



God of Light and Life, give us hope
as we wait for your coming again.

When we are tempted to be
grateful to have found you while
others are lost, send us out into
the darkness in search of those
who need you most. Amen

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 3rd, 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

✚ After a few years of not having one, Christ Cathedral parish recently set up a giant 30-foot Christmas great on its Great Plaza, bringing a festive air to the Garden Grove grounds. Other parts of the campus also have Christmas touches, like lights on the palm trees, poinsettias at the Our Lady of La Vang Shrine and wreaths on the Cathedral Cultural Center. The entire Diocese of Orange community is invited to visit by taking a tour, celebrating Mass or attending a concert!

✚ Join the St. Kilian Catholic Church community at **7 p.m. on Dec. 15** for an evening of seasonal favorites and new works as we reflect on Christ's birth. Featuring the St. Kilian Choirs, Children Choir, Soloists, Chamber Orchestra with Catherine Forbush and Sandra Nam on piano under the direction of Jeremiah Lussier and Samantha Dominguez.

✚ Capistrano Lights: Mission in Lights returns to historic Mission San Juan Capistrano on select evenings from **Dec. 3 through Dec. 30**. A combination of reverence and holiday traditions, the annual celebration features a musical tree lighting, Dickens-era carolers, large-scale nativity scene, selfies with Santa, live holiday performances, expanded light features and extended hours this year. Event details and tickets are available at www.capistranolights.com.

Your Contributions- Thank you

Sunday, Nov. 26, 2023: \$4,258

Thanksgiving Mass: \$740

Online Giving: \$525.60

Thank you for your generosity!



Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Patronal feast day of the United States of America

This feast is a holy day of obligation for dioceses in the United States.

Our Mass schedule

Thursday, December 7th, 4 p.m. (Vigil)

Friday, December 8th, 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Special Collection for Retirement Fund for Religious

It will be taken up in the Diocese of Orange on the weekend of **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.

Sacred Heart Retreat House

Retreats are now available for 2024. Classic women's retreats begin on Friday evening to Sunday. A priest retreat master speaks at five conferences and available for confession. Carmelite sisters lead prayers, reflection periods, and the rosary. For registration and more info, please call (626)289-1353 (x2203) or at sacredheartretreathouse.com. You can also call our parish rep, Gretchen at (714)398-7347

Wake Up (Catholic Reflections)

“Jesus said to his disciples: “As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away. So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.” Matthew 24:37–39

Are you awake? Spiritually speaking? As we begin the liturgical season of Advent, we are given the future coming of the Son of God to ponder. As this passage goes on, Jesus says, “Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.” By the “day your Lord will come,” we should understand three things. The first coming of Christ is obviously that which we most clearly ponder in Advent and Christmas. The unity of human nature with divine nature, in the Person of Jesus, is truly awe-inspiring. But that already took place long ago.

Thus, a second coming of Christ that we must continually ponder is His coming by grace, every moment of every day of our lives, once we have chosen to freely give our lives over to His service, for His glory, in accord with His will. When we live with such an interior disposition by which we seek His ongoing “coming” by grace, then we will find that we need to continually “stay awake!” If we do not, then we can be certain that we will miss countless opportunities to become more united to Christ every day and to be used as an instrument of that very grace for His service and glory. If we do not diligently build a habit of becoming attentive to every prompting of grace in our lives, then we will, unquestionably, begin to become “drowsy” and will fall asleep, spiritually speaking.

A wonderful measure of our daily attentiveness to the innumerable gifts of grace given to us every day is to also consider how attentive we are to the final and glorious coming of Christ at the end of time. Just as Jesus explains, most people will pay little attention to this final coming, presuming it will not even be in their lifetimes. But if you have that attitude, then you have completely missed the point. The point is preparedness—today, tomorrow and always. True preparedness for the final coming of Christ will not only help you enter the mysteries of these Advent and Christmas seasons by which we ponder the first coming of Christ, it will also help you form a habit of daily attentiveness to grace.

Reflect, today, upon how ready you are for the final coming of Christ at the end of time. Are you ready if Christ were to come today? If not, understand that a lack of preparedness for the final coming also means a lack of preparedness to celebrate His first coming at Christmas long ago, as well as His daily comings by grace. Prepare today. Do not wait. If you do, God will daily transform you in ways that are glorious beyond comprehension.

My ever-present Lord, You come to us, day and night, calling to us, leading us and offering to enter our lives. Please help me to always be attentive to You and to always open my heart fully to Your daily coming by grace. Jesus, I trust in You.



Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration

Tuesday, December 12th, 8:30 a.m. Mass. We will have mariachi/ 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.

SCAM text messages or emails!

Please be aware that there are scammers circulating messages from Father Joseph or the Church asking to buy gift cards or others. Please delete those messages. Those messages are malicious.

Prayer Intentions for the Week

Monday 8:30 a.m. Dec. 4

Fr. Augustine Lan, RIP

Mimi Nguyen & Anh Thu Nguyen, Sp. Int.

Tuesday 8:30 a.m. Dec. 5

Mary Mai To, RIP

Betty Garcia, Sp. Int.

Wednesday 8:30 a.m. Dec. 6

Alice DeGuzman, Sp. Int. BIRTHDAY

Mimi Nguyen & Anh Thu Nguyen, Sp. Int.

Chris Barreto, Sp. Int.

Thursday 8:30 a.m. Dec. 7

Joseph Tao Vu, RIP

Felisa Aquino, RIP

Thursday 4:00 p.m. Dec. 7

Betty Regalado and family, Sp. Int.

Friday 8:30 a.m. Dec. 8

Joseph Tinh Bui and Teresa Thanh Lai, RIP

Mimi Nguyen & Anh Thu Nguyen, Sp. Int.

Friday 11:00 a.m. Dec. 8

Sister Kathie Paradis, Sp. Int. BIRTHDAY

Saturday 8:30 a.m. Dec. 9

“Don” Smith, RIP

Saturday 4:00 p.m. Dec. 9

Peter Tien Pham, RIP

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Dec. 10

Linda Calma, Sp. Int.

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Dec. 10

Lucia Nguyen, RIP

Sunday 12 Noon Dec. 10

Robert Holmes, RIP