St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church
Martinez, California

You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed.

LUKE 21:17-18

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 17, 2019

LITURGY SCHEDULE

SATURDAY:  8:00 AM and 4:30 PM
SUNDAY:  7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM (Spanish)
ADORATION: Thursdays from 12:00 - 8:00 PM
HOLY DAYS: VIGIL MASS 7:00 PM ; 8:00 AM, 7:00 PM
RECONCILIATION: Saturdays from 3:00 to 4:00 PM
**PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF**

**Fr. Anthony Huong Le, Parochial Administrator**
(925) 228-2230

Deacon Albert Dizon Ext. 7  dcnadizon@yahoo.com
Deacon David Holland Ext. 7  dcndolland@yahoo.com

Sylvia Lloren Ext 2  stcathmtz@yahoo.com
Office Administrator/ Sacramental Coordinator

Troy Killorn Ext 3  stkillorn@aol.com
Director of Music Ministry / Maintenance Manager

Karen Glen Ext 4  stcatherinebk@gmail.com
Bookkeeper / Safe Environment Coordinator

Andrea Watkins Ext 5  drestcath@yahoo.com
Director Religious Education (K-8)

Paul & Jennifer Holland Ext 8  stcathym@gmail.com
Co-coordinators, Confirmation Ministry

**CHURCH LOCATION:** 606 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA

**PARISH OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS:** 1125 Ferry Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1720

**TELEPHONE / FAX:** 925-229-2255 / 925-229-2474

**PARISH WEBSITE:** www.stcmtz.org
**PARISH EMAIL:** stcathmtz@yahoo.com

**OFFICE HOURS:**
Mon-Thur. 8:30 AM - 1 PM
2:00 PM - 5 PM
Friday: 8:30 AM - 1 PM

**SCHOOL LOCATION:** 1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA

**SCHOOL K-8:** 604 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA

**TELEPHONE / FAX:** 925-228-4140 / 925-228-1318

**OFFICE HOURS:** 9AM – 2 PM

**SCHOOL WEBSITE:** http://school.stcatherinemartinez.com/

**ST. CATHERINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**MAILING ADDRESS:** 1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA

**TELEPHONE / FAX:** 925-228-4140 / 925-228-0697

**OFFICE HOURS:** Mon-Thur. 8:30 AM - 1 PM
2:00 PM - 5 PM
Friday: 8:30 AM - 1 PM

**SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION**

**BAPTISMS:**
Registration is mandatory two months prior to the Baptism month. Please call the office to make an appointment once you have your documents ready. Parents & Godparents are required to attend a mandatory Baptism preparation class one month before reception of the Sacrament.
All information regarding requirements and schedules, can be found on the website at www.stcmtz.org or contact Sylvia at Ext 2

**CONFIRMATION:**
Youth Confirmation ministry begins on September 29th. It is a one year program for all incoming Freshmen or above. Please contact: Paul or Jenny Holland at Ext 8 or email them at stcathym@gmail.com for more Information.

**MARRIAGES:**
Arrangements and mandatory preparation need to be arranged at least eight months prior to a wedding date. No dates can be set prior to an initial meeting with a priest. No exceptions.
www.stcmtz.org or Sylvia at Ext 2

**RECONCILIATION:**
Confession times are weekly on Saturdays from 3:00 - 4:00 PM and/or by appointment.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:**
The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is the continuation of the Lord’s compassion for the sick. The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is one of two sacraments which heals and saves the baptized person from sin. The other sacrament of healing is Penance. For an anointing during working hours, please call the Parish office.

**FUNERALS:**
Contact the Parish office to coordinate your arrangements.

**RCIA: “Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults”**
Are you interested in becoming Catholic?
Do you need Adult Baptism?
Holy Eucharist (Communion)? Confirmation?
St. Catherine offers a friendly and supportive program. Please call the office or Karen at ext. 4 for more information.

stcathmtz@yahoo.com or Sylvia at Ext 2
Today is the feast day of Saint Leo the Great. He was Pope Leo I for twenty-one years from 440 to 461. He is best remembered for meeting with Attila the Hun in 452 and persuading Atilla to call off the imminent invasion of Italy.

In addition, Leo is renowned as one of the best administrative popes of the early Church. As a professional administrator, I identify with this often unappreciated talent. As we used to say in the military, “The job is not finished until all the paperwork is complete.” Anyone who has ever dealt with the military or other government agencies knows that a lot of paperwork is needed. We would joke that no flight was allowed to take off until the weight of the paperwork equaled the weight of the aircraft. This penchant for paperwork has followed me through life. After the Air Force, I worked as a program administrator for the City of Concord for two decades. This organized approach has value at home too where I am in charge of the bills, subscriptions, taxes, licenses, and other paperwork.

That brings us to today’s topic, “What should a good steward do?” I believe the first step to good stewardship is to get organized. Let’s start with five questions:

**What do we have to steward?** All the time, talent and treasure that we have comes from God. Our first reading today tells us, “The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein; for he has founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the rivers.” (Psalm 24:1-6). Saint Thomas Aquinas explained how we have a right to ownership of things through our hard work and through our inheritance. With regard to the use of those things -- how we use them, why we use them -- we must promote the common good and not our own good. In this manner, we must strive to be good stewards of everything God gives us.

**What does our community need?** You and I have been blessed with abundant time, talent and treasure. How can this be used to do the most good? Maybe you like to cook because it is fun and you are good at it but is that the most pressing need in our community? Maybe there is a more urgent need to distribute vegetables for the Saint Vincent de Paul food bank. Maybe there is a need to staff a showers trailer at the Senior Center on Tuesdays. Maybe the biggest need is to visit sick people at the hospital. How do you learn what is the most pressing need? Pray for guidance. God will tell you if you are listening and are receptive to His instruction.

**How are the needs changing?** Everything in life changes so our efforts must change also to remain impactful and relevant. November is the ideal time for coat drives. Coat drives in May are not as effective. Your role today should not be the same as it was five years ago because you and our community have both changed. Be willing to change as community needs evolve. Regular reflection and course correction are essential for good stewardship.

**What have we done in the past?** How did it work? Where did we get the most “bang for your buck?” Is there a need not being filled? Which of our past efforts affected the most people or made the most difference? This is the area where you want to double down.

**Can we do more?** I am frequently surprised at what people can do. Consider Charlotte Heffelmire who was at home in Vienna, Virginia on November 28, 2015. Her father, Eric, was in the garage working under his GMC truck when the jack slipped, pinning him underneath. Gasoline spilled over him and a fire started. Eric was resigned to die. Suddenly, 19-year-old, 5-foot, 6-inch tall, 120-pound Charlotte incredibly lifted the truck freeing her father then drove the truck, still engulfed in fire, out of the garage on only three wheels. Charlotte was battling the fire with a water hose when the Fire Department and ambulance arrived.

If Charlotte could do that, then you and I can surely do a little more than we are doing now as the stewards of God’s kingdom on earth...even if it involves a little paperwork!
WORSHIP
To facilitate a transforming encounter with God as we come together in worship.

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SAT 11/16  8:00 Ramona & Clemente Lejano†
          4:30 Mario Balestrieri†
SUN 11/17  7:00 Olga Maria Araujo†
          8:30 Thomas & Eva Hernandez†
          11:00 Deceased members of the
                   Legion of Mary†
          1:00 Int. People of the Parish
MON 11/18  8:00 Petrus & Hendrika DaGraef†
TUE 11/19  8:00 Erlinda & Agapito Bonifacio†
WED 11/20  8:00 Raymond Martellacci†
THU 11/21  8:00 Special Intention
FRI 11/22  8:00 Jose Nano†
SAT 11/23  8:00 Paul Cuu Nguyen†
          4:30 Kerry Marie Nakasone†
SUN 11/24  7:00 Int. of People of the Parish
          8:30 Toby & Edward Trujillo†
          11:00 Felipe & Gilda Bajamundi
          1:00 Robert Sanchez†

“I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life” (John 8:12).

At our Easter Vigil, when the deacon or priest enters the darkened church with the single Easter candle, he intones, “Christ, our Light.”

To which the congregation replies, “Thanks be to God.” This recalls how Jesus came into our world of sin and death to bring the light of God to us.

Besides being used to illuminate the places where the early Christians celebrated Mass, candles were also lighted at the tombs of martyrs. Father William Saunders explains that “there is evidence that lit candles or oil lamps were burned at the tombs of saints, particularly martyrs, by the 200s, and before sacred images and relics by the 300s.”

In this context the “light signifies our prayer offered in faith coming into the light of God. With the light of faith, we petition our Lord in prayer, or petition the saint to pray with us and for us to the Lord.” The word “vigil” comes from the Latin vigilia and refers to keeping watch. The vigil candle that is lit remains so for a period of time (either a certain number of hours or a few days) and symbolizes how the person desires “to remain present to the Lord in prayer even though we may depart and go about our daily business.” It also reminds the individual how the saint is constantly praying for their petitions.

Another word for these candles is a “votive” candle and comes from the Latin votum, meaning promise, dedication or simply “prayer.” It reinforces the idea that the candles represent our prayers before God.

As humans, we are body and soul and our prayers often need to be expressed in a physical, tangible way. This helps our soul be at rest and is a way to deepen our spirituality. Similar to incense, the light of the candles is a physical reminder that points our souls to God. We light them not because we believe our prayers will be better heard by God, but because we need something visual to connect our body and soul.

NOTE: St. Catherine of Siena Church votive candles in front of our Blessed Mother Mary and Blessed St. Joseph, can be lit anytime before or after Mass and will stay lit during Mass times on weekdays and weekends. Donations are always welcome.

Is it some sort of superstition?
Almost nothing says “Catholic” like votive candles, especially if they are placed before images or statues in a church setting. When a film or television show wants the audience to know a character is Catholic, a confessional or a rack of votive candles is sure to turn up.

Confession, of course is a sacrament, but what about those candles? Are they a superstitious practice?
Actually, just the opposite.

NOTE: St. Catherine Parish offers deepest sympathy and prayers for the family; and, the repose of the soul of Gladys Lillian Hojas who entered eternal life.
**WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE**

**FACILITIES**

To assure that our Church and facilities testify to the greater honor and glory of God.

**St. Catherine of Siena Pastoral Care to the Sick & Homebound**

Do you know someone who is homebound and/or ill & would like to receive the Eucharist or just a visit from a friendly face?

If so, please email:
Deacon Dave Holland at: daveh@cfcsoakland.org or call (925-413-9240) with your neighbor’s name, address and telephone number.

St. Catherine Pastoral Care to the Sick & Homebound will arrange for a visitor from the parish.

**SAVE THE DATE**

November 23rd, 2019, 10AM (Parish Center)

A Pastoral Care Retreat is being planned for all current members and anyone interested in serving.

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**PEACE**

First keep the peace within yourself, then you can also bring peace to others.

—Thomas à Kempis

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**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

We are faced with strong and disturbing readings today that hold a certain fascination, since they seem at first glance to be blueprints for future inevitable wars and hardship. A fundamentalist interpretation focuses on this aspect. Yet we hear them at our Sunday celebration of the Eucharist, which infuses them with hope and optimism. Rather than dreading the future, today’s liturgy assures us that God is with us in all of life’s inevitable trials, and that we have a role in shaping the outcome of human history. Occasionally, some Christians have attempted to decode these readings for an exact measure of the world’s end, but they have thus far been disappointed.

“Nothing lasts forever” is a lyric from a Broadway show. Stars fall from the sky, leaves wither and fall, mountains wash into the sea, human projects and governments totter and collapse with great regularity. Today’s liturgy opposes this idea as incomplete, reminding us that Christ has made a permanent change in human history, and that life in him is life forever. Rather than inviting us to throw in the towel, today’s liturgy strengthens us for acts of goodness and grace in our families, communities, and world.

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

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Join us in for our Advent Evening Prayer

December 4, 11, 18 at 8-8:45PM in the Church

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**WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE**

**Sunday, 11/17**

- Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 8:00 AM PH Pancake Breakfast
- 8:30 AM CH/PH/SC Thank you Knights of Columbus Faith Formation Mass/Class
- 11:00 AM CH/PH/PC Confirmation Mass /Class

**Monday, 11/18**

- 7:30 AM CH Pray the Rosary
- 9:00 AM CH Maintenance in Church
- 6:00 PM CH/SC/PH 1st Communion Class (parents and children)
- 7:00 PM PCL Guadalupe Society Meeting.

**Tuesday, 11/19**

- 7:30 AM CH Pray the Rosary
- 9:00 AM CH Maintenance in the Church
- 6:00 PM CH Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 PM PC Scripture Reflection with Clergy
- 7:00 PM PH YLI Meeting
- 7:30 PM CH Spanish Choir Rehearsal

**Wednesday, 11/20**

- 7:30 AM CH Pray the Rosary
- 9:00 AM CH Maintenance in the Church
- 10:45 AM CH SC School Practice
- 3:15 PM CH NO Children’s Choir
- 6:15 PM CH Ignite Bible Study
- 6:30 PM PCL Legion of Mary
- 7:00 PM PC RCIA Class—Rm. #210

**Thursday, 11/21**

- 7:30 AM CH Pray the Rosary
- 9:00 AM CH Maintenance in the Church
- 10:30 AM CH School Thanksgiving Prayer Service
- 12:00 PM CH NO ADORATION
- 6:30 PM PH ICF Meeting

**Friday, 11/22**

- 7:30 AM CH Pray the Rosary
- 9:00 AM CH Maintenance in the Church
- 6:00 PM PH St. Vincent de Paul Set-up

**Saturday, 11/23**

- 7:30 AM CH Pray the Rosary
- 8:00 AM PH St. Vincent de Paul Distribution
- 10:00 AM PCL Pastoral Care Retreat
- 12:00 PM PC Ignite Bible Study
- 3:00 PM CH Reconciliation

**Sunday, 11/24**

- 8:00 AM PH Hospitality—TBD
- 8:30 AM CH/PH/SC Faith Formation Mass/Class
- 11:00 AM CH/PH/PC Confirmation Mass /Class
- 2:00 PM PCL Guadalupe Society Exe. Board. Mtg.

**CH = Church**

**PH = Parish Hall**

**PC = Parish Center**

**PCL: Parish Center Library**

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St. Catherine of Siena Parish follows Jesus by welcoming all, sharing our gifts, and giving glory to God.
AN INVITATION TO HAVE YOUR EXISTING MARRIAGE BLESSED AND CONVALIDATED BY THE CHURCH

Dear family,

May peace and grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you and those you love. We would like to thank you for choosing this community of Saint Catherine of Siena Catholic Church as your spiritual home. You are truly God’s collaborators in both creating and forming a communion of life and love. There is no better way to foster this life other than providing it a stable family, which, for Catholics, should always arise with a valid/sacramental marriage.

What is a valid/sacramental marriage according to the Church? A valid Catholic marriage results from four elements:

- the spouses are free to marry;
- they freely exchange their consent;
- in consenting to marry, they have the intention to marry for life, to be faithful to one another and be open to children;
- their consent is given in the presence of two witnesses and before a properly authorized Church minister. Exceptions to the last requirement must be approved by Church authority.

What difference does it make to marry in the Church? Everything because of these following reasons:

- Marriage is a beautiful gift from God where God forms an intimate union and equal partnership of a man and a woman.
- Marriage is both a natural institution and a sacred covenant. In addition, a valid marriage between two baptized Christians is also a sacrament – a saving reality and a symbol of Christ’s love for his church (See Ephesians 5:25-33).
- The free consent of the spouses makes a marriage from which a special bond arises between husband and wife. This bond is lifelong and exclusive and cannot be dissolved.
- Fruitfulness, permanency, exclusivity, and faithfulness are essential to marriage because they foster and protect the two equal purposes of marriage. These two purposes are growth in mutual love between the spouses and the generation and education of children.
- The family arises from marriage. Parents, children, and family members form what is called a domestic church or church of the home. This is the primary unit of the Church – the place where the Church lives in the daily love, care, hospitality, sacrifice, forgiveness, prayer and faith of ordinary families (Ibid.).

Isn’t it a beautiful gift to give to your child and yourselves? We would like to invite you to participate in a group convalidation and marriage event at St Catherine of Siena Catholic Church in June of 2020, 10:30 am.

To refresh our memories, a convalidation (or blessing of a marriage) from the Latin word meaning “to firm up” or “to strengthen.” A convalidation is for couples who married outside of the church. It is not merely a renewal of vows made previously but is a new act of consent which is essential to marriage, and the words that the couple expresses are the outward sign of the gift of self that they exchange. Please consider this as an act of love you can do to yourself and your children.

As you pray about this, we will eagerly wait for your response.

Yours in Christ,

Fr Anthony Huong Le
Deacon Albert Dizon, Deacon Dave Holland
Dear St. Catherine of Siena Community,

*Christ be our light. Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.*

Christ’s light shone brightly through everyone gathered at our first LCA Development Event hosted at Bishop Barber’s residence. Our amazing students and another student from St. Anthony filled the room with hope for the bright future ahead. Our students truly inspire me every day; they are faith-filled, they are leaders, and they love from the heart. It was a wonderful and special way to share the good work we are doing within the academies to our supporters and to share our mission with future investors.

Congratulations to a wonderful kick off for our CYO basketball team! Way to go St. Catherine's Vikings!

REGISTRATION FORM FOR A GROUP CONVALIDATION AND MARRIAGE EVENT
JUNE 2020

Mr………………………………………………………………………Religion………………
Mrs………………………………………………………………………Religion………………
Address:…………………………………………………………………………………………
Email:……………………………………………………………………Phone………………..
Registered parishioner?........Previously married?......Civilly married?......Never married…
I would like to have: Convalidation…………….Annulment…………….Marriage?……………

*Please return this before the end of NOV 2019.*
November 10, 2019

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

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Thank you for your continued generosity.

On behalf of His Excellency, the Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, Archbishop for the Military Services, USA, thanks to those who contributed to the Triennial National Collection for the AMS last week. Your generosity will assist Archbishop Broglio in the mission, “Serving those Who Serve,” and will help make it possible for Catholic men and women, and their families, currently serving in the U.S. Military, to receive the sacraments and pastoral care no matter their location around the globe. Your support will also provide the sacraments and pastoral care to those who are wounded, or as veterans, being cared for in one of the 153 Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers. Thank you for supporting the men and women, and their families, from our own parish and diocese who serve and protect this great nation, and who defend the freedoms we hold dear.

Next week November 23-24th our special collection will support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. More than 46 million people in the United States live in poverty today. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address obstacles as they work to make permanent and positive changes for their communities. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at www.cchdeastbay.org.
READINGS & REFLECTIONS
Join in the Weekly Scripture Reflection with the Clergy Tuesdays (Parish Center) 7:00 – 8:15 PM

Sunday, Nov 17, 2019 THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Love this world—lightly
Visit the Great Wall of China. Marvel at the Coliseum in Rome. Pray at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. Walk like an Egyptian in the shadow of the Great Sphinx of Giza. Thrill to an adventure in search of Mayan temples in the Yucatan. What you discover at each of these astonishing sites are the ruins of former kingdoms and lost greatness. Such structures are mysterious and compelling, awe-inspiring and a little sad. As the church year winds down and our readings turn apocalyptic, we’re reminded that only three things last: faith, hope, and love. Invest in these! TODAY’S READINGS: Malachi 3:19-20a; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12; Luke 21:5-19 (159). “The days will come when there will not be left a stone upon another stone.”

Monday, Nov 18, 2019 MEMORIAL OF ROSE PHILIPPINE DUCHESNE

If at first you don’t succeed
As a child in France, Rose Philippine Duchesne (1769-1852) watched her mother care for the poor and heard travelers tell stories of the “New World.” It’s not impossible to think that when Rose joined the sisters of the Society of the Sacred Heart, she had hopes of serving the poor in far-away lands. In 1818, after years of teaching in France, Rose and four other sisters were sent to answer a bishop’s request for assistance in his vast Louisiana territory. From New Orleans, the sisters were missioned to Missouri to establish schools. By the year 1841 to open a school for Potawatomi girls, she was 72 and her primary ministry became one of prayer. Indeed, the people she served called her the “woman who prays always.” Saint Rose, help us imitate your perseverance and care for the poor. TODAY’S READINGS: 1 Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Luke 18:35-43 (497). “I want to see.”

Tuesday, Nov 19, 2019 MAN UP!

Some say it’s a man’s world, but it isn’t. It belongs to God. However, today is International Men’s Day. It’s part of “Movember”, when men grow a “mo” (mustache) to draw attention to male health issues, including emotional health. For men, the Good News offers an invitation to heal the emotional wounds of the past; address anger, violence, and abusive domination; deal with relationship dysfunction and grow into wholesome, kind, and holy individuals. Today join with men everywhere to welcome the Son of Man who came to save us all. TODAY’S READINGS: 2 Maccabees 6:18-31; Luke 19:1-10 (498). “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost.”

Wednesday, Nov 20, 2019

Be mindful of your daily bread
Why do religious traditions usually include dietary laws or restrictions, as well as periods of fasting and abstinence? Perhaps it has something to do with remembering “who we are.” Nothing is more ordinary and everyday than eating (although for many in the world, sadly, it can be a struggle to find anything to eat). Alongside the church’s guidelines on fasting and abstinence during the Lenten season, look for a way every week to incorporate some dietary practice of your own choosing that helps you remember your relationship of dependence on the Creator for your nourishment—both physical and spiritual. TODAY’S READINGS: 2 Maccabees 7:1, 20-31; Luke 19:11-28 (499). “[They] were arrested and tortured . . . to force them to eat pork in violation of God’s law.”

Thursday, Nov 21, 2019

MEMORIAL OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

From generation to generation
Today we celebrate the Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a moment to recognize Mary’s great faith and its link to her parents’ deep faith. Church tradition has it that Mary’s parents, Joachim and Anne, brought her to the temple at age 3 to be dedicated to God. This acknowledgement that faith is passed from one generation to the next is something many modern Catholics also understand. Is that true for you? Consider thanking a family member who inspires and encourages your faith. TODAY’S READINGS: 1 Maccabees 2:15-29; Luke 19:41-44 (500). “If this day you only knew what makes for peace.”

Friday, Nov 22, 2019 MEMORIAL OF CECILIA, VIRGIN, MARTYR

Cecilia, you’re breaking my heart
Saint Cecilia, patron of musicians, has been inspiring artists and seekers for centuries—from the Baroque composer Handel to today’s music and songwriting legend Paul Simon. Saint Cecilia’s association with music comes from a story recounting how her heart overflowed in song to God, even during a particularly difficult time in her life. What a witness to the power of love! In “Anthem for Saint Cecilia’s Day,” poet W.H. Auden calls upon Saint Cecilia with the words: “Blessed Cecilia, appear in visions / To all musicians, appear and inspire: / Translated Daughter, come down and startle / Composing mortals with immortal fire.” What endeavor in your life are you being inspired to “compose” with “immortal fire”? TODAY’S READINGS: 1 Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59; Luke 19:45-48 (501). “On that very day the sanctuary was reconsecrated with songs, harps, flutes, and cymbals.”

Saturday, Nov 23, 2019 BLESSED MIGUEL AGUSTÍN PRO, PRIEST, MARTYR; BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

A drama of faith
The Sadducees, who say there is no Resurrection” wouldn’t have known what to do with Blessed Miguel Pro. During a period of harsh persecution of the Catholic Church in Mexico in the 1920s, this Jesuit disguised himself cleverly (as a cop, for instance, bringing Eucharist to prisoners in jail). His underground ministry evoked the irreverent humor and daring he’d exhibited since childhood. Falsely accused of a plot to murder the president and denied a trial, he was shot by a firing squad. After forgiving his captors on the way to his execution, he stretched out his arms, Christlike, and voiced the slogan of the Catholic resistance, Viva Cristo Rey! ("Long live Christ the King!") Photos of his execution rallied the resistance. How does his courageous witness inspire you? TODAY’S READINGS: 1 Maccabees 6:1-13; Luke 20:27-40 (502). “God not of the dead, but of the living; for to [God] all . . . are alive.”
The holidays are a tough time for people mourning loss, working the 12 steps, or living with a traumatic past. Please share these helpful opportunities with your parishioners.

**GRIEF RETREAT**
November 22-24, 2019
Presented by Sandy Heinisch

The loss of someone you love changes you forever. Whether that loss is through death or divorce, the journey of recovery is long, difficult and unique. This retreat will help you better understand the journey. It will give you hope, spiritual tools, peace and guidance on this grief path.

**2019 Holiday Lane Bazaar**
Nov. 30th – Dec. 1

Pre-order your Tamales!

The Guadalupana Society will be selling Chicken tamales with green sauce and Pork tamales with red sauce. The cost is $12.00 a dozen. If you would like to pre-order please contact: Harry Cano at (925) 997-2432 or John Cardenas at (925) 228-4499.

All proceeds will go towards the December 8th fiesta for Our Lady of Guadalupe immediately following the 1 pm Mass. All are welcome!

**CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVING TREE**
The Advent Tree will be up in the vestibule on Sat/Sun, Nov. 30-Dec. 1

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**
You’re invited to donate a child’s unwrapped toy and/or a gift of a sweatshirt or gift card for our adult neighbors. Select a YELLOW tag and tape it to the gift packages only. Please leave all presents unwrapped or placed in an opened ended gift bags. Presents will be collected up until Sunday, Dec. 15 and distributed to the neighbors on the weekend.

**SKILLED NURSING HOMES**
You’re invited to bring a unwrapped gift for our local rest home residents. Please clearly label your unwrapped gift WOMAN or MAN and place in the marked box under the tree no later than Sunday, Dec. 15. Possible gift ideas include hats, slippers, socks, scarves, etc. Please NO lotions, NO soaps, and NO perfumes. These items will be removed from the gifts.

**MOUNTAIN VIEW SHELTER**
You’re invited to select GREEN and/or RED tag bearing the names of current shelter residents. The age and gift ideas are indicated on each tag. You can return gifts up to Sunday, Dec 22nd. The gifts will then be distributed to the Shelter families after Masses. Please contact Anne Crisp with any questions or details at (925) 356-8822

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**Saint Mary's College High School**
Berkeley, Admissions Open House is Sunday, December 8 from 1:00 until 2:30 p.m. Sixth, seventh, and eighth grade families can meet the school administration, faculty, coaches, staff, parents, and students, and tour the campus. Reservations are not required. The campus is close to BART and AC Transit.

For more details, visit the school website [www.saintmaryschs.org](http://www.saintmaryschs.org) or Call (510) 559-6240
Our Parish has a Facebook Page! Like Us! 
https://www.facebook.com/OfficialStCatherineofSienaChurch

Before serving or continuing in your ministry, complete the Diocesan required Safe Environment for Children Project Training @ www.virtusonline.org. Thank you.

MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTS

Altar Servers
Jack Watkins………………………………. . 925-957-0437

Art & Environment
Troy Killorn…………………………….. Ext 3 925-228-2230

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Don Brocca………………………………..925-858-7330

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Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Mary Cook……………………………….925-229-2665

Faith Formation - Religious Education (PreK-8th Grades)
Andrea Watkins………………………... Ext 5 925-228-2230

Finance Council
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Grief /Card Ministry
Mary Cook………………………………...925-229-2665

Guadalupe Society
Guadalupe Cruz………………………….925-997-2432

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Carolina Bruno………………………….925-437-4074

Hispanic Liturgy
Fernando Nunez…………………………925-348-2178

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Hospitality
Debbie Pelizzari………………………….925-370-3874

Ignite
Cindy Buscaglia…………………………925-787-8396

Italian Catholic Federation - ICF
Tom Cook……………………………………925-228-2230

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La Comunidad Latina
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Lectors
Carlos Melendez………………………….510-385-0506

Legion of Mary
Bobby Kiefer…………………………….925-658-1442

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Troy Killorn……………………………….925-228-2230

Music Ministry—Choir
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Pastoral Advisory Council
Karen Glen……………………………..Ext 4 925-228-2230

Respect Life
Linda Easterday…………………………...925-372-3845

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - RCIA
Karen Glen…………………………………………………. Ext 4 925-228-2230

Safe Environment for Children Project - SECP
Karen Glen…………………………………………………. Ext 4 925-228-2230

San Lorenzo Ruiz Community - SLRC
Esther Concepcion…………………………925-381-1835

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Anne Crisp…………………………………….925-356-8822

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Karen Glen…………………………………925-788-7716

St. Vincent de Paul Society - SVdP
Karen Glen………………………………… Ext 4 925-788-7716

Ushers
Rob Saucedo……………………………….925-250-4007

Young Ladies Institute - YLI
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Before serving or continuing in your ministry, complete the Diocesan required Safe Environment for Children Project Training @ www.virtusonline.org. Thank you.

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2:00 PM -  5  PM
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All requests must be submitted no later than November 18th by 2PM for the November 30th bulletin.
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