



Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 10th, 2023

Holy Family Church

13900 Church Place, Seal Beach, CA 90740 - (562) 430-8170
www.holyfamilysb.com / holyfamily.sb@verizon.net

Rev. Joseph Son Nguyen, Pastor

Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10 a.m. & 12 Noon

Weekday Masses

Monday –Saturday: 8:30 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena: Wednesdays 8:15a.m

Anointing of the Sick Sacrament: Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. Mass

Bible Study: 1st and 3rd Monday of the Month 12:30 p.m.

Confessions

Saturdays: 9:00am-9:30am / First Fridays 9:00am-9:30am

Around Our Diocese

✚ The annual Homeless Persons' Inter-Religious Memorial Service is at **7 p.m. Dec. 21** at St. Timothy Catholic Church in Laguna Niguel. Each year, thousands of individuals experiencing homelessness die on the streets of our nation due to illness, exposure of violence. Many are from our very own community of Orange County. Please join us as we honor and acknowledge their lives as part of the human family. To provide the name of someone you know who has lost their life on the streets in Orange County this past year, so they can be acknowledged in the service, contact Our Father's Table by email at info@ourfatherstableus.

✚ If you're curious about how the late Rev. Robert Schuller's famous Crystal Cathedral was remodeled to become the Christ Cathedral of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange, note that the cathedral offers free tours — and the campus has been beautifully decorated for Christmas. You can tour just the interior of the cathedral or the entire campus (excluding the church). Docent tours of the cathedral run Monday-Thursday at 1 and 2 p.m. except holy days and major holidays. Tours of the campus are on Fridays at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. For more information or to make a reservation, please call 714-620-7916 or email campustours@rcbo.org. Reservations for fewer than 12 people are not required, but call to make sure they're operating. All tours are wheelchair accessible and children are welcome with adult supervision. Languages available are English, Spanish and Vietnamese. Learn more: christcathedralcalifornia.org/visit/

Confessions and Mass Schedule

Sacrament of Penance (Confessions)

Monday: December 11th, 9:00 a.m.
Saturday: December 16th, 3:00 p.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday: Dec. 23rd 4:00 p.m. Vigil Sunday Mass

**Sunday: Dec. 24th 8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
12 Noon Sunday Mass**

Christmas 2023 Schedule

**Sunday: December 24th 4:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Mass and Concert**

**Monday: December 25th
9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass
11:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass**

Note: There was a mistake on the mailing schedule, there will **NOT** be 4 p.m. Mass on Sunday, Dec. 31

Special Collection for Retirement Fund for Religious – this Weekend

It will be taken up in the Diocese of Orange this weekend, **December 9 – 10, 2023.**

Please join in thanking the thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who worked tirelessly to educate the young and serve those in need.

Your Contributions- Thank you

Sunday, Dec. 3, 2023: \$6,573

Online Giving: \$1484.90

Thank you for your generosity!

Public Repentance (Catholic Reflections)

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance.” Matthew 3:7–8

This was both a very intense and yet very holy encounter. It was intense in that Saint John the Baptist, who had become quite popular and respected and was considered a great prophet, spoke harshly toward the Pharisees and Sadducees. “You brood of vipers!” he says. This was not the way the Pharisees and Sadducees were normally spoken to. John speaks this way because it was the truth. These religious leaders were not leading anyone closer to God. One only needs to ponder all that Jesus would eventually say to the Pharisees and Sadducees to understand what kind of people these religious leaders had become.

So this passage is certainly intense. But it is also very holy. It is holy because this “brood of vipers” needed to be chastised. They needed to be condemned and challenged. They needed to be humbled. And there is nothing more humbling than sincerely repenting of one’s sins in a public way.

Notice that John does not dismiss the leaders outright. Rather, he requires of them “evidence” of their repentance. Why? Because of the spiritual damage these men did to the people of Israel on account of their pride, self-righteousness, hypocrisy, love of public honors, condemnation of others, etc. They had so distorted the faith that the good of their souls required public repentance. It required that everyone see sincere good fruits flowing from their lives as a sign that they had changed. Though this is a tall order for the Pharisees and Sadducees, it’s the way to holiness for them.

The same is true for us. If you have allowed yourself to fall into some of the same traps as the Pharisees and Sadducees, then you, too, will greatly benefit from clear and humble public change. If you have struggled with self-righteousness, a critical tongue, a “holier than thou” attitude or a judgmental attitude toward others, then you might have great need for a humble and public repentance.

Reflect, today, upon the Pharisees and Sadducees. Try to understand their sin and the reason John called them a “brood of vipers.” If you see any of their pride and self-righteousness within your own soul, then listen to this exhortation from John the Baptist as if it were spoken to you directly. “Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance.” Do this, and God will free you through the gift of true humility.

My humble Lord, You call all people to repentance with great humility and sincerity. Please help me to see my sin and to never shy away from facing it, so that You can free me from that filth and set me more firmly on the path to holiness. Jesus, I trust in You.



Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration

This coming Tuesday, December 12th, 8:30 a.m. Mass. We will have folkloric music. Small reception afterwards with pan dulce and hot chocolate. Donations are appreciated.

Pastoral Services Appeal 2023 (PSA) – Update-Thank you!

Thank you for all those who has already participated. As of today, this is the update

Funds Raised: \$59,216

Funds Received: \$57,414

Donors: 152

As we are approaching the end of the year, we kindly remind you that **there is still opportunity to pledge for the 2023 PSA** and be included as a tax deductible for the year.

There are pledge cards in our church pews for your convenience or you can do it electronically thru our website at www.holyfamilysb.com. Thank you for your generosity.

Women's Silent Retreat

EL CARMELA RETREAT HOUSE (Feb. 9-11, 2024) A very quiet and reflective place!

2024 Theme " The Heart of the church" "The Eucharist" If interested please call Fran Hay 714 334 4488

Prayer Intentions for the Week

Monday 8:30 a.m. Dec. 11

Sang Nguyen & Khuyen Hoang, RIP

Tuesday 8:30 a.m. Dec. 12

William E. Bates, RIP

Rogers Romero, RIP

Linda Pridanonda, RIP

Lucia Won, Sp. Int. Birthday

Wednesday 8:30 a.m. Dec. 13

Sang Nguyen & Khuyen Hoang, RIP

Thursday 8:30 a.m. Dec. 14

Epiphane Dieu Do, RIP

Friday 8:30 a.m. Dec. 15

Lucia Nguyen, RIP

Mary Alvarado, RIP

Saturday 8:30 a.m. Dec. 16

William Metallo, RIP

Saturday 4:00 p.m. Dec. 16

Peter Tien Pham, RIP

The Maffucci Family, Sp. Int.

The Ramelot Family, Sp. Int.

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Dec. 17

Peter Nguyen, RIP

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Dec. 17

Bill Mais, RIP

Sunday 12 Noon Dec. 17

Philip Vlaic, RIP

Alice DeGuzman, Sp. Int.

Laugh Out Loud ☺

- Why did Frosty's girlfriend break up with him? He was a total flake!
- What's worse than a reindeer with a runny nose? A snowman with a fever!