



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

DECEMBER 16, 2018

THE THIRD 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

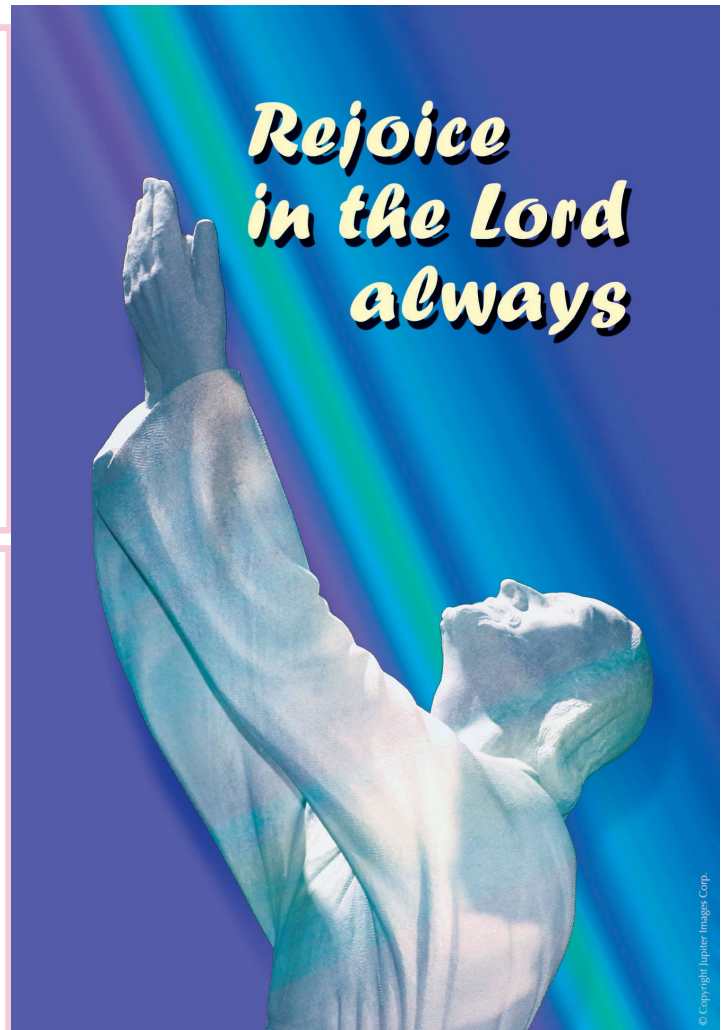
The mission of Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church is to develop a welcoming and dynamic parish. Through liturgical gatherings, faith formation, and the grace of the Holy Spirit, we confidently live out the Gospel message in service to the community and to the Diocese of Oakland.

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



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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 necesitan 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 MEETINGS AND THEIR PRAYER GROUPS AT A SET TIME AND DATE EACH WEEK. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

**Third Sunday of Advent
December 16, 2018**

The King of Israel, the LORD,
is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.

• *Zephaniah 3:15b*

**Tercer Domingo de Adviento
16 de diciembre de 2018**

El Señor sera el rey de Israel en medio de ti
y ya no temerás ningún mal.
— *Sofonías 3:15b*

WEEKLY Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 15TH, 2018 (Vigil)
5:30PM– Vigil - Rafael Blanco

Sunday, December 16, 2018 The Third Sunday of Advent
5:30am +Nestor Quiambao
7:00 am + Joseph Machovec
8:00AM Int. Esp.– San Jose Fasquallo families
10:00AM + Fr. Richard Culver
11:30AM + Ben Pereyra
1:00pm + Hortensia Sevilla
5:30PM + Roger Peters
7:00PM + Francisco Zaragoza

Monday, December 17, 2018 , 2018
5:30am + Felisa Crusit
8:30am + Nicanor Petra

Tuesday, December 18, 2018
5:30am + Verancio & Lucrecia Gaddi
8:30am Salvatore & Vincent Consul i
7:00PM + Jose y Locadia Solis

Wednesday, December 19th, 2018
5:30am Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi
8:30 am + Angelita Rigor Agustin

Thursday, December 20th, 2018
5:30am Remedios Gaddi De Leon
8:30am Sp. Int. "Sleeping St. Joseph" fr Parishioners

Friday, December 21st, 2018
5:30am Verancio & Lucrecia Gaddi
8:30am + Patricia Pineda

Saturday, Dec 22nd, 2018
5:30am Sp. Int.— Diane Mc Kean
8:30AM + Msgr Edward T. Varni
(Vigil Mass): 5:30pm- Sp. Int.– Vergel & Connie Vedar

Sunday, DECEMBER 23rd, 2018– Fourth Sunday of Advent
5:30am + Francisco Cuenco
7:00am + Elinor Dutra
8:00 AM + Michael Cordova
10:00am + Luis & Salud Garcia
11:30am + Cecilia & Amador Gonzalez
1:00PM + Gabriela Cantu
5:30pm + Corazo Rogor
7:00 PM + Arnulfo Gonzalez

Bold masses in Spanish

IMPRESSIONABLE

A child's life is like a piece of paper on
which every passerby leaves a mark.
—Ancient Chinese proverb

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 and use our parish code: **CA762**

God bless you.
Fr. Ismael Gutierrez

REJOICE!

Today has traditionally been called "Gaudete Sunday." The Latin tag is derived from Paul's appeal in the second reading to "rejoice always in the Lord," and the Latin Mass text based on that reading. The irony and paradox of this Christian joy is underlined by the fact that Paul wrote those words in prison. But from there he could see the progress of God's work.

Is it obvious to us? We feel that this is not the time for joy when there is so much suffering and moral evil. It is interesting, then, that the first reading is from the prophet Zephaniah, who is almost exclusively concerned with gloomy visions of Judgment Day. Today the Church selects the only optimistic text in Zephaniah, in which the prophet has been touched by the spirit of joy.

This, we are assured on all sides, is "the season of joy." Let us recapture that feeling of joy in our lives and reflect it to those who are joyless.

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Top Ten Reasons to SHOP SVdP

1. Shopping SVdP will support all of our safety-net programs provided to families in need.
2. Shop SVdP to find unique HOLIDAY ITEMS at remarkable prices! Decorations, ornaments, etc!
3. Shop SVdP to find unique *vintage* items including vinyl records, books, jewelry and knick-knacks!
4. Shop SVdP to find that UGLY HOLIDAY SWEATER or glittery holiday dress!
5. Shop SVdP if you have extra guests coming into town. Furniture & mattresses at incredible prices!
6. Shop SVdP - the original recycler! Be kind to the environment by re-using and re-purposing items!
7. Shop SVdP if you like DIY! Shabby Chic and Rustic Farm-house your style? Redecorate with us!
8. Shopping SVdP is a great way to stretch your budget! Off-season items at even better prices!
9. Shopping SVdP is FUN!
10. Shopping SVdP supports charitable programs for our friends and neighbors in need.

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Stores: 2210 Gladstone Dr. Pittsburg CA 94565 (925) 439-9064 Open Mon-Sat. 9am-5PM; 2815 Contra Costa Blvd., PH CA 94523 (925) 934-5063 and 8890 Brentwood Blvd, Brentwood CA 94513 (925) 635-3214. Both open 7 days a week from 10am to 6PM

YOUTH GROUPS

Sacrament of Confirmation for Teens

Sunday, Dec. 16th from 3-6:30pm in JP II Center

Class: Jesus

Mandatory Retreat for all Confirmation Candidates in the FC/Gym

Saturday, Jan. 5th, 2019 from 10am to 10:00pm

And Sunday, Jan. 6th, 2019 from 9:30am to 6:30PM

Sunday, Jan. 20th from 3-6:30PM in Pope JP II Center

Class: After Retreat Sharing

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 JP II Center.

Saturday, Jan. 19th from 6-10PM in FC/Gym

Helping with K of C Crab Feed

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.

The wonderful Fil-Am celebration of Simbang Gabi Novena masses continues at St. Francis of Assisi again this year We will begin this Novena on Sunday, December 16th and continue each day until and December 24th with an early 5:30am Mass. We will offer breakfast to follow mass. All are invited to attend this special mass and reception each day with your parishioners and friends from neighboring parishes as we all prepare for the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas.

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 24th and Tuesday, December 25th and will reopen on Wednesday, Dec. 26th at 9:00am

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MINISTRY

Food Pantry Activity:

- On Nov. 17, 150 families received a turkey and two bags of food and produce for their Thanksgiving dinner.
- **Special Assistance** (utility, rent, etc.) was provided for three (3) families in November.

SvdP Christmas Programs:

We have signed up and vetted 50 families for our "Adopt-A-Family for Christmas" program. On December 15th, each mother will receive a Target gift card to shop for her family (dollar amounts determined by the number of children). Donations for this program are greatly appreciated (all checks made out to St. Vincent de Paul may be dropped in the weekly collection baskets).

Toys/gifts will be collected through December for the "Christmas For Everyone" event held on Christmas Day. Thousands are fed a Christmas dinner and all receive gifts. You are asked to place unwrapped items in the collection baskets on the altar stairs (or bring to SvdP during regular office hours) and our volunteers will deliver them to Martinez. Warm jackets/coats (new and clean and gently used) are also needed.

Thank you for your continuing support for our ministry to those in need in our community.

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.

The next Senior Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 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.

CHURCH WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORTING

Due to early transmittals of bulletins, some of the information on our financial reports will appear in further bulletins. Thank you to all who continue to support their church by envelopes, e-giving and cash donations.

Questions on our programs should be addressed to one of the following coordinators: Religious Education in Spanish for children and adults: (925) 375-1066 or Scarlett@sfaconcord.org.

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

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

St. Francis of Assisi School News!!!!

SCHOOL NEWS

Enrolling NOW for the 2019-2020 School Year

St. Francis of Assisi School is a private Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Through the 8th grade Catholic school.

Our value-centered academic programs empower students to be faith-filled people, lifelong learners and problem solvers and globally responsible citizens. We invite you to the following upcoming events.

December

School Office closed
December 24th – January 3rd

January

24 TK & Kindergarten Sneak Peek
6:30 pm
27 Family Mass & Open House TK – 8
10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Please feel free to call the school office to schedule to tour and to get additional information about the events above or any of our academic programs.

Peace & Blessings,
Mrs. Patti Calton
Interim Principal
925-682-5414

www.sfaconcord.org

CHRISTMAS 2018 SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Masses

December 24th

4:00pm Mass in English for Children

6:00 pm Mass in English

8:00 pm Mass in Spanish

Midnight—bilingual

We will begin at 11:30 with Carols

Christmas Day Masses

December 25th

8:00 am Mass in English

10:00am Mass in English

12:00p.m.(Noon) Mass in Spanish

LIVING THE WORD

As a family member lights the third candle of your Advent wreath, rejoice in the warmth and joy of family. Encourage family members to share something that brought them joy today. Invite them to pause each day this week to think of something for which they are grateful and to thank God for it. Enjoy a family hug.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — ¡Canta! ¡Da gritos de júbilo! ¡Gózate y regocíjate! El Señor tu Dios está entre ustedes y es un poderoso salvador (Sofonías 3:14-18a).

Salmo — El Señor es mi Dios y salvador (Isaías 12).

Segunda lectura — ¡Alégrese! El Señor está cerca. Presenten sus peticiones a Dios (Filipenses 4:4-7).

Evangelio — Juan dice a sus oyentes que compartan sus posesiones con los necesitados (Lucas 3:10-18).

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REGOCÍJATE!

El día de hoy se le ha llamado tradicionalmente “Domingo *Gaudete*” o de la “Alegría”. El nombre latino se deriva de la petición de Pedro en la segunda lectura de “alégrese siempre en el Señor”, y del texto de la Misa en latín en el que está basada esta lectura. La ironía y paradoja de esta alegría cristiana se manifiesta en el hecho que Pablo escribió esas palabras en la prisión. Pero desde allí podía ver el progreso de la obra de Dios.

¿Nos parece obvio a nosotros? Sentimos que este no es un tiempo para la alegría cuando hay tanto sufrimiento e inmoralidad. Es interesante, entonces, que la primera lectura sea del profeta Sofonías, que está casi exclusivamente preocupado con sombrías visiones del Día del Juicio. Hoy la Iglesia selecciona la única parte optimista de Sofonías, donde el profeta es tocado por el espíritu del gozo.

Esta es, se nos asegura en todas partes, “la temporada de la alegría”. Recuperemos ese espíritu de alegría en nuestra vida y que se refleje en los que no tienen ese gozo.

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SIMBANG GABI NOVENA DE MISAS

La Comunidad Filipino Americana de San Francisco de Asís, le invita a la novena de Misas en anticipación a la Navidad, la novena es del 16-24 de diciembre a las 5:30a.m. Después de la Santa Misa, disfrute de un delicioso desayuno en compañía de feligreses locales como también de las parroquias vecinas.

HORARIO DE MISAS DE NAVIDAD

Diciembre 24/ NOCHE BUENA

4:00p.m Inglés

6:00p.m Inglés

8:00p.m Español

Misa de Medianoche (Bilingüe)
(*Villancicos 11:30p.m*)

Diciembre 25/ NAVIDAD

8:00a.m Inglés

10:00a.m Inglés

12:00p.m Español

Nota: No tendremos misas por la Noche

30 de Diciembre

Misas de domingo de la Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José.

Horario habitual de domingo

31 de Diciembre

8:30a.m Inglés

7:00p.m Español

1° Enero 2019

10:00a.m Inglés

7:00p.m Español

OFICINA PARROQUIAL

La oficina parroquial estará cerrada 24,25 y 31 de diciembre, como también el 1° de enero.

Les deseamos a usted y a su familia una bendecida y cálida Navidad.

BODAS 2019

Año Nuevo, Vida Nueva

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.

Este próximo año tendremos nuevamente bodas comunitarias para el 6 de abril.

Para requisitos fechas disponibles, favor contactar la oficina parroquial al (925) 682-5447.

MINISTERIO SAN VICENTE DE PAUL

Resumén de actividades:

- **El 17 de noviembre, 150 familias** recibieron un pavo y dos bolsas de alimentos y productos para su cena de acción de gracias.
- **Asistencia especial** (utilidad, renta, etc.) fue brindada a tres (3) familias en el mes de noviembre.

Programas de Navidad de SVdP:

Tenemos 50 familias para nuestro programa "Adopt-A-Family" (Adoptar a una familia para la Navidad). El 15 de diciembre, cada madre recibirá una tarjeta de regalo de Target para que comprar para su familia (cantidad de dinero se determinada por el número de niños). Las donaciones económicas para este programa, son bien recibidas (cheques hechos a nombre de St. Vincent de Paul , se pueden depositar en las cestas de colecta durante Misa).

Regalos y juguetes se recogerán durante diciembre para el evento "**Navidad para todos**" celebrado el día 25 de diciembre. Miles de personas disfrutaran de una cena de Navidad y recibirán regalos. Se les pide que coloque las **donaciones de juguetes u otro regalo sin envolver** en las cestas de la colecta en las escaleras del altar (o traerlas a Svdp durante horas de oficina), nuestros voluntarios las entregarán a Martínez.

Necesitamos también chaquetas/abrigos (nuevos o ligeramente usados).

Gracias por su continuo apoyo a nuestro Ministerio para ayudar a los más necesitados en nuestra comunidad.

HORAS DE SERVICIO SON :

LUNES, MIÉRCOLES Y VIERNES

DE 9:00 A 11:30.

CERRADO: MARTES, JUEVES Y FIN DE SEMANA. LLAME AL (925) 682-5811.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Sal 72 (71):1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Martes: Jer 23:5-8; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Miércoles: Jue 13:2-7, 24-25a; Sal 71 (70):3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lc 1:5-25
Jueves: Is 7:10-14; Sal 24 (23):1-6; Lc 1:26-38
Viernes: Cant 2:8-14 o Sof 3:14-18a; Sal 33 (32):2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lc 1:39-45
Sábado: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lc 1:46-56
Domingo: Mi 5:1-4a; Sal 80 (81) :2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lc 1:39-45

FAITH DIRECT CONTRIBUCIONES PARROQUIALES

¿No puede encontrar ni la chequera ni los sobres el domingo antes de la misa?

Únase a los parroquianos que usan *Faith Direct, programa* para contribuciones automáticas a nuestra parroquia de St. Francis of Assisi. El programa es seguro, conveniente y Ud. recibirá cartas personalizadas poner en la canasta durante la colecta. No hay un pago para los parroquianos y el programa es un beneficio enorme a nuestra parroquia. Inscríbese hoy por visitar www.faithdirect.net, nuestro código es CA762.

EVANGELIARIO 2019

La Palabra comentada cada día, este libro de bolsillo, contiene los evangelios de cada día como también las reflexiones diarias. Este útil librito ya esta a la venta y lo puede encontrar en la tienda parroquial a un módico precio.

BAILE DE FIN DE AÑO 2018

Únete a la celebración de un año que termina y otro que comienza

Con el Baile del Año
Lunes 31 de diciembre 7 - 1:00a.m.
Gimnasio Parroquial
de San Francisco de Asís.

Para más información llamar la oficina parroquial.