

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church - December 25, 2017



Photo by Jenica Gospodnetich (2015 SJE Alumni: St. Francis Class of 2019)

Established October 4, 1960
 5751 Locust Avenue
 Carmichael, CA 95608-1320



Parish Office.....483-8454
 Office Fax.....481-8326
 School.....481-8845
 Religious Education.....483-4628
 Youth Ministry483-8454 x 254

Mass Schedule:

Sunday Mass:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00, 10:00 AM & 12:00 Noon

Daily: 6:30 & 8:30 AM (M-F); 8:30 AM (Sat)

Holy Days: 6:30, 8:30 AM & 7:00 PM

Eucharistic Adoration: Wed & Fri 9:00 AM to 5 PM

Healing Mass every 3rd Sunday of the Month at 1:30 PM with confession from 1:05 to 1:25 PM

Sacraments:

Confessions: Fridays and Saturdays 10 min before morning Masses and 3:45 to 4:45 PM Saturday

Baptism: Call office about parent preparation sessions

Marriage: Contact the clergy at least six months in advance

Anointing of Sick: Call the office at any time

Catholics Coming Home,

for more information call (916) 483-8454 ext. 150 or e-mail to Religious.ed@sjecarmichael.org

Parish website: www.sjecarmichael.org
 Parish email: office@sjecarmichael.org
 Rel. Ed: religious.ed@sjecarmichael.org
 School website: www.stjohnev.com
 School email: office@stjohnev.com

Fr. Bernardin Mugabo.....*Pastor*
FrBernie@sjecarmichael.org

Fr. Thomas A. Bland.....*Pastor Emeritus*

Fr. Alban C. Uba, SMMM.....*In Residence*

Mr. Lawrence Niekamp.....*Deacon*

Linda Gospodnetich.....*Business Manager*

Mrs. Valerie Spangenberg.....*School Principal*

Sr. Hannah M. O'Donoghue,RSM.*Coord. of Religious Education*

Mrs. Roseann Garthwait.....*Director of Music and Liturgy*

Mrs. April McDonald.....*Chairperson, Parish Pastoral Council*

Registration / Change of Address

I want to register in the parish. I have changed my address; my envelope # is _____.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

It may take up to 2 months to start receiving envelopes or for any changes.

Place in collection basket.



CHRISTMAS IN RWANDA

Christmas is a feast rich in meaning because it reminds us that Christ, our Emmanuel, is indeed still with us. It is hard to explain how each country celebrates this feast; it is even more difficult to explain how each family celebrates this Christian feast. I would like to tell you about Christmas' remembered. When I was young I lived with my parents in a small village. There the Christmas holiday was a season of celebration, a time of joy, and a time to relax.

Christmas was remarkable because you heard the sounds of different drums from parish to parish, from one family to another. The beat could last for the whole holiday. Everybody was happy, we used to sing and dance for hours and hours. The market place was bustling with people and goods that were for sale. There was at least ten times the number of people present at Christmas than on a regular market day. People bought all kinds of food; they bought food that they would not normally buy, rich and expensive. On Christmas day, new clothes were worn, gifts from our parents

Christmas was a time of joy. Christmas season was a two-week holiday, from Christmas Eve until the feast of the Epiphany January the 6th. There was great excitement in receiving our brothers and sisters home from their college studies. We hugged each other and they too were happy to be home. There were opportunities for us to ask them the news about college, where one day we also dreamed to be. We shared jokes, stories, new songs and music. I loved to wrestle with my brother Thomas and all my friends. The midnight Mass was my favorite one. Walking in the total darkness, close together, shouting. I was very excited on Christmas.

Christmas season was also a time to relax. Since the whole family was present, chores were easily done. All helped with the work, then we had time to relax, to visit with friends, and to play. Most of all, we had enough time to learn Christmas songs and plays at our parish churches. There was no hassle with homework, or waking up early in the morning for school.

Due to our civil war, life has changed. We are no longer as free and as happy as we once were. So many of my classmates and friends were killed or maybe exiled in foreign countries. I will always miss them. Now in America I am learning new traditions and share the joy of its people. I am very happy to see the beautiful Christmas decorations on houses and the sweet Christmas music in stores. I am very blessed with your great generosity by bringing Christmas cookies, wonderful baked breads, Christmas cards and best wishes for the New Year. But my heart also longs for the rhythm of my homeland, its music and its Christian joy. Thank you for making me feel welcome and may this feast of Christmas give to your hearts a joy that will never end.

Merry Christmas - Father Bernardin.

Many THANKS to our fantastic Parish Volunteers:

—**Bernadette Hicks** who beautifully decorated the Rectory Christmas tree:

— **Gene Gobbo** (the director), **Bob Calder** and **Richard Briones** who installed and mastered the exterior Christmas Lights on the Rectory and Church;

—**John Gospodnetich** who fabricated and stabilized the Nativity display in the Church front planter.

A definition of Revelation is the following: “God’s communication of Himself and His plan for salvation over time through words and actions. God reveals Himself most fully through the saving actions of Jesus, His Son.” (Let us pause to reflect on that thought for a few moments... and ask ourselves: What word or action of Jesus stands out in my mind? How has Jesus’ message made a difference in my life, in our nation, in our world? What kind of society or world would we have if everyone took Jesus’ teachings more seriously?) At the Last Supper, Jesus told His disciples (and us too) “I am the way, the truth and the life.” John 14:6. He goes on to say, “If you love me – you will keep my commandments.” All of us are called to be doers of God’s justice, peace and mercy... This Christmas – I am very grateful and appreciative of all the people at S.J.E. Parish who take Jesus’ message to heart. Thank you for all your goodness, kindness and generosity. May God bless each one of you and your families abundantly at Christmas & throughout the coming year/s.

Sr. Hannah-Mary O’Donoghue, rsm

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Organizations and Ministries

St. John the Evangelist School (Preschool–Grade 8) Religious Education
Parish Pastoral Council
Parish Financial Council
St. Vincent de Paul Food Locker
Knights of Columbus Council # 16612
Legion of Mary
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children (RCIA)
Liturgical Ministries:
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
Lectors
Commentators
Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers)
Music Ministry & Choir
Altar Servers
Vocations Ministry
Catholics Returning Home
Altar Society
B-Frienders
Baptism Ministry
Health Ministries
Youth Ministry
Young Adult Ministry
Adult Enrichment/Bible Study
Catholic Seniors Organization
Gift Shop Volunteers

