

MISSION BASILICA SAN DIEGO DE ALCALÁ

DECEMBER 14, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

¡Siempre Adelante!



**Welcome
Fr. Michael Kieler
Navy Chaplain**

VERY REV. PETER M. MCGUINE, PASTOR

**REV. DANIEL HOLGREN, PAROCHIAL VICAR • REV. WILLIAM SPRINGER, PRIEST IN RESIDENCE
REV. MICHAEL KIELER, PRIEST IN RESIDENCE • REV. KEVIN MULLINS, OSA, AUXILIARY PRIEST
DR. THOMAS KELLY, DEACON**

10818 San Diego Mission Rd. • San Diego, CA 92108-2429 • (619) 283-7319 • missionsandiego.org

PRIEST'S INTENTIONS FOR MASS

Masses at Mission Church unless noted
SFC - Saint Francis Chapel

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

~THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT~

5:30 PM SAT Nick Gonsalves

7:30 AM Teresita Villaroya

9:00 AM Tim and Anita Schatz

9:00 AM (SFC) †Michiko Ito Ushijima

10:30 AM †Paul F. McGreevy

10:30 AM (SFC) For the People of the Parish

12:00 PM †Sara and †Mark Walker

5:30 PM (SFC) †John Gobiecki

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

~Advent Weekday~

7:00 AM Tina & Mariano Demarchi

5:30 PM Jon Kammerzell

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

~Advent Weekday~

7:00 AM Bianca Demarchi

5:30 PM Taimani Toilolo

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

~Advent Weekday~

7:00 AM Bianca Demarchi

5:30 PM †Aracely Garay

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

~Advent Weekday~

7:00 AM Lourdez Ramos

5:30 PM Nicolas Pini

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

~Advent Weekday~

7:00 AM Bianca Demarchi

5:30 PM Diane Gaston

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

~Advent Weekday~

NO MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

~FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT~

5:30 PM SAT Gonsalves Family

7:30 AM †John Reno Rivera Bactad

9:00 AM †Gloria Gomez

9:00 AM (SFC) Sophia Schatz

10:30 AM †Jose & †Margarita Yañez

10:30 AM (SFC) †José Andrés Garcia Silva

12:00 PM For the People of the Parish

5:30 PM (SFC) Dario and Yvonne
Casim Family



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"This is the one about
whom it is written: Behold,
I am sending my
messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way
before you." - Mt 11:10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Tel: (619) 283-7319

VISITOR CENTER/GIFT SHOP

Rhonda Sosa, Manager
Open daily - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Tel: (619) 281-8449

MSGR. HALTER ARCHIVES

Hours - Tuesday & Thursday
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Tel: (619) 283-6338
tfalcone@missionsandiego.org

BAPTISMS

Please call the Parish Office

MARRIAGES

Preparation with priest at least
9 months in advance.
Please call the Parish Office

NAZARETH SCHOOL

Principal: Annalisa Burgos
Tel: (619) 641-7987
nazarethschool.org

MISSION HISTORY

missionsandiegohistory.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Tel: (619) 624-0900

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

5:30 PM Saturday - Mission Church
7:30 AM Sunday - Mission Church
9:00 AM St. Francis Chapel
(Contemporary Music
Group every other week)
and Mission Church
10:30 AM St. Francis Chapel
(Spanish) and Mission Church
12:00 PM Mission Church
(Mission Choir)
5:30 PM St. Francis Chapel

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Friday, 7:00 am & 5:30 pm
in the Mission Church

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

8:00 am in the Mission Church

HOLY DAYS AND HOLIDAYS

See bulletin

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:00 - 5:00 pm
in the Mission Church or by appointment.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

First Friday of the month, 7:30 to 11:35 am
and 6:00 to 6:35 pm in the Mission Church

¡Siempre Adelante! is inspired by our founder, St. Junipero Serra,
whose desire to serve was expressed in his motto: Always Forward!

Bulletin submissions must be requested a week or more prior to the desired Sunday.
Please send requests via email to **Anthony Tarantino** at atarantino@missionsandiego.org.
All submissions are subject to approval.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Online: <https://bible.usccb.orgw>

New Rules

BY ALICE CAMILLE



Consider John the Baptist for a moment: What a résumé! Luke alleges that John's kinship with Jesus is biological. That alone is worth some bragging rights. "James, the brother of the Lord" certainly uses the genetic tie to his advantage in the church to come. But in the days of John, being kin to Jesus wasn't yet the trump card it would later be. In the beginning, in fact, Jesus might well have profited from claiming ties to the more celebrated and powerful John.

John emerges from the wilderness with a mystery wrapped around him more astonishing than his attire. Was he a graduate of the reclusive Essenes out at Qumran, who awaited a Righteous Teacher to turn around a hopelessly misguided religious leadership? Did he perhaps pen one of the ancient Dead Sea Scrolls we now possess? Whatever his training, John was a master of what

we call desert spirituality: austere and solitary, careless of worldly comforts and advantages, fearless in speaking truth to power, uncompromising when delivering God's sovereign word. John laid his ax at the root of the biggest tree in the land and struck. The tree crashed down on his head, literally.

Before the end, however, John had them all jumping through his hoops. He commanded repentance in the name of God and declared the sign to be immersion in the river. Many came out of the cities and towns and lined to take the plunge, and still others to watch the baptisms with increasing anxiety. Believe John or not, you had to reckon with him. Even Jesus would find himself compared with John, suspected to be his ghost, and in today's gospel felt the need to distinguish himself from his forerunner.

When reflecting on all John was and did—a man who made a king tremble with fear and fascination!—we're not surprised that Jesus names him the

greatest man ever born. This is Jesus, remember: He has no reason to win the esteem of crowds by flattering a man they admire. First he exalts John. Then he deflates him—or at least changes the terms of greatness altogether. John is the greatest man ever born in the normal course of things. But because Kingdom values depend on being "born again," even the lowest member of the new reign will be exalted ahead of John.

Being born anew means embracing the Good News that the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the dead are raised. In other words it means accepting that the rules have changed. Even the great John, in his prison cell, had trouble with that one. If the rules have changed, we can't march ahead. We'll have to consent to be led.

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Alice Camille is a religious educator, Scripture commentator, and author of many books including **This Transforming Word** and other titles found at alicecamille.com.

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD SCHEDULE



CHRISTMAS EVE Wed, Dec 24



4:00 pm: Mass in Mission Church and St Francis Chapel (Homily for children and their families)

7:00 pm: Masses in the Mission Church (Spanish) and St. Francis Chapel

10:00 pm: Mass at Night in the Mission Church

CHRISTMAS DAY Thu, Dec 25

7:30 am: Mass in the Mission Church

9:00 am: Mass in the Mission Church

10:30 am: Mass in the Mission Church

12:00 pm: Mass in the Mission Church

UPCOMING ROSARIES

Make praying the rosary a part of your daily life.

- The Rosary is prayed immediately after the 7:00 am Mass, Mon - Fri, in the Mission Church.

- A Rosary for Peace is prayed every third Sat of the month at 9:00 am. Join fellow parishioners at Nazareth School's Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto to seek the intercession of Our Lady, Queen of Peace. Next rosary: **Dec 20**.

- A Rosary for the Eucharistic Revival is prayed on the first Wed of each month in La Sala following the 5:30 pm Mass. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, next rosary is **Jan 7**.

- A Pro-Life Rosary is prayed every first Thurs in the Mission Church at 5:00 pm. Next rosary: **Jan 8**.



GIFT SHOP VOLUNTEERS

Our Visitor Center and Gift Shop is seeking volunteers. For info, contact Rhonda Sosa at rsosa@missionsandiego.org.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers:

Ester Aguilar • James Flynn
Teresa Gobiecki • Jerry Munoz • Barry Nunns
Lizzette Petty • Don Stafford

Names remain listed for four weeks and can be renewed by contacting the parish office at (619) 283-7319.

SAVE THE DATE

The **49th Annual Candlelight Musical Meditation** will take place **Sat, Dec 20** and **Sun, Dec 21** at 7:30 pm in the Mission Church. The Mission Choir, directed by Gene Regard, and accompanied by organist Howard McCollough, will be joined by orchestral strings, woodwinds, and percussion. A free offering will be taken and a reception will follow in La Sala. For more info, call (619) 283-7319.



WEDDING COORDINATOR MINISTRY

If you are looking for a volunteer opportunity, becoming a wedding coordinator might be the perfect ministry for you. Responsibilities include working with the bride and groom regarding their wedding rehearsal and liturgy. For info, contact Jojo Randle at jrandle@missionsandiego.org.

AN ALTERNATIVE TO OFFERTORY ENVELOPES



The Mission San Diego offers an easy-to-use contribution system for both one-time and recurring gifts. Powered by WeShare, electronic giving is safe, secure, and convenient. To learn more and get started, please scan the QR code or visit our website missionsandiego.org and select the “Donate Now” link.

PARISH SUPPORT

Nov 27 -Dec 3, 2025

Plate:	\$5,525.18
Envelope:	\$7,009.58
Online:	\$7,696.99
Total:	\$20,231.75
Thanksgiving	\$2,044.51

Thank you for your support of our parish!

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

QUESTION

Our prayer group has been reading the lives of some saints, and we were struck by how some of them thought they were such sinners. Why would someone so holy think they had such serious sin?



ANSWER

Professional athletes practice the fundamentals of their sport over and over again, reaching for better form, consistency, and performance. They focus on the basics, review past performances, and visualize greater success. Practice makes better, if not perfect!

Spiritual masters such as the saints also looked for perfection. They practiced their faith in the search for holiness, grace, and virtue. Through sacraments, prayer, study, good works, and penance, they raised their level of awareness and their sensitivity to the presence of God, the demands of the Gospel, and the workings of the Holy Spirit. They examined their consciences daily, reviewing the day for moments of failure and times that they could have been more virtuous in one way or another. They resolved to do better, be more attentive, and alert!

Therefore, anything that would distract them or interfere with their relationship with God would be like a small black spot on a bright white wall — you can't miss it! The great saints were aware of sin and the presence of evil because they were so tuned into the struggle between good and evil that was fought in their own lives, hearts, and souls.

O.C.I.A.

If you are curious about what Catholics believe and are interested in learning more about the possibility of becoming a member of the Catholic Church, the “Order of Christian Initiation of Adults” is for you! Interested persons are asked to contact Lissa Hutcheson at lissahutcheson@outlook.com. Go to missionsandiego.org/ocia for more info.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

If you are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive the Holy Eucharist, a Homebound Minister can bring the Eucharist to you. Email Carmen Falcon at crmnflcn2920@gmail.com.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

In 2025, the **Columbiettes** were at the heart of community efforts, embodying our mission to give back through service and prayer. With the help of YOU, the Mission parishioners, we are proud to share that we raised \$4,195 for the parish projects, \$3,825 for Wreaths Across America, \$500 for the Columbiettes National Disaster Relief Fund, \$500 for Noah Homes, \$250 for Priestly Formation in the Diocese of San Diego, \$250 for the purchase of bibles for the Knights' Catholic Religious Services at MCRD, \$200 to support the Knights' dinner for the Camino de California Pilgrims, \$250 for San Diego Garden of Innocence, \$250 for Fr. Joe's Village, and \$250 for our Diocese's Culture of Life program. Stay tuned in 2026 for upcoming events and opportunities to join our inspiring group.

MEMORIAL BRICKS

Jubilee Circle gives parishioners a unique opportunity to recognize a special person or event with a personalized, engraved brick in our walkway surrounding the Mission Courtyard fountain. Go to bricksrus.com/donorsite/mission-sandiego to place your order online. Engraved bricks are \$250.00 each and will be placed in the Spring.

CLOTHING DONATION

The Mission San Diego serves as a host site for a Fr. Joe's Villages donation bin, located in the courtyard, accepting new and gently-used clothing and shoes.

WELCOME FR. MICHAEL KIELER (NAVY CHAPLAIN)

Fr. Michael Kieler is a native of Clearwater, Florida. He is the son of Greg and Patty Kieler and has three younger brothers.

Fr. Michael did his undergraduate at the University of Florida. Upon graduating, he entered the seminary for the Diocese of St. Augustine. After studying at St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami and Theological College in Washington, D.C., he was ordained a priest on May 15, 2021.

As a priest, Fr. Michael served as Parochial Vicar of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Jacksonville, FL. He has an interest in Liturgy/Sacramental Theology and worked on the Diocesan Liturgical Commission.

He was commissioned in 2024 to active duty as a Navy Chaplain and graduated from Naval Chaplain School in the fall of 2025. He is currently assigned to the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71).



CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: @missionsandiegoalcala
Instagram: @mission.sandiego



ANGEL GIVING TREES

This year our annual Angel Giving Trees fundraiser, to supply toys for needy families through our sister parish, Holy Family Parish in Linda Vista, is now in the entrances of St. Francis Chapel and the Mission Church. All gifts must be returned by **Sun, Dec 14**.

Please do not wrap the gift. Families from Holy Family's list of those needing assistance will choose the gifts for their children. Stella Apartments, a home for those who have been previously unhoused, have asked for twin size blankets. This parish project is sponsored by the Social Action Committee.



FOLLOW US ONLINE

www.missionsandiego.org

ADULT FORMATION — STUDY IN FAITH

You are invited to a **Study a Journey through the Story of Salvation**. Join us as we explore the sweeping narrative of God's plan of salvation, from Creation, to Christ, to the Church today. This engaging Bible study provides a clear, accessible, and prayerful walk through the entire story of Scripture. Whether you are new to Bible study or continuing your faith journey, this series will help you see the unity of God's Word and deepen your love of Christ. Purchase a workbook (Cost \$39.95) at ascensionpress.com/collections/the-bible-timeline-the-story-of-salvation-2025. Also a Catholic translation of the Bible. The six-week course takes place on Tuesdays (**Jan 13 - Feb 17; Apr 14 - May 19; Aug 4 - Sep 8; Oct 13 - Nov 17**) from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the California Room. There is no cost to attend, just your time! To register, contact: Lissa Hutcheson, M.A. Lissa-hutcheson@outlook.com or call (619) 804-8950.



ARE YOU REGISTERED?

Join our faith community by completing a registration form at missionsandiego.org or visit our Visitor Center during regular business hours.

Mission-Aires

Welcoming New Members

The Mission-Aires promote goodwill and fellowship among parishioners of Mission Basilica San Diego de Alcalá and work closely with all organizations of the parish. We are open to parishioners age 50+.

Contact **Mary Blakemore**: mb92123@san.rr.com

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

(Mission Deanery)

Mary, Star of the Sea	Sun, Dec 14	4:00 pm
Sacred Heart, San Diego	Wed, Dec 17	7:00 pm
St. Brigid	Mon, Dec 15	5:30 pm
The Immaculata	Mon, Dec. 15	7:00 pm
St. Mary Magdalene	Tue, Dec 16	7:00 pm
St. Thérèse of Carmel	Wed, Dec 17	7:00 pm

VISITOR CENTER & GIFT SHOP

Are you looking for a special gift? Look no further than our own Visitor Center and Gift Shop complete with religious articles, t-shirts, hats, mugs, and more! Gift certificates are also available. Open daily from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Self-guided tours of the Mission grounds begin there as well. For info, call (619) 281-8449.

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EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31, 2025

DISCERNMENT GROUP FOR WOMEN

Ever wonder if God is calling you? Would you like to walk alongside other women also discerning? Contact Sister Katia Chavez, SJS at (760) 562-2727 if you are interested.

MEN'S PERSPECTIVE GROUP

Join us in the Parish Office Conference Room from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. Next meeting: **Sun, Dec 21**. For more info, txt: Jerry Kwasek (619) 742-9591.

BABY CLOTHES NEEDED

Birthingline is in need of clothing warm winter clothes including those for children, women's clothes, maternity clothes, baby food, and pacifiers. Items can be brought to the Mission on the first weekend of every month. For more info, call Birthingline at (858) 270-2491.

CHILD / YOUTH PROTECTION

Complaints about sexual abuse by a member of the clergy, parish employee, or volunteer can be made by calling (858) 490-8353 or by sending an email to misconduct@sdccatholic.org. Go to safeinourdiocese.org to read about efforts in the Diocese of San Diego to protect children, assist victims, and promote healing.

HOLY MATRIMONY

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Elder Uluan and Marisol Ugartewho were married at the Mission San Diego on **Dec 13**.*May the Lord continue to bless you both with his life and love!***FLOCKNOTE**

Keep in touch with parish events via text and email by signing up to receive our Flocknote. Sign up by texting the word "ALCALA" to 84576.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

With increasing prices and cutbacks from governmental sources for the funding of food pantries, a crisis is growing. Our neighbor, the Stella Apartments and the food bank at Holy Family Parish in Linda Vista are having difficulty keeping food on their shelves. Your generosity in bringing a couple cans of soup, chili or other non-perishable foods to church on the weekend of the first Sunday of the month helps greatly. In Dec, coin donations go to Catholic Charities Refugee Center.

STOCK AND IRA CHARITABLE GIFT DONATIONS

A gift of your securities, including stocks, mutual funds and IRA Charitable Rollover Distributions, are an easy way to make a gift to the Church. By making a gift to your parish, school or ministry of your appreciated securities or retirement account, you can avoid paying capital gains tax that may otherwise be due if you sold these assets. Contributions are deductible for tax purposes. These donations are made to the Catholic Accounts for Parishes and School, Inc., which is a separate non-profit organization from the diocese. There are no transaction fees or other costs, and the full value of the sold securities benefits the parish, school, or other Catholic charity you select. The deadline for these types of donations is **Dec 15**. To learn more about such gifts, visit sdcatholic.org/giving/stock-donations/ or sdcatholic.org/giving/ira-charitable-contribution/. For more info, contact Manny Aguilar at the Diocese of San Diego (858) 490-8294, maguilar@sdccatholic.org, or Robert Bowles at Merrill Lynch, the Diocese's Client Associate, (858) 673-6761, Robert.S.Bowles@ml.com.



ADVANCING OUR Mission

**DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO**

2025 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL



"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."
— 1 Peter 4:10.

2025 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**Our Diocesan-assigned goal is: \$92,000**

Brochures are available in the Mission Church, St. Francis Chapel, and the parish office.

Or, go to the ACA link on missionsandiego.org*Thank you for supporting our diocese and parish!*

Dominic Giordano Contractor

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