Consider the Gospel story for today. Imagine Jesus’s life for those forty days, and His love for you that drove Him into the desert in the first place. Then think of the moment when He emerged and began to announce His Kingdom was at hand.

Take a word that comes to mind and reflect a moment on what it means to you personally. For example, you might have been drawn to the words, “Repent, and believe in the Gospel.” Ask yourself what they mean in your own life. How is Jesus calling you to repentance this Lent so that you can believe more deeply that the Kingdom of God is here?

(Reflection: Augustine Institute/FORMED/2019)
Phishing Scam Reminder

Dear St. Joseph Family,

Once again the good people of St. Joe's are being targeted by a scam that attempts to take advantage of our willingness to help the Church and those in need. The scam involves someone impersonating me or other members of staff by email, asking for you to purchase gift cards and then transmit the codes back to the scammer.

Please know that I, nor anyone on staff, will never solicit gift cards or ask you to wire transfer money. Always take care in sharing personal information by email or online. For more information about this and other scams, the Federal Trade Commission link: https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2019/07/worshipers-targeted-gift-card-scam will gives more details about the scam and how to protect yourself.

—Fr. Mario Rizzo

Covenant of Love Date Night

Grab your spouse or your betrothed and join us for special Date Night, Saturday, March 14 at the Parish Center. Ed Hopfner, Director of Family Life of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, will guide us in a discussion and reflection on Marriage and the Eucharist. 6:30pm arrival and pot luck. Talk begins 7pm. As always, child care is available with an RSVP. See the web page for more details and to RSVP: https://sjbalameda.org/page/col/
Today’s First Reading (Gen: 8-15) begins with a promise. As we enter Lent, a time of penance, fasting and almsgiving, we are reminded that things will be well. Or to put it in other words, we know the end of the story. As we approach “Jerusalem”, the passion and the Cross, it is ok for us to remember the Resurrection. It is our experience of little resurrections in our lives that enables us to begin the next difficult journey. Like Jesus, we are called to remember our experiences of triumph and renewal that allow us to deal with what is painful.

As a parish we are dealing with difficult times and many of us feel confused and hurt, angry even. What do I do when I am disappointed in my Church and religious leaders?

I could run away and ignore my feelings, or I can confront them.

I have ministered in the Church for many years and I have had many great experiences. I have found God here and had my relationship with Christ nurtured. Through you and through our Catholic Tradition I have experienced a loving, forgiving and challenging God. I love our Church.

At the same time, I have been hurt by the Church and disappointed in it and at times its leaders.

This has challenged me to take on more responsibility for my faith and my Church. It has taught me that religious leaders, just like me, are flawed. Most importantly, I have learned to depend more completely, not on men, but on Christ.

I love our Church, I love you, its traditions and its sacraments. With all the chaos swirling around our parish and the larger Church, this Lent, I recommit myself to it and to you. I invite you to do the same. Let us support one another. Let us commit to help each of us be holy. And let us demand that our Church does the same.

Thank you for struggling and believing and committing yourself to Christ and one another. Together, we can experience resurrection for St. Joseph and a new and deeper understanding of Easter.

If you have thoughts about my reflection, I always appreciated your feedback. smullin@sjbalameda.org

Celebrating & Sharing God’s Word

The Christ in Action (CIA) ministry has been sharing the Gospel at the monthly Family Mass since October, and recently celebrated their efforts with a pizza party. Congratulations on your joyful proclamation of God’s word Viviana, Greg, Caitlyn, Eva, Presley, Isa, Rai, RJ, Karishma and Andrea! Special thanks to our CIA Teachers for their dedication in nurturing our young proclaimers: Carmyn Amaya, Darla Aragon, Dawn Gagarin, Victoria Garcia, Jaryce Nobela, Yunia Renteria, Patty Reynoso and Don Smullin. Newcomers are welcome to join; weekly practice for the next Family Mass is 3:30 – 4:30 in the Basilica starting the Tuesday after the previous Family Mass. Practice for Easter starts March 3, for Mothers Day starts April 14, for Fathers Day starts May 12.
**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, February 29**
- 8:00 am †Liliano Lupetti
- 5.00 pm †Deceased Family Members of Ferrer & Posadas

**Sunday, March 1**
- 7:30 am †Guadalupe Oronos
- 9:30 am †Patricia & Fortunato Zamora
- 11:30 am †Angela Naclerio
- 7:00 pm †Philip Fook Fah Yap

**Monday, March 2**
- 8:00 am †Mariene Hartman Clark
- 8:00 am †Ray Angelo Raymundo

**Tuesday, March 3**
- 8:00 am †Ciriaca Luz

**Wednesday, March 4**
- 8:00 am †Alfreda Zyla - Birthday Anniversary

**Thursday, March 5**
- 8:00 am †Margaret Silva

**Friday, March 6**
- 8:00 am †Daniel Curry
- 8:00 am †All Souls

**Saturday, March 7**
- 8:00 am †Myrna Ruth C. Mariano
- 5.00 pm For The People Of The Parish - Living & Deceased

**Sunday, March 8**
- 7:30 am †Rebecca Hernandez
- 9:30 am For The People Of The Parish - Living & Deceased
- 11:30 am Sherley & Patrick Thong - Thanksgiving
- 7:00 pm Lisa Davis - Healing

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**Pray for the Sick**

*May those who are in need of our prayers, place their trust and faith in the comforting presence of the Lord*


*This is a new Sick List. Please call (510) 522-0181 if you would like a name to be added to the list.*

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**DEVOTIONS**

**Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy**
Mon.- Sat., 7:30am

**First Friday Adoration**
10:00am - 1:00pm & 7:00 - 9:00pm

**First Tuesday Adoration - Vietnamese**
7:00pm - 9:00pm

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help**
Wednesday after 8:00am Mass

**St. Joseph - Our Patron**
Thursday after 8:00am Mass

**Act of Consecration to The Sacred Heart of Jesus**
First Friday after 8:00am Mass

**Prayers to The Sacred Heart of Jesus**
Every Friday after 8:00am Mass

**Anointing of the Sick**
First Saturdays after 8am Mass

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**Parish Office Needs Your Help**
We are in need of volunteers on Monday afternoons, 1:00 - 5:00 pm or Tuesday mornings, 9:00 - 12:00 noon, on a regular basis. The office needs someone who can help with reception duties and some admin and computer work. If you like to share your time and talent, please email Sherley Lim: secretary@sjbalameda.org.
Take the Challenge! Fast. Pray. Give Up Envelopes!

We invite you to join us in helping our parish save money by giving up your offertory envelopes this Lent by enrolling with Faith Direct. It will provide St. Joseph Basilica with consistent support and also simplify your giving without the wasteful envelopes. To register, visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code:CA702 Thank you.

2019 Tax Statement

If you have not receive you tax statement, please contact our Business Manager, Stan Schonberg: business@sjbalameda.org or call Parish Office (510) 522-0181

Living Stewardship!

Our wonderful parishioner Martha Bertelsen is donating two of her handmade quilts to benefit the Oakland Catholic Worker. She will sell raffle tickets for $5 each (or 5 tickets for $20) after all the weekend Masses from February 29, for three weekends at the Gathering Space. Drawings will be at the St. Joseph Day Party, March 22. Thank you, Martha!

Catholic Relief Service Rice Bowl (CRS)

Did you pick up your Rice Bowl?

THROUGH PRAYER, we encounter Christ, present in the face of every member of our human family.

THROUGH FASTING, we encounter the obstacles that prevent us from loving God and neighbor.

THROUGH ALMSGIVING, we encounter our brothers and sisters around the world, sharing God’s gifts with other.

Rice Bowls can be found at all entrances to the Church.

Legion Of Mary ‘Colombian Drive’

Recruitment of New Members Sunday, March 8

The Legion of Mary is an international association of Catholic men and women dedicated to our Lady, living their faith through prayer and service. Learn more after the morning Masses on March 8 when members will be at the Gathering Space to share information and answer questions. For details, contact: Dr. Terecita Dean at terecita@terecitadean.com.
Parish Office Hours:
Monday - Friday: 8:30am - 5:00pm
(Office Closed for lunch: Noon to 1:00pm)
Volunteer Coverage
Sat. 8:30am - 12:30pm / Sun. 8:30am - 1:00pm

Parish Website: www.sjbalameda.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/sjbalameda
FORMED: www.sjbalameda.formed.org

Clergy:
Rev. Mario Rizzo - Parochial Administrator
(510) 995-9421 / frmario@sjbalameda.org
Rev. Sunil Orathel - Priest In Residence
(510) 917-9558 / sunil@sjbalameda.org
Dcn. Peter Lawongkerd (Youth Ministry Coordinator)
510-995-9474 / deaconpeter@sjbalameda.org

Sacrament of Marriage
Preparation for registered, active parishioners should begin at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date. Please contact Fr. Mario Rizzo directly to begin the process. Call (510) 995-9421 or email: frmario@sjbalameda.org

Sacrament of Baptism
Please stop by the Parish office or check our website under “Sacraments” for information.
- For infant baptism (6 or younger) contact Parish Office, 510-522-0181
- For adults or children over age 6 please contact Anne Marie, 510-995-9409

St. Joseph Basilica Ministries
All God’s Children Prayer Group - Mondays, 7:00-9:00pm, Basilica
Basilica Choir Rehearsal - Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00pm, Basilica
Bible Study - Thursdays, 10:00-11:30am, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Children’s Choir - Thursdays, 4:00-5:00pm, Basilica
CIA (Christ in Action Children’s Ministry) -Tuesdays, 3:30 - 4:30 pm, Basilica
Cub Scouts - Mondays, 6:30-7:30 pm, Learning Center (June 2020)
Grief Support Ministry - 2nd Thursday, 6:30 - 8:30pm, Parish Center (Damien Room)
Guadalupe Ministry - 1st Thursday, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Knights of Columbus - 2nd Thursday, 7:00-8:30pm, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Legion of Mary - 2nd & 4th Fridays, 7:00 - 8:30pm, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Legion of Mary - 1st & 3rd Saturdays, Reconciliation Room
Moms’ Bible Study Tuesdays, 10:00-11:30am, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Pastoral Care Team - 1st Saturday, 8:45-9:30am, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Inquiry - Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00pm, Parish Center (Mother Teresa Room)
St. Vincent DePaul Society - 4th Thursdays, 7:00-8:30pm, Parish Center (St. Joseph Room)
Spirit Ensemble rehearsal Thursdays, 7:30-9:30pm, Basilica
Sp. Needs Inclusion Ministry - 4th Thursdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, Parish Center (Mother Teresa Room)
Taize Prayer Service - 4th Friday, 8:00-9:00pm, Basilica
Young Adults - 1st & 3rd Wednesday,7:30pm-9:00pm, Parish Center (Damien Room)
Young Families Potluck - 3rd Saturday, 10 – noon, Notre Dame Hall

St. Vincent de Paul Hotline: (510) 995-9471
ADS HERE
Lenten Soup Nights
February 27 - April 2, Thursdays, 6:00 pm @ Notre Dame Hall

Lenten Reflection
Spiritual Reflection, Thursdays, February 27 - April 2
7:00 - 8:00 pm @ Learning Center
Note: March 5 will be at the Parish Center

Stations Of The Cross
February 28 - April 3, Fridays @ 6:30 pm, Basilica
Followed by Eucharistic Adoration ending at 8:00 pm

Note:
- Friday, 3/27 - Eucharistic Adoration ends at 7:30 pm.
  Join us for Taize at 8:00 pm
- Good Friday Stations of the Cross, Apr 10 at 2:00 pm

Reconciliation Service & Individual Confessions
Monday, April 6, 7:00 pm at St. Philip Neri Church

Mark Your Calendar!

Feast of St. Joseph Thursday, March 19
On the Feast of St. Joseph, Bishop Michael Barber will celebrate with the parish community in a joint liturgy with our two schools at 8:30 am Mass in the High School’s Gym.
Please note the regular morning 8:00 am Mass is canceled.

St. Joseph Day - ‘Block Party’ Sunday, March 22
Plan to join us after the 11:30 am Mass to celebrate our Patron Saint. Recipients of the St. Joseph-St. Damien Awards will be announced at the event.
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