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.

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 - 24 Hours

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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD / LA EPIFANÍA DEL SEÑOR

From the Desk of Fr. Jeronimo Gutierrez, Pastor…
Dear parishioners,

Happy and Prosperous New Year to All.

May God our Father abundantly bless you and your family and friends.

I want to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude for your Christmas gifts to the Parish and for your Christmas cards and presents you kindly sent to me.

Every New Year brings with it multiple opportunities for improvement in our personal life. Many of us make New Year’s Resolutions that help us at least for a little while, to focus on some important areas we know need to be changed.

(Continued Page 3…)

Desde el escritorio de Padre Jeronimo Gutierrez, Párroco…

Estimados feligreses,

Feliz y Próspero Año Nuevo para todos ustedes.

Que el Señor les bendiga abundantemente a todos ustedes, sus familiares y amistades.

Quiero aprovechar esta oportunidad para expresarles mi más profunda gratitud por su regalo Navideño a la parroquia y también a todos quienes me enviaron una tarjeta de Navidad o un presente navideño.

Cada comienzo de año trae consigo muchas oportunidades para mejorar nuestra vida. Muchos de nosotros hacemos promesas de año nuevo a las que nos enfocamos al menos por un rato.

A nivel parroquial me voy a enfocar en lo siguiente: Primero: la creación de un Concilio Parroquia para la Pastoral.

(Continuado en Pagina 5…)

**Pastoral Staff / Equipo Pastoral**
Fr. Jeronimo Gutierrez, Pastor - jgutierrez@dsj.org  
Fr. Liu Vu, Parochial Vicar- lvu@dsj.org  
Fr. Allen Navarro, Parochial Vicar– anavarro@dsj.org  
Deacon Rick Haeckel, Deacon - rhaeckel@dsj.org  
Deacon Phil Flowers, Deacon - pflowers@dsj.org  
Sr. Silvia Frías, MESST Asociada Pastoral - sfrias@dsj.org  
Rose Pucan-Meager, Director of Family Faith Formation and Evangelization- rospem@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

**READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK**

**First Reading** — Isaiah speaks of the Servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) or Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11.

**Psalm** — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) or Psalm 104.

**Second Reading** — Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38) or Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7.

**Gospel** — A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22).

**FAITH SHARING QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

Adult: "When have you been jealous or fearful of another person? When are such feelings harmful?"

Child: "When have you been jealous because something good happened to another person instead of you? What is the problem with feeling that way?"

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**THE WEEK AHEAD/ LA SEMANA PRÓXIMA**

**Sunday/Domingo, January 3**
7:00-1:00pm CH CR1 Hospitality  
8:00-12:00pm NUR Bright Beginnings nursery  
8:45-10:00am LR RCIA Dismissal  
1:30-4:00pm CR1 & KK Hospitality  
3:30-5:30pm CH Worship Choir-Kellet  
5:00-6:00pm RM 11 Spanish Bible Study  

**Monday/Lunes, January 4**
6:00-9:00pm CR1 & KK Community supper  
6:00-9:00pm CH Bell choir/Angela choir  
6:00-7:00pm CHV Alfa & Omega Planning meeting  
6:45-8:45pm RM 12 Prayer Group – A Los Pés de Cristo  
7:00-8:00pm RM 10 Jóvenes Para Cristo/Team Meeting  
7:00-9:00pm CR 1 ICF Board Members Meeting  
7:30-10:00pm GYM YA - Open Gym  

**Tuesday/Martes, January 5**
7:00-9:00pm CH Lector Training  
6:00-9:00pm CR 14 & KK Catechist New Year Celebration  
6:30-8:00pm RM 12 KOC - Board Meeting  

**Wednesday/Miércoles, January 6**
9:00-11:00am CR 1 Women’s Group  
12:00-8:00pm NUR Rose Choir  
3:00-6:30pm MC, RM 10,11 Family Faith Formation Session  
6:00-6:00pm CH Children’s Choir rehearsals  
6:00-7:30pm CH Spanish Holy Hour  
6:30-8:00pm RM 12 Jesus to Mankind  
6:30-8:30pm DC Edge  
7:30-9:00pm MC RCIA Class  
7:30-9:30pm CH Alpha Omega-Spanish Carismatico Group  
8:00-9:00pm NUR FI/Ann Committee Meeting  

**Thursday/Jueves, January 7**
6:00-9:00pm CH Spanish Choir rehearsals  
7:00-8:00pm MC Safe Environment Training  
7:00-9:00pm LR Liturgy Committee - Meeting  
7:00-9:00pm RM 12 RCCA  
8:00-9:00pm NUR Schola Cantorum Rehearsal  

**Friday/Viernes, January 8**
9:00-11:59am CH 24 Hour Adoration  
3:30-5:30pm CH Worship Choir-Kellet  
9:30-10:30am CR 1-2 Bible Study  
7:00-9:00 CR 14, RM 10,11 Jóvenes Para Cristo  
7:00-9:00pm LR Consejo Hispano  
7:00-10:00pm MC Grupo Amigos  

**Saturday/Sábado, January 9**
12:00-8:00pm CH 24 Hour Adoration  
7:00-8:00am CH Guadalupe Committee-2nd Rosary  
9:00-10:00am LR Men’s Group  
8:30-10:30am MC, RM 10,11,12 Cat. Min- Spanish FFF Session  
9:00-9:30am CH Cat. Min-FFF Spanish Opening Prayer  
6:30-9:30pm CR 1 Confirmation – Pastoral Care  
8:30-10:00pm CH Spanish Passion Play  

**8:15AM MASS INTENTIONS**

- **Monday, January 4**  Brad & Myra Mountz  
  Antonio (Tony) Ferreira  
- **Tuesday, January 5**  Regina Murphy  
  Carmen Muñoz  
- **Wednesday, January 6**  Ramon Muñoz  
  Ramona Muñoz  
- **Thursday, January 7**  Eric Hernandez  
  Antonio (Tony) Ferreira  
  Brad Spencer  
  Gerry Ann Stringari  
- **Friday, January 8**  Brad Spencer  
  Eva Lash  
- **Saturday, January 9**  Brad Spencer  
  Eva Lash  

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Most often today's celebration is referred to simply as “Epiphany.” More properly the Church calls today the Epiphany of the Lord. There are two meanings of epiphany, one religious and one secular. The Epiphany of the Lord celebrates the recognition of Jesus as “the newborn King of the Jews” by the three gentile magi from the east. This manifestation of Jesus as the one promised by the prophets includes the secular meaning of epiphany which is a ‘sudden and profound understanding of something.’ So it is a particular event as well as a sudden awakening. This is a long introduction to the fact the epiphanies, larger and small E, occur often in life. For example, remember the time when “give us this day our daily bread” became more than a request for tangible food? Or that the particular presence of Jesus in the seven sacraments did not preclude his presence to us at all times? Those moments of surprising realization are gifts which bring us warmth and openness to our God of surprises. The journey of life is marked by many many moments of insight, most of which are recognized only in retrospect. Reflecting in prayer on our spiritual growth brings moments of past epiphanies into focus. Not so much to take pride in our achievements but rather to recognize the many ways God is present to us that go by unnoticed … at least until we reflect and recollect. Even in more mundane terms, when did you last refer to icon as something other than something to “click on?” :-)

**GREEN TIP OF THE WEEK**
When considering a new pet consider adopting one from a shelter. There are thousands in need of a forever home (and chances are they’ve already been “fixed.”)

**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!

**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: __________________________

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Name: __________________________
Address: __________________________
City: ___________ Zip: ___________
Phone: ___________ Email: __________________________
A Christmas Gift for St. Catherine’s

In order to balance our parish budget every year we rely heavily on the generous gifts that come to us through the Christmas collection. We also rely heavily on the weekly Offertory gifts that are made 52 weeks out of the year. Both your Christmas gifts to St. Catherine’s and your weekly Offertory gifts help us manage our operating budget through winter when heating bills are high and unexpected unbudgeted costs. For this reason, we ask you to please be as generous as possible with your Christmas gift to the parish. If possible, use both your weekly envelope/online giving and your Christmas envelope/online giving this Christmas. We need your support. Thank you for your generosity both throughout the year and at Christmas!

Parish Website and Electronic Giving Help You Stay Connected

Christmas is a wonderful time for us. In addition to the very special meaning of the liturgical celebration, we are always happy to see so many parishioners whose schedules may not allow them to attend Mass at our parish on a regular basis. If you are one of those who cannot visit our parish as much as you like, you might want to check out our website at www.stca.org. There you will find our weekly bulletins; information about parish programs and find out who is on our parish staff. You will also find an Online Giving link on the front page, below Ways to Give. Our online giving program allows parishioners to continue to support the parish even when they are out-of-town, too busy to remember an envelope, working weekends, or attending Mass at another parish. If you would like to learn more about this easy, safe and secure way of giving, please contact Anna Quinones aquinones@dsj.org or Jeanette Thatcher jthatcher@dsj.org or follow the simple instructions found on the website.

LITURGY WORSHIP

REFLECTION: The Feast of the Epiphany originated in the East (when one looks from Rome). Originally it was a commemoration of the Lord’s baptism which was the first epiphany—appearance, self-manifestation of the Lord. Later came the second epiphany over the water of Cana changed into wine. And when the feast spread to the West, it became primarily a commemoration of the revealing of Jesus to the Magi. It is the feast of the universal church. In the persons of the Magi, today’s Gospel, Mat. 2:1-12, the first non-Jews come to the Lord who reveals Himself to them. The prophecy of Isaiah, we hear in the first reading, Isa. 60:1-6, is starting to be fulfilled: “They all (nations) gather together, they come to you.” Yes, in Christ the Gentiles are now co-heirs with the Jews, members of the same body, second reading, Eph. 3:2-3a, 5-6.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Life hands us many epiphanies or “wake-up calls.” A few years ago, a young couple adopted a two-year-old child in a morass of red tape, complications, and court hearings. At the baby’s baptism, the priest suggested appending an “adoption blessing,” wherein the new relationship was expressed and affirmed. There is a place in that rite for the child to speak, and instead the priest said, “Can you give Daddy a kiss?” Standing in the midst of his church, the young adoptive father suddenly welled up with tears as he embraced the child. Afterward, he explained that through all the hassles and legal struggles he never until that moment in church understood that he was the parent of this child. The ritual claimed them for each other, gave expression to their relationship that the legal documents never could, and firmly cemented this child into the heart of a community as everyone erupted into heartfelt applause. This assembly witnessed in a powerful way what happens in every baptism: the mystery of adoption, the free flow of grace, the overwhelming sense of God’s presence at the heart of our life’s journey.

Rev. James Field, Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co.
LA EPIFANÍA DEL SEÑOR

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — ¡Levántate y brilla, Jerusalén! La gloria del Señor amaneció sobre ti (Isaías 60:1-6).

Salmo — Que te adoren, Señor, todos los pueblos (Salmo 72 [71]).

Segunda lectura — El misterio de que los gentiles son coherederos, socios en la promesa en Jesucristo, se ha dado a conocer a los hombres (Efesios 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Evangelio — Vinieron unos Magos de Oriente preguntando: “¿Dónde está el rey de los judíos que ha nacido?” (Mateo 2:1-12).

DESEMS DEL ESCRITORIO DE PADRE

JERONIMO GUTIERREZ, CONTINUADO....

Este grupo de personas me ayudaran a identificar las necesidades de la parroquia y a buscar las soluciones a tales necesidades para el beneficio de todos. Personalmente ya he invitados a algunos feligreses a formar este concilio. Espero que sea una realidad la próxima Pascua.


Tercero: Fortalecer el Consejo Parroquial para las Finanzas. Actualmente hay necesidad de más miembros y mayor claridad en el rol que desempeñan. Si usted tuviera interés, le explico que este consejo revisa las entradas y los gastos de la parroquia; aconseja al párroco en cómo incrementar las entradas y minimizar los gastos. De manera regular da reportes claros a la comunidad.

Por último, sin ser menos importante: Revisar, junto con todos aquellos que tomaron parte, “El Master Plan” que hace tres años se trató de implementar. Si usted formó parte de ese grupo le invito a que nos reunamos otra vez. Que compartamos sus pensamientos acerca de los resultados de la compañía; y lo que le gustaría hacer el día de hoy. Espero verlos pronto. Jeanette Thatcher les enviará una carta con el día y la hora de nuestra reunión.

Es esto demasiado? Sí! Sí lo es, y no podré hacerlo sin su ayuda.

Una vez más: Que tenga un Saludable, Feliz y Próspero Año Nuevo

P. Jeronimo

FELICITAMOS LOS CUMPLEAÑOS DEL MES DE DICIEMBRE

SÁBADO, 2 DE ENERO

Jasmine Castillo
Adamary Moya

DOMINGO, 3 DE ENERO

Alva Castillo
Maria Elena Plasencia

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Sal 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Martes: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Sal 72 (71):1-4, 7-8; Mc 6:34-44
Miércoles: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 10, 12-13; Mc 6:45-52
Jueves: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lc 4:14-22a
Viernes: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Sal 147:12-15, 19-20; Lc 5:12-16
Sábado: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30

GRUPO AMIGOS

Se les invita a todos los jóvenes que estén en la preparatoria para asistir al Grupo Amigos. Es un grupo para hacer buenas amistades y para aprender nuevas cosas que ayudaran en sus vidas y crecer en su fe. Los esperamos todos los viernes a las 7:00pm en el Centro Milani.
OFICINA DE CATECISMO
Registraciones para catecismo ya están disponibles, en nuestras oficinas de la parroquia, de Catecismo o en nuestra página del web (www.stca.org). Para más información, favor de llamar al (408) 779-9604 o por correo electrónico: ro-sepm@dsj.org.

PREPARACIÓN A LOS SACRAMENTOS PARA ADULTOS
A las personas de 18 años en adelante que les falte alguno de los Sacramentos de Bautismo, Primera Comunión o Confirmación, pueden pasar a la Rectoría a registrarse para RICA. Las clases inician el 10 de Septiembre en el Salón 12, todos los Jueves a las 7:00pm. Les pedimos traer Biblia y Cuaderno.

REUNION DE CONSEJO HISPANO
Se le invita a todos participar a nuestra reunión Consejo Hispano el Viernes, 8 de enero a las 7:00pm en la Rectoría. Es muy importante que los coordinadores de los ministerios asistan a estas juntas. TODOS son bienvenidos! Los Esperamos.

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

CENAS COMUNITARIAS
Jóvenes, familias, adultos, grandes y chicos: la Parroquia necesita de su ayuda. Necesitamos más gente en algunos de nuestros equipos para servir cena a nuestra comunidad. El compromiso es de tan solo una vez cada 7 semanas de 5:30pm. Si a usted le gustaría ayudar a proveer buena comida y buena compañía para nuestra comida semanal que ayuda a todos los de la comunidad, por favor de ponerse en contacto con Carol Lilling en Lillig@garlic.com o llamando al (408)857-4516.

ROSARIO 2DO. SABADO DEL MES
El Comité Guadalupano les hace la atenta invitación a rezar el Santo Rosario en la Iglesia el sábado, Julio 11 a las 7:00 de la mañana.

¿SE HA MUDADO?
¿Se ha mudado recientemente y necesita actualizar su nueva dirección con nuestra parroquia? Mándenos un correo electrónico a Office@stca.org, déjenos una nota en la colección de los Domingos, o también puede llamarnos al (408) 779-3959. Necesitamos su nombre completo, su dirección anterior, su actual dirección, y su nuevo numero de teléfono si es que este también ha cambiado. No se pierda de las estupendas noticias que mandamos por correo o por correo electrónico de nuestros feligreses.

FACEBOOK
Únase con nosotros y manténgase al corriente de lo que pasa en nuestra parroquia. Visite nuestra pagina en https://www.facebook.com/pages/Saint-Catherine-of-Alexandria-

SAN VICENTE DE PAUL
La Sociedad de San Vicente de Paul de Santa Catalina tiene una tiendita comunitaria, que estará abierta todos los Martes y Jueves de 10:00am a 12:00pm para personas que necesitan ropa para hombres y mujeres GRATIS. Al igual hay ropa de niños, bebes, y algunos artículos para el hogar y muebles. El domicilio de la tiendita es 13570 Depot St. San Martin, CA 95046.

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¡FELICIDADES GANADORES!

PÁJARO MADRUGADOR:
Primer Lugar: $1,000 —VEH #191—Terry & Maeven Hannon
Segundo Lugar: $500 —VAC #2185—Paul Baria
Tercer Lugar: $250 —VEH #1147—David Montoya

BONUS BUNDLE:
Primer Lugar: $1,500 —#254—William Meuser
Segundo Lugar: $500 —#112—Kal & Marianne Shallal
Tercer Lugar: $400 —#221—Kathy Borges
Cuarto Lugar: $350 —#218—Garry & Judy Stutheit

SORTEOS PARA VACACIONES:
Primer Lugar: Vacación o $5,000 —#0706—Teresa Steengrafe
Segundo Lugar: Viaje a Disneyland o $1,500—#2585—Rosalina Vasquez—Landeros
Tercer Lugar: $1,000—#2708—Daniel Bawol
Cuarto Lugar: iPad Air—#2528—Alfred & Sharon Alciati
Quinto Lugar:$500—#0563—Tim Long

SORTEO DE VEHÍCULO:
Primer Lugar: 2013 Vehículo de $40,000 o $30,000 en efectivo—#1309—Margaret Peterson
Segundo Lugar: $1,500—#1416—Frank White
Tercer Lugar: $1,000—#1611—Shirley DeCarr
Cuarto Lugar: $500—#1135—Alejandro Campos

APRENDIENDO DE LA FE A TEMPRANA EDAD...

¿Tienen niños entre las edades de 3 a 6 años? ¡Fantástico! La oficina de catecismo ofrecerá clases de formación de fe para estos niños. Se les invita a todos los padres de familia que estén interesados a que pasen a registrárselos a la oficina de catecismo. Las clases serán los domingos de las 12:00 a 1:30pm, y empezarán el día domingo 24 de Enero. Tendremos una junta para los que estén interesados el día 17 de enero a la 1:30pm en el centro Milani. ¡Gracias los esperamos!

FORTALEZA Y VALOR
La oración infunde fuerza al débil y valor al temeroso.
—Anónimo

LOS SANTOS Y OTRAS CELEBRACIONES
Domingo: Tercer Domingo de Adviento
Lunes: San Juan de la Cruz
Miércoles: Primer día de las Posadas

ORACIÓN PARA EL ADVIENTO
Que el Dios de paz nos haga totalmente santos.
Que conserve nuestro espíritu sin mancha, cuerpo y alma,
hasta la llegada de nuestro Señor, Jesucristo.
El que nos invita es siempre fiel —Dios nuestro Padre.
Vivamos en esperanza gozosa
de la revelación de la gloria
de nuestro Dios y Salvador, Jesucristo.
Que sea glorificado por siempre.
Ven Señor Jesús. Que tu gracia esté en todos nosotros.
—De Oraciones Bíblicas, p. 11 por Lucien Deiss, CSSp; copyright 1979, Lucien Deiss. Publicado por World Library Publications
Water is the primary and essential symbol in the Sacrament of Baptism. If Baptism must be administered without any ceremonies (e.g. in the event of death), the required elements are the flowing of water, through pouring or immersion, and the words that Jesus gave us: “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” (see Matthew 28:19).

Water symbolizes both life and death. The life-giving nature of water is obvious. The planet earth is composed of 71% water and has living creatures because of water. The human body is composed of 60% water and cannot live more than 3 days without water. But water also can bring death. Drowning (over watering) can bring an end to the physical life of humans, animals and even plants. Flooding, typhoons, and tsunamis frequently result in death and destruction.

Using the life and death symbolism of water, St Paul connects Baptism to the Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. (Rom 6:3-4; cf. Col 2:12.)

In Baptism, a person experiences water in two ways. First, water is poured on the head (usual for children) or the person descends into the water (usual for adults). This covering with water symbolizes the person’s death to sin and evil. Second, water flows away from the head or the person ascends from the water. This symbolizes the person rising to new life with Christ. Sometimes we use the word “purification” to refer to the combination of these two actions: the old stains of sin are purified away in order to make the baptized person into a new child of God. The effect of Baptism is to make the baptized a member of Christ’s Body, dying to a life without God and rising to life with God.
IT’S 2016!

For all you really young people out there, this isn’t that big of a deal. But to me, it’s weird to think that 1990 was almost 30 years ago. There are people driving on the road who were born in 2000. It’s weird to be in my thirties now (I know what you’re thinking, “Deepu’s 30?! He can’t be more than 22!”). I look back at how I was when I was younger, and I had this idiotic belief that I knew it all and I knew better than most—I’m sure many of you felt the same way. And many of us hold onto that belief throughout most of our lives. Even now, many times I catch myself thinking that I know better than others. Fortunately I am able to recognize those thoughts better and better now so I can push that thought out of my mind (most of the time). And another thing that has changed is that I know that I don’t know more than God, and that God knows me and what I should be doing better than I do.

Unfortunately, most people don’t get to this point (and I’m not saying that I’m better than others, because there’s still so much I need to grow and improve on). But so many people think they know what’s best—for themselves and for others. And this is where we get into so many issues and arguments—not because of true beliefs based on facts—but because of opinions based on feelings. This is why so many Catholics don’t agree with the teachings of the Catholic Church. The real problem, however, isn’t that we don’t agree with Catholic Church teachings—it’s what we do after we disagree with the Catholic Church—which is most of the time nothing. Oh, the Church is against abortion? I’m fine with abortion. Moving on. Instead of just waving of Church teachings, we should find out the reasons why. More importantly, we should find out the reasons why we disagree. Are they based on actual fact and research? Or are they based on feelings and your opinion? But Deepu, who has time to do all that research? It’s true, true research, prayer and discernment over a teaching you disagree with is time consuming. But that’s why the Church has the teachings it has, and why it says we as Catholics should follow them. The Church has already done all the research and prayer and discernment on these topics for us. It’s like if you see $20 fall out of a person’s pocket. Should you give it back to the person or should you keep it? Well, while you’re trying to figure that out, the person is walking away, so the temptation is greater to just keep it. And then you feel regret later on and doubt and question if you did the right thing. Whereas if you saw the money fall out and thought, the Church teaches us that it is wrong to steal, then you’d give it back right away and be done with it, and know that you did the right thing.

Now does that mean that in every situation and teaching you should just follow the Church blindly? Not necessarily. If there’s something that you feel strongly against, there might be a reason for it. But don’t just disagree. Research. Find out the Truth. Pray about it (humbly). Then make your decision. Don’t let your opinions and pride get in the way of following God.

dee@dsj.org
We hear in today’s Gospel reading of the Magi’s search for the “newborn king of the Jews”. They had seen a star rising, and after their visit with King Herod, followed the star until it stopped over the place where baby Jesus was laid. The Magi “from the east” that were searching for Jesus represent Gentiles—all people outside the Jewish world.

On the feast of the Epiphany, we celebrate the fact that Jesus is revealed not just to the Jewish people, but to the world. Like the Magi, we are all searching for Jesus. Sometimes it is hard to see Jesus’ love and mercy, especially in people whose words and actions show otherwise.

The Magi brought gold, frankincense and myrrh as their gifts to Jesus, acknowledging that Jesus was their King and Savior. Love in action and mercy in motion is our gift that we can offer to Jesus, beginning in our homes. What star will we and our families follow in 2016? Whose light will guide us?

As Pope Francis shares in his Epiphany address from 2014, “May we sense the Magi at our side, as wise companions on the way. Their example helps us to lift our gaze towards the star and to follow the great desires of our heart. We must press on towards Bethlehem, where, in the simplicity of a dwelling on the outskirts, beside a mother and father full of love and of faith, there shines forth the Sun from on high, the King of the universe. By the example of the Magi, with our little lights, may we seek the Light and keep the faith. May it be so.”

CHILDREN’S FAITH FORMATION

JANUARY 2016:
JANUARY 6 - Wednesday classes begin
JANUARY 9 - Saturday classes begin
JANUARY 10 - Sunday classes begin

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION/ FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
PARENT MEETING #2

Sunday, January 24
3:00—5:00 pm in the Parish Center

Saturday, February 6 (SPANISH)
9:00—10:15 am in the Milani Center

This meeting is for parents whose children will be preparing to receive First Holy Communion in May 2016. At least one parent should attend the meeting.
COAT & BLANKET DRIVE
January 11 thru 29
Please bring new or slightly used coats and blankets to the Coat Bins in the Church vestibule, or to the Parish Office. They will be given to the Armory, other shelters and St. Vincent de Paul to distribute. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

KNITTING GROUP
Are you a passionate needle crafter and desire to be in community with others here at St Catherine's? Well, bring your knitting, crocheting, quilt or embroidery projects and join us! The group gathers in the nursery room in the Parish Center. Drop in anytime on Monday nights from 6:30pm - 8:30pm. All are welcome. Contact Diane at 408-839-3553 for questions or if you would like to learn to knit or crochet.

GILROY COMPASSION CENTER NEEDS SOCKS!
Gilroy Compassion Center (8425 Monterey Road) provides basic services to the homeless in South County. They have an urgent need for donations of men and women’s socks during the upcoming cold months. They are open M-F from 6am-noon. Visit their website for more info: http://gccsoco.org/

TAMALE SALE
Jovenes Para Cristo will be selling Tamales after Mass next weekend to help fund their retreat. Thank you for your support.

HELP US REACH 1,000 LIKES?
Do you have a Facebook account? Have you "liked" St. Catherine’s page? Help us reach 1,000 likes! Go onto our Facebook page and like us and you could win a raffle prize! Once we reach 1,000 likes, we will raffle off a prize. Don’t miss out on staying on top of all the events in the Parish.

WALK FOR LIFE 2015 - JANUARY 24, 2015
St. Catherine's Parish please join us in Attending the "Walk for Life" event in San Francisco along with our Respect Life Committee, Knights of Columbus and our Youth! We have 2 buses departing from St. Catherine's at 0:00am and returning by 6:00pm. Need to dress in comfortable shoes, in layers watching the weather, and bring a lunch. Price is $22 per person or let us know if you have a hardship so we can help. For registration and more information contact Irma Mora at Irma_Mora@sbcglobal.net, cell (408) 461-1273, or Sergio Arzate at: S_Arzarte@yahoo.com, cell (408) 340-0454. Event schedule and speaker information at: www.WalkForLifeWC.com

ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA EUCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE
"How long, in truth, shall we be attached to present things? How long shall we remain asleep? How long shall we not take thought for our own salvation? Let us remember what privileges God has bestowed on us, let us give thanks, let us glorify him, not only by faith, but with our very works."
St. John Chrysostom
"GLORIFY GOD BY MAKING YOUR BODIES THE SHRINES OF HIS PRESENCE!"
Our 24 hour Adoration begins on Friday January 8th immediately after the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 8:15A.M. and concludes on Saturday January 9th with Benediction at 8:00A.M.

We are once again inviting newlywed couples! (Celebrating their 5th year or less)
Bishop Patrick J. McGrath would like to invite all couples celebrating their 5th (or less), 25th, 40th and 50th (or more) Wedding Anniversaries in 2016 to participate in our Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph in downtown San Jose. The couples are invited to renew their wedding vows and will receive a blessing from Bishop Patrick McGrath who will preside at the celebration. Each couple also receives a certificate signed by the Bishop.

February 6, 2016 at 2pm
St. Joseph Cathedral (Parking Details)
A short reception will follow after
Call Sylvia Blanch (blanch@jsj.org) at 408-983-0128 for more information.
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

CONGRATULATIONS 2015 WINNERS!

Early Bird Drawing:
First Prize: $1,000 – Veh #191 – Terry & Maeve Hannon – MH
Second Prize: $500 – VAC #2185 – Paul Baria – MH
Third Prize: $250 – VEH #1147 – David Montoya – MH

Bonus Bundle Drawing:
First Prize: $1,500 - #254 – William Meuser – MH
Second Prize: $500 - #112 – Kal & Marianne Shallal – MH
Third Prize: 400 - #221 – Kathy Borges – Campbell
Fourth Prize: $350 - #218 – Garry & Judy Stutheit – Gilroy

Vacation Drawing:
First Prize: Vacation or $5,000 - #0706 – Teresa Steengrafe – SM
Second Prize: Trip to Disneyland or $1,500 - #2585 – Rosalina Vasquez Landeros – Gilroy
Third Prize: $1,000 - #2708 – Daniel Bawol – Gilroy
Fourth Prize: iPad Air - #2528 – Alfred & Sharon Alciati – MH
Fifth Prize: $500 - #0563 – Tim Long – Mountain View

Vehicle Drawing:
First Prize: Vehicle up to $40,000 or $30,000 Cash - #1309 Margaret Peterson – MH
Second Prize: $1,500 - #1416 – Frank White – MH
Third Prize: $1,000 - #1611 – Shirley DeCarr
Fourth Prize: $500 - #1135 – Alejandro Campos – MH

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

We have the Men and Women’s Clothing Giveaway Day at the shop in San Martin on Saturday, January 23rd from 10am-2pm. We could really use a few more bilingual or Spanish-speaking volunteers to help the people who shop get what they need.

LOOKING IN THE RIGHT PLACES

“Appearances can be deceiving,” as the saying goes. As we celebrate the epiphania, the “appearing” of the eternal Word of God on earth, this is still true.

What rapturous foresight must have filled Isaiah as he wrote the words we hear today. How, for four hundred years, they must have filled the hearts of the people of Israel with hope for the day when God’s glory would shine on them. How deceived some must have felt when the glory of God came to them in the lowliest and humblest of human lives.

We have many expectations about how the divine presence will appear among us. But we can also set ourselves up, through these expectations, to miss the divine glory when it truly appears. We get caught up in looking for the star, forgetting that the star is not the divine sign, the babe is. It may take a persistent journey for us to come upon the true appearance of God’s glory in our lives: Jesus Christ.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Epiphany of the Lord;
National Migration Week
Monday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Tuesday: St. John Neumann
Wednesday: St. André Bessette
Thursday: St. Raymond of Penyafort;
Julian Calendar Christmas

MEN’S GROUP

The men’s Spirituality Group meets weekly, currently discussing the book The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything by James Martin SJ at 9:00am on Saturday in the Parish Rectory living room. All men are welcome!
A Christmas Gift

How well do you know Jesus? Is your answer, “I don’t know Jesus anywhere near as well as I would like to know Him.” Then the time to rediscover Jesus is right now.

Our Christmas gift to families this year was the book Rediscover Jesus. The author Matthew Kelly says this, “Your are holding this book in your hand at this very moment for a reason. I don’t know what God has in store for you, but I am excited for you. There are some questions that we all ask ourselves in different ways: Who am I? Who is God? What am I here for? What matters most? What matters least? What are my unique talents and abilities? What will my contribution be?

We discover the answers to these questions most completely by encountering Jesus. He longs to help us discover deeply personal answers to our deeply personal questions…. Some books find us at just the right time in our lives, and those books change our lives forever. I hope this is that kind of book for you.”

This lent St. Catherine will form small groups to discuss this book. More information will be forthcoming. Please pick a book up at the Parish Office if you did not yet receive one. Peace and Merry Christmas. St. Catherine Parish Staff.
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Applications for the 2016-2017 school year are now available in the school office or on the school website. Please note the application deadline for kindergarten was December 16, while applications for grades 1-8 are due March 2.

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.

GRANDPARENTS/
SPECIAL PERSONS DAY
If you have a grandchild at St. Catherine School, your grandchild will be asking you to join him/her for a special day filled with quality time seeing and learning about “a day at St. Catherine School.” Mark your calendar for the morning of Wednesday, February 3. Your grandchild will be inviting you just after the first of the year. For more information, contact Gina Colton at 779-9950.

Mrs. Garcia read her kindergartners the story of “The Giving Manger.” Students then constructed mangers and took them home. The students added a piece of “straw” for each good deed. Students also wrote about their experiences filling their mangers with “straw” for Jesus.

Eighth graders show off the rockets they made and launched as part of the study of physics.

Five 4th graders represented St. Catherine School at the Shop With a Cop event sponsored by Morgan Hill Police. The event promoted positive relations with law enforcement in Morgan Hill. Our students shopped for gifts for members of the families their class “adopted” for Christmas. The students had a wonderful time getting to know the police officers.

Classes resume
Monday, January 4, 2016.

The next eWaste Drive sponsored by our Green Team will be Saturday, January 23. Please save those appliances and tech items that you no longer use. Help St. Catherine School and our environment at the same time. The money raised from this event will help fund more energy efficient lighting in our classrooms. This is also a great opportunity to get parent hours or student service hours. Contact Arlene Handa at ecosafehome1@yahoo.com.

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