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.

MASSES / MISAS
Monday-Saturday: 8:15am
Saturday: 5:30pm
Sábado: 7:30pm
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 6:30pm
1st Friday 9:00-12:00pm

From the Desk of Fr. Mark Arnzen, Pastor...

Rejoice! We are called by God to be a people of joyful hope in a world of darkness. It is a time that we await in joyful anticipation the coming of Jesus born of Mary in the stable of Bethlehem. We raise our voices in songs of thanksgiving and blessing as we quicken our preparations for the greatest birthday party the world will ever know. We invite and extend hands in welcome to family, friends and neighbors with greetings of gratitude and generosity. It is a time of true wonder as we share and carry the Word of God, Jesus Christ to the world.

Rejoice! We are on a pilgrim journey and as our Holy Father Pope Francis reminds us, “But where is this journey headed? Is there a common goal? And what is this goal?”

(Continued on Page 3 …)

Desde el Escritorio de Padre Mark Arnzen, Pastor...

Alégrate! Estamos llamados por Dios para ser un pueblo de esperanza gozosa en un mundo de tinieblas. Es un tiempo que aguardamos con gozosa expectación la venida de Jesús nace o María en la gruta de Belén. Levantamos nuestras voces en cantos de acción de gracias y bendición, ya que aceleramos nuestros preparativos para la mayor fiesta de cumpleaños que el mundo a visto. Invitamos y extendemos las manos en señal de bienvenida a la familia, amigos y vecinos con saludos de gratitud y generosidad. Es un momento de verdadera maravilla ya que compartimos y llevamos la Palabra de Dios, Jesucristo al mundo.

Alégrate! Estamos en una peregrinación y como nuestro Santo Padre el Papa Frances nos recuerda: "Pero, ¿dónde se encamina este viaje? ¿Hay un objetivo común? ¿Y cuál es ese objetivo?"

(Continuado en Pagina 5…)
Rectory Office Hours / Horarios de la Rectoría
Monday - Friday (Lunes - Viernes)
8:00am - 12:00pm, 1:00 - 7:00pm
Saturday (Sábado)
Closed/Cerrado
Sunday (Domingo)
8:30am - 12:00pm

Pastoral Staff / Equipo Pastoral
Fr. Mark Arnzen, Pastor - marnzen@djsj.org
Fr. Lieu Vu, Parochial Vicar- lvu@djsj.org
Deacon Rick Haeckel, Deacon - rhaeckel@djsj.org
Sr. Silvia Frías, MESST Asociada Pastoral - sfrias@djsj.org
Rose Pucan-Meagor, Director of Family Faith Formation and Evangelization- rosepm@djsj.org
Deepu Kochuparambil, Youth & Young Adult Ministry - deepuk@djsj.org
Anna Quiñones, Director of Stewardship & Development - aquinones@djsj.org
Fabienne Esparza, Principal - fesperza@stcatherinemh.org

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
First Reading — I will fix a place for my people. (2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16).
Psalm — Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 89).
Second Reading — To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be glory forever and ever (Romans 16:25-27).
Gospel — Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Luke 1:26-38).

READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK
Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Thursday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Saturday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38


THE WEEK AHEAD / LA SEMANA PRÓXIMA
Sunday/Domingo, December 14
All Day GYM, CR1-4, Kit Our Lady of Guadalupe
8:00-12:00pm NUR Bright Beginning Nursery
8:30-10:30am LR RCIA Dismissal
8:30-10:30am MC Catechetical Session
8:30-10:15am DC, Rm.10,11 Catechetical Ministry Classes
7:00-9:00pm MC Life Teen Nights

Monday/Lunes, December 15
6:00-8:30 CR3-4, Kit Community Supper
5:45-9:00pm MC Bell/Angelica Choir
7:00-10:00pm Rm.10 Jóvenes Para Cristo—Mtg
6:30-9:30pm CH Retiro de Adviento

Tuesday/Martes, December 16
6:00-10:00pm CR1-4, Kit Posada
6:30-9:30pm CH Retiro de Adviento
7:00-9:00pm MC Spanish Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm LR Raffle Committee Meeting

Wednesday/Miércoles, December 17
12:00-8:00pm NUR Rose Choir
6:00-10:00pm CR1-4, Kit Posada
6:00-10:00pm CH OLG Take Down
6:30-9:00pm Rm. 12 Jesus to Mankind
7:00-9:00 Rm. 10 Encuentro Matrimonial
7:00-8:00 Rm. 10 Spanish Pre Baptismal Interviews

Thursday/Jueves, December 18
6:00-10:00pm CR1-4, Kit Posada
7:00-9:00pm CH,Mc, DC Rm 10-12, School Advent Pgm
7:30-9:00pm NUR - Schola Cantorum

Friday/Viernes, December 19
9:30-11:00am CR 1-2 Bible Study
3:00-10:00pm MC Giving Tree Setup
6:00-10:00pm GYM, CR1-4, Kit Posada General
6:30-10:00pm Rm. 10 Jóvenes Para Cristo

Saturday/Sábado, December 20
All Day MC Giving Tree
5:00-9:30pm ALL Day GYM, CR1-4, Kit Raffle Reception Setup

ALL Day GYM, CR1-4, Kit Posada General

8:15AM MASS INTENTIONS
Monday, December 15 † Ruth Doyle
† Susan Daniel
Tuesday, December 16 † Margaret Heeter
† Cecil Hall
Wednesday, December 17 † Dede Mariani
Albert Thai
Thursday, December 18 † Joseph Marino
† Bob Corcel
Friday, December 19 † Fred Hyndman
† Robert Hyndman
Saturday, December 20 † Merle “Bill” Link
† Loan Tran

MC = Milani Center CR1-4 = Parish Center Conference Rooms
CH = Church Sci = Science Room LR = Living Room
DC = Daycare PR = Presentation Center Nur. = Nursery

FAITH SHARING QUESTION OF THE WEEK
Adult: “What work of justice could you do this week to bring someone joy?”

Child: “What could you do for someone this week to make them happy?”
The Lord answers us through the prophet Isaiah and says: “At the end of days the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it; many peoples shall come and say: ‘Come, let us climb the Lord’s mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths’” (Isaiah 2:2-3). This is what Isaiah says about where we are going. It is a universal pilgrimage toward a common goal, which in the Old Testament is Jerusalem, where the Lord’s temple stands, because from there, from Jerusalem, comes the revelation of the face of God and his law. Revelation found its fulfillment in Jesus Christ, and he himself is the “Lord’s temple,” the Word made flesh: he is both the leader and the goal of our pilgrimage, of the pilgrimage of the whole People of God; and in its light other peoples too can journey toward the Kingdom of justice, toward the Kingdom of peace.

Rejoice! For we are God’s holy people called to new life in the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

God Bless,
Fr. Mark

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: _____________________

Welcome!
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LITURGY WORSHIP

REFLECTION: This is Gaudete Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, Joyful Sunday. We rejoice because Christmas is near. As we prepare to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ and look forward to His coming again in glory, we are enabled to come to an ever-deepening awareness of Christ's presence to us now. Today's readings invite us to open our hearts to the Spirit and Christ will enter in. The prophet Isaiah in the first reading, *Is. 61:1-2, 10-11*, tells us what sign will accompany the coming of the Messiah, the One who will proclaim freedom and deliverance from sin and death. Many people as we hear from today's Gospel, *Jn. 1:6-8, 19-28*, thought John the Baptist was the Messiah; but John points to another who is already among them, the One far mightier than he, Jesus Christ, the Messiah. St. Paul in the second reading, *1 The. 5:16-24*, advises us how to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, the first coming in the Incarnation, but also for his second coming in glory: "Be happy at all times, pray constantly, and give thanks to God."

GAUDETE SUNDAY: Gaudete (in Latin it means rejoice) Sunday is the Third Sunday of Advent. Since the Church has passed the midpoint of the Season of Advent on this Sunday, the Church brings out the spirit of rejoicing, preparing for Christmas celebration. Christmas is around the corner. The priest normally wears purple vestments, but on Gaudete Sunday the priest may wear rose vestments. The rose colored candle is lit on the Advent Wreath in addition to two of the violet colored candles which represent the first two Sundays of Advent. Despite the otherwise somber readings of the Season of Advent which has as a secondary theme the need for penitence, the readings on the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete) emphasize the joyous anticipation of the Lord's coming.

The spirit of the Liturgy all through Advent is one of expectation and preparation for the feast of Christmas as well as for the second coming of Christ, and the penitential exercises suitable to that spirit are thus on Gaudete Sunday suspended, as it were, for a while in order to symbolize that joy and gladness in the promised Redemption.

GAUDETE IN DOMINO SEMPER.
REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS.
TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

LECTURAS DE HOY
Primera lectura — Regocijense en el Espíritu del Señor que nos traen buenas noticias (Isaías 61:1-2a, 10-11).
Salmo — Mi espíritu se alegra en Dios, mi salvador (Lc 1:46-50, 53-54).
Segunda lectura — ¡Alégrense! Conserven su integridad en el Espíritu y guárdense sin mancha hasta la venida del Señor (1 Tesalonicenses 5:16-24).
Evangelio — Juan Bautista dice: “Soy la voz que grita en el desierto” (Juan 1:6-8, 19-28).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA
Lunes: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Sal 25 (24):4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
Martes: Sof 3:1-2, 9-13; Sal 34 (33):2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
Miércoles: Gm 49:2, 8-10; Sal 72 (71):1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Jueves: Jer 23:5-8; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Viernes: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Sal 71 (70):3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lc 1:5-25
Sábado: Is 7:10-14; Sal 24 (23):1-4ab, 5-6; Lc 1:26-38
Domingo: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Sal 89 (88):2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lc 1:26-38

MES DE DECIEMBRE:
Sabado, 13 de Dec., Misa de 7:30p.m.

Sandra Maldonado ~ Teresa Panuco
Alícia Hernández

Damos gracias al Señor por todas las bendiciones concedidas a cada uno de nuestros ministros en su cumpleaños y el que comparten su tiempo y talento en nuestra Parroquia. Pedimos al Señor los haga crecer en su fe y les recompense su generosidad.

JÓVENES PARA CRISTO
Se les invita a las personas mayores de 18 años a reunirse todos los Viernes en el salón 10 en la escuela a las 7:00pm. ¡Los esperamos!

ADORACIÓN DEL SANTÍSIMO
Los invitamos a la Adoración del santísimo y a un tiempo para reflexión personal, todos los Miércoles a las 6:30pm en la Iglesia.

DESEDE EL ESCRITORIO DE PADRE MARK
El Señor nos responde por medio del profeta Isaías y dice: "Al final del día el monte de la casa del Señor será establecido como la montaña más alta y elevado por encima de las colinas. Confluirán los gentiles hacia ella; muchos pueblos vendrán y dirán: Venid, subamos al monte del Señor, a la casa del Dios de Jacob, para que él nos instruirá en sus caminos, y caminaremos por sus sendas (Isaías 2: 2- 3). Esto es lo que Isaías dice acerca de hacía dónde vamos. Es una peregrinación universal, hacia un objetivo común, que en el Antiguo Testamento es Jerusalén, donde el templo del Señor está, porque a partir de ahí, de Jerusalén, viene la revelación del rostro de Dios y su ley. Apocalipsis encontró su cumplimiento en Jesucristo, y él mismo es el "templo del Señor", el Verbo hecho carne, que es a la vez el líder y la meta de nuestra peregrinación, de la peregrinación de todo el Pueblo de Dios; y en su luz otros pueblos también pueden "viaje hacia el reino de la justicia, hacia el reino de la paz."

Alégrate! Porque nosotros somos el pueblo santo de Dios llamados a una nueva vida en el nacimiento de nuestro Señor y Salvador Jesucristo.

Dios los bendiga,
Padre Mark

ÁNGELES DE LA PAZ
No seamos jueces de paz, seamos ángeles de paz.
— Santa Teresa de Lisieux

¡Estén Siempre Alegres!

GRUPO CARISMÁTICO
Los invitamos cada miércoles de 7:30pm a 9:30pm en la iglesia.
TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVENTO

VENGÓ “PRONTO”, NO “MAÑANA”*
DATE PRISA
Yo vengo pronto (Ap 22, 12)

Cuando Dios dice “pronto”, el hombre suele responder “mañana”. Martín estudia segundo de Económicas, y ha descubierto que Dios le llama al sacerdocio. Sus padres, tan sensatos, le han aconsejado que termine primero los estudios. Nunca se sabe, siempre es bueno tener una licenciatura “por si acaso”. Martín será sacerdote cuando acabe la carrera, si Dios quiere. El domingo pasado, durante la santa misa, Ana sintió, con gran fuerza, que el Señor le pedía que comulgase a diario. ¿Cómo resistirse? Lo ha decidido: cuando su hijo pequeño tenga un año más, y pueda dejarlo en casa con los hermanos mayores y su padre, Ana irá a misa todos los días… Si Dios quiere. Antonio ha recibido una herencia, y tiene pensado hacer un donativo a la parroquia. Primero pagará la hipoteca, después comprará un coche nuevo, y, con lo que sobre, hará un sustancioso donativo… Si Dios quiere.

Yo vengo pronto.

No lo hemos entendido bien, o quizás no hemos querido entenderlo. A “pronto” se debe responder con “prisa”, no con “mañana”. Se tarda mucho en decir “mañana”; es más rápido decir “ya”. El tren llega pronto y aún no estoy vestido; deprisa, ponte lo que puedas, cáltate y sal, que pierdes el tren. La serie de televisión empieza pronto y aún estoy en el trabajo; deprisa, déjalo todo como está y máchate, que te vas a perder el principio. La tienda cierra pronto y no tenemos pan para la cena; deprisa, baja antes de que cierren y compra pan.

Yo vengo pronto.

Estas tres palabras resumen el anuncio del Adviento. Cuando es Dios quien dice “pronto”, responder “mañana” es no estar a la altura. El amor de Cristo nos urge (2Cor 5, 14), y no hay prisa más justa que la prisa por servir a Dios; el tiempo es breve (1Cor 7, 29). Pero, ante el anuncio de Dios, “prisa” no debe significar jamás “atropello” ni “atolondramiento”. Simplemente significa que no hay tiempo que perder. Dios no nos pide que hagamos dos cosas a la vez. De ser así, nos habría otorgado el don de la bilocación. Pero nos ha dado el tiempo para que lo empleemos en buscar su gloria, y un minuto de vida empleado en otra cosa se parece mucho a un robo y a un pecado. El atolondramiento y los agobios aparecen cuando nos empeñamos en emplear un solo día para vivir dos: el de Dios y el nuestro.

Queremos rezar, queremos atender al prójimo como Dios nos pide, y queremos hacer bien nuestro trabajo por amor al Señor… Pero, a la vez, queremos encontrar tiempo para nuestras cosas, arañar unos minutos de descanso, y cumplir con nuestros empeños personales. Y, claro, en el mismo día, cumplir con dos horarios superpuestos acaba con la tranquilidad de cualquiera.

Yo vengo pronto.

No hay tiempo que perder. Rompe de una vez la lista de tus “cosas que hacer”, olvídala para siempre, y déjale sólo a lo que Dios quiere. Porque Él está a punto de llegar y, cuando aparezca, desea encontrarte haciendo su Voluntad. Permítame que te lo recuerde: no ha dicho “vengo mañana”, sino “vengo pronto”. Responde “ya”.

Fr. José-Fernando Rey Ballesteros

MINISTERIO DE ENFERMOS

Las personas que tengan un familiar enfermo que no pueda asistir a la misa, pueden dar sus datos en la Rectoría al Tele. 408-779-3959 para que miembros de este ministerio pasen a visitarlos a sus casas y llevarles la comunión.

TRIGÉSIMO SEGUNDA
RIFA ANUAL DE SANTA CATALINA

Sorteo Anual de St. Catalina esta llegando a su fin. El tiempo se acaba! ¡Consigue tus boletos hoy para el Sorteo Anual de Santa Catalina. Ven el domingo 21 de Diciembre para ver a los ganadores en vivo, además de disfrutar de un poco de comida y alegría festiva.

También se introducirá en una rifa gratuita separada para premios de puerta.

Recuerde, que su compra de un boleto de $60 para el automóvil, le puede dar la posibilidad de ganar un coche nuevo Ford, Chevrolet o Honda con un precio de etiqueta hasta $40,000 o $30,000 en efectivo.

Los boletos de $20 para las vacaciones, ofrecen un viaje de sus sueños! Nombre el lugar de sus vacaciones y el boleto ganador financiará hasta $7,500 o $5,000 en efectivo. Este boleto tiene 5 grandes premios para ganar, incluyendo un nuevo iPad de Apple, dinero en efectivo y un viaje a Disneyland!

Unos paquetes de boletos están todavía disponibles!

Visita nuestra mesa de venta al salir de la misa. Aceptamos Visa, Master Card y American Express, dinero en efectivo y cheques.

*El amor de Cristo nos urge (2Cor 5,14), no hay prisa más justa que la prisa por servir a Dios; el tiempo es breve (1Cor 7,29), pero ante el anuncio de Dios “prisa” no debe significar jamás “atropello” ni “atolondramiento”. Simplemente significa que no hay tiempo que perder. Dios no nos pide que hagamos dos cosas a la vez. De ser así, nos habría otorgado el don de la bilocación. Pero nos ha dado el tiempo para que lo empleemos en buscar su gloria, un minuto de vida empleado en otra cosa se parece mucho a un robo y a un pecado. El atolondramiento y los agobios aparecen cuando nos empeñamos en emplear un solo día para vivir dos: el de Dios y el nuestro.
TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

EL TIEMPO DE ADVIENTO
LA HORA DE ANTICIPACIÓN & REFLEXIÓN
Esta temporada tome tiempo para renovar su relación con Jesús al pasar tiempo en oración cada día. Adviento libros de oración y folletos de reflexión; el Pequeño Libro Azul, y otros para niños, adolescentes, familias y adultos están disponibles en el vestíbulo de la iglesia, la Oficina Parroquial y la Oficina de Formación de Fe Familiar.

PREPARACIÓN A LOS SACRAMENTOS PARA ADULTOS
A las personas de 18 años en adelante que les falte alguno de los Sacramentos de Bautismo, Comunión o Confirmación, pueden pasar a la Rectoría a registrarse, las clases inician en el Salón 12 todos los Jueves a las 7:00pm. Les pedimos traer Biblia y Cuaderno.

PREBAUTISMALES
Esta platica es diseñada para preparar a los padres y padrinos del niño/a que recibirá el sacramento del Bautismo. El programa es requerido antes del Bautismo y se llevaran acabo en la iglesia a las 6:30pm durante esta fecha: Enero 13 2015
*Necesitan registrarse antes de la fecha a la oficina Parroquial al 1-408-779-3959.

ESTUDIO DE BIBLIA
Los invitamos al estudio de Biblia con el Padre Andrey los Martes a las 7:00pm en el centro Milani.

GRUPO AMIGOS
Se les invita a todos los muchachos y muchachas que estén en la high school para asistir al Grupo Amigos. Es un lugar para hacer buenas amistades y para aprender nuevas cosas que ayudaran en sus vidas y crecer en su fe. Los viernes a las 7:00pm. Esperamos verlos!

POSADAS
Los invitamos al novenario para las posadas, seguimos pidiendo a las familias o grupos parroquiales que quieran tomar un día de la novena a comunicarse con la Hna. Silvia

CENA GRATIS
Ahora en la Iglesia de Santa Catalina hay una cena para la Comunidad cada noche de lunes de 6:00-7:00pm en el Centro Parroquial. Todos son bienvenidos. Ven y únete a nosotros!
Una comida caliente gratuita también está disponible en Morgan Hill cada martes en la Iglesia Luterana de 5:00-6:00pm, todos los miércoles en la Iglesia Metodista Unida de 6:00-7:00pm y los jueves en la Iglesia Comunidad Cristiana de 6:00-7:00pm.

Ofrenda Semanal de la Corresponsabilidad

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Notas de Corresponsabilidad: La Corresponsabilidad se define como la recaudación total de las misas de fin de semana, Navidad y Pascua. La “Meta Semanal” es el número que refleja la cantidad que tendría que ser recogidos cada semana para cumplir con nuestro presupuesto anual.

Parish Giving
¡GRACIAS POR SU GENEROSIDAD Y

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The Story of Guadalupe

Juan Diego was an Aztec farmer converted to Christianity by the Spanish. On his way to Mass on Dec 9th 1531 he saw a Lady dressed as an Aztec princess near the hill of Tepeyac. She told him that she was the Mother of God and said to tell the Bishop of Mexico that she wanted a church constructed on the hill in order to show her love for all the native peoples.

He went twice to the bishop and was sent away each time, but the Lady gave him a sign to satisfy the bishop's request. She told him to go to the top of the hill, pick the roses growing there and put them in his tilma (an apron-like cloak). Although he didn't expect to find roses in winter, Juan Diego obeyed. When he returned to the Lady, she arranged the roses in his tilma, secured his tilma to his neck and told him to show this to the bishop.

When he went back to the cathedral, Juan Diego opened his tilma and the roses fell out. The bishop and those with him fell on their knees because Juan Diego's tilma contained an image of the Lady, who said the image was to be known as Our Lady, Mary, of Guadalupe. The bishop formed a procession and carried the image into his chapel. The plaza filled with thousands of native Americans coming to see and honor the image.

Later a chapel, then a beautiful church, was built at Tepeyac. Today millions of people come to see the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe—our Blessed Mother, the Virgin Mary.

The Meaning of Guadalupe

Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Blessed Virgin Mary – Mary, the mother of Jesus. Apparitions of the Blessed Mother are mostly 19th-20th century happenings: Lourdes, Poland, Fatima, etc.

This American apparition in 1531 at Tepeyac, Mexico, is the first of the famous ones. The Guadalupe Lady stated to St. Juan Diego the purpose of her apparition: "I desire a church in this place where your people may experience my compassion." Mary wanted to give hope to the Aztec people in the face of their defeat by the Spanish conquistadors. She also said: "I will console them and they will be at peace."

She succeeded beyond anyone's imagination. Her compassion has led many to Christ and to his peace. The unity of most of the native American people of Mexico and the Spanish is remarkable, especially in their tremendous devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe. She was declared Patroness of the Americas by Pope John Paul II in 1999 and a liturgical holy day declared for the whole continent. To Jesus through Mary.
REJOICE ALWAYS

Always? Really? Do we have to?
I’ll be real with you (although I try to always be real) - as I’m writing this, I do not want to re-
joice. I am feeling quite the opposite in fact. I am upset. Without going into details, I’m basically not able to spend as much time with my family as I originally thought because of work (and no, I’m not upset at my work, because the issue arose from elsewhere). And while I want to just sit in anger and think about the many ways that what’s going on is messed up, I need to get this bulletin done before the deadline. So what do I do? I read the Mass readings for this weekend. And I don’t know if you’ve ever tried it, but it’s very challenging to read Scripture with an open mind when your mind is very focused on one upsetting thing. I must’ve read the first line of the 1st Reading 8 times before it actually registered.
And then I get to the 2nd Reading. And there are those two words. “Rejoice always.” Two words that I don’t want to feel. Two words that are the most challenging for me to follow as I read it. But those two words stuck with me. Now, as I’m writing, I am choosing to let go of my anger (no, I’m not kidding, I already feel loads better than when I first started writing this column). I’m not yet at the point of full on rejoicing, but instead of choosing to hold onto the anger, instead of thinking of the many ways this is messed up, I’m choosing to let it go. I vented to my wife, and I am now moving on. As it says halfway through the passage: “Retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil.” I retain what is good by being grateful that I get to spend some time with the family, even though it’s not as much as I wanted. The passage also says, “Pray without ceasing.” That means having a constant conversation with God (inside your head is probably best unless you’re alone).

The importance of that sentence has been made abundantly clear to me today because having a conversation with God can happen in all kinds of ways (yes conversing with God is prayer). Reading the Sacred Scripture is one of them. And it definitely works. If I didn’t start reading the Bible (yes it was for work purposes, but I was still trying to pray them), I would almost definitely still be very upset. I might even be more upset, as usually I allow the anger to feed on itself and grow (anyone else like that?). But by praying, I was able to recognize that there still is something to rejoice for. And even though I could’ve stayed mad, it would and always is a choice. Our emotional reactions to things cannot always be helped, but at some point (sooner than we’d like to think), we do choose. Sometimes it is a great challenge to choose how we feel. But, I think with practice, and patience, it can become easier.

Oh, I Heard That Before

A quick note on reading the Bible. If you didn’t know it, we cycle through the same readings every three years in Sunday Masses (two years for daily Masses). So if you’re 15, you’ve heard the Sunday readings five times already (that is if you were actually paying attention). And yet you can get something completely different from the same reading. Why? Because you are different. You aren’t the same person you were three years ago. And you’re going through different things than you were three years ago. I wasn’t really angry three years ago when I read this reading. So “Rejoice always” didn’t stick with me three years ago. But it did today. So if you’re at Mass, and you recognize a reading, don’t say, “Oh, I heard this one before,” and zone out. Listen to it again. Pray on the words. It might just help you out like it helped me.

depuk@dsj.org 874-6742
“When do we light the pink candle?”, asked a child during the Advent Family Celebration several weeks ago. On this third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, we light the pink candle, rejoicing that our Lord is coming soon. (Gaudete is Latin for “rejoice”).

While we watch and wait to celebrate Jesus’ birth, we await his return with steadfast faith. We also remember that God is already here, he is present and waiting for us. Christ’s love is with us always. He is counting on us to share it with others.

Just like John the Baptist was called to testify to Jesus in the gospel reading, we are called to testify to our own faith. How do we express our faith? Do we celebrate, with joy and Thanksgiving, when we go to Mass and celebrate the sacraments? Do we show mercy and compassion when we see those who are in need? Are we the light of Christ to each other, in our own daily lives?

What is one thing that you do every day during Advent that testifies to our faith in Jesus?

**FAMILY PRAYER:** Dearest Lord - we come together as a family to dedicate our lives to you, as John the Baptist did. You bring the light of joy into our hearts. Help us to recognize that light, fan the flames and share the light with others. Amen.
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WANT TO HELP REACH OUT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON
Nob Hill is selling a $20 bag of groceries for just $10 and is donating ALL bags sold to our Reachout program. We are currently helping 400 families a month, so one of these bags will really help us feed the less fortunate of our community. Thank you for your continued support.

TAIZE
Taize prayer is an ecumenical service, open to all faiths. This prayer and song around the Cross is held in the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose Chapel every 3rd Friday of the month. In a spirit of peace and reconciliation, our Taize Service is attended by people of all ages. Join us at 43326 Mission Blvd., Fremont, CA 94539. For more information, please contact: Sister Marcia Krause, OP at 510-502-5797.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
Couples celebrating their 5th (or less), 25th, 40th and 50th (and more) Wedding Anniversaries are invited to this wonderful celebration. Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph February 14, 2015 at 2:00pm Registration forms are available at the parish office or online at www.dsj.org/WeddingAnniversaryMass. Registration forms are due no later than January 30, 2015. For more information, please contact Sylvia Blanch at (408) 983-0128.

HOME SCHOOLSING
St. Catherine families who home educate, we are starting a support group for you. Activities for the year include regular playtime at a park in Morgan Hill. A monthly family Rosary. Quarterly activities based on the Liturgical Calendar. A Mom's night out centered on the reading program: A Well Read Mom. If you are interested contact Minden at 602-791-2727 or mindenagar@yahoo.com.

UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE
Most people are bothered by those passages in Scripture which they can’t understand; but . . . I have noticed that the passages in Scripture which trouble me most are those I do understand. —Mark Twain

ST. CATHERINE’S ANNUAL SWEEPSTAKES COMING TO A CLOSE
Time is running out! Get your tickets today for the St. Catherine’s 32nd annual sweepstakes. Come to the drawing on Sunday December 21st and see the winners drawn live, plus enjoy some food and holiday cheer. Also be entered into a separate free raffle for door prizes.

Your purchase of 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 prize, the lucky winner can choose to receive $30,000 in cash.

The $20 Vacation Sweepstakes Ticket offers a Trip of a Lifetime! You name the place and your winning ticket will fund 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 Apple iPad, Cash and a trip to Disneyland!

Only a few Bonus Bundles are still available!

Visit our table as you walk out of mass today.

We accept Checks, Cash, Visa, Master Card and Amex.

Join Former 49er Randy Kirk For his Annual KIRK’S KIDS TOY DRIVE Benefiting St. Catherine Parish Giving Tree & Community Solutions SANTA & NFL FRIENDS WILL JOIN ME FOR AN EVENING OF CHARITY & MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL!

When: Monday, December 15th, 5-9 PM Where: The Box Seat 15650 Vineyard Blvd. Morgan Hill Bring: An unwrapped toy or gift card. 49er Raffle: For every gift of value at $10 and over you receive a raffle ticket(s). Raffle during half time.
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ENVIRONMENT - CHANGE OF SEASONS
Have you helped with the environment of the church and or parish center? Would you like to help with the environment now? There are many small projects that bring everything together. You can attend meetings or just take on a project. For the Christmas Season, mark your calendar for December 23rd at 9:00am. Please contact Diana-Lynn Inderhees at inderhga@charter.net to find out more.

FREE COMMUNITY SUPPER
St. Catherine Church hosts a free Community Supper every Monday night from 6:00-7:00pm in the Parish Center. All are welcome. Come join us! A free hot meal is also available in Morgan Hill each Tuesday at Advent Lutheran Church from 5:00-6:00pm, every Wednesday at United Methodist Church from 6:00-7:00pm, and each Thursday at Community Christian Church from 6:00-7:00pm.

STEPHEN MINISTRY
Are you struggling through a hard time in your life? Are you trying to be strong and handle it alone? It doesn’t have to be that way. Whether it’s adjusting to a divorce, the loss of a loved one or coping with the issues of aging, a parish Stephen minister can support you. Each Stephen Minister has been trained extensively in Christian caregiving to listen in confidence and without judgment. To find out how this ministry can be of assistance to you or to request a Stephen minister, please contact Sergio at (408) 340-0454 or Claranne at (408) 782-1413.

ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE FOR 2014-15
MONTHLY 24 HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION in the CHURCH BEGINS FRIDAY AFTER the 8:15am MASS and CONCLUDES SATURDAY MORNING
*Note that Jan., Apr. and June Adoration will be on the second Friday of the month due to other events in the church. You can sign up for hours in the vestibule of the church. Contact: Nikky Fardig-nmag@charter.net or 776-6698; Sandra Grisedale-ziasandra@sbcglobal.net or 10-0410; Crystal Dietrich-crystaldietrich@gmail.com or 512-897-6712

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT FOR BILINGUAL DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
St Mary Parish seeks a part-time bi-lingual Director of Music. We are looking for someone who is a musician who is passionate about sharing their faith through music and song; and who can be a bridge-builder between the English and Hispanic communities. Job responsibilities include:
Advise/ support choir leaders with regard to music choices and written resources
For all non-Sunday special liturgies (RICA/ Reconciliation /Religious Education/ Bilingual)
Help plan music with Liturgy Director and/or Religious Education Director
Organize and practice with the special choirs as necessary
Prepare special worship aids as necessary
Play for the liturgy
This candidate must have knowledge of Catholic liturgical principles and practice; have good verbal and written skills in both English and Spanish. To apply, email a resume to Liturgy Director Rev. Jose Rubio, Associate Pastor, St. Mary Church in Gilroy, California at rubio@dsj.org.

MEN’S FAITH SHARING GROUP
Open Invitation to all men.
Come and join us as we grow, share and discuss our faith. We meet Monday mornings in the O’Donnell Parish Center from 6:30 to 7:30am to discuss our faith and relationship with God through discussions of Catholic books. Coffee and refreshments are provided.
ELECTRONIC UPDATES
If you have an email address and would like to hear the news of the parish and Fr. Mark’s famous Friday reflections please contact us. We email parishioners whose email addresses we have about events for the upcoming week. This way you won’t miss any of our exciting events. If you would like to receive the parish’s upcoming events electronically, please email the parish office at office@stca.org with your name and the email address you wish to use.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SCRIP FOR THE HOLIDAYS
Buy SCRIP today for all your holiday needs and those last minute gifts. These ministries & events will gladly accept SCRIP grocery gift cards (Safeway, Nob Hill, Target, Walmart) and other gift cards as donations: Giving Tree and Reachout

Buy SCRIP today for all your holiday needs and those last minute gifts.

SIMBANG GABI 2014
The Fil/Am Association is hosting a “Simbang Gabi” on December 20, 2014 at the Parish Center. We would start by attending the Saturday, evening mass at 5:30pm in the Church. The Fil/Am choir will be singing at that mass. After mass, there will be a light reception and Christmas cheer in the Parish Center. All are welcome.

OVER 50’S
The over 50’s group will host their monthly luncheon this Monday, December 15th at noon in the O’Donnell Parish Center. Remember to bring a dish to share and canned goods for Reach Out.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP OFFERINGS

Stewardship Notes: Stewardship is defined as the total collections from the regular weekend Masses, Christmas and Easter. The “Weekly Goal” number reflects the amount that would need to be collected each Week to meet our yearly budget.
Applications for the 2015-2016 school year are now available in the school office or on the school website. Please note the application deadline for kindergarten is December 17, while applications for grades 1-8 are due March 4.

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.