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 Disciplulado y el Servicio.

MASSES / MISAS
Monday-Saturday: 8:15am
Saturday: 5:30pm
Sábado: 7:00pm
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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / PRIMER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

From the Desk of Rose Pucan-Meagor, Family Faith Formation Director.....

With everyone’s busy schedules and life plans, we try to prepare ourselves and plan for many things as best as we can. At this time of year plans may be about going to special gatherings or making family visits during the holidays. The plans are also surrounded by the chaos of Christmas shopping, the distraction of decorations that have been up since before Thanksgiving and last minute dashes to finish tasks.

Advent presents a wonderful opportunity to experience the preparation for the birth of Jesus and the hope and joy that brings in the new year of the Church.

(Continued on Page 3…)

Desde el escritorio del Rose Pucan-Meagor, Directora de la Formación de Fe Familiar......

Con las agendas y planes de vida de todos ocupados, tratamos de prepararnos y planificar muchas cosas de la mejor manera posible. En esta época del año, los planes pueden ser ir a reuniones especiales o hacer visitas familiares durante las vacaciones. Los planes también están rodeados por el caos de las compras navideñas, la distracción de las decoraciones que se ponen desde antes del Día de Acción de Gracias y en terminar las tareas de última hora.

El Adviento presenta una maravillosa oportunidad para experimentar la preparación para el nacimiento de Jesús y la esperanza y la alegría que trae consigo el nuevo año de la iglesia.

(Continuado en la Pagina 5)
**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**First Reading** — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

**Psalm** — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

**Second Reading** — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).

**Gospel** — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).


**READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Reading 1</th>
<th>Reading 2</th>
<th>Reading 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 -10:1, 5a, 6-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8</td>
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**THE WEEK AHEAD/LA SEMANA PRÓXIMA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday/Domingo, December 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00-1:00pm</td>
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<td>9:00-10:15am</td>
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**Monday/Lunes, December 4**

| 6:00-7:00pm                  |
| 6:30-8:30pm                  |
| 7:00-8:30pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:30-8:30pm                  |
| 6:30-9:00pm                  |
| 6:30-9:30pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |

**Tuesday/Martes, December 5**

| 6:30-9:00pm                  |
| 6:30-9:30pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:00-8:30pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |

**Wednesday/MIércoles, December 6**

| 8:45-11:00am                 |
| 12:00-8:00pm                 |
| 3:30-3:40pm                  |
| 3:30-3:40pm                  |
| 5:00-7:00pm                  |
| 5:00-7:00pm                  |
| 6:00-8:00pm                  |
| 6:00-8:00pm                  |
| 6:30-7:30pm                  |
| 6:30-7:45pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:30-9:30pm                  |

**Thursday/Jueves, December 7**

| 6:00-10:00pm                 |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 6:15-7:15am                  |
| 9:30-11:30am                 |
| 10:45-11:45am                |
| 5:30-6:30pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |
| 7:00-9:00pm                  |

**Friday/Viernes, December 8**

| 5:00-7:00pm                  |
| 5:00-7:00pm                  |
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**Saturday/Sábado, December 9**

| 9:00-10:30pm                 |
| 9:00-10:30pm                 |
| 8:00-10:00pm                 |

**8:15am Mass Intentions**

| Monday, December 4       | † Martha Ngoc Nguyen |
| Tuesday, December 5      | † Albina Grimsich    |
| Wednesday, December 6    | † Mary Gentrup       |
| Thursday, December 7     | † Zachary Jensen     |
| Friday, December 8       | † Steven Vasquez     |
| Saturday, December 9     | † Ramon Muñoz        |
|                          | † Ramona Muñoz       |
|                          | † Elfrieda Randenbach|
|                          | † Dede Mariani       |
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

STEWARDSHIP IN SCRIPTURE
BY DEACON RICK HAECKEL

One of life’s challenges is deciding how to respond to the Gospel admonition to “be watchful, be alert” in order to be prepared for Jesus’ return. First, we need to remember that Mark was writing to people who expected Jesus’ second coming would be any day and who could not understand the delay. We have the benefit of 2000 odd years to tell us that, indeed, we know not when the Lord is coming. It is Jesus’ words in the closing sentence that bear reflection, “I say to all: Watch!” Watchfulness asks that we not pick our own chosen time, or think since the time is unknowable we become lax. It also asks that we actively consider how this watching is to change our lives, here and now. Notice that the image of being on watch asks that we are conscious of what we are watching for and how we are to recognize it. We all answer that we are watching for the return of Jesus and that “we’ll know him when we see him.” Well, okay, but perhaps that places too sharp a focus on the event of the return, in time. The second point asks that we reflect on how the person of Jesus influences our daily lives. Jesus doesn’t say watch for me on Sunday, or ignore others while you concentrate on him. No, our watchfulness invites us to a familiar phrase, “finding Christ in one another.” Certainly we want to live as Christians who will receive the reward we seek at the end time. That requires us to examine how we become not just those who seek to recognize Christ in the other, but to also BE Christ for the other. This introspection of our Christian identity asks that we, in prayer, ask for the gift of discovering who we are at the center of our being. Seekers, sinners, testers, lovers, who struggle to see ourselves as valued and loved by God for who we are. That means letting go of our own evaluation of our worth and, over and over, renewing our trust in God and his mercy. So we’re not living as if waiting for a train, looking over our shoulder occasionally then returning to our own choices. We watch so that we become more able to see that the Jesus we expect lives in the lives of those before us… and in us.

GREEN TIP OF THE WEEK

It’s time, green enters our house as we decorate for Christmas. In the tree we put up (living or manufactured), in the lights and other decorations we have chosen. It’s hard to resist the “new” clever decorations (e.g. led lights) but make sure that what we use is recycled (the tree) or reused, or passed on.

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.

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.

FROM THE DESK OF ROSE……

It is a quiet celebration of things new, yet still filled with excitement as we listen to the Advent readings, spend time in prayer, lighting the Advent wreath and joining in parish events that point to the birth of Jesus.

The parish offers many opportunities to share our faith and find and see Jesus in each other. Our diverse cultural heritages provide richness in the expressions of our faith. Walk though the Nativity Exhibit and see beautiful examples from around the world of the manger scene. Visit with Our Lady of Guadalupe during the festivities from December 10-12. Pray together during the Filipino Christmas tradition of Simbang Gabi at the 5:30 mass on December 16. Serve one another by adopting someone through the Giving Tree project and help sort and wrap gifts. Love one another by being intentional with our presence and not just presents; creating time and space to be with those we love.

May this Advent season be filled with joy and may the celebration of the birth of Jesus have an effect in our lives, the lives of our families and those that we meet.

Blessings,
Rose

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Adult: “At this time, how faithful do you feel you are being to God’s plan for you?”

Child: “What good thing might God be asking you to do right now?”
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Liturgy
Liturgy isn’t the work of just a few people. Everyone who celebrates the liturgy has a role to play. And the work we do together can change the world.

Liturgical Ministry and Contact Information

Liturgy Coordinator
Diana-Lynn Inderhees  dinderhees@dsj.org

Altar Server
Karen Barone  kbarone@wildblue.net

Environment Coordinator (church and parish center)
Diana-Lynn Inderhees  dinderhees@dsj.org

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion/Sacristan
Karen Barone  kbarone@wildblue.net

Funeral Ministry
Karen Barone  kbarone@wildblue.net
Tamara Hopwood  hopwoodtt@msn.com

Linen Care
Diana-Lynn Inderhees  dinderhees@dsj.org

Music
Lisa Kellett  lisakellett517@gmail.com

Proclaimer of the Word (Lector)
Jim Yinger  fyinger@gmail.com

Saints Chapel
Ralph Ortega  ralphndebbie@icloud.com

Usher
David Dindak  david@coasttocoastdatasearch.com

Wedding Coordinator
Desiree Michel  dmichel@charter.net

Liturgical Ministers Needed

Sacristans - needed for all Masses. You need to be an extraordinary minister of holy communion to be a Sacristan. Please contact Karen Barone directly to schedule a training at kbarone@wildblue.net.

Environment Coordinator - for Church and Parish Center. Please contact Diana-Lynn Inderhees at dinderhees@dsj.org. Check the website for general details.

Saints Chapel - clean chapel area and put new candles out. Looking for help throughout the day and evening. Small candles need to be changed out every four hours.
Contact: Ralph Ortega at ralphndebbie@icloud.com

Greeters - welcome parishioners before each Mass. Do you have a few minutes before Mass? You are welcome to greet your fellow parishioners and guest to our parish as they arrive in the vestibule.

LITURGY COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Karen Barone  kbarone@wildblue.net
David Dindak  david@coasttocoastdatasearch.com
Lisa Kellett  lisakellett517@gmail.com
Denise Purvis  denisep40@charter.net
Pat Rudolph  patricia95037@yahoo.com
Jim Yinger  fyinger@gmail.com

Staff liaisons to the Liturgy Committee
Father Jeronimo Gutierrez  jgutierrez@dsj.org
Diana-Lynn Inderhees  dinderhees@dsj.org
Carmelo Jimenez  cjimenez@dsj.org
Roselynn Pucan-Meagor  rmeagor@dsj.org

ADVENT RECONCILIATION
Join us for our Advent Parish Reconciliation on Monday, December 4, 2017 at 7:00pm.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY / PATRONAL FEAST DAY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Friday, December 8th. Mass schedule:
6:15am; 8:15am,
10:45am with the School;
5:30pm and 7:00pm in Spanish

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
There will be a normal Mass schedule for the 4th Sunday of Advent which is December 23rd and December 24th except there will not be a 5:30 Sunday Mass.

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
Christmas Eve, December 24th
4:00pm (Church and Parish Center);
6:00pm;
8:00pm Mass in Spanish
12:00am Midnight Mass in English
Christmas Day, December 25th
No 7:15am Mass
8:45am;
10:30am
12:15am in Spanish
No 5:30pm Mass
PRIMER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

LECTURAS DE HOY
Primera lectura — Isaías ruega por el retorno del Señor (Isaías 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7).
Salmo — Señor, Dios nuestro, restáuranos que brille tu rostro y nos salve (Salmo 80 [79]).
Segunda lectura — Pablo está agradecido por las bendiciones que los corintios han recibido debido a su fe en Jesús (1 Corintios 1:3-9).
Evangelio — Jesús dice a los discípulos que estén siempre alertas a la llegada del tiempo designado (Marcos 13:33-37).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA
Lunes: Is 2:1-5; Sal 122 (121):1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Martes: Is 11:1-10; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lc 10:21-24
Miércoles: Is 25:6-10a; Sal 23 (22):1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Jueves: Is 26:1-6; Sal 118 (117):1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Viernes: Gv 3:9-15, 20; Sal 98 (97):1-4; Ef 1:3-6, 11-12; Lc 1:26-38
Sábado: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Sal 147 (146):1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
Domingo: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Sal 85 (84):9-14; 2 Pe 3:8-14; Mc 1:1-8

¡BIENVENIDO!
Nuestra más cordial bienvenida a todos los que están 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 (s): ____________________________
Dirección:______________________________
Ciudad:_______________________________
Código postal:_____________
Número teléfono:______________________
Email:_______________________________
¿Desea recibir sobres de contribución?
_____Yes   _____No
¿Desea recibir información de la parroquia?
_____Yes   _____No

DESDE EL ESCRITORIO
DE ROSE……..
Es una celebración silenciosa de cosas nuevas, pero todavía llena de emoción mientras escuchamos las lecturas de Adviento, pasamos tiempo en oración mientras encendemos la corona de Adviento y participamos en eventos parroquiales que apuntan al nacimiento de Jesús.

La parroquia ofrece muchas oportunidades para compartir nuestra fe y encontrar y ver a Jesús el uno con el otro. Nuestros diversos patrimonios culturales proporcionan riqueza en las expresiones de nuestra fe. Recorra la Exhibición de la Natividad y vea bellos ejemplos de todo el mundo de la escena del pesebre. Visita con Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe durante las festividades del 10 al 12 de diciembre. Oren juntos durante la tradición navideña filipina de Simbang Gabi en la misa de las 5:30pm del 16 de diciembre. Sirvánse unos a otros adoptando a alguien a través del Árbol de Regalo y ayuden a ordenar y envolver regalos. Ámense unos a otros siendo intencionales con nuestra presencia y no solo regalos, creando tiempo y espacio para estar con aquellos que amamos.

Que esta temporada de Adviento se llene de alegría y que la celebración del nacimiento de Jesús tenga un efecto en nuestras vidas, las vidas de nuestras familias y las que nos encontramos.

Bendiciones,
Rosa

COMO UN NIÑO
Alguien que aspira a recibir la gracia de Dios tiene que ser puro, con un corazón tan inocente como el de un niño.

—San Nicolás

NOTIFICACIONES DE EMERGENCIA
PRIMER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

ARBOL DE REGALOS
Nuestro árbol de regalos ya está puesto. Puede ayudar a una familia más necesitar esta Navidad? Tomo una o dos estrellas del Árbol de Regalos, compre el regalo, envuelva el regalo y anéxele la Estrella. Los regalos deben ser regresados a la oficina Parroquial no más tardar el Lunes, 11 de Diciembre. Se le agradece su generosidad!

LA RIFA ANUAL DEL COCHE DE SANTA CATALINA LLEGA A SU FIN EN SOLO UNAS POCAS SEMANAS. ¡Hemos agregado premios de sorteo adicionales!

¡Se está acabando el tiempo! Obtenga sus boletos hoy para la Rifa anual del coche de Santa Catalina en beneficio de los muchos ministerios de nuestra comunidad. Venga a la Rifa que tomará lugar en el Centro Parroquial el domingo, 17 de diciembre y vea a los ganadores, además disfrutar de comida y alegría navideña. También puede participar en una rifa gratis para premios. No necesita estar presente para ganar, ¡pero es muy divertido si lo es!

Su compra de un boleto de $60 para la rifa del Vehículo, lo podría poner detrás del volante de un coche nuevo de su elección con un precio de etiqueta de hasta $40,000. Como una alternativa al premio del automóvil, el afortunado ganador puede elegir recibir $30,000 en efectivo.

¡Un boleto de $20 de las Vacaciones les ofrece un viaje de su vida! Las posibilidades son infinitas si gana el primer premio. Usted elige el lugar y su boleto ganador lo financiará hasta $7,500. Alternativamente, el afortunado ganador puede optar por recibir $5,000 en efectivo. ¡Este boleto tiene 5 grandes premios para ganar, incluyendo un nuevo Drone, dinero en efectivo y un viaje a Disneyland!

¡Algunos paquetes extraordinarios todavía están disponibles!

Visite nuestra mesa al salir hoy de la misa.

LA COMUNIDAD PARROQUIAL DE SANTA CATALINA DE MORGAN HILL LOS INVITA A PARTICIPAR A LA FESTIVIDAD DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE 2017

Jueves 7 de Diciembre
7:00 pm Rosario con ofrecimiento de flores

Horario de Festividades Guadalupanas Viernes 8 de Diciembre
7:00 pm Misa de La Inmaculada Concepción de María

Domingo 10 de Diciembre
10:00am, nos reuniremos por la calle Depot y estacionamiento del Centro Cultural Comunitario por las Calles Dunne y Monterey en Morgan Hill
10:45 am Bendición de imágenes.
11:00 am Inicio de Peregrinación
12:15pm Misa solemne en la Iglesia y en el centro Parroquial
2:00pm Entretenimiento y Comida

Lunes 11 de Diciembre
7:00 pm Obra de las apariciones de la Virgen de Guadalupe
11:00 pm Serenata a la Virgen con Mariachi

Martes 12 de Diciembre
12:00 am Misa de gallo acompañada con mariachi
12:00am- 4:00am Serenata Guadalupana por feligreses
4:00am Mañanitas con Mariachi
5:00am Santa Misa
1:00am-8:00am Pan y chocolate en el salón parroquial.

La Rifa Anual del Coche de Santa Catalina llega a su fin en solo unas pocas semanas. ¡Hemos agregado premios de sorteo adicionales!

HORAS DE LA OFICINA PARROQUIAL
La oficina Parroquial tiene nuevas horas de oficina. Estará abierta la oficina de Lunes a Viernes de 8:00am a 6:00pm.

SERVICIO DE RECONCILIACION DE ADVIENTO
Acompáñenos para el servicio de reconciliación de Adviento el Lunes, Diciembre 4 a las 7:00pm.

¡Dios es Grande Todo el Tiempo, Todo el Tiempo Dios es Grande!

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!
SAN VICENTE DE PAUL

Necesitamos voluntarios para la línea de ayuda para San Vicente de Paúl: ¿podría estar disponible una vez al mes para ayudar a los necesitados en nuestra área? Buscamos algunos voluntarios de la línea de ayuda de San Vicente de Paúl. Las personas que necesita ayuda llaman a nuestra línea de ayuda, y tenemos un voluntario todos los días que comprueba los mensajes de voz y devuelve las llamadas telefónicas. Con generosas donaciones de nuestros feligreses, somos capaces de ayudar a pagar renta, utilidades, etc. Nuestros voluntarios con experiencia están disponibles para entrenar a nuestros nuevos voluntarios. Harás una diferencia. Es un ministerio que te encantará. Llama a Carol 408-857-4516.

DÍOS TIENE OTRO PLAN

Comenzamos el tiempo de Adviento con un llamado sincero al arrepentimiento. Recordamos el amor fiel que Dios siente por nosotros y le pedimos que nos ayude a emprender el camino de regreso: “estabas airado porque nosotros pecábamos” (Isaías 64:4). En la primera lectura y en el salmo, recordamos las promesas de Dios y lamentamos nuestra rebeldía y nuestra culpa. Invocamos el poder de Dios para salvarnos. Con Isaías, le decimos a Dios: “Ojalá rasgaras los cielos y bajaras, estremeciendo las montañas con tu presencia” (Isaías 63:19).

Sí, Dios nos es fiel, porque somos hechura de las manos de Dios. Dios es el alfarero, nosotros el barro. Y sin embargo, nuestro concepto de cómo Dios vendrá a salvarnos se origina en nuestra expectativa de un Dios guerrero que estremece las montañas y llega a nuestra vida con ruido y gloria. Pero Dios tiene otro plan: la Encarnación.

SIN ARRUGAS

No dejar que el corazón se arrugue, tener esperanzas, ser amable, alegre, reverente: esa es la manera de vencer la vejez.

—Thomas Bailey Aldrich
TIPS FOR YEAR-END CHARITABLE GIVING
All sorts of assets make good year-end gifts to benefit St. Catherine’s Church. This includes cash, stocks, mutual funds, fully paid life insurance, and real estate. These assets can 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 you may deliver your gift in person or if mailed, 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 at www.stca.org/online-giving by credit card via PayPal or egiving before or on December 31. You may designate your gift for any specific fund(s). Just be sure the gift is made prior to midnight, December 31st. The gift date is the day the donation is charged to your credit card, even if you don’t pay your bill until 2016.

If you want to structure your gift 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, Diocese or Catholic Foundation (would process our gifts) by December 31. This is vital.

Plan ahead. Gifts of stock, paid-up life insurance, real or personal property all take preparation. Plan ahead accordingly; Speak with Anna Quinones at the Office of Development and Evangelization 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/acknowledgement letter will be sent to the person(s) you specify, acknowledging your gift without mention of amount.

Gifts in memory or in honor 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 come to the Rectory and assistance is available.
A couple of weeks ago we had the Thanksgiving Food Drive. We've been doing this as a part of Youth Ministry for many years now.

I want to sincerely thank all of you who gave - who provided food so we can provide for others. I want to sincerely thank all of you who gave your time - you delivered these baskets personally to these families.

We couldn't have done this without you. Truly.

And yet, this year was our biggest struggle. Yes, we had a good amount of donations - yet Beth and I ended up spending hundreds of dollars buying a lot of food that was missing from the baskets. I don't share this to brag about what we did - we weren't being selfless or generous. We were doing what was necessary (frankly for my job - we said we'd bring these families food, and we weren't going to go back out on that).

So although the drive was a "success," because we got the baskets delivered, it truly wasn't as successful as it could've been.

I am not sharing this to complain. I am not sharing this to point blame. I share this because too often this is a reality for our community - a vast minority do all the work and volunteering. There is a huge need for all parishioners to volunteer - it is how we live as disciples.

In no way am I trying to imply that if you didn't help out with the Food Drive, then you don't help out at all. It is one small event among the many we have at the parish throughout the year.

So my question to those of you reading this that do not give your time, talent, or treasure to the Church: what's stopping you? I don't ask that to question your reasons, but just sincerely wanting to know what your reasons are. Again, I don't ask this in judgment - because I have no idea what your reasons are (and even then, I shouldn't judge). I just want to understand so that maybe we as a parish can do something to help you want to start. Are we not serving you enough? Do you not feel a part of the community? Do you feel too busy? You don't think you have enough to give? Please, let me know - or let our parish staff know. It's not enough to comment and share your issues about the Church (or our parish) with your peers - we need to hear your voices.

Because there is absolutely no way that we can fulfill God's mission without you. The only way for us to do better is to have more of you involved.

And if you're reading this and you do help in some way, thank you! Maybe you can start this conversation with your friends/family who aren't.

Today (or tomorrow for the Vigilantes) we have our Winter Session (aka Quarter Intro). We have Row David (pictured right) coming to speak about how we are to share our faith with others. For those who don't know, Row is the Youth Ministry Director at Holy Spirit parish in San Jose. He does amazing work at his parish, in the diocese, and mission work nationally and internationally. He is an amazing speaker that you don't want to miss. Fun fact: I've known him for over 10 years. The Winter Session is open to ALL high school students, and goes from 3:30-5pm in the parish center. Come, and bring a friend.
This weekend, we begin the Advent season. This is a time to remember and celebrate the birth of Jesus. This is also a great time to share the treasures of our faith at home with our families through rituals, symbols, prayer and song. Following are several ideas to help Advent come alive:

- Make a family Advent wreath and have it as the dinner table centerpiece! Light each candle following the lighting of the candles during Mass and share how the candlelight represents the light coming into the world as we prepare to celebrate Jesus’ birth.

- Pray together using one of the Advent booklets that are available in the church vestibule.

- Serve together as a family. Ideas include packing lunch bags with bottled water, granola bars and fruit and passing them out to those in need while out and about or donating food for Reach Out and bringing it to Mass to bring to the altar during the offertory.

- Go through the toy box, bookshelf and/or clothes closets and donate gently loved items to St. Vincent de Paul. Help to give them away on Tuesdays and Thursdays during Advent.

- Make a manger with twigs collected from outside and talk about Baby Jesus. Add “straw” (strips of paper) to the manger each time someone in the family does a good deed or something kind to another person.

Start simple, perhaps adding one or two of these each year to your own Advent family traditions. For more ideas and resources, stop by the Advent Family Celebration after Mass on Sunday!
ST CATHERINE’S 35TH ANNUAL SWEEPSTAKES

Coming to a close in just a few short weeks. We have added additional drawing prizes!

Time is running out! Get your tickets today for the St. Catherine’s 35th annual sweepstakes to benefit the many Ministries of our community. Come to the drawing at the Parish Center on Sunday, December 17th and see the winners drawn live, plus enjoy some food and holiday cheer. Also be entered into 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!

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, 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 Drone, Cash and a trip to Disneyland!

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.

SAVE THE DATE: 2018 NEW YEAR’S EVE BALL

The Fil-Am association of St Catherine is hosting a New Year’s Eve Ball on Sunday Dec 31st in the O’Donnell Parish Center. Say goodbye to 2017. There is dinner, dancing and more dancing and a champagne toast to welcome 2018 with a shebang!!! Tickets are $50/person and are available after Sunday mass. To reserve your seat or a table for 8, please e-mail Lita Aquino @litat.aquino@gmail.com

COMMUNITY SUPPER HOLIDAY MEALS

We WILL have our regular Monday night Community supper on Christmas, Monday, December 25th and New year’s Day, Monday, January 1st. All are welcome!

NEW STEPHEN MINISTERS TO BE TRAINED

Since we have provided Stephen Ministry at St. Catherine’s Church since 2011, we have seen the great value of a lay caring ministry. Another training class for Stephen ministers will begin in January. Please give serious consideration to whether God might be calling you to share your gifts and talents in this way. An informational meeting about this ministry will be held on Monday, December 11 at 7:00pm in Room 8. Hear details about the commitment and testimonies from current Stephen Ministers. Please call Claranne Schirle for questions at 408-782-1413 or kenandclaranne@gmail.com.

NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Our Parish Office Hours have changed! The office is open Monday to Friday, 8:00am until 6:00pm.
Dear Members of St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish.

We are pleased to share with you the results of our church renewal planning study. On behalf of our Building Steering Committee and Parish Staff, we thank all of you for participating in this process and providing us with your valuable feedback. Your input is greatly appreciated and very important for the future of our parish.

The next page highlights key findings from the survey and interviews conducted in October and November. These findings are very positive and encouraging, and they show great enthusiasm for the renewal of our church. The findings also demonstrate that there is strong financial commitment in our parish to undertake a church renewal project.

As our next step, the Building Steering Committee will begin to discern what the church building revitalization might look like based on the financial findings of the study, as well as develop a timeline of the process, which will include launching a capital campaign at the beginning of the new year.

On Thursday, December 14 at 7pm, we will also host a meeting which will be an opportunity to learn more about the results of the study and the next steps the Building Steering Committee will be taking. We hope that you will be able to join us on December 14 in the Parish Center.

Thank you again for your input, and I ask that you keep the church renewal in your prayers as we journey together as one parish.

Grateful in the Lord,
Msgr. Jeronimo Gutierrez
Pastor

Estimados Miembros de la Parroquia de Santa Catalina de Alejandría.

Nos complace compartir con usted los resultados de nuestro estudio de planificación para la renovación de la iglesia. En nombre de nuestro Comité Directivo de Construcción y personal de la parroquia, les agradecemos a todos ustedes por participar en este proceso y por brindarnos sus valiosos comentarios. Su opinión es muy apreciada y muy importante para el futuro de nuestra parroquia.

La página siguiente resalta los puntos claves de la encuesta y entrevistas realizadas en octubre y noviembre. Estos resultados son muy positivos y alentadores, y muestran un gran entusiasmo por renovar nuestra iglesia. Los resultados también demuestran que existe un fuerte potencial financiero en nuestra parroquia para emprender el proyecto de renovación de la iglesia.

Como nuestro próximo paso, el Comité de Construcción comenzará a discernir cómo se vería la revitalización de la de la iglesia basados en los resultados financieros del estudio, así como también desarrollar una línea de tiempo del proceso, que incluirá el inicio de una campaña capital al inicio del año nuevo.

El jueves 14 de diciembre a la 7pm, también organizarémos una reunión que será una oportunidad para aprender más sobre los resultados del estudio y los próximos pasos que tomará el Comité de Construcción. Esperamos que pueda reunirse con nosotros el 14 de diciembre.

Gracias de nuevo por su participación y les pido que mantengan la renovación de la iglesia en sus oraciones mientras viajamos juntos como una parroquia.

Agradecido en el Señor,
Msgr. Jeronimo Gutierrez
Pastor
**First Sunday of Advent**

**What is your overall reaction to the proposed renewal?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reaction</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Positive</td>
<td>39.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>40.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>15.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Is renewing our church a priority for our parish?**

Yes: 73% (666), No: 5% (47), Need Info: 16% (144)

**Do you believe the parish should consider a campaign to address the renewal?**

Yes: 68% (621), No: 5% (44), Need Info: 20% (183)

**Would you be willing to make a gift to support the renewal of St. Catherine’s Church?**

Yes: 68% (621), No: 5% (44), Need Info: 20% (183)

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**Fundraising Capacity of St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish**

The St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish community is very supportive of the plans to launch a campaign for the church renewal and CCS feels confident in the parish’s ability to raise $6 million toward this effort. However, the capacity to raise more funds exists if parishioners demonstrate extraordinary prayerful, and sacrificial support.

**Capacidad de recaudación de fondos de la Parroquia de Santa Catalina de Alejandría**

La comunidad parroquial de Santa Catalina de Alejandro apoya mucho los planes para llevar a cabo una campaña para la renovación de la iglesia y CCS cree que la parroquia tiene la capacidad de recaudar $6 millones para este esfuerzo. Sin embargo, la capacidad de recaudar más fondos existe si los feligreses demuestran un apoyo extraordinario en oración y sacrificios.
FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

APPLICATIONS FOR 2018-2019

Applications for the 2018-2019 school year are available on the school website under the Admissions tab. Please note the application deadline for kindergarten is December 15, while applications for grades 1-8 are due March 2. Kinder testing will take place in January with testing for grades 1-8 being held in March.

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.

ANNUAL SWEEPSTAKES-CAR RAFFLE RECEPTION

Did you know that the food Car Raffle Reception is coordinated by the faculty and staff of St. Catherine School? That’s right! The faculty and staff decorate the serving area with student work the day before the event and arrive early the day of the event to prepare food, as well as serve it, for all who attend.

We hope you support the Annual Sweepstakes-Car Raffle by buying tickets and joining us for the reception on Sunday, December 17, at 2:00 pm. See you there!

Prepare Ye the Way

The Little Mermaid is this year’s musical production. For more than two months students learned their lines, dance steps and blocking under the direction of our Drama Director, Kris Heiser, and Asst. Directors, Julie Houle and Sue Quinn. Many parents supported the production behind the scenes in a variety of ways. Above is a dress rehearsal.

In late November students honored principal, Ms. Esparza, on National Catholic School Principals’ Day. The event was scheduled to take place during morning assembly, but due to rain, was moved to Milani Center. Student Council led the service which included a presentation of flowers, blessing of Ms. Esparza, and a gift from each class. Ms. Esparza enjoyed reading the notes and stories from students. She commented, “It is my joy and privilege to be your principal! I love this school and all of you.” Congratulations, Ms. Esparza, on being our principal for 13 years!

Save the Date

---eWaste Drive

The next eWaste Drive sponsored by our Green Team will be Saturday, March 10. 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.