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 Alejandria, 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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT / SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

From the Desk of Fr. Randy Valenton, Parochial Vicar……..

A Journey of Spiritual Transformation

Though we are still in the season of Advent, many people want to jump right now into the euphoria of the Christmas season. Just like in the social media; we see people uploading pictures of their homes who have already decorated them with Christmas ornaments and colorful lights. The excitement is undeniable, but the spirit of waiting is sometimes compromised without noticing it. Don’t you think something is lost when we rush through the beautiful and reflective season of Advent?

(Continued on page 3…)

Desde el escritorio de Padre Randy, Vicario Parroquial …. 

Un Viaje a la Transformación Espiritual

Aunque aún estamos en la temporada de Adviento, mucha gente quiere saltar ahora mismo a la euforia de la temporada de Navidad. Así como en las redes sociales; vemos gente subiendo fotos de sus casas que ya las han decorado con adornos navideños y luces coloridas. La emoción es innegable, pero el espíritu de espera a veces se ve comprometida sin notarlo. ¿No cree que algo se pierde cuando nos precipitamos a través de la hermosa y reflexiva temporada de Adviento?

Nuestro viaje nos está esperando y la esperanza es parte de nuestras vidas. En la temporada de Adviento, el espíritu de espera, conversión y esperanza es muy esencial. La espera es una señal de humildad.

(Continuedado 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. Jeronimo Gutierrez, Pastor - jgutierrez@dsj.org
Fr. Randy Valenton, Parochial Vicar– rvalenton@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- rosepm@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
Diana-Lynn Inderhees, Liturgy Coordinator, dinderhees@dsj.org

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK
First Reading — The barren deserts will rejoice and flower. Tired bodies will receive strength. Aching hearts will be made glad (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10).
Psalm — Lord, come and save us (Psalm 146).
Second Reading — Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (James 5:7-10).
Gospel — Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing (Matthew 11:2-11).

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

STEWARDSHIP IN SCRIPTURE
BY DEACON RICK HAECKEL

Prepare, a word we use often; we prepare meals, we prepare for work/school, we prepare for Christmas... Ah, wait a minute, does our preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth center more on presents or on conforming ourselves to the invitation of John the Baptist. Both one hopes. The busy-ness of the season requires that we carve out time for our spiritual preparation. Time, wait, I'm already swamped, how do I find time to walk with Mary and Joseph as they prepare for Jesus' birth? John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord by inviting repentance. By asking us to reflect on how our lives give evidence of the importance of being a follower of Jesus. In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." In other words we are not simply to admit our failures and seek forgiveness. That is part of repenting but it should also lead to concrete ways we live out our faith. Advent is a time to ponder, to reflect in wonder that God "so loved the world" that God came like one of us. We celebrate birthdays as a reminder of our creator God's great gift of life. Each person, crafted and loved into existence just as Jesus was. Truly we cannot take that in completely so we approach understanding by means of concrete actions of which preparation and repentance are two. Quiet reflection is a wonderful way to rest in the loving arms of God, but when those restful moments become shorter and farther apart as the great day approaches, take solace in the realization that our repentance and preparations are themselves expressions of thankfulness and grace. Our ability to, as the Jesuits say, find God in all things is, of itself, the graced path which brings life a wholly new dimension. God is with us always, make sure that the spiritual requirements we place on ourselves center on living as Jesus did, with love for all.

GREEN TIP OF THE WEEK
Carpooling often is given short shrift. It's too hard to pick up someone going to the same event (even mass). Adapting our schedule to the needs of one (or more) passengers is a means of living for others...think of the resources saved and the lessening of pollution.

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!

FROM THE DESK OF FR. RANDY.....
Our life is a journey where waiting and hoping is part of our life. In the season of Advent the spirit of waiting, conversion and hope is very essential. Waiting is a sign of humility. Sometimes while we are waiting for something we feel as if we are doing nothing and we are just wasting our time. But the truth is that we are actually doing something very important - we are allowing our hope to grow. We become a new person, not bound by impatience and selfishness. We find waiting as something exciting, joyful and life giving. Moreover we realize that our faithful waiting on God makes us stronger and not weaker. As we continue our longing, anticipation and expectancy, we are giving ourselves more time and opportunities to see other perspectives in life, understand ourselves and others, appreciate what we have and what others have and above all disposing sour souls to God who has been knocking on our hearts. The season of Advent leads us on a journey of spiritual transformation and prepares us to be ready to welcome our Savior into our lives. Let us joyfully wait, hope and walk with faith.

FAITH SHARING QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Adult: “What will you do during Advent so that others can see that you have put on the light of Jesus Christ?”

Child: “What will you do during Advent so that others can see that you have put on the light of Jesus Christ?”

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: ____________________________ |

Would you like to receive envelopes? Yes / No
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LITURGY

Liturgical Ministry and Contact

Thank you to those who have found their role in the liturgy. We are grateful for your service.

Catherine Williamson washes altar server albs once a month and takes them to be dry cleaned twice a year.

Bettie Anderson washes and irons mass linens on the 5th Monday of the month.

Volunteers who maintain the Saints Chapel:
Tram and Lorne Allen (for many years), Bettie Anderson and her daughter Jessica, Teresa DePalma, Jicela Guerra, Tamara Hopwood, Ralph and Debbie Ortega, Maureen Reincke and Sophia Renda.

New Extraordinary Ministers
Julie Gowett
Jessica March
Luis Pereira
Margaret Sullivan
Oriel Zagazeta

New Sacristan at the 8:45am Mass
Ken Wright

Upcoming Mass Schedule

Ministry Sign-up Sheets are in the Sacristy.

Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses on Thursday, December 8th at
6:15am
8:15am
10:45am
5:30pm
7:00pm in Spanish.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Bi-lingual mass
Monday, December 12th at 7:00pm.

Christmas Masses:
Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24th
4:00pm in the church;
4:00pm in the parish center,
6:00pm;
8:00pm in Spanish;
12:00am Midnight in English

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th
8:45am;
10:30am,
12:15pm in Spanish

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10:30am,
12:15pm in Spanish
SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

LECUTRAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Brotará un retoño del tronco de Jesé. Juzgará a los pobres con justicia, y herirá al violento con el látigo de su boca (Isaías 11:1-10).

Salmo — Que en sus días florezca la justicia y la paz abunde eternamente (Salmo 72 [71]).

Segunda lectura — Vivan en perfecta armonía unos con otros. Por lo tanto, acójanse los unos a los otros como Cristo los acogió a ustedes, tanto circuncidados como gentiles (Romanos 15:4-9).

Evangelio — Juan Bautista predica, “Arrepiéntanse, porque el reino de los cielos está cerca” (Mateo 3:1-12).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Is 35:1-10; Sal 85 (84):9ab, 10-14; Lc 5:17-26
Martes: Is 40:1-11; Sal 96 (95):1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
Miércoles: Is 40:25-31; Sal 103 (102):1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
Jueves: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Sal 98 (97):1-4; Ef 1:3-6, 11-12; Lc 1:26-38
Viernes: Is 48:17-19; Sal 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Sábado: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Sal 80 (79):2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Domingo: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Sal 146 (145):6-10; Sant 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

FELICITAMOS LOS CUMPLEAÑOS DEL MES DE DICIEMBRE

Sábado, Diciembre 3

Chris Guerrero

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

Desde el Escritorio de Padre Randy Continuado……..

A veces cuando esperamos por algo, nos sentimos como si no estamos haciendo nada y que solamente estamos perdiendo el tiempo. Pero en verdad estamos haciendo algo muy importante: estamos dejando que nuestra esperanza crezca. Nos convertimos en una nueva persona, no limitada por la impaciencia y el egoísmo. Encontramos la espera como algo excitante, alegre y dando vida. Además, nos damos cuenta de que nuestra espera en Dios nos hace más fuertes y no más débiles. Mientras continuamos nuestro anhelo, anticipación y expectativa, nos estamos dando más tiempo y oportunidades para ver otras perspectivas en la vida; Comprendernos a nosotros mismos y a los demás; Apreciar lo que tenemos y lo que otros tienen; Y sobre todo, disponiendo nuestras almas a Dios que ha estado golpeando nuestros corazones.

La temporada de Adviento nos lleva a un viaje de transformación espiritual y nos prepara para estar listos para recibir a nuestro Salvador en nuestras vidas. Esperemos con alegría, esperemos y caminemos con fe.

EXPOSICION DE NACIMIENTOS
Este fin de semana en el Centro Parroquial

3 de diciembre
4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

4 de diciembre
8:00 am - 7:00 pm

Esta es su última oportunidad para ver la colección de nacimientos de la Familia Cinco en exhibición junto con los de la comunidad! ¡Pásense por una maravillosa manera de reflexionar sobre el nacimiento de Jesús y de la Sagrada Familia!

PALABRAS DE NUESTRA SEÑORA A JUAN DIEGO

“No se turbe tu corazón; no temas esa enfermedad, ni ninguna otra enfermedad o angustia. ¿No estoy yo aquí? ¿No soy tu Madre? ¿No estás bajo mi sombra? ¿No soy yo tu salud? ¿No estás por ventura en mi regazo? ¿Qué más has de menester? No te apenes ni te inquiete otra cosa”.

PALABRAS DE NUESTRA SEÑORA A JUAN DIEGO
PREPARA EL CAMINO

San Juan Bautista aparece hoy cuando el Adviento comienza su segunda semana. Juan, el misterioso consumidor de saltamontes y miel silvestre, hace eco de las palabras del profeta Isaías en su llamado al arrepentimiento en la cercanía del Reino de los cielos. Los ritmos de la vida cristiana son muchas veces confusos. Todos los años conocemos a Juan Bautista y oímos su llamado al arrepentimiento. Todos los años lo vemos señalando al que vendrá después de él, al Señor Jesús. Sin embargo, cada año las palabras y las acciones de Juan Bautista hacen eco de nuevo en nuestro corazón, porque hemos caído una y otra vez en antiguas trampas pecaminosas. El Adviento nos da otra oportunidad para alejarnos del camino del pecado y aceptar el modo de vida del Evangelio. Juan Bautista nos invita a preparar el camino para el Señor en quien depositamos nuestra esperanza.

SEÑOCESITAMAS MINISTERIODE STEPHEN

El Ministro de Stephen ha estado operando en nuestra iglesia por algún tiempo. Con el fin de continuar y expandir este ministerio de cuidado, estamos comenzando otra clase de entrenamiento del Ministro de Stephen en Enero. Para aprovechar esta oportunidad para compartir el amor que Dios le ha dado, por favor considere unirse a este ministerio. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Claranne Schirle al 408-782-1413.

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

El 8 de diciembre, la Iglesia celebra solemnemente la Inmaculada Concepción de María. A la vez, la Madre de Jesucristo es honrada en Venezuela bajo la advocación de Nuestra Señora de Coromoto, en Paraguay como Nuestra Señora de Caacupé, en Panamá como Nuestra Señora de La Antigua y en Nicaragua como Nuestra Señora del Viejo.

Esta última advocación tiene distintas historias que relatan su origen. Hay quienes dicen que pertenecía a un viejo ermitaño que viajaba con unos marinos. En cierto punto la imagen no quiso continuar el viaje y el barco no se movió hasta que se bajó el viejo con ella. Según otro relato, Nuestra Señora del Viejo fue traída a Nicaragua por Francisco de Ahumada, hermano de Teresa de Ávila. Francisco viajaba a América y su santa hermana quiso mandar tres imágenes marianas como regalo a los misioneros religiosos que estaban evangelizando en Guatemala, Perú y Nicaragua. Durante el año 1562, Francisco entregó la imagen de la Purísima a los Franciscanos de Nicaragua en el pueblo de “El Viejo”, por lo cual los nicaragüenses han declarado por años que “El viejo nos trajo a la Conchita”. Hay que saber que el viejo Francisco tenía 41 años de edad cuando pasó por Nicaragua.

POSADAS

Vamos a tener la celebración de las posadas en la parroquia. Iniciarán a las 7:00 p.m., excepto la del día 18 a las 5:00 pm. Los esperamos a prepararnos con esta novena a la Navidad.
- Diciembre 16 (POSADA GENERAL) @Centro Parroquial
- Diciembre 18 (Inicia 5:00 p.m.) @Centro Parroquial
- Edo. de México
- Diciembre 19 @Milani
- Monaguillos
- Diciembre 20 @Centro Parroquial
- Coros
- Diciembre 22 @Centro Parroquial
- Danza Litúrgica
- Diciembre 23 @Centro Parroquial
- Ext. de la Sagrada Comunión.

—Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.
¡BIENVENIDO!

La Comunidad Parroquial de Santa Catalina de Morgan Hill los invita a participar a la festividad de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe 2016.

**Horario de Festividades Guadalupanas**

**Jueves 8 de Diciembre**
- 7:00 pm Misa La Inmaculada Concepción de María

**Viernes 9 de Diciembre**
- 7:00 pm Misa en la iglesia de Guadalupe en San José, Ca. Nos reuniremos aquí en la Iglesia a las 5:00 pm para ir hacia allá.

**Domingo 11 de Diciembre**
- 10:00 am Procesión, nos reuniremos por la calle Depot y estacionamiento del Centro Cultural Comunitario por las Calles Dunne y Monterey en Morgan Hill
- 11:00 am Bendición de las imágenes.
- 12:15 pm Misa solemne en la Iglesia y en el centro Parroquial
- 2:00 pm Entretenimiento y Comida

**Lunes 12 de Diciembre**
- 12:00 am-4:00 am Serenata Guadalupana por Parroquianos
- 4:00 am Mañanitas con Mariachi
- 5:00 am Misa
- 4:00 am-8:00 am Pan y chocolate en el salón parroquial. Habrá venta de menudo
- 7:00 pm Misa Bilingüe

**CENAS COMUNITARIAS**

Usted y su familia son cordialmente invitados a la Iglesia de Santa Catalina todos los lunes de 6:00pm - 7:00pm para recibir una cena caliente y totalmente gratuita. La cena se lleva acabo en el centro parroquial. ¡Los esperamos!

- Los martes la Iglesia Luterana sirve la cena de 5:00pm-6:00pm
- Los miércoles en la Iglesia Metodista Unida de 6:00pm-7:00pm
- Los jueves en la Iglesia Comunidad Cristiana de 6:00pm-7:00pm.

Nuestra más cordial bienvenida a todos los que estén celebrando con nosotros, ya sean residentes de largo plazo o recién llegados a la parroquia. Damos gracias a Dios por ustedes. Si aún no estás registrado, por favor, llene este formulario y colóquelo en la canasta de la colecta o mandarlo por correo a la oficina de la parroquia.

Nombre: _____________________________
Dirección:____________________________
Ciudad:____________ Código postal:______
Numero teléfono:______________________
Email:________________________________

¡El tiempo se acaba! Obtenga sus boletos el día de hoy para el trigesimo tercer sorteo anual de la iglesia de Santa Catalina. Venga al sorteo el Domingo, Diciembre 18 y vea como son premiados los boletos ganadores. Disfrute de comida y un poco de la alegría de las fiestas. También tendra la oportunidad de ser entrado en un sorteo gratuito donde podra ganar premios. ¡No necesita estar presente para ganar, pero seria mucho mas divertido si esta presente!

Su boleto de tan solo $60 para el sorteo del automóvil podría poner lo detrás del volante de un automóvil de su elección con el valor de hasta $40,000. Como una alternativa al premio del coche, el afortunado ganador puede optar para recibir $30,000 en efectivo.

¡El boleto para el sorteo de vacaciones es de $20! Usted nombre el lugar y su boleto ganador tendrá que financiar lo hasta $7,500. O alternativamente el ganador puede optar para recibir $5,000 en efectivo. ¡Este boleto tiene cinco grandes premios para ganar, incluyendo un nuevo Apple iPad, efectivo y unas vacaciones a Disneyland!

Aun tenemos algunos Paquetes de Bono a la venta.

Visite nuestra mesa al salir de misa hoy.

Aceptamos Cheques, Efectivo, Visa, MasterCard, y AmEx.

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TIPS FOR YEAR-END CHARITABLE GIVING

All sorts of assets make good year-end gifts benefiting St. Catherine’s Church. This includes cash, stocks, mutual funds, fully paid life insurance, and real estate. These assets may be given outright and most may also be used to fund a planned gift, such as a Charitable Gift Annuity or Deferred Payment Gift Annuity.

If making a gift by cash or check, either deliver your gift in person or be sure it is postmarked by December 31st. The date you deliver or mail your donation is generally recognized as the gift date for tax purposes. Please note: the date on the actual check is not recognized by the IRS as proof of your intent to give on a particular date.

You may also give online by credit card via PayPal or Parish Pay on or before December 31. You may designate your gift for any particular fund(s). Just be sure the gift is made prior to midnight, December 31. The gift date is when the donation is charged to your credit card, even if you don’t pay your bill until 2016.

If you want your gift to be structured in the form of a planned gift for increased tax or income benefits, (such as a Gift Annuity), paperwork can be completed after December 31. However be sure the asset is received by the St. Catherine’s so that the Diocese or Catholic Foundation can process our gifts by December 31. This is vital.

Plan ahead. Gifts of stock, paid-up life insurance, real or personal property all take a certain amount of preparation. Plan accordingly; speak with Anna Quinones at the Office of Development for instructions on how to make gifts of certain assets. aquinones@dsj.org or 408.779.3959. Always consult with your own advisors prior to making a gift.

Receipt for taxes: You will receive a receipt for your donation that contains all the necessary substantiation required for tax purposes.

Memorials and Gifts in Honor: Any gift you make may be given as a memorial to a loved one or a gift in honor of someone living. If you wish, a card or acknowledgment letter will be sent to the person(s) you specify, acknowledging your gift without mention of amount. Gifts in memory or in honor of make very special and meaningful Christmas gifts. Please send your gift with a designation of memorial or honor tribute and address of the family to receive the acknowledgment. You may also come into the Rectory and personal assistance is available.

YEAR END TAX SAVING CHECK LIST

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS
Give before the end of the year to reduce your income taxes. Review your gifts given to date to ensure you have donated to the causes important to you and in the amounts you intend. Now is also a good time to make sure you have proper receipts and documentation.

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS
If you have contributed to a Flexible Spending Account, make sure you have used all the money in the account. Now might be the time to get that eye exam or other medical procedure you have been delaying.

MORTGAGE INTEREST
You can pay your January mortgage payment early and add to your mortgage deduction this year. Just check with your accountant on how to do this, especially since the number you report might differ from what your lender sends on Form 1098.

STATE AND LOCAL TAXES
Call your accountant now to ask what state and local taxes may be paid in 2016 that will reduce your federal income taxes for the same year. Alternatively, if delaying payment may help you, discover the best strategy.

INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING
After determining your taxes for 2016, work with your accountant to see if you should adjust the withholding on your W-2 form.

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Join Former 49er Randy Kirk
at 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 12th, 5-9 pm
Where: The Box Seat
15650 Vineyard Blvd. Morgan Hill

Bring: An unwrapped toy or gift card.

49er Raffle: For every gift valued at $10 and over you receive raffle ticket(s).
Raffle held during half time.
The Parish of St. Catherine of Alexandria Invites you to
“Made For More”
Advent Parish Mission
December 4th, 5th and 6th
7:00pm—8:30pm

John Sablan of World Ablaze will lead our Parish Mission. John Sablan, a child of God, a devoted husband and father and a Catholic speaker & evangelist.

Sunday Dec. 4th 7:00PM - 8:30 PM - Church
“Preparing the Way” John will help us discover/determine what is preventing us from fully walking with God (The Way), fully entering into the call as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ and as Catholics in our current state of life.

Monday Dec. 5th 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM - Church
“Knowing the Way” John will continue to help us understand what we were made for and how that is connected to our current state in life. We will also learn that the “more” is ultimately Love, specifically in the person of Jesus Christ, who is God’s Love made manifest for us!

Tuesday Dec. 6th 7:00 PM - 8:30PM - Church
"Living the Way" How do we fulfill the call as the chosen few to lead others toward God in our homes, in our work place and in the world? Looking to our Blessed Mother as the model, this talk will help the participants discover the power of discernment, prayer and practical methods on how to identify the calling we each have as missionary disciples.

All evenings are geared towards the entire family. However, parents and grandparents are always so surprised to hear how their children and especially teenagers seem to get so much out of all John’s presentation. We encourage you to attend and attend all three (3) nights.

Please bring a bible to follow scripture readings.

*Each night there is a Free-Will Offering in support of John Sablan and his great work.


For more information please call Anna Quinones or go to stca.org/made-for-more
By the second week of Advent many of us are already thinking of the Christmas celebrations. When we do this we forget that Advent is a time of preparation to reflect and prepare during the weeks before the holidays. Today’s Gospel reading reminds us that one way in which we prepare for Jesus’ coming is by our repentance of sin.

Are there areas in our lives that instead of bringing us closer to God move us farther and farther away from Him? Are there relationships that we need to mend, people we need to forgive, friends and family members from whom we need to ask forgiveness? Where do we need to find Christ’s peace?

As a family, designate a time each week to seek God’s peace in prayer in the midst of the hustle and bustle. It may be Saturday morning over breakfast before the day unfolds or Sunday evening after dinner as the family prepares for the week ahead.

Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during one of the upcoming Saturday afternoons. Pray together Romans 15:5-6 for peace to reign in the family this season:

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

This is your last opportunity to see the Cinco Nativity Collection on display along with those from the community! Stop by for a wonderful way to reflect on the birth of Jesus and the Holy Family!

Ms. Jeanne’s and Ms. Monique’s 1st grade Faith Formation class prepared a mini presentation to give thanks for the many blessings in their lives.
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WORDS OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE TO JUAN DIEGO

“Let not your heart be disturbed. Do not fear that sickness, nor any other sickness or anguish. Am I not here, who is your Mother? Are you not under my protection? Am I not your health? Are you not happily within my fold? What else do you wish? Do not grieve nor be disturbed by anything.”

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Did St. Francis of Assisi invent the Christmas crib? Not exactly, but his devotion to the Incarnation and his love for the poverty of the Christ Child certainly popularized this beloved custom. Long before Francis, it was a custom at the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome to enshrine a rich image of Mary, gilded and bejewelled, embracing the child Jesus. This church was founded as a kind of home for the feast of Christmas in the fourth century. In 1223, Francis was ready to celebrate this feast in a new way. In the tiny city of Greccio, he asked friends to prepare a place where they could experience the poverty and suffering embraced by Christ in his birth. It was a living scene: an ox from the barn, an ass from the stable, and peasants standing in for shepherds and kings. The night of the celebration was beautiful, the weather was warm, and people came in crowds, bearing candles and singing hymns that echoed through the forest. Francis himself chanted the Gospel and preached. The custom spread quickly, and by the sixteenth century cribs were seasonal features not only in church, but in the home.

On December 17, the liturgy begins to unfold the Lord’s birth before us, and it’s the right time to follow this beautiful tradition. In Germany, each night throughout Advent children prepare a bedding for the manger. At bedtime prayer, a child places a single straw in the manger for each act of devotion or virtue performed during the day. If the children are good, then the Christ child will have plenty of soft bedding when he is placed in the manger on Christmas.

The Community of Saint Catherine Parish in Morgan Hill invites you to celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe 2016

Schedule for our Guadeloupian Festivals

Friday, December 9th at 7:00pm
Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in San Jose. We gather at St. Catherine’s at 5:00 pm. to carpool.

Sunday, December 11th
10:00am Procession. We meet at Depot St. and the parking lot of the Community Cultural Center corner of E. Dunne and Monterey Rd.
11:00am Blessing of Images
12:15pm Mass both in the Church and in the Parish Center
2:00pm Food and Entertainment

Monday, December 12th
12:00am-4:00am Serenade to Our Lady of Guadalupe by Parishioners.
4:00am Mañanitas with Mariachi
5:00am Mass
4:00am-8:00am Hot chocolate and Mexican bread at the Parish Center. There will also be Menudo sold.
7:00pm Bilingual Mass

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
ELECTRONIC UPDATES

If you have an email address and would like to hear all the great things that are happening at your parish, please contact us. We email parishioners whose 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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. Catherine’s Annual Sweepstakes comes to a close in a few short weeks.

Time is running out! Get your tickets today for the St. Catherine’s 34th annual sweepstakes that benefits the many Ministries of our community. Come to the drawing at the Parish Center on Sunday, December 18th to see the winning tickets drawn and enjoy food and holiday cheer. Also be entered in a separate free raffle for door prizes. You don’t need to be present to win, but it’s a lot of fun if you are!

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. An alternative to the car prize allows the lucky winner to receive $30,000 in cash.

The $20 Vacation Sweepstakes Ticket offers the Trip of a Lifetime! You name the place and your winning ticket funds it up to $7,500 or the lucky winner can choose to receive $5,000 in cash. This ticket has five great prizes to win, including a new Apple iPad, cash and a trip to Disneyland!

A few Bonus Bundles are still available! Visit our table as you leave mass today.

ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA ADORATION AND BENEDICTION TO THE BLESSED SACRAMENT EUCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE

24 hour Eucharistic Adoration begins on first Friday December 2nd immediately after the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and concludes on first Saturday December 3rd with Benediction at 8:00am

"Could you not keep watch with me for one hour?"
Mt 26:40

"The time spent with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth. Each moment that you spend with Jesus will deepen your union with Him and make your soul everlastingly more glorious and beautiful in heaven and will help bring about everlasting peace on earth." St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

SAVE THE DATE FOR ST. CATHERINE’S GOLF CLASSIC
May 19th, 2017
Same Fun, Different Day!

KNITTING GROUP
Are you a passionate needle crafter and desire to be in community with others 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 6:00-8:00pm. All are welcome. Contact Diane at 408-839-3553 for questions or if you would like to learn to knit or crochet.

God is great all the time, all the time, God is great!
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“LIFE SHARING” TIME BEFORE 5:30 SUN- DAY EVENING MASS DURING ADVENT

We offer an opportunity for all of us to learn a little bit more about the lives of our fellow parishioners. We give people a chance to tell us about themselves, experiences that has made them the persons they have become (so far) and about their response to the words and actions of Jesus. We hope that learning from the lives of our friends will improve our lives and help us make the world a better place. We offer this “life sharing” time before the 5:30pm Sunday evening mass each week during Advent. (That’s 11/27, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18.) We start at 4:45. We have asked four people to take a turn talking each week. They share a few stories from their lives for 10 minutes or so. Then we spend 20 minutes or so talking about what they had to say. We finish at 5:15 and head over to mass. If this sounds good to you, please join us. We meet in Milani Center. Any questions? Call, text or email Joe or Carol Lillig.

Carol 408-857-4516 lillig@garlic.com
Joe 408-781-3847 jplillig@gmail.com

CHECK OUT STEPHEN MINISTRY

Have you wanted to find out more about this wonderful ministry? Please stop by our ministry table, next Sunday in the Parish Center after morning mass. Stephen Ministers will be on hand to answer your questions about becoming a Stephen Minister or help you determine whether you or someone you know might benefit from the care of the Stephen Minister. Contact Claranne Schirle at 408-782-1413 for more information.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Did you miss Donuts and Coffee during the Summer months? Would you like to join our new Hospitality Committee? The committee organizes and attends hospitalities on Sundays. Join us at a meeting to form the committee on Wednesday, December 7th at 7:00pm the Parish Office Living Room.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE OVER 50’S LUNCHEONS

Join the Over 50’s ladies for their monthly luncheons at noon in the O’Donnell Parish Center. Bring a dish to share and canned goods for Reach Out. See the schedule below -

December 19th 2017
January 23rd
February 27th
March 20th
April 24th
May 15th

Remember Your Parish this Christmas
St. Catherine Parish greatly relies on your generous Christmas offering.

Thank you and God bless you!

A Christmas Gift for Your Parish
Christmas is Sunday, December 25th.

In order to balance the parish budget each year we rely on the generous gifts from the Christmas collection. We also rely heavily on the weekly Offertory gifts made 52 weeks of the year. Both your Christmas and weekly Offertory gifts help us manage the operating budget through winter when heating bills are high and when unexpected costs arise.

We ask you to please be as generous as possible with your Christmas gift to the parish. If possible, please use both your weekly envelope and your Christmas envelope this Christmas.

In case you haven’t yet realized that Christmas is on a Sunday we won’t ask you to come to mass twice, but your support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your generosity throughout the year and at Christmas!

Sunday Mass Offertory Budget: $22,271
Christmas Offertory Budget: $65,000
Second Sunday of Advent

St. Catherine School News

Applications for the 2017-2018 school year are now available in the school office or on the school website. Please note the application deadline for kindergarten is December 15, while applications for grades 1-8 are due March 1. 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/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.

Advent Program

Please join us for our annual Advent program on Thursday, December 15, at 7:00pm in the church. The 8th grade teacher, Mrs. Quinn, is already busy working with her class on the dramatic portion of the program. Other classes are learning the songs and movement for their performances. We look forward to seeing everyone there. Doors open at 5:30. No seats may be saved before that time. All empty seats that are saved must be relinquished at 7:00 when the show begins. Once again, students will report to their classrooms before the performance. We always have a FULL house, so don’t be late!

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Join the school community for mass on December 8th, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, at 10:45am. The sixth grade has planned the mass. All are welcome to attend!

Box Tops

Do you buy products with Box Tops? Just look for the Box Tops logo on your favorite items. Please deposit them in the Box Tops collection box located inside the front entrance of the church. The money raised from Box Tops helps support our Drama program. See how much our school has earned and find out how you can help even more using the Box Tops website at http://www.boxtops4education.com.

First graders helped with decorations and set up for one of the Monday night community supers. Above, students and parents got things ready. Right, the tables looked awesome with handmade placemats.

SCRIP—A No Cost Fundraiser

Scrip is an easy fundraiser, by buying gift cards at face value to spend at your favorite stores. Scrip costs you nothing...just the time it takes to make your purchase. The school and parish benefit because we purchase the gift cards at a reduced rate and that difference goes to the parish and school. Scrip can be purchased on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 2:45-3:15 or Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:45-8:15 in the school lobby. For special orders of large amounts, contact the school office. Thank you!

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