembrance envelopes are now available on the back tables. Please fill out the envelope, and place it in the basket in front of the Altar. **The last day to submit envelopes is Sunday, December 15, to give time to prepare the Remembrance table.**

Your offering of \$10.00 PER NAME will be used to purchase poinsettia plants. **PRINT CLEARLY.**



S	Sunday Collection	11/24	\$4,514.91
	Campaign for Human Dev.	11/24	\$1,178.14
	Thanksgiving Collection	11/28	\$1,761.00
	Sunday Collection	12/1	\$3,972.11
	Parish Maintenance	12/1	\$1,389.65

**Collection for Monday, December 9th - Immaculate Conception
Second Collection for Sunday Dec. 15th - Christmas Flowers**

Thank you for your offering. May God bless you all.

Rev. Jimmy Thottapally, Pastor

Tel: 1-510-223-1153

Fax: 510-223-1137

Email: st.callistus@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.saintcallistus.org

Parish Staff

Sister Anitta Antony, Pastoral Associate
510-222-0432

Marina Zamora, Office Manager

Estrell Bautista, Office Secretary

Gilbert Estrada, Administrative Assistant

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Thursday 8:30AM to 1:00PM

(12:00 Noon to 12:30 PM (closed for lunch))

Parish Ministries

Children's Faith Formation—Sister Anitta

Youth Confirmation Program Sister Anitta

1-510-222-0432

aan.stcal@gmail.com

RCIA Program: Marisse Dongallo 1-510- 223-1153

Pastoral Council: Bernie Rocco 1-510-406-6460

Other Programs/Services

Knights of Columbus: Leandro Daroza, Grand Knight:

1-510-225-5302

St. Vincent de Paul Conference, Carol Brazil : 1-510-243-7501

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery: 1-510-234-2012

