



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

DECEMBER 17th, 2017

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN 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



**Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2017**
Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.
— 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17
**Tercer Domingo de Adviento
17 de diciembre de 2017**
Vivan siempre alegres, oren sin cesar.
— 1 Tesalonicenses 5:16

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

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Due to the Holiday Schedule, the financial reporting for December will appear in later bulletins. We thank all who use their envelopes and e-giving to support their parish. God bless you and your families during the Holidays!.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 16th, 2017 (Vigil)
5:30 PM- + Joseph Streich
Sunday, Dec. 17th, 2017—**THE 3rd SUNDAY ADVENT**
5:30am + Felisa Cruzit
7:00am + Celestina Gan
8:00AM + Salvador Ramos Campos
10:00AM + Dec'd members Quiambao family
11:30AM + Caridad Camilon
1:00pm + Americo Valderrama
5:30PM The Parishioners of St. Francis
7:00PM + Msgr Edward T. Varni
Monday, December 18th, 2017
5:30am + Juana, Francisca & Joel Cuenco
8:30am + Edmond Bayer
Tuesday, Dec. 19th 2017—
5:30am + Alfredo Arias
8:30am + Rizalina Del Barrio
7:00PM + Daniel Carlos
Wednesday, December 20th, 2017—
5:30am + Maria Theresa Leyba
8:30am + Angelo Maraccini
Thursday, December 21st, 2017—
5:30am + Mary K. Mullen
8:30am + Melva Larriva
Friday, December 22nd, 2017 —
5:30am + Isabel Gutierrez
8:30am + Gabriela Cantu
Saturday, December 23rd, 2017
5:30 am + Lydia Sturtevant
8:30AM + Msgr. Edward T. Varni
5:30PM (Vigil Mass) + Bill Androtti
Sunday, December 24th, 2017 —4th Sunday of Advent
5:30am + Leo Kavanaugh
7:00am Parishioners of St. Francis
8:00 AM + Gonzalo y Cristina Reyes
10:00AM + William Lesser
11:30AM + Leo Kavanaugh .
1:00PM Int. Esp— 65th B'day Terry Merin
NO 5:30PM OR 7:00PM

Sunday, Dec. 24— Christmas Eve
4:00pm (Eng) Mass + Cinaco Espina
6:00pm (Eng) Mass + Maximo Lomboy
8:00PM (Spanish) Mass Parishioners of St. Francis
Midnight (Multilingual)-Sp. Int. Priests at SFA
Monday, Dec. 25th Christmas Day
8:00 (Eng), 10am (Eng) and 12 Noon (Spanish)

St. Vincent de Paul Ministry

Food Pantry Activity in the Month of November

- ◇ **An emergency supply of food was given to 115 households (502 individuals) in November.**
- ◇ **Food Maxx gift cards were given to 52 eligible families.**
- ◇ **Special Assistance (utility, rent, etc.) as provided for two families.**

Holiday Programs:

We hope to provide a joyous Christmas for **over 50 families** who have signed up for our **Target gift card program**. It's a wonderful and easy way to adopt a family for Christmas; simply indicate "Christmas Adoption" on your check made out to SVdP and we'll do the rest.

On Dec. 16th we will distribute chickens/turkeys (provided by Raley;s Nob Hill) and food to approximately 90 families for **Christmas dinner**.

New Food Pantry Hours: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY. Closed on Tuesday and Thursday. Please call SVdP at (925) 682-5811 for information or to volunteer. Thank you and may God bless all for your support!

PARISH OFFICE NOTICE

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

Reminder: We also have Adoration every Monday evening at 7:30pm in the Chapel. As we begin the season of Advent and waiting for the birth of Jesus, we invite you to come and spend some quality time in prayer before the hectic days of Christmas.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas want to THANK YOU TO ALL WHO KNITTED AND CROCHETED THE "WATCH CAPS" FOR THE SAILORS. THESE PEOPLE APPRECIATE ALL OF YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS AND CARE TO THEM AT THIS TIME OF YEAR.

THINKING ABOUT A NEW YEAR RESOLUTION?

Fr. Padraig Greene has just completed his first six months as Catholic Chaplain at John Muir, Concord and the Regional Medical Center Martinez. During those months he has discovered a need at both hospitals: an urgent need for more Eucharistic Minister to the Sick . He hopes to have expanded teams at both hospitals ready by Ash Wednesday 2018.

What about a New Year Resolution??? A gift of a few hours monthly to bring Holy Communion to the sick in their time of need. Think about it, then bring it to prayer

This ministry is open to all active Catholics, men, women and couples of all ages and ethnic background.

Fr. Padraig will plan orientation and formation as well as supervise and support the teams in the future .

Please contact him directly at pgreene389@gmail.com

YOUTH MINISTRY

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION FOR TEENS

Sunday, Dec. 17th from 3-6PM in the Pope JPII Center Confirmation Retreat
Saturday, Jan. 6th from 10am to 10pm in FC/Gym
And Sunday, Jan. 7th from 9:30am to 6:45pm in FC/Gym

TEEN MASS AND TEEN SOCIAL

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Sunday, Dec. 17th —5:30pm Teen Mass in Church
No Teen Social due to Christmas Holidays
Sunday, Jan. 7th—5:30PM Teen Mass in Church
No Teen Social due to Confirmation Retreat

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry Group for Gr. 7th –12th meets on Monday Nights from 7-9PM in the Gym and Y/R.
No Youth Group Dec. 25th or Jan. 1st

Teen Sacraments of First Rec. and First Communion for all 7th –12 Graders:

Year I Meets Tues.— 4-5:30pm in the POC
No Classes on Tues, Dec. 26th or Jan. 2nd
Year II Meets Wed. — 4-5:30pm in the POC
No Classes on Dec. 20th, 27th or Jan. 3rd.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES-

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

If you have any questions, you can contact our Youth Minister & Teen Sacrament Coordinator, Kathy De Lemos at (925) 682-5447 Ext 29, or at Youth@SFAconcord.org.

SACRISTANS NEEDED - We are in great need of new Sacristans here at St. Francis of Assisi. Some of the Sacristan duties include assisting the Priest by preparing the Church before Mass and then cleaning the sacred vessels after Mass. Training will be provided. If you are interested in helping in this most important role, please contact the Parish Office or let one of our Priests or Sacristans know you would like to volunteer

Attention current and potential ministers to the home bound. We have two sisters who are long time parishioners and have asked to receive Holy Communion in their home in Concord on every second Monday afternoon. They speak English and Spanish. If you can help please contact Betty Favello 925-798-7964 or Jim Baldrige at 925-689-9232.

THE PARISH IS ALSO LOOKING FOR NEW USHERS AT SUNDAY AND HOLIDAY MASSES. IF INTERESTED CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AND LEAVE YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER.

Other Churches in the Area will have their Reconciliation Services: ; **St. Bonaventure**, Tues, Dec. 19th at 7:30pm; **Christ the King**, Mon, Dec. 18th at 7pm; **Queen of All Saints**, Wed. Dec. 20th at 7:30PM.

Respect Life and Gabriel Project

The Gabriel Project Co-coordinators Clare Finley and Liz Lara are very grateful to the support offered. Clare may be contacted for more information at 702-280-4599 and Liz Lara (for Spanish-speaking parishioners) at 925-487-2736.

Thank you to all who participated in their Bake Sale last Sunday.

COULD YOU BE A FRIEND TO THE CARING HANDS PROGRAM? *The next Caring Hands Volunteer training is coming up Jan. 19th in Walnut Creek - If you have just an hour or two each week to offer friendship and occasional rides to a senior in your neighborhood, Caring Hands would love to talk with you. Enriching matches and deep relationships have been created. These seniors treasure a friendly visit, a walk, or a social outing or rides to the doctors. Providing occasional respite care are services for the non-medical volunteers that can make a big difference. The program is flexible. For more information about this program, contact Stacy Appel, Volunteer coordinator at (925) 952-2999 or email them at: caing.hands@johnmuirhealth.com*

Thanksgiving Thank you

A heart-felt thank you goes out to everyone who either donated or dined with the St. Francis of Assisi community this Thanksgiving day. Because of your love and generosity, approximately 300 parishioners of St. Francis were able to recreate and commemorate the communal meal our forefathers had on the first Thanksgiving. We also delivered 70 lunches to homeless encampments and had 10 homeless folks visit us for a meal early in the afternoon. We have already begun to plan next year's luncheon and will increase the number of lunches we deliver to the homeless camps. A special thank you goes out to the people who put in the time to plan and put on the luncheon: Vicky Sagastume, Norman Horn, and Janice Mazibrook.

The Novena Masses for Simbang Gabi will be held at St. Francis beginning Dec. 16th through Dec. 24th with mass at 5:30am each morning and a warm and pleasant breakfast following. All are invited to attend and celebrate the wonderful custom with our Fil-Am Community and friends.

PROPER UNDERTAKING

Never undertake anything for which you wouldn't have the courage to ask the blessings of heaven.
—Georg C. Lichtenberg

Schedule of Masses for 4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday, Dec. 23rd Vigil mass
Sunday, Dec. 24th– 4th Sunday of Advent
5:30am,
7:00am,
8:00am (Mass in Spanish);
10:00am;
11:30am and
1:00PM (Mass in Spanish)
No Evening Mass for 4th Sunday of Advent

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE OF MASSES
Christmas Eve– Sunday, Dec. 24th , 2017

Masses at 4:00pm for Children,
6:00pm Mass in English,
8:00pm Mass in Spanish and
12 Midnight (bilingual mass)

Christmas Day, December 25, 2017

8:00am Mass in English
10:00am Mass in English
12:00pm Mass in Spanish
NO EVENING MASSES ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

MASSES FOR NEW YEARS 2018

Sat. Dec. 30th Vigil mass 5:30pm
Sunday, December 31st– Holy Family
Our Regular mass schedule remains
Monday, January 1st 2018
Is not a Holy Day of Obligation.
Mass at 8:30am only.

Fire Damages SVdP Pleasant Hill Thrift Store:

On October 29,th, the St. Vincent de Paul Pleasant Hill Thrift Store experienced an early-morning fire that destroyed the donation area and caused substantial damage. Extensive fire and smoke damage was extended to the flooring, walls, ceiling, doorframes, windows, computers and merchandise, there is very little equipment and merchandise that is salvageable. Additionally, the store has been closed for clean-up and restoration since the fire, so we are losing sales revenue that support our safety-net programs. PLEASE help us rebuild our store by making a *merchandise donations of clothes, shoe, furniture and household goods.* Thank you from St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County!

Additionally, donations are appreciated for the FIRE REBUILDING FUND, at www.svdpc.org, or to: St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County, 2210 Gladstone Drive, Pittsburg, CA 94565, attn.: Fire Rebuilding Fund.

While insurance will help us recover most of the expenses associated with rebuilding, significant additional expenses will not be covered.

Please join us in the effort to re-open the Pleasant Hill Thrift Store by early January. **Thank you from St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County**

¡ALÉGRATE!

Isaías realmente nos proclama una buena nueva! La venida del Señor no trae tristeza, culpa, miedo, ira ni condena. No, la venida del Señor es fuente de júbilo y consuelo. No basta con decirlo una vez, las lecturas de hoy están llenas de júbilo. El Magníficat de María reemplaza a nuestro salmo hoy y nuestra segunda lectura nos anima a alegrarnos, dar gracia y rendir alabanza. Éste es el significado principal de la palabra griega para eucaristía. Se nos insta a alegrarnos y dar gracias, porque la venida del Señor trae júbilo, curación, libertad, perdón y vindicación. ¡Hace que la tierra eche brotes de vida nueva! ¡Buenas noticias!

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TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

El día 16 de diciembre comienza la Novena de Aguinaldos en Colombia y otras partes de Latinoamérica. La novena consiste en 9 partes que se repiten por 9 noches:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1□ Oración inicial | 4□ Reflexión del día |
| 2□ Oración Mariana | 5□ Gozos |
| 3□ Oración de José | 6□ Oración al Niño Jesús |
| 7□ Un Salmo | |
| 8□ Invocación final | |
| 9□ Villancicos (cantos navideños) | |

Los participantes buscan aguinaldo (regalo). Para esto los colombianos tienen la costumbre de jugar “pajita en boca” buscando quien no trae una pajita en boca. La persona que no pueda mostrar que trae pajita en boca tiene que dar un regalo a quien lo descubrió. Los aguinaldos son recuerdo del regalo que nos dio Dios en su Hijo Jesús, prenda de su amor. Y si Dios nos da un aguinaldo tan grande es porque Dios no tiene pajita en boca cuando nos dice que nos ama.

En el corazón de la Novena está el refrán de Gozos:

Dulce Jesús mío / mi niño adorado
ven a nuestras almas / ven no tardes tanto.
Muy buen mensaje para el Adviento.

—Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glez, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Regocijense en el Espíritu del Señor que nos trae buenas noticias (Isaías 61:1-2a, 10-11).

Salmo — Se alegra mi espíritu en Dios mi Salvador (Lc 1:46-50, 53-54).

Segunda lectura — ¡Alégrense! Conserven su integridad en el Espíritu y guárdense sin mancha hasta la venida del Señor (1 Tesalonicenses 5:16-24).

Evangelio — Cuando preguntan a Juan Bautista quien es, dice, “Soy la voz que grita en el desierto” (Juan 1:6-8, 19-28).

Salmo responsorial: *Leccionario Hispanoamericano Dominical* © 1970, Comisión Episcopal Española. Usado con permiso. Todos los derechos reservados.

SIMBANG GABI

La comunidad Filipino-Americana le invita a la novena de misas de Simbang Gabi del **16 al 24 de diciembre a las 5:30a.m.**

Horario de Misas de Navidad y Año Nuevo

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

31 de Diciembre

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

Horario habitual

1 de Enero, 2018

(Solemnidad de María, Madre de Dios)
No es día de Precepto

San Vicente de Paúl

Resumen de actividades del mes de noviembre

- Abastecimiento de comida de emergencia fue proveída a 115 **hogares** (502 **personas**) en el mes de noviembre.
- Entregamos 52 tarjetas del supermercado **Food Maxx** a diferentes familias.
- **Asistencia especial** (renta y utilidades etc.) fue dada a **dos** familias.

Programas Navideños

Tenemos la esperanza de proveer la alegría Navideña a más de **50 familias** quienes se han inscrito para recibir un tarjeta de regalo de la tienda **Target**. Si usted o su familia desean hacer alguna donación puede hacer un cheque a nombre de St. Vincent de Paul y exprese que quiere donarlo para el programa " *Christmas Adoption*" y no nosotros haremos el resto.

El 16 de diciembre entregaremos pollos y pavos (donados por Raley's Nob Hill) y comida aproximadamente para 90 familias para **cenar navideñas**.

Gracias y que Dios los bendiga por ayudarnos a ayudar a los mas necesitados de nuestra comunidad.

Horario de Oficina: 9:30-11:30a.m.

Lunes, Miércoles y Viernes.

Favor de llamar al (925) 682-5811.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

- Lunes: Jer 23:5-8; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
- Martes: Jue 13:2-7, 24-25a; Sal 71 (70):3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lc 1:5-25
- Miércoles: Is 7:10-14; Sal 24 (23):1-4ab, 5-6; Lc 1:26-38
- Jueves: Cant 2:8-14 o Sof 3:14-18a; Sal 33 (32):2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lc 1:39-45
- Viernes: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lc 1:46-56
- Sábado: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Sal 25 (24):4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lc 1:57-66
- Domingo: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Sal 89 (88):2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lc 1:26-38

BAUTIZOS INFANTILES

Las próximas fechas para los bautizos de infantes serán el sábado 20 y 27 de enero. Padres de familia interesados en bautizar a sus hijos e hijas durante estas fechas, favor contactar la oficina parroquial antes del 8 de enero 2018.

Evangelario Diario 2018

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 al módico precio.

BAILE DE FIN DE AÑO 2017

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

Música en vivo con el grupo
AMISTAD DE MEXICO

31 de Diciembre
de 7:00 p.m. a 12:30 a.m.



Gimnasio de la Iglesia
San Francisco de Asís
860 Oak Grove Rd. Concord

\$15 Dólares por persona

TODO A BENEFICIO DE NUESTROS
HERMANOS DAMNIFICADOS EN
MEXICO

TU COMTRIBUCION
SERA ENTREGADA AL 100 %.