MISSION BASILICA SAN DIEGO DE ALCALÁ

NOVEMBER 29, 2026

¡Siempre Adelante!

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. MARK 13:33

REV. PETER M. MCGUINE, PASTOR

REV. MIGUEL ROMERO MOZO, MSP, PAROCHIAL VICAR · REV. WILLIAM SPRINGER, PRIEST IN RESIDENCE
REV. MICHAEL KIELER, PRIEST IN RESIDENCE · REV. KEVIN MULLINS, OSA, AUXILIARY PRIEST
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Priest's Intentions for Mass

Masses at Mission Church unless noted
SFC - Saint Francis Chapel

Sunday, November 29

~FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT~

5:30 PM (SAT) †Nobuko Williamson
7:30 AM Ann Hoffman
9:00 AM †Rev. Robert Post
9:00 AM (SFC) Denis Shiu
10:30 AM Intention of the Priest
10:30 AM (SFC) Intention of the Priest
12:00 PM The People of the Parish
5:30 PM (SFC) †Fidela De Dios

Monday, November 30

~St. ANDREW, APOSTLE~

7:00 AM Intention of the Priest
5:30 PM Intention of the Priest

Tuesday, December 1

~Advent Weekday~

7:00 AM Intention of the Priest
5:30 PM †Harrison Gonka

Wednesday, December 2

~Advent Weekday~

7:00 AM Intention of the Priest
5:30 PM †Joyce Leung

Thursday, December 3

~St. Francis Xavier, Priest~

7:00 AM Francisca B. Gamara
5:30 PM Sharon Smyth

Friday, December 4

~Advent Weekday~

7:00 AM Intention of the Priest
5:30 PM Priestly Vocations

Saturday, December 5

~Advent Weekday~

8:00 AM Luke Pierce

Sunday, December 6

~SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT~

5:30 PM (SAT) †V. Jeanne Morris
7:30 AM For the People of the Parish
9:00 AM †Emily Osio Fabros
9:00 AM (SFC) †Dovie
10:30 AM †Beverly "Bev" Hinkle
10:30 AM (SFC) Intention of the Priest
12:00 PM In Thanksgiving
5:30 PM (SFC) †Margie Bruce



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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Tel: (619) 624-0900

MISSION HISTORY
missionsandiegohistory.org

NAZARETH SCHOOL
Principal: Annalisa Lira
Tel: (619) 641-7987
nazarethschool.org

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.org

How Good is a One-Word Homily?

BY ALICE CAMILLE



Watch. That's what Jesus has to say to his disciples today. Watch! While a single word makes for a poor homily and an inferior lesson plan, it does help to ask ourselves: Are we watching for something, or guarding against it? And how will we know what it is when it arrives?

A publisher I know says the best books are about "one thing." Other books sprawl all over the place and say too little about too much, leading to confusion and even frustration on the part of a reader.What was that all about? we find ourselves wondering, wishing we could recover the time wasted on such a venture to spend on something more focused and productive. Movie plots, college courses, and talks by politicians and experts can leave us with a similar feeling of dissatisfaction and bewilderment. TMI, the modern shorthand for "too much information," is a valid complaint in our contemporary culture where details are available in abundance but the ability to sort and prioritize all those facts and pseudo-facts becomes increasingly complex.

Perhaps the simplicity of today's message is gratefully received. Vigilance among the lapping waves of overstimulation, not to mention the oversupply of information that does little to inform us, is a good watchword. Not paranoia, not chronic anxiety, but an uncomplicated spiritual vigilance is fundamental to the Christian life.

Because, frankly, the devil really is in the details. It's when we're most distracted that moral laziness can reel us in and make a fine meal of us. Too much information can actually make ethical oversimplifications more attractive. When we live on the frantic edge of things, we're most likely to rationalize our bad choices with black-and-white thinking: *I work hard. I deserve this. It's only this once. If she didn't get in my face, I wouldn't have to yell like that. They're not us, so we certainly have no obligation to help them.* Watch, Jesus says. The devil is in the surrender of the will to the "inevitable."

Spiritual vigilance is discovered in silence, cultivated in stillness. No wonder it's so rare that even 20 centuries ago Jesus had to insist on it. If we don't watch—pay attention, focus—then supper is burned, the child wanders into danger, the marriage falls into jeopardy, the dog eats your homework, the appointment is forgotten, the wrong word slips out of your mouth, and now you'll pay the consequences for thoughtlessness.

So if there's an appropriate word with which to center ourselves in this new church year and inaugural season of Advent, it's this one: watch. Start small, take five deliberate minutes each day; sit with a candle or a stopwatch if you must. Cultivate vigilance. Pray to become, in every hour, wide awake.

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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.

Angel Giving Trees



Tags for this year's annual **Angel Giving Trees Fundraiser**, to supply toys for needy families through our sister parish Holy Family in Linda Vista, are now available in the entrances of St. Francis Chapel and the Mission Church. Please take an angel from the tree, purchase the item and return it on **Dec 5-6** or **Dec 12-13**. 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 bath towel sets. This parish project is sponsored by the Social Action Committee.

Flocknote

Keep in touch with parish events via text/email by signing up to get our Flocknote. Sign up by texting "ALCALA" to 84576.

Adult Formation — Study in Faith

The next bible study: **The Bible and the Church Fathers**, will take place on Tuesdays **Jan 5 - Mar 23** from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the California Room. The course will focus on who the early church fathers were, and how they shaped the way we read the Holy Scriptures today. There is no cost to attend, just your time! Those attending are asked to purchase a workbook at bit.ly/4ADpSHB or a downloadable pdf at bit.ly/46MFgnk. To register, contact: Lissa Hutcheson, DMin, lissahutcheson@outlook.com or call (619) 804-8950.

Poor Box

The Mission San Diego's "poor box" is located in the wall of the Mission Church, near the main courtyard door. Money collected helps support our Social Action Committee and other charities that benefit the poor.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers:

Avery • Joe Bartel • Jay Brunza • Filipinas Milag Buan
Suzanne Elassis • Karen Esteban • James Flynn
Sebastian Guerra • Suzanne Hanson
Mark Antonio Hernandez • Randy Little • Marylou Marin
TD Martinez • Sara Plaisted • Theresa Caballero Ponce
Micki Regard • Hans-Alfred Schneider • Bridget Smith
Gabriel Velasquez • Chris Wamsley
• Victims of earthquakes and natural disasters
• Deployed personnel serving in our
Armed Forces and their families

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

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 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 **Dec 2.**

• A Pro-Life Rosary is prayed every first Thurs in the Mission Church at 5:00 pm. Next rosary: **Dec 3**.

• 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 19**.

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 12-18, 2026

Plate:	$5,907.70
Envelope:	$8,293.00
Online:	$6,977.55
Total:	**$21,178.25**
World Mission Sunday	**$7,614.47**

Thank you for your support of our parish!

Filing Up on Advent

I've learned the hard way to keep Saltines on the top shelf, far out of the kids' reach.

Saltines are a perfectly lovely little snack, but they're so light and salty and full of air that my children consume entire sleeves of them without realizing it. "I'm not hungry — I ate a bunch of Saltines!" they protest when I call them to the table for dinner.

I think I'm going to have it tattooed on my hand, just so I don't have to keep saying it: what fills you up doesn't necessarily feed you.

This, unfortunately, is so often how I am with Advent. I gorge myself on the nonsense that looks, sounds, and tastes like Christmas — but never really feels like it. It all appears harmless — light and full of air — these decorations, these social engagements, these consumeristic spirals of gift-giving, these drive-through light shows. I don't even realize it's happening until, on December 25, I find myself so tired I can barely drag myself across the finish line.

The lie at the heart of all that excess is the same as the lie at the heart of any evil: I am empty, and all this nothing can fill me up.

Because December 25 isn't the finish line, is it? It's the beginning. Advent is supposed to be the time of preparation, the time of stillness and calm, of watching and waiting, reflection and renewal. A time that — gasp! — reenergizes you, so that when the lord of the house comes, he won't find you passed out in a pile of tinsel and cookie dough. So be watchful. Be alert.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Candlelight Canceled

The Mission's San Diego choir has made the difficult decision to cancel the **Christmas Candlelight Meditation** due to extenuating circumstances. We regret any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your understanding. The choir looks forward to celebrating the **50th Candlelight** next year. We hope you will join us for this special milestone celebration!

Mission-Aires

The Mission-aires will gather on **Tue, Dec 8** in the California Room. They will collect unwrapped toys for Holy Family Parish. Tree decorating starts at **10:30 am**. Bring a wrapped White Elephant gift for our Gift Exchange. Join in the Spirit of Christmas with an old-fashioned sing-along. Lunch includes: Beef Brisket, Salad, Mac & Cheese, Brussel Sprouts and a Yule Log for Dessert. Meeting starts at 11:30 am. All parishioners age 50+ are welcome, RSVP not necessary. $10 for members/$15 for guests. Yearly membership cost is $20.

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament and First Saturday Mass

Mission Church

FRI, DEC 4

First Friday Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament (MBS)

7:00 am Mass followed by Exposition of the MBS

7:30 - 11:30 am Exposition of the MBS

11:35 am Benediction of the MBS with Nazareth School students

5:30 pm Mass for Vocations followed by Exposition of the MBS

6:00 - 6:30 pm Exposition of the MBS

6:35 pm Benediction of the MBS

SAT, DEC 5

8:00 am First Saturday Mass

Funeral Announcement

Valentina Slawson

Funeral Mass held on **Mon, Nov 23** in the Mission Church; Inurnment at Coachella Valley Cemetery

May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



Catholic Q&A

QUESTION:



With Christmas fast approaching, can you give me some practical tips to prepare myself and my family that will help us stay grounded in what this holiday is really about? With all the commercialism, it's easy to stray.

ANSWER:

Happy times and events bring fond memories and a renewed sense of love and kinship with others. The anticipation is half the joy of the event itself. The coming of the Lord is that kind of event that people have been looking forward to for generations with fervent hope and desire. It gave them strength and courage as they waited for the coming of the Lord.

We know that Christmas is rushed. Sales begin in August and carols blare long before the season begins. Everyone laments the commercial aspects of the season, but as Advent begins, do something to help you be more mindful of the Lord's coming. Use an Advent wreath, or enthrone the Bible prominently, or read the readings from the Bible assigned to each day. Postpone the tree and decorations until closer to Christmas. Establish new family rituals, customs and prayers that help remind everyone that we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Fasting, daily Mass, a special celebration of reconciliation, reaching out to those alienated from family or society, and visiting the homebound manifest the love of the Christ Child and the Holy Family. Resist the temptation to rush the season. In his own time and in his own way, God will come. Our task is simply to be watchful and ready.



Around the Diocese



• **Mission Doctors Association** invites Catholic physicians, dentists, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants to a free weekend Retreat/Seminar at Loyola Marymount University, **Feb 19-21**. This is a no-obligation opportunity to discern a call to serve one to three months as a medical missionary in Africa or Latin America at a Catholic hospital or clinic. Your skills can bring hope and healing. For info, contact Amie Garcia, Program Coordinator at agarcia@missiondoctors.org or (213) 368-1872, and visit the website at missiondoctors.org.

• The **Men's Rosary Crusade** gathers at 9:00 am, every first Saturday of the month, at the corner of 6th and Laurel in Balboa Park. All men are welcome. The rosary intentions are for reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, for the conversion of America, for families and for the unborn. For more information, email draguez@sbcglobal.net or call (619) 920-8363.

Columbiettes



Are you looking for a way to put your faith into action? The Columbiettes warmly invite all Catholic women of the parish (ages 18 and older) to join their sisterhood. Together, they continue to serve the community, strengthen faith, and build lifelong bonds of sisterhood. For info, go to cacolumbiettes9498.com.



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Needed



Have you ever considered serving as an **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion** at the Mission Basilica San Diego de Alcalá?

We are seeking faithful parishioners who regularly participate in Mass and demonstrate reverence, commitment to God, and dedication to our parish community. If you have been inspired by the joyful and prayerful service of our Eucharistic Ministers, perhaps God is calling you to serve in this important ministry.

Qualified individuals must be: 1) at least 15 years of age; 2) a Baptized and Confirmed Catholic; 3) living an exemplary Christian life and are respected within the faith community; and 4) in a valid marriage in the Church, if married.

Training will be provided for those called to this ministry. If you are interested in learning more or wish to become an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please contact Nora Smyth at norasmyth619@gmail.com.

"The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life." Let the Lord use your gifts in service to His Church.

Gift Shop Volunteers

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

Social Action Committee



Our neighbors, the Stella Apartments and the food bank at Holy Family Parish in Linda Vista are having difficulty keeping food on their shelves. Please bring a couple cans of soup, chili or other non-perishable foods to church on the weekend of the first Sunday of the month, it helps greatly. In Dec, coin donations will go to Catholic Charites Refugee Center.

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.

Follow us Online

www.missionsandiego.org

Baby Clothes Needed

Birthline is in need of clothing, 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. Diapers are also greatly needed in sizes 4, 5 and 6. For info, call (858) 270-2491.

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 lissa-hutcheson@outlook.com. For more info, go to missionsandiego.org/ocia.

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.





2026 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Our Diocesan-assigned goal is: $94,000

Brochures are available in the Mission Church, St. Francis Chapel, and the parish office.
Or, go to the ACA link on missionsandiego.org

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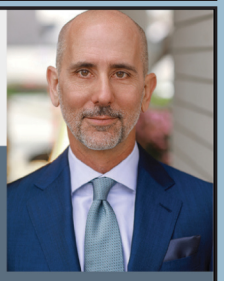
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