

**Christ Child Catholic Church**  
***Dedicated to Growth in Christ and to the***  
***Challenges of Loving Service***

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**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**November 27, 2016**

**Doubts about faith should spur deeper study, prayer, pope says**

Cindy Wooden Catholic News Service –  
Nov.23, 2016 - The Francis Chronicles –  
Vatican City

Everyone experiences doubts about the faith at times – **“I have” many times, Pope Francis said-** but such doubts can be “a sign that we want to know God better and more deeply.”

“We do not need to be afraid of questions and doubts because they are the beginning of a path of knowledge and going deeper; one who does not ask questions cannot progress either in knowledge or in faith,” the pope said Nov. 23 at his weekly general audience.

Francis said that although the Year of Mercy has concluded, he still wanted to continue his general audience reflections on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

With fewer than 10,000 pilgrim and visitors present and with rain forecast, the Vatican moved the audience indoors to the Vatican audience hall.

The pope, with a voice that was a bit hoarse, focused on the spiritual works of mercy of

“counseling the doubtful” and “instructing the ignorant,” which he said was not meant as an insult, but simply as a description of a person who does not know something.

Calling a lack of access to education a “grave injustice,” Francis asked those in the audience hall to give a round of applause to teachers and the “long list of saints, who throughout the ages, brought education to the most disadvantaged.”

Education, he said, is both a work of evangelization and a work of mercy and justice because it recognizes the dignity of the human person, fights discrimination and by preparing people for jobs, combats poverty.

The work of mercy of counseling the doubtful involves attempting to “soothe that pain and suffering that come from the fear and anguish that are the consequences of doubt” about the goodness of life and God’s love.

“I think someone would ask me, ‘Father, I have many doubts about the faith, what should I do? Don’t you ever have doubts?’ the pope said, “I have many,” he said, “There are times when everyone has doubts.”

The key, he said, is to see those doubts as a call to deepen one’s faith either through study or through seeking the guidance of another believer.

“To do this, it is necessary to listen to the word of God and understand what it teaches us,” he said. “But, at the same time, an equally important path is that of living the faith as much as possible.” When faith is seen mainly as “an abstract theory,” he said, “Doubts multiple.”

But when faith is lived and shown in service to others, the pope said, “Then many doubts vanish because we feel the presence of God and the truth of the Gospel in the love that,

by no merit of ours, lives in us and that we share with others.”

**Sacrament of reconciliation**

By request or appointment

**BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS**

Call the office for an appointment

**Anointing of the Sick**

Celebrated biannually at Mass or individually call for an appointment

**For Pregnancy Support**

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

**Prayer Group in the Parish**

Every Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. All Women And  
All Men

**MASS INTENTIONS Nov. 26 – Dec. 2**

**Saturday 5:00 p.m. + Isaias Espiritu Endring**

**Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Martina Durham**

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Martina Durham

Wednesday 8:00 a.m. Tom Mc Cormick

Thursday 8:00 a.m. + Isaias Espiritu Endring  
Ramirez Family

Friday 8:00 a.m. Mc Grath Family

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION  
(CONFESSION)  
FRIDAY DECEMBER 2 AT 6:00 P.M.**

**The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary**

Thursday December 8<sup>th</sup> Masses at 9:00 a.m.  
and 7:00 p.m.

**Stewardship of Treasury  
Report Sunday November 21 & 22, 2015**

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| Total Plate | \$ 804.00   |
| EFT         | \$ 459.00   |
| TOTAL       | \$ 1,263.00 |

Thank you! And God bless you in your  
generosity!

**13<sup>th</sup> Annual Giving at Greenfield**

Did you miss adopting a Greenfield family?  
Contact Karen at 408-375-0984 or  
[kjoesten@scusd.net](mailto:kjoesten@scusd.net).

Consider a cash donation or gift card. We are also collecting gently used toys, books, and stuffed animals. All gifts should be dropped off at Christ Child no later than **11 am on Sunday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>**. We will deliver gifts **SATURDAY, December 10<sup>th</sup>**!

**STRUDEL SALE**

Christmas STRUDEL sign up will take place after Mass Today Nov. 26 & 27 Strudel will be ready to be picked up after up Mass on Dec. 10/11 Contact Gina Boisvert at 408 656-7677

Coats, jackets, and sweaters for toddlers, children, and teens are a most welcomed donation for **ANNUAL CHRIST CHILD COAT DRIVE**. A collection box is located in the foyer of the church. Please contact Joe & Andrea Bruna 408 353-3101, with any questions. Thank you.

**Annual Mountain Churches Interfaith  
CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**Saturday, December 3 - 7pm**

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
Chapel (The Mormon Church across the street)  
Enjoy beautiful carols, good neighbors, &  
holiday cookies

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> AFTER THE  
MASS AT 10:00 a.m.  
CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THE PARISH!!!**

**CHRISTMAS**

**December 24 Saturday**

THE VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS the Mass at 5:00pm

**December 25 Sunday**

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) the Mass at  
10:00 a.m.