

## ST. PHILIP NERI ~ ST. ALBERT the GREAT PARISH

We are a Christian Community - Welcoming to all!

### St. Philip Neri Church

3100 Van Buren St., Alameda

#### Mass Schedule:

Mon - Sat 8:30 am

Saturday Vigil 5:15 pm

Sunday 9:00 am & 11:30 am

**Confessions:** Saturday 4:30 pm or by appt.

**Parish Office Hours:** Mon-Fri 9:00 am-3:00 pm

**Phone:** 510-373-5200

**Email:** secretary@spnsa.org

**Pastor:** Fr. Joseph Pathiyil, MF

510-373-5201 or [fr.pathiyil@spnsa.org](mailto:fr.pathiyil@spnsa.org)



### St. Albert the Great Church

1022 Holly St., Alameda

#### Mass Schedule:

Mon - Sat 7:30 am \***First Friday-9:30 am**

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm

Sunday 8:00 am & 10:30 am

**Confessions:** Saturday 3:30 pm or by appt.

**Parish Office Hours:** Mon-Fri 9:00 am-Noon

**Phone:** 510-373-5225

**Associate Pastor:** Fr. Chacko Muthoottil, MF

510-373-5202 or [chackommf@gmail.com](mailto:chackommf@gmail.com)

#### **EVERY FIRST FRIDAY**

Mass with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction at

St. Philip Neri - 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

Mass and Anointing of the Sick at St. Albert the Great - 9:30 am

**DECEMBER 14, 2025**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ GAUDETE SUNDAY**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today is called Gaudete Sunday "Rejoice Sunday" On this Gaudete Sunday the Gospel shows us John the Baptist in prison sending a question to Jesus: "*Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?*" A very surprising question because John, who once confidently pointed to Jesus and said, "*Behold the Lamb of God,*" is now struggling in darkness, pain, and uncertainty. We think prison has changed his perspective. He expected the Messiah to come with judgment and power. Instead, Jesus came with mercy and healing. Jesus answered with signs of hope: "The blind see the lame walk ..... the poor hear good news" In other words, the Kingdom of God is not about fear, but restoration.



Here we understand deeply what it means "rejoice" This joy is not cheap happiness. It is joy that exists even in hardship. Like John, many of us sit in our own "prisons" — illness, loneliness, financial stress, broken relationships. We wonder, "*Lord, are you really here for me?*" Jesus answers us the same way: Look around. See the lives being changed. See forgiveness happening. See the sick comforted. See hearts transformed. That is where Jesus is present. It is okay to ask questions. It is okay to struggle. It is okay to wait. But do not lose hope. True Advent joy is this: God is already at work, even when we do not see it clearly.

God bless,

*Fr. Joseph Pathiyil*

**JUBILEE THEME FOR DECEMBER - EMMANUEL**

# Mass Intentions



St. Philip Neri  
December 13, 2025 – December 21, 2025

St. Albert the Great  
December 13, 2025 – December 21, 2025

<b>Sat Dec 13</b>	8:30 am 5:15 pm	Dennis Dorn † Melville Rodricks † Dave Rose † Ken Tucker † For All Souls
<b>Sun Dec 14</b>	9:00 am 11:30	Cris Foley † Sherry Eastwood Falls (Birthday) Harriett West † Lucia Nguyen Thi Phu †
<b>Mon Dec 15</b>	8:30 am	Peter Chen † Gloria Pacheco † Gordon Cristobal † Luminosa G. Reyno †
<b>Tues Dec 16</b>	8:30 am	Mario Galetto † Raymond Reyes † Susan Silva-Ender (Birthday)
<b>Wed Dec 17</b>	8:30 am	Montiero Family † Pam Williams (Birthday) Alejandro Monastrial † Niloufer Maria Pereira †
<b>Thu Dec 18</b>	8:30 am	John Rockwell (Birthday) Annette Bevere †
<b>Fri Dec 19</b>	8:30 am	Josephine Campbell † Paul Lupetti (Birthday) Tony Economos †
<b>Sat Dec 20</b>	8:30 am 5:15 pm	Maria Femminis † Paul Lupetti (Birthday) Felicito Bayson † Wesley Acosta † Annabelle Ramos (Birthday)
<b>Sun Dec 21</b>	9:00 am 11:30 am	Maureen Ann Lane † John Vincent Woufe Jr † Earl J. Dolcini † Bill T. Meyers † Cathy Stapley † Tom Staggs † (Birthday)

<b>Sat Dec 13</b>	7:30 am 4:00 pm	Jane Hageman † Bienvenido Romero †
<b>Sun Dec 14</b>	8:00 10:30	Maria Femminis † Alan Brown † Rose Brown Harangozo † & Krammer Families †
<b>Mon Dec 15</b>	7:30 am	Jane Hageman † Estelita De La Paz † Milagros Triunfante †
<b>Tues Dec 16</b>	7:30 am	Virgil Leong (Thanksgiving) Paul Marchetti (Healing)
<b>Wed Dec 17</b>	7:30 am	Maria Femminis †
<b>Thu Dec 18</b>	7:30 am	Bill Arucan, Sr. †
<b>Fri Dec 19</b>	7:30 am	Jane Hageman † Maria Femminis † (40th Day)
<b>Sat Dec 20</b>	7:30 am 4:00 pm	William Bautista † Diane Dean †
<b>Sun Dec 21</b>	8:00 am 10:30 am	Lourdes Malou Hartrick † Lourdes Malou Hartrick † Elaine & Rod Ding (Wedding Anniv)

## UPCOMING SECOND/SPECIAL OFFERING



December 13-14 Religious Retirement  
December 20-21 Christmas Flowers  
December 25 Christmas Offering

## SANCTUARY LAMP OFFERING

December 2025

**St. Philip Neri**

*Joseph Cervelli Family*

**St. Albert the Great**

*Thanksgiving for  
Leo, Cathy, Trina's Birthday*



## SANCTUARY LAMPS OFFERING

December 2025

**BLESSED MOTHER**

*L & D members of Gatan & Rockwell families*

**ST. JOSEPH**

*L & D members of Wegener Family*



## VOTIVE CANDLE OFFERING

December 2025

**St. Philip Neri**

*Joseph Cervelli †*

**St. Albert the Great**

*People of SPNSA*



**We Pray for our sick:** Neal Roco, Dolores Jardine, Zeny Mabagos, Max Baylosis, Mark Fantillo, Benigno Capulong Sr., Chris Servente, Michael Schmidt, Kathleen Branchaud, Rogelio Feliciano II, Ann & Peter Dinh, Hakley Family, Arcely Bernardino, Justin Lee, Mary Reiser, Elon Rowlee, Lora Bracy, Virginia Carlson, Sarah Nordstrom, June Ogden, Janelle Ogden Lake, Catherine Sherrer, Aurora Custodio, Ginni Carson, Carol Lagoe, Lilian Layante, James Gwynne, Reydante Aguinaldo, Fr. Bob's Cousin Suzy, Helen Yee, Carol Hoyer, Gail Ferrouillet, Ida Mae Kempel, Veronica, Mario Cicero, Rose Brown, Al Hugger, Jing Jing Costello, Roger Dorn, Harry Rogers, Marianne Schenone, Patricia Faria, Mary Lee, Kate Quick, Alex Cruz, Diane Bustos, Cherry Anne Feliciano, Chang Jok Lee, Peter Perata, Lea Murphy, Chris Messina, Jacek Waszkowiak, James Ogden, Sr., Linda Morales, Vicki Cuadra, Ana Brown, Tina Jimenez, Jeff R., Anne Loos, Francisca Reyes,



## Pope Leo XIV's Prayer Intention

DECEMBER 2025

### For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

## Pro-life Holiday Message

**Christmas** is a pro-life holiday. The first Christmas shows us the immense joy a newborn baby brings to the whole world. Each life is a gift. It can never be repeated. God Bless.

### OCIA CORNER FOR ADVENT (Part 3) by Sherry Eastwood Falls

#### The cheerful abundance of Christmas Present

Scrooge tells this ghost to take him where he wants for he has "learned a lesson." As they go through the streets, "the ghost blesses the people and sprinkles incense on their dinners from his torch." When we get to the poor home of Bob Cratchit, Tiny Tim helps to encourage the thaw that has already begun in the heart of Scrooge. It is Tiny Tim who guides us all to the true meaning of Christmas. He says that when people see a little crippled boy in church they will recall who "made lame beggars walk and blind men see." Scrooge then begs the ghost to not let Tiny Tim die.

Watch for the concluding piece next week when we and Scrooge encounter **The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come**. Happy Advent!

## ADVENT PRAYER

*Father, in the wilderness of the Jordan, You sent a messenger to prepare people's hearts for the coming of your Son. Help me to hear his words and repent of my sins, so that I may clearly see the way to walk, the truth to speak, and the life to live for Him, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen*

### "Getting to Know the Gospel" Growing in Your Faith

**What:** Lectio Divina and Catholic Topics

**When:** Most Friday mornings following the 8:30 mass & rosary

**Where:** In the Rectory (Front conference room)

**Facilitators:** Bob Minot, Sherry Eastwood Falls, and Fr. Joseph

#### DATES

#### TOPICS

**December 19** How the Birth of Jesus Came About  
LD Matt 1:18-24

**December 26** No class Merry Christmas

Classes will resume on Friday, **January 16, 2026**.

[PLEASE BRING YOUR MISSAL](#)

### [SANCTUARY LAMP and VOTIVE CANDLE](#) [OFFERINGS FOR 2026 ARE NOW OPEN](#)

#### FOR ST. PHILIP NERI CHURCH AND ST ALBERT THE GREAT

Sanctuary Lamp  
Blessed Mother  
St. Joseph

Sanctuary Lamp offering is \$50/month

Votive candle offering is \$30/month (\$300/yr)

**This is a wonderful way to celebrate a loved one**

**Mass Offering is \$10**

Please contact the Parish office



### Italian Catholic Federation Branch #10 and East Bay District Christmas Party





## Third Sunday of Advent Advent Candle of Joy



Luke 2:10-11

"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you: he is the Messiah, the Lord.'"

## PARISH ADVENT CONFESSION

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT CHURCH

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

6:00 PM TO 7:00 PM



## Simbang Gabi

Our Simbang Gabi Masses begin at **5:00 am** daily from **Dec. 16 to 24** at St. Albert the Great. A light reception follows after mass. All are welcome!

## Christmas & New Year Mass Times

### St. Philip Neri Church

Wednesday, December 24

8:30 am

4:00 pm - **Christmas Eve**, Vigil Family Mass (musical prelude 3:45 pm)

10:00 pm Midnight Mass (musical prelude 9:30 pm)

Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25

9:00 am & 11:30 am

Solemnity of Mary Vigil, Wednesday, December 31

7:00 pm

Solemnity of Mary, New Year's Day, Thursday, January 1

8:30 am

### St. Albert the Great Church

Simbang Gabi, December 16 - 24

5:00 am (light reception follows)

Parish Advent Confession, Wednesday, December 17

6:00 to 7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 24

5:30 pm - **Christmas Eve**, Vigil Family Mass (musical prelude 5:15 pm)

Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25

8:00 am & 10:30 am

Solemnity of Mary, New Year's Day, Thursday, January 1

7:30 am & 6:00 pm

Thank you!



Thank you to all those who donated money to the **November Fifth Sunday collection** and the **Tom the Turkey food drive**. You really are making a difference in the lives of neighbors in need. With your monetary donations, we were able to housing for unhoused families, support the SVdP Community Center, Visitation Center and Men's Center, and the Alameda Warming Shelter. We were also able to provide some assistance for the new Welcome the Stranger family. And, thanks for all your generous donations of food; we delivered hundreds of pounds of food to the St. Barnabas and St. Elizabeth food pantries and the Alameda Food Bank. The **Christmas Giving Tree** drive and the **Warm Coat** drive are continuing. Your continuing support is greatly appreciated! As a reminder, the SVDP Conference contact number for neighbors in need is (510) 373-5226. Contact Richard White at 510 521-9389 if you need donation receipts or have any questions.



Please join **Alameda Deanery Young Adult Group** in a festive and fun ugly sweater party next **Saturday, December 20th** in Notre Dame Hall. Food, drinks, music and merriment will be provided. The party will start at 6pm. All are welcome!