



SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH  
PARROQUIA DE SAN FRANCISCO DE ASÍS

DECEMBER 2, 2018

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**VISION**

Saint Francis of Assisi is a welcoming, intergenerational and multi-cultural Catholic community which embraces the teachings of Jesus Christ to foster Spiritual growth.

**MISSION**

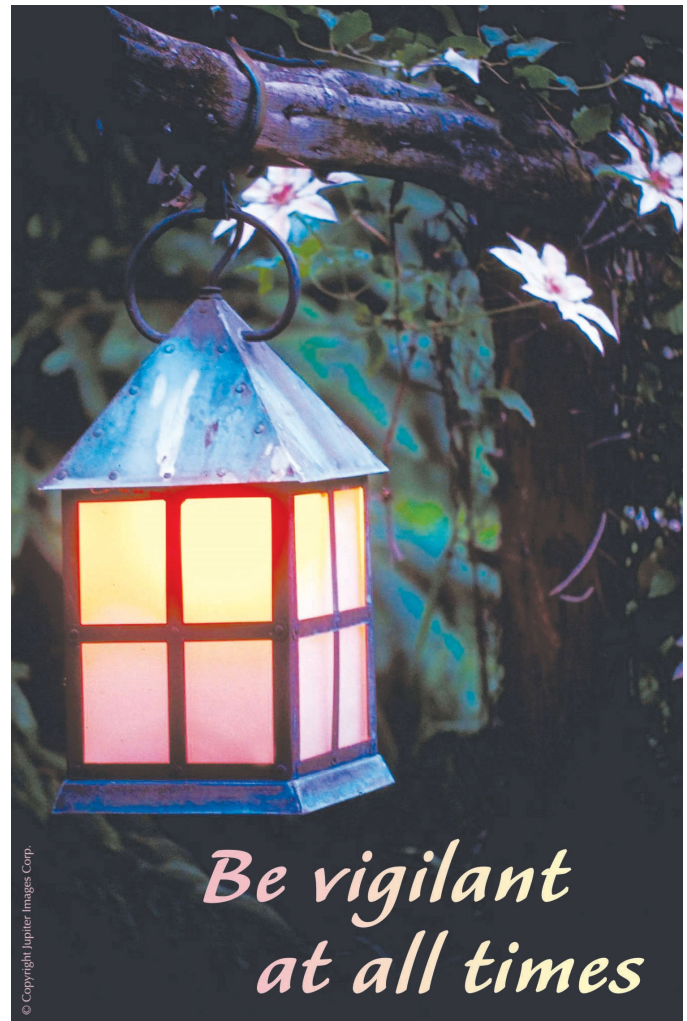
The mission of Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church is to develop a welcoming and dynamic parish. Through liturgical gatherings, faith formation, and the grace of the Holy Spirit, we confidently live out the Gospel message in service to the community and to the Diocese of Oakland.

**LA VISIÓN**

La parroquia de St. Francis es una comunidad católica acogedora, intergeneracional, y multicultural. Toma a pecho las enseñanzas de Jesucristo para promover el crecimiento espiritual.

**LA MISIÓN**

La misión de La Iglesia de St. Francis es de desarrollar una parroquia acogedora y dinámica. Por medio de las asambleas litúrgicas, la formación de la Fe, y las gracias del Espíritu Santo, nosotros con confianza vivimos el mensaje de Evangelio en servicio a la comunidad y a la Diócesis de Oakland.



The Rev. Ismael Gutierrez  
*Pastor*

The Rev. Rafal Duda  
*Parochial Vicar*

The Rev. Mr. Charles Palomares  
The Rev. Mr. John Mazibrook  
*Deacons/Diáconos*

**ADDRESS/ DIRECCION**

860 Oak Grove Road, Concord, CA 94518  
Telephone (925) 682-5447 • Fax (925) 682-5491

**OFFICE HOURS / HORAS DE OFICINA**

Monday (Lunes) to Friday (Viernes) 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM  
[www.sfaconcord.com](http://www.sfaconcord.com)



**First Sunday of Advent  
December 2, 2018**

I will raise up for David a just shoot;  
he shall do what is right and just in the land.

• *Jeremiah 33:15*

**Primer Domingo de Adviento  
2 de diciembre de 2018**

Yo haré nacer del tronco de David un vástago  
santo, que ejercerá la justicia y el derecho en  
la tierra.

— *Jeremías 33:15*

**SCHEDULE OF MASSES**

**Saturday Vigil Mass**

5:30PM (English), 7:30PM (Portuguese)

**Sunday (Domingo)**

**English** 7:00AM; 10:00AM; **Spanish** 8:00AM; 1:00PM;  
11:30AM; 5:30PM 7:00PM

**Daily Mass**

8:30AM Mon—Sat (English)  
Tuesday, 7:00 PM (Spanish)

**Reconciliation/Reconciliación**

**Tuesday (Martes)** 6:00PM to 7:00PM (Español)  
**Saturdays (Sábados)** 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

**Sacrament of the Sick/Unción de Enfermos  
Holy Anointing/Prayers and Pastoral Care for the Sick.**  
Call/Llamar (925) 682-5447

**Eucharistic Adoration/Adoración Eucarística**  
**Mondays (Lunes)** 7:30-8:30PM in the Chapel/Capilla

**DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS**  
**Monday to Friday, after the 8:30AM Mass.**

**St. Vincent de Paul/San Vicente de Paul**  
**Monday, Wednesday & Fridays** 9:30AM –11:30AM  
For those who need food or assistance/*Para aquellos que  
necesiten comida o asistencia*  
(925) 682-5811

**St. Francis of Assisi School**  
866 Oak Grove Rd., Concord CA 94518  
Phone:(925) 682-5414 FAX (925) 682-5480  
Mrs. Patti Carlton, Interim Principal Ext #101

**ATTENTION. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE  
PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED EVERY  
TUESDAY FROM 11AM TO 1:00PM. THIS IS  
TO ALLOW THE STAFF TO HOLD MEET-  
INGS AND THEIR PRAYER GROUPS AT A  
SET TIME AND DATE EACH WEEK. THANK  
YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.**

**WEEKLY Mass Intentions**

- Saturday, December 1st, 2018 (Vigil)  
5:30PM– Vigil + Anna Pheung Thi Khang
- Sunday, December 2, 2018 **The First Sunday of Advent**  
7:00 am + *Joseph Machovec*  
**8:00AM** + *Emma Rosas*  
10:00AM + *Dr. Alfred Reyes Aquino*  
11:30AM + *Emma Gan*  
**1:00pm** + *Ada Luppino*  
5:30PM + *Earl Koski*  
**7:00PM** + *Margarita Ochoa*
- Monday, December 3, 2018 , 2018  
8:30am + *Cristina Ines Guilatco & Daniel H. Cruz*
- Tuesday, December 4, 2018  
8:30am + *Lena Fraga*  
**7:00PM** + *Michael Cordova*
- Wednesday, December 5th, 2018  
8:30am + *Angelo Maraccini*
- Thursday, December 6th, 2018  
8:30am + *Matt Cole*
- Friday, December 7th, 2018  
8:30am + *Robert (Bob) Rezak*
- Saturday, Dec 8th, 2018 –**Feast of the Immaculate Conception**  
8:30AM + *Antonio & Theresa Sanchez*  
12:00 PM bilingual- *Parishioners of St. Francis*  
(Vigil Mass): 5:30pm- *Parishioners of St. Francis*
- Sunday, DECEMBER 9th, 2018– **Second Sunday of Advent**  
7:00am + *Narciso Famiglietti*  
**8:00 AM** + *Lloyd Heering*  
10:00am + *Thomas Patrick Monahan*  
11:30am + *Ben Pereyra*  
**1:00PM** + *Adela Gonzalez Romero*  
5:30pm + *Margaret Rickey*  
**7:00 PM** + *Emilia Zaragoza*

**Bold masses in Spanish**  
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**Questions on our programs should be ad-  
dressed to one of the following coordinators:  
Religious Education in Spanish for children and  
adults: (925) 375-1066 or Scar-  
lett@sfaconcord.org.**

**Religious Education in English for children and  
adults: (925) 375-1067 or Nat-  
han@sfaconcord.org.**

**Youth Ministry and Teen Sacraments:  
Kathy De Lemos call  
(925) 375-1057 or Youth@Sfaconcord.org**

## YOUTH GROUPS

### Sacrament of Confirmation for Teens

Sunday, **Dec. 2nd** from 3-6:30pm in the Church with Sponsors

Class: Personal Faith and Rite of Welcome  
Sunday, **Dec. 16th** from 3-6:30pm in JPll Center  
Class: Jesus

### Youth Ministry

Youth Group for all 7th –12th Graders Meet Monday's from 7-9PM in the Gym and Youth Room

### Teen Sacraments of First Rec. & First Comm. For 7th to 12th Graders

Year One meets on Tues from 4-5:30pm in the POC  
Year Two meets on Wed from 4-5:30pm in the POC

### SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES– Must Sign Up Ahead of time with Kathy D.

Every **Sunday** from 8 –10am and 1-3pm  
Help K of C distribute food outside the JPll Center.

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*If you have any questions, you can contact our Youth Minister & Teen Sacrament Coordinator, Kathy De Lemos at her direct line (925) 375-1057 (or office (925) 682-5447 Ext 29, or at [Youth@SFAconcord.org](mailto:Youth@SFAconcord.org).*

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## UPCOMING DECEMBER EVENTS

**PARISH RECONCILIATION SERVICE– Monday, December 3rd at 7:00 PM in Church**

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The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation and will be celebrated on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Masses will only be at 8:30am and 12pm (noon) Bilingual. The celebration for the “Criteria” will be held following the Noon mass in the Family Center and all are invited.

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Our Procession for Our Lady of Guadalupe is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 9th. The procession will begin at 11am at Cambridge Park to arrive at SFA for the 1PM mass.

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Breakfast with Santa (School Event) on Saturday, December 15th.

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Simbang Gabi masses: December 16th through 24th at 5:30am with breakfast to follow.

## THE PROMISE OF JUSTICE

We are in fairly good company when we ask God for justice. Often enough we hear and agree with the lament of the people of Israel asking God why the wicked prosper. However, when we call out for justice, we usually want someone to get his or her comeuppance. God's justice is something other than this, of course. God's justice comprises a wonderful rightness between God and humankind.

Today, Jeremiah looks ahead to a time when a just one will sprout from the shorn-off stump of Jesse of the house and family of David. Life was not fair in Jeremiah's time. Israel's kings held the promise of God's fidelity, but it was difficult to see how God's promise could be realized through them.

Nevertheless, Jeremiah lifts his voice and announces that the Promised One will come. Luke's Gospel echoes that announcement, and Paul is filled with sturdy encouragement. And so Advent begins with a promise.

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## THE THREE COMINGS OF ADVENT

There are three distinct comings of the Lord of which I know: His coming to humankind, His coming into humankind, and His coming against humankind.

—St. Bernard: *Third Sermon for Advent*

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## FAITH DIRECT

As you may know, we have a program for electronic offertory donations called *Faith Direct*. This program has already had a positive impact on our Sunday collection. I am hopeful that you will join other parishioners and sign up for this service. The program is a cost effective way for the parish to receive donations. For every family that has signed up with *Faith Direct*, we have been able to eliminate the cost of purchasing and mailing envelopes. This method has also reduced the handling of cash and checks in the rectory and has proven to be a safe and secure method of making a church offering.

I share with you our concern about the economic situation in which we now find ourselves. We very much feel the impact of the present economy. I am tremendously grateful that parishioners have remained consistent in their financial generosity to the parish. Our increased enrollment with *Faith Direct* will continue to stabilize our parish finances. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or *Faith Direct* at 866-507-8757 (toll-free). To enroll in the program, pick up an enrollment form from the parish office or visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our parish code: **CA762**

God bless you.

Fr. Ismael Gutierrez



## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MINISTRY

### Food Pantry Activity:

- An emergency supply of food was given to 110 households (495 individuals) in the month of September.
- An emergency supply of food was given to 125 households (544 individuals) in the month of October
- FoodMaxx gift cards were given to 140 eligible families.
- Special Assistance (utility, rent, etc.) was provided for eight families in October alone.

Most-Needed Food Items: (baskets for donations are on the altar stairs.) **Apple or Grape Juice, Cheerios, Campbell's Chicken Noodle Soup, Canned Corn or Green Beans, Peaches, Pears, or Pineapple, Chili, Tuna or Meats, Saline or Graham Crackers, Rice, Dried Pinto Beans, Cooking Oil, Masa Mix, or any (non-expired) items you wish to donate.**

**St. Francis of Assisi Church has four "second collection" each year just for St. Vincent de Paul Ministry here at the Church, and we are grateful to all who faithfully support this ministry. However, with the need for "special assistance" increasing, at this time we are appealing to those parishioners who may not be aware of the critical need of the poor families in our community. Please help us to help others!**

**Checks made out to St. Vincent de Paul may be dropped in the collection baskets any time. Thank you!**

**OFFICE HOURS ARE MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY FROM 9:00AM TO 11:30AM. CLOSED ON TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND WEEKENDS. CALL THEM AT (925) 682-5811.**

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**The next Senior Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, December 11th at 12:15pm in the Pope John Paul II Center. All seniors are invited to our luncheons celebrated on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from September thru May (except January).**

The Senior Luncheon is still looking for people to help with this ministry. If you could set up or clean up, or even prepare a meal or two, then please contact Marian Morbeto at (925) 676-6158.

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**Because we will have our communal Confession on Monday, Dec. 3rd, we will NOT have any confession on Tuesday, Dec. 4th.**

**On Friday, Dec. 7th (1st Friday) we will only have Adoration following the 8:30am mass until Noon and no Adoration in the evening.**

### **Calling All Women!**

**Looking for a way to celebrate Advent? Magnificat SOTI, a Ministry for Catholic Women invite all to join them at their Prayer Breakfast December 8, 2018 9:30 -1:30**

**The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 9:30, followed by the break-fast.**

**Crowne Plaza**

**45 John Glenn Drive, Concord, CA**

Please join us for a morning of Praise, Prayer, and Inspiration

from our speaker Father Matthew Spencer!

Starting out in a career in software engineering, it wasn't long before Fr. Spencer answered the call of the Holy Spirit and entered the seminary of the Oblates of St. Joseph. He now serves as the host of "St. Joseph's Workshop" on Immaculate Heart Media/Relevant Radio.

Men are always welcome to attend!

**Tickets are \$33/\$40 after December 1st.**

**For more information:** <https://magnificat-ministry.net/chapters/chapter-states-a-d/ca-walnut-creek/>  
Email [Magnificatsotirsvp@gmail.com](mailto:Magnificatsotirsvp@gmail.com) for reservations or call Kim Sullivan at 925-683-8220 for any questions.

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### **CHURCH WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORTING**

Sunday Collections: Nov. 10 & 11	\$8,842.
Faith Direct e-Giving Nov. 4	\$3,713.
TOTAL	\$12,555.
(St. Vincent de Paul \$3,690.)	

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Sunday Collection Nov. 17 & 18	\$9,635.
Faith Direct e-giving Nov. 15	\$2,897.
TOTAL	\$12,532.
(Indonesia Disaster Relief \$1600.	

**YEAR TO DATE SHORTFALL \$32,217.**

**January-October Expenses \$977,516.**

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### **REFLECTION ON THE WORD!**

With the many details of our daily routines, it is easy for the heart to seem asleep to the signs of God in our lives. This first Gospel of the Advent season call us to be alert to how God calls us. Christmas preparations should include taking time to examine what is most important in our lives. It is valuable to reflect on whether God is at the center of our family's life. We cannot let the anxieties of daily life take our eyes off our Lord.

On this First Sunday of Advent is a good time to establish your family's routine for the season. If you do not have an Advent Wreath, you might want to set a candle on the table and say a simple prayer with your family asking for God's help so that each of you prepare your hearts for Him. You can invite other family members to make petitions for people who need their prayers.

## FAITH DIRECT

Recientemente, introducimos una manera nueva e interesante para apoyar nuestra parroquia y contribuir a las colectas semanales y las colectas especiales: *Faith Direct*. Con *Faith Direct*, Ud. puede contribuir automáticamente a las varias colectas de St. Francis of Assisi usando su tarjeta de débito/crédito o su cuenta corriente, el mismo proceso que podrá usar para pagar las facturas de servicios y la cuota del coche.

Contribuir a las colectas automáticamente elimina el lío de buscar los sobres de la colecta mientras Ud. se va de la casa y asegura que la parroquia recibe sus ofertas si no puede asistir a la misa. Ud., como parroquiano, no paga un pago individual para participar en el programa de *Faith Direct*. Las contribuciones automáticas proporcionan a St. Francis of Assisi un movimiento de efectivo predecible y reducen el tiempo y el dinero que la parroquia gasta procesando los sobres. Además, *Faith Direct* le brindará cartas personalizadas que puede poner en la canasta para indicar que contribuye a la parroquia y le enviará un resumen de sus contribuciones al fin del año.

Creemos que tanto la parroquia como los parroquianos se benefician del programa de *Faith Direct*. Favor de inscribirse en el programa por completar una forma de inscripción que se encuentra en la oficina de la parroquia o visitar [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) para inscribirse seguramente en línea. Nuestro código es **CA762**.

No dude en contactarme para pedir más información.

Qué dios le bendiga.

Rev. Ismael Gutiérrez

## ALMUERZO SEÑORES 50 +

El próximo almuerzo es el **martes 11 de diciembre a las 12 del mediodía. Todos cordialmente invitados.**

## CONFESIONES DE ADVIENTO

Hemos comenzado el tiempo de Adviento y con él la preparación de nuestros hogares y parroquia para la Navidad, al igual debemos prepararnos para recibir el nacimiento de nuestro Señor Jesús, haciendo una buena confesión.

Nuestra parroquia ofrecerá un servicio de confesión de Adviento, en el cual sacerdotes de diferentes parroquias estarán disponibles para escuchar confesiones.

**Lunes 3 de diciembre a las 7:00p.m.**

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**No habrá confesiones el martes 4 de diciembre. Pero si habrá celebración de la Santa Misa.**

## Misas Inmaculada Concepción de María

### HORARIO DE MISAS

**Sabado 8 de diciembre día de precepto:  
8:30 a.m. Santa Misa (Inglés)  
12:00 p.m. Santa Misa (Bilingüe)**

La tradicional Gritería en Honor de la Inmaculada Concepción de María, se realizará inmediatamente después de la Santa Misa de **12:00 p.m.**, en el gimnasio parroquial. Todos cordialmente invitados.

## LECTURAS DE HOY

**Primera lectura** — Se acercan los días cuando el Señor cumplirá su promesa que hizo a Israel y a Judá (Jeremías 33:14-16).

**Salmo** — Descúbrenos, Señor, tus caminos (Salmo 25 [24]).

**Segunda lectura** — Que el Señor los llene y los haga rebosar de amor para que sean irreprochables en santidad (1 Tesalonicenses 3:12 — 4:2).

**Evangelio** — Habrá señales y verán al Hijo del Hombre venir con gran poder y majestad (Lucas 21:25-28, 34-36).

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## 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: Is 29:17-24; Sal 27 (26):1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31  
Sábado: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Sal 98 (97):1-4; Ef 1:3-6, 11-12; Lc 1:26-38  
Domingo: Bar 5:1-9; Sal 126 (125):1-6; Fil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lc 3:1-6

## Pro celebración Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

El Comité de celebración de nuestra señora de Guadalupe necesita donaciones de **chocolate caliente, atole y pan dulce**. Familias que deseen donar, favor de contactarse con Blanca al (925) 323-0913.

**Donaciones económicas** para la celebración las puede hacer colocando su donativo en los sobres titulados **Nuestra Sra. de Guadalupe**, favor colocar los sobres en la canasta de la colecta.

## Boletos Rifa Pro Celebración Ntra. Señora de Guadalupe

**12 de Diciembre 2018**

**1er. Premio \$1,000**  
**2do. Premio \$ 500.**  
**3er Premio \$ 250.**  
**3 Boletos por \$10.00 dólares o 1 por \$5.00.**  
No necesita estar presente para ganar.

## AGRADECIMIENTO

Agradecemos a todas las personas que generosamente dieron medicamentos o dinero en efectivo, para ayudar a los hermanos venezolanos.

MIL GRACIAS

## Peregrinación Parroquial Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

La peregrinación parroquial de nuestra señora de Guadalupe será el domingo 9 de diciembre, saliendo a las 11:00 de la mañana del parque Cambridge, recorriendo los vecindarios en el área de Monument y llegando hasta la iglesia de San Francisco de Asís. Ofrezcamos este caminar con oraciones por todas las necesidades de nuestra comunidad, sociedad y las del mundo.

## MINISTERIO DE LA DIVINA MISERICORDIA

El ministerio de la Divina Misericordia le invita a quedarse ocho minutos después de las misas de 1:00p.m., para rezar el Rosario de la Divina Misericordia.

## INSTITUTO CATEQUETICO SERRA Diócesis de Oakland

Certificación de catequistas en California  
Para catequistas, maestros de escuela católica, padres de familia.  
Las clases se reúnen una vez al mes los sábados de las 8:45a.m.—3:30p.m. Primera Clase 12 de enero 2019, dirección Holy Names High School 4660 Harbord Dr. Oakland CA 94618.

Fecha límite de inscripción 21, de diciembre 2018. \$150 Inscripción (no reembolsable, costo \$450 cupo limitado, balance pagado en su totalidad en octubre, 2019. Se recomienda que se inscriba pronto.

Para más información e inscripciones, visite nuestro sitio web: [www.oakdiocese.org/serra](http://www.oakdiocese.org/serra). Si necesita ayuda favor comunicarse con Sandra Martinez, (510) 267-8371.

## BODAS 2019

Parejas planeando recibir el Sacramento del Matrimonio para el año 2019, pueden pasar a reservar fechas, la reservación se deberá hacer seis meses o un año antes. Para requisitos y reservación de fechas favor contactar la oficina parroquial al (925) 682-5447.