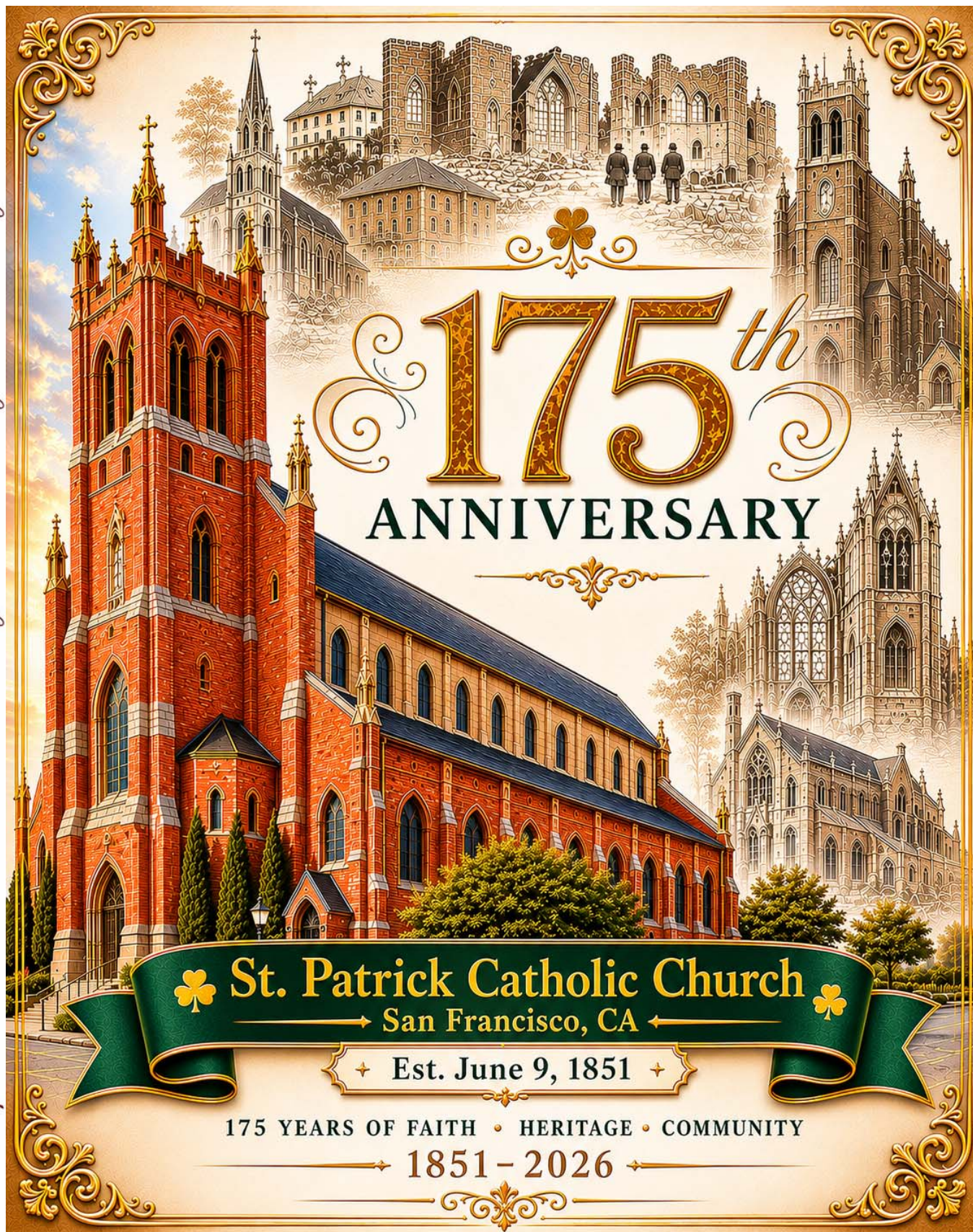


September 06, 2026 • Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time



San Francisco's HISTORIC LANDMARK #4

756 Mission St. (between 3rd and 4th Streets) | San Francisco, CA 94103 | (415) 421-3730 | www.stpatricksf.org

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Andrew Spyrow - *Pastor*
Rev. Celestine Tyowua - *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Bonifacio "Boie" Espeleta - *Parochial Vicar*
Deacon Ferdinand Mariano - *OCIA Coordinator*

Parish Staff

Charles Corpus - *Music Coordinator*
Nora Regaspi - *Office Manager*
Camelle Sudario - *Parish Receptionist*

Mass Times

Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 5:15 p.m.
Saturday: 7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 5:15 p.m.
Tagalog Mass: 1st Sunday at 2:00 p.m.
Family Mass: 2nd Sunday at 12:00 p.m.
Charismatic & Healing Mass: 3rd Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Parish Schedule

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (in the church)

Monday through Friday
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Every Tuesday after the 12:00 p.m. Mass

Sacred Heart

First Friday of the month at 4:00 p.m..

Sto. Niño Devotion

Every Friday after the 12:00 p.m. Mass

Our Lady of Fatima

First Saturday of the month at 11:30 a.m.

Labor Day Holiday Mass

There will be only **one Mass** celebrated here at St. Patrick on Labor Day, Monday, September 07, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. The office will be closed all day and the Church will be closed after the Mass.

Have a safe and blessed holiday!!

Neighborly Love

We can never love our neighbor too much.

~ St. Francis de Sales

Happy Birthday!!

Happy Birthday to our Parishioners celebrating a birthday this week.

Jillian Payuran	9/7	Rozalynda Gonzales	9/10
Abrielle Ventigan	9/8	Maria Martinez	9/10
Bettina David	9/9	George Otieno	9/10
Natividad Galinato	9/9	Javier Sahagun	9/10
Marietta Gino	9/9	Kimberly Francheska Cunan	9/12

God's Watchers

If you ever thought that living as a Christian was always going to be easy, today's readings will convince you that this is not so. In the first reading from Ezekiel, the prophet was sent to convince the people in Jerusalem to return to God and God's ways; he bore rejection as a result of fulfilling his mission. In today's Gospel, Jesus instructs his followers to work toward reconciliation when we have been wronged, rather than remaining caught in anger or disappointment. Saint Paul captures what lies behind these instructions—love. "Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law." When we are tempted to walk away from a friend or co-worker with whom we disagree, or even more so when we worry that the person has turned away from the Lord, we are instead called to reach out in love.

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Our Fascinating Faith

The Documents of Vatican II—Three Declarations

The Declaration on Christian Education (*Gravissimum Educationis*) asserts the baptismal right of every Christian to be educated for their role in the liturgy, the community, and the world. It emphasizes that parents are the primary educators of their own children, and it charges the Church especially with seeing to the education of those who are poor and disadvantaged. The Church must also see to the proper formation of teachers as witnesses to Christ.

The Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to non-Christians (*Nostra Aetate*), the shortest of all the Vatican II documents, is a landmark in interfaith relations. It urges Christians to seek out commonalities with members of other religions before addressing obvious differences. While continuing to uphold God's perfect revelation in Jesus Christ, it specifically mentions Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism as each bearing truth and holiness worthy of reverence, since whatever is true finds its source in the one true God. *Nostra Aetate* stresses God's continuing special love for the Jewish people, and condemns every form of persecution and discrimination against them.

The Declaration on Religious Freedom (*Dignitatis Humanae*) asserts the dignity of all human persons and their freedom of conscience to come to faith without the burden of any coercion. The baptized faithful throughout the world must be free to follow their Christian beliefs, and all others must be equally free to pursue their own religious practices.

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7:30 a.m. Masses

All priests of the Archdiocese of San Francisco will be attending the Priest Convocation Week on September 21, 23, and 24. Because of this, we will not have 7:30 a.m. Masses on these days. The 12:10 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. Masses will be celebrated as usual. We appreciate your understanding and thank you for your prayers for our priests.

AAA Update (as of 25 August 2026)

2026 AAA Goal	\$43,252
Received	\$23,443
Amount Remaining	\$19,809
% of Goal	54%

St. Patrick Church Lifetime Donors

You can still make a donation by going to our parish website: www.stpatricksf.org. On our homepage scroll down and click Online Giving. Create an account if you don't have one. Once you have created an account, please choose the Lifetime Donor option. We are asking a Lifetime Donor to donate a minimum of \$20 a week or \$80 a month. Your privacy and financial information are safe with us. And we recommend that you use your credit card for an easier and faster transaction.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

For more information,
email us at information@stpatricksf.org
or call us at 415-421-3730

We have 85 Lifetime Donors as of 16 July 2026

In Memory of Nicomedes & Juanita Abello	Dan And Annie Lacap
Cristina Agbayani	Eleanor Lawsin
Marilou Alegre	Felicitas Locsin
Roberto Andrey	Merly Lorete
Kristen Ayer	Fe Macatangay
Joy, Jen & Jackie Bandelaria	Beltran C Marces
Eufemia Barcelona	Corazon Mariano
Evelyn Bird	Loren Masangcay
Dr. Beverly Lynn Bolinger	† Dionisio Mendaros, Si Cora Cuison
Maria Bravo	Evelyn Mendoza
Mercedita Cadiz	Rachelle Morales
Mamerto (Mc) Canlas	Jeff & Nenette Murata
Manuel Casal	Vilma Nangca
John & Judith Casper	Glorina Ochangco
Sandra Cea	Florentina Palacio
Max & Josephine Chin	Jesus & Marilu Paningbatan
Felix Chang	Jun & Emy Pasion
Dan & Katya Coming	Joseph, Joshua, Jordan & Liam
In Memory Of William Cotter, Jr.	Estrellita Perez
Thelma Dancel	Naomi Quioco
Evangeline Viray De Leon	Vince Ramirez
† Rosalinda Del Rosario	Lolita Ramos
Brian Dela Pena	Alma Raymundo
Jiasmin Delago	Hersie Rosales
Justin Edwards	Matthew Rothschild
Joycelyn Espanol	Jaymie Lynn Santiago
Conchita Fabros	Mario, Nelly, & Tracy Sarmiento
Joseph & Maria Fang	Estela Sullivan
Riz A. Novicio Fernandez	Veronica Tayo
Familia Galindo Moreno Y Berziga	† Jo Tjin Thoy
Lilian Gomez	Derek Tillotson
Josefa Gonzales	Precious & Ryan Tizon
Rodil, Ruby Gonzales & Children	Victoriano & Carmen Uchi & Family
Alvin Gonzalez	Laura Vanmunching
Therese Guintu	Boying & Rosie Vasquez
Norma Gumawid	Alden, Mercy Ventigan & Kids
Ina Howard	Vida Ventura
† Ponciano & Marlene Icatar	Josephine Villa
Georgina Jose	Rianty Winarta
Kaiser Permanentesf, 4Center & Oncology	Edwin, Rosalie, Krista, Ezra & Juliana
Agnes Kumi	Cielito Littaua Yoma
Judy Neri Labaria	† Charlie A. Yparraguirre
Tita Labaria	

An expanded color version of our printed bulletin, with online-only content, is available on our website: www.stpatricksf.org



ST. PATRICK CHURCH

756 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

CASH RAFFLE BONANZA

2026

GRAND PRIZE: \$20,000

FIVE CONSOLATION PRIZES OF \$1,000 EACH

TICKET: \$50

Tickets may be purchased from the various parish organizations, the gift shop, or the parish office.

Drawing to be held on Thursday, December 24th after the Misa de Gallo Mass

Winners need not be present to win.
A Fundraising Campaign to Support the Church's Operations

Thank you for your support!

A Prayer for Patriot Day (9/11)

Dear Lord, as we remember the evils of September 11th, let us turn our hearts and minds towards the good found only in You; Be close to those who mourn: the parents who lost children, the children who never knew a parent, and all who lost a loved one; Embrace this grieving nation, and let time never lessen the impact of this day; may we never forget; Protect those who go in harm's way to save others, and those who suffer and die to safeguard our nation; Give wisdom to our leaders, that they may make choices that prevent another day such as this; Convert the hearts of those who seek our destruction, and banish from the world the darkness that allows such hate to fester and grow; Let Your love rain down upon us, and let Your peace flourish on the Earth; We ask in the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

Catholic Prayer Corner

Praying the Rosary

1. Begin on the crucifix and say the Apostles' Creed.
2. On the first bead, say one Our Father.
3. On each of the next three beads, say the Hail Mary.
4. On the next bead, say one Glory Be.
5. Think of the first mystery in the group of mysteries selected for meditation for the day and say one Our Father on the same bead.
6. On each of the next ten beads, say one Hail Mary. Follow these with one Glory Be.
7. Repeat Steps 5 and 6 for each of the five mysteries.

Communion in the Home

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are available to bring Communion to those who are unable to attend Mass. Please call the office at 415-421-3730 for more information.

Mass Intentions for Sep 06 - 12

Date	Time	Intention
Sunday 06	7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	FH Orlando, Jr. Florendo Pelejo SI All Parishioners Of St. Patrick BD Jim Neary SI Fe Macatangay BD Giovanni Robea
Monday 07	9:00 a.m.	SI Valente Banez <i>Labor Day Holiday</i>
Tuesday 08	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Marilyn & Lorenzo Sumulong TG Domingo Ordoveza † Mario Villanueva
Wednesday 09	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Fe Barcelona SI Evelyn Bird SI Maria Bravo
Thursday 10	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Mercedita Cadiz TG Rosy Ordoveza BD James Wheeler
Friday 11	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI MC Canlas TG Luluday Villanueva SI John & Judith Casper
Saturday 12	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	BD Luisa Penaflorida BD Cherry Kalb † Jeremias Mauricio

Religious Education Classes

The staff and catechists of St. Patrick Church are dedicated to helping your children grow in faith and be closer to God. As parents, you are the primary educators of your children and are their best teachers. Your children learn the most from the example you set when you pray together and actively participate in Mass and the sacraments as a family.

Our Religious Education Program is designed to assist you in the faith formation of your children. First-time students must provide a valid baptismal certificate. Classes begin on Saturday, September 12th and run through May. Class hours are from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Are You Someone or Do You Know Someone Who...

- ...has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- ...has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?
- ...was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is an opportunity for you to come together in a small group to learn more about the Catholic faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights, and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. For information please contact the parish office during normal business hours.

St. Patrick Children's Choir

All children ages nine and above are invited to audition for The St. Patrick Children's Choir. No prior singing experience is required, just a willingness to learn, sing, and serve. Auditions will be held in McKenna Hall on August 29, September 5, and September 12, from 1:00 to 2:00 PM. Registration forms will be available on-site. For more information, please pick up an FAQ sheet at the back of the church, the Gift Shop, or the Parish Office.

Beware of Scams

Please be informed that no priest from St. Patrick will ever ask for gift cards, checks, or any form of personal financial assistance. Be aware that scammers may use our email addresses or impersonate our clergy in an attempt to deceive you. If you receive any suspicious messages requesting money or personal information, do not respond and report immediately. Your safety and security are our priority. Thank you for your vigilance.

Damaged Blessed Items

If you have any damaged blessed items, including statues and Bibles, as well as sacramentals, such as crucifixes and rosaries, please feel free to drop them off in our gift shop. We'll make sure they are disposed of properly and respectfully.



HELPLINES FOR CLERGY/CHURCH SEXUAL ABUSE VICTIMS

(415) 614-5506 This number is answered by Rocio Rodriguez, LMFT, Archdiocesan Pastoral Outreach Coordinator. This is a secured line and is answered only by Rocio Rodriguez.

(415) 614-5503 If you wish to speak to a non-archdiocesan employee please call this number. This is also a secured line and is answered only by a victim survivor.

(800) 276-1562 Report sexual abuse by a bishop or a bishop's interference in a sexual abuse investigation to a confidential third party. www.reportbishopabuse.org

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LABOR DAY



LEGION OF MARY

— ST. PATRICK CHURCH —

JOIN THE LEGION OF MARY, OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL PRAESIDIUM

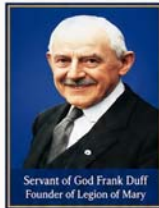


Meeting - Sunday at 1:30 p.m. in Bitanga Hall



The Legion Family Worldwide

- On all continents
- In over 170 countries
- 4 million active members
- 5 million auxiliary members



Servant of God Frank Duff
Founder of Legion of Mary
1889 - 1980



LEGION OF MARY'S HISTORY

The Legion of Mary was founded in Dublin, Ireland on the 7th of September in 1921. It is a lay Catholic organization giving service to the Church on a voluntary basis in almost every country.



LEGION OF MARY'S AIM

The object of the Legion of Mary is the glory of God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active co-operation in Mary's and the Church's works.



LEGION OF MARY'S UNIT

The unit of a Legion of Mary is called a praesidium, which holds a weekly meeting where prayer is intermingled with reports and discussions. Persons who wish to join the Legion must apply for membership in a praesidium.



LEGION OF MARY'S ACTIVE WORKS

The Legion sees as its priority the spiritual and social welfare of everyone. The members participate in the life of the parish through visitation of families, the sick, both in homes and hospitals and through collaboration in every apostolate and missionary undertakings sponsored by the parish. The works are more of spiritual works of mercy.



LEGION OF MARY'S ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

This membership is open to all faithfully practicing Catholics. Members attend weekly meetings and engage in prayers and active works. Candidates under 18 years of age can be received in a Junior Praesidium.

"Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."

— ST. CATHERINE LABOURÉ —

Jesus said,

"Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Matthew 18:20



September 06, 2026

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Letters from Heaven



Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in ..."

M	F	O	T
E	I	T	S
M	H	D	
	E	H	T

T _ _ _ _ _ "

Answer: *the midst of them*

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saint snippets



As Jesus has chosen bread, which is very common, so must my life be, common, approachable by all and, at the same time, humble and hidden, like bread.

Bl. Maria Angela Picco

Italian religious sister known for her care for the poor and devotion to the Eucharist; she suffered immensely from a bone disease and died in 1921.

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September 7

saint snippets



Peace of heart - without it, no good can make us happy. With it, every trial, even the approach of death, can be borne.

Bl. Frédéric Ozanam

French scholar, lawyer, husband, and father. In 1833, he founded what is known today as the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

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September 9

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 06, 2026

"If two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father."

~ Matthew 18:19



Remember 9/11

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CATHOLIC CORNER

MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION

Friday, September 11, is the nineteenth year we will pause and remember the people lost in a great tragedy in 2001. You were not even born at that time. But as with many important events in history, the people who came before us, like our parents and grandparents, keep the memory of this event alive.

Why do we do this? Remembering this occasion brings great sorrow to many people who lost loved ones. But when they see people around the country and around the world standing with them, they know their sorrow is shared, and that makes it a little easier to bear.

Remembering also helps us to work for change in our country and in our world so that acts of violence like this will not happen again. Working for peace and justice takes courage and patience, whether in our family or all over the world. Change will not happen quickly, so we can never give up.

Visit the website of the 9-11 Memorial. This memorial is a tribute to all those who died on that day. It is also a ray of hope for those of us who still live and work to create a peaceful world. Watch the memorial ceremonies on television and on various websites. Pray Psalm 27 with your family. Ask God to help us all, and to be our light and our refuge in times of sorrow.



The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom should I fear?
The LORD is my life's refuge;
of whom should I be afraid?
I believe I shall see the LORD's goodness
in the land of the living.
Wait for the LORD, take courage;
be stouthearted, wait for the LORD!
(Psalm 27:1, 13-14)

Ask an adult in your family if you can go to church to light a candle in memory of those who died. Remember to say a prayer for their family members as well. If your church doesn't have votive candles you might, with a parent's permission, light one in your home each night this week and pray the psalm.

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



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Jesus said to his disciples: "Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Mt 18:19-20

Scripture from the New American Bible, rev. ed. © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970, CCD. Used with permission.

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Owe nothing to anyone, except to

love one another.

Romans 13:8



September 06, 2026

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Pastor Al™



"Our new secretary is something... funny how a phone message from your doctor got in the Sunday bulletin."

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A Message of Love

In the final verses of today's Gospel reading Jesus says that when two or three are gathered in his name, "there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). So we understand that fraternal correction is always undertaken with Jesus present to us.

Likewise, encouraging the good in others is not only the right thing for us to do, it is a necessity. The Lord tells the prophet Ezekiel that if he "does not speak out" to dissuade a person from evil, then he too will be held responsible.

We live in a "do your own thing" age when moral objectivity is often ignored. Clearly when the message we share with others is one of love, our motives cannot ever be misinterpreted. As St. Paul writes, "Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law" (Romans 13:10).

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Treasures From Our Tradition

In the early years of the church, most people never availed themselves of once-in-a-lifetime penance. Yet penitents were highly visible. They wore distinctive garments or chains, and they were relegated to special zones in the church. They might be dismissed from the Sunday assembly after the Word, forbidden to join in the Prayer of the Faithful or the Eucharist. This dismissal was done with great affection and tenderness as the bishop laid his hands on the heads of the sinners. During Lent almost everyone would identify with penitents by clothing, insignia, or by following the penitents' regular diet. Rather than sit in judgment over them, the church desired to intercede for them before the Lord. "Let Mother Church weep for you and wash away your sins with her tears," said St. Ambrose to his penitents in Milan. Ambrose liked to think of them as Jonah in the whale, meditating on his errors. In a letter to his sister he said that Jonah is also a sign of Christ in the tomb, and so he had great faith in the penitents' future proclamation of the Resurrection with their reclaimed status in the assembly.

~ Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Hate Not

I will permit no one to narrow and degrade my soul by making me hate them.

~ Booker T. Washington

Neighborly Love

We can never love our neighbor too much.

~ St. Francis de Sales



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Not My Problem



Ever notice how people today like to ignore the evil in the world? People will witness a mugging and not bother to call the police. We see television stories of children starving in poor countries and say, "Not my problem." The readings for this Sunday challenge this attitude.

As a prophet, Ezekiel is to proclaim God's word of repentance to the wicked. The Lord tells Ezekiel that he will be held responsible for the death of the wicked if he refuses

to warn against the evil they are doing.

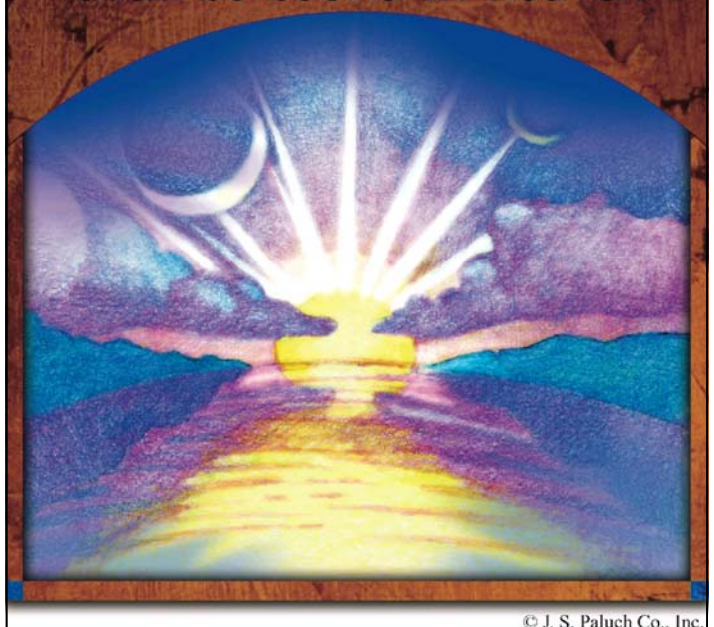
In the Gospel, Jesus describes how his disciples should confront the sinner. His words teach us something about our duty to the sinner. First, he tells us that sin is our problem, and when we see it we need to take the initiative to stop it. Second, he tells us we need not feel alone in this duty. When the sinner refuses to listen, we bring in help. In fact, this command is meant for the whole church. Third, he tells us to be persistent; don't give up on someone too easily.

So what about that line about treating the sinner who refuses to listen as a Gentile or tax collector? On the one hand, the sinner should be excluded from the church, excommunicated, if he doesn't repent. On the other hand, Jesus never rejected tax collectors (like Matthew himself, who wrote this Gospel) or Gentiles. He said he came to call sinners, to save them. He loves sinners. And that is the reason we are to confront them—not to punish them, but to love them. As we see in the second reading, "love is the fulfillment of the law."

That is why the Gospel ends with Jesus' words about disciples praying together. When we think we cannot make a sinner repent, we remember that only God can do that. We can pray for sinners, including ourselves, and ask God to renew them in the Spirit. For God never forces a person to repent. God invites with love, especially the love Jesus showed by dying on the cross. May we all learn to fight evil with love!

Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Whatever you bind on earth
shall be bound in heaven



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Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our culture tempts us to think that any action is allowed as long as it doesn't hurt anyone else. Today's readings show us how sadly narrow-minded that thinking is. They call us to a much higher standard, one that recognizes the majestic dignity of each human person. Ezekiel reminds us that the wicked acts of one person always affect the whole human community. Even if the sin is a private one, we are all responsible for shining light into the darkness. Matthew's Gospel echoes this idea, providing practical tips for bringing healing and reconciliation to sinful or broken relationships. Today's readings also show us the deep implications of sin: a failure to love. Saint Paul urges us to avoid sin and obey the law. The best way to do this, he professes, is to love. Love leads us from mere coexistence to genuine companionship.

The Way of Love

Although today's readings might seem dreadfully preoccupied with sin, Saint Paul explains why sin is important to discuss: because every sin reduces the amount of love in the world. Paul turns the focus from sin to love when he writes, "Love is the fulfillment of the law" (Romans 13:10). What power that verse contains! If we begin each day by reciting that verse, we would be well on our way to a more generous life—not only avoiding sin as much as possible, but also actively seeking out ways to make life sweeter for our neighbors. Memorized verses inspire us when we face difficulties during the day, when we are irritated with someone, for example, or we need to make a decision. Remembering that "love is the fulfillment of the law" might truly help us avoid sin and do good in daily life.

The Way of Prayer

Learning a scripture verse by heart is, of course, a way of praying. In today's Gospel, Jesus encourages us to pray. Jesus firmly believes in the power of prayer, going so far as to guarantee results: "I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father." Jesus promises something else, too, something vitally important. More than a game of Go Fish in which we hope we "got what we asked for," prayer is a living encounter with Jesus himself: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Today's readings move us beyond the bare minimum and open an enormous world to us. We shun the pettiness of sin not because we fear punishment, but because we want to love others deeply. We pray to our great God not because we want to get favors from a divine vending machine, but because we want to spend time with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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God's Watchers

In the ancient world watchmen were extremely important people. They kept communities safe, and were there to alert them to any impending danger or attack. Before locks, alarms, and security systems, watchmen were the protectors, the safety measure. So when the Lord charges Ezekiel as a watchman today, it is a weighty charge. So weighty, we learn, that if Ezekiel fails to sound the alarm for those around him and they perish in a state of wickedness, Ezekiel will be held responsible! This profound connection between God's will on earth and in heaven is repeated in today's Gospel, where Jesus instructs us that we are to be the security force, the watchers placed on alert that nowhere in the Body of Christ, the church, will there be any two members of the one Body who are not reconciled. Scripture tells us that Jesus reconciled all things in heaven and on earth through the blood of his cross. But we are given the mission to continue that reconciliation on earth as in heaven through our ceaseless efforts to be, as Paul would write, ambassadors of reconciliation. Let us not get too comfortable thinking that we are responsible only for keeping our own lives from the path of wickedness and disagreement. We are also held accountable for the lives of the members of Christ's body around us.

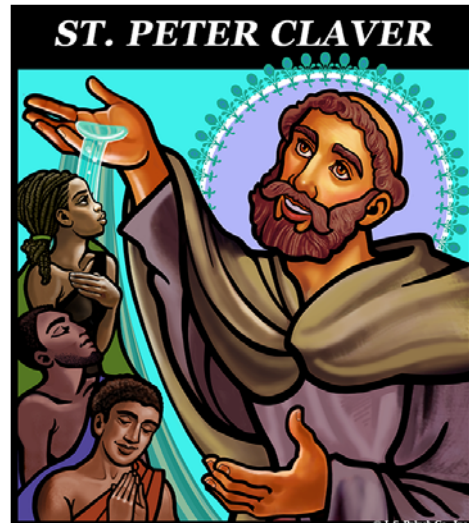
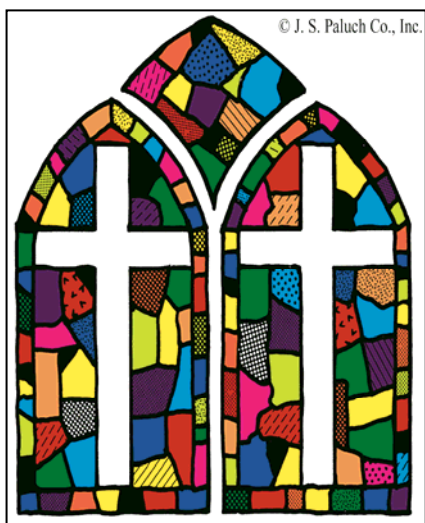
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Treasures From Our Tradition

On Good Friday, at the heart of the Triduum, the commemoration of the Lord's Passion is colored by sobriety and decorum, but this Thursday the mystery comes in a luminous celebration of Christ's victory. In its deepest origins, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is the feast of a dedication of a church, since in the year 335 the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was dedicated on September 13, and on the following day the "true cross" discovered by St. Helena was brought outside to the faithful for veneration. It is a great feast of the Eastern Church, which often marks it by having the whole assembly prostrate themselves on the floor honoring the life-giving cross.

At the core of the tradition is the quest of Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine, to acquire the cross and the nails of the Crucifixion from the ruins of Jerusalem. When she was satisfied that she had found them, thanks to the healing of a sick man whose body was placed on the cross, she had her son fund the building of the great basilica. The history of the relic is complicated, especially because it was carried off by invading Persians in the year 614 and "went missing" for fifteen years. Thursday's feast does not celebrate the relic, but rather the life-giving cross from which salvation flows. It's a good day to look around your house or office: Don't those walls look bare without a cross? What better day to remedy that?

~ Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Speaking Out in Love

In the final verses of today's Gospel reading Jesus says that when two or three are gathered in his name, "there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). So we understand that fraternal correction is always undertaken in the presence of Jesus Christ.

Likewise, encouraging the good in others is not only the right thing for us to do, it is a necessity. The LORD tells the prophet Ezekiel that if he does not speak out to dissuade a person from evil, then he too will be held responsible.

We live in a "do your own thing" age where moral objectivity is often ignored. Clearly when the message we share with others is rooted in love, our motives cannot ever be misinterpreted. As Saint Paul writes, "Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law" (Romans 13:10).

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Treasures From Our Tradition

We know for certain that the sacrament of penance was a fairly rare event in the life of a Christian in the early centuries, but that everyone had a duty to admit their sins and ask forgiveness before giving thanks in the Sunday Eucharist and receiving Christ's Body and Blood at the table. Everyone today is familiar with this same ancient pattern. We also know about Lent and its journey of renewal, and even those who are returning from summer vacations may speak of a fresh perspective on life and a resolve to do better. Saint Augustine spoke of a third kind of penance, beyond the turning of the catechumens to a different life, beyond the normal everyday fresh starts, to a form that is severe and serious. Certain sins broke faith with the community: the sinners were obliged to give their names to the bishop and were barred from participation in the Eucharist. Augustine mentioned sacrilege, adultery, and murder as the culprits, great wounds for the perpetrator, wounds that were serious, deadly, mortal. Penance was such a frightening prospect that many people delayed their baptism for fear that they would sin, a practice with which Augustine was well acquainted. Pastoral need would eventually call the church to reconsider its practice.

~ Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Reflecting on God's Word

During the first few months of marriage, the honeymoon period, the one we love may seem perfect to us. He or she can do nothing wrong. Soon, though, reality sets in and we start accumulating hurts. We may hurt one another knowingly or unknowingly. It's much the same in a family or a community. Sooner or later our love for one another is tested by sin and human weakness. Will we put up with the other's behavior or confront it? Which choice reflects true love?

Today Paul recalls some signs of true love; he reminds us what those who love will not do. The other Scriptures bring out some of the surprising signs of true love. Loving one another just might involve nagging, confronting, fighting, or telling family secrets. It will certainly involve mutual respect and acceptance, along with a healthy dose of prayer for each other. And true love will seek constantly to call forth the best in the ones we love.

~ Virginia Stillwell

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Hard-Earned Luck

I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it.

~ Thomas Jefferson

A Message of love

In the final verses of today's Gospel reading Jesus says that when two or three are gathered in his name, "there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). So we understand that fraternal correction is always undertaken with Jesus present to us.

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They

"They cleaned up the park." "They put out fresh bread." "They fixed the elevator." Behind every "they" is a real person, who expended effort to do something in our world. Whether a woman, man, or young person, "they" may have been discontented and miserable, or happy and fulfilled, when they helped to produce a warm jacket, a box of cereal, or a bottle of shampoo. Look at any ordinary object and consider how many people it took to make it. A pencil began as a tree someone planted. Someone else cut the tree down; others hauled it away and more cut it to size, added the lead and eraser, packaged it, shipped it, and put it on the store shelves. "They" are constantly busy, millions of "them," ensuring that we have the things we need, from the electricity that powers our homes to the food we buy at the grocery store. "They" may never get a proper thank-you, because there is no real opportunity for us to say it directly. But even when we open our eyes to the multitude of "theys" in our lives, we are just looking at the tip of the iceberg. Every "they" is ultimately a smaller version of God. God is not the farmer harvesting the wheat or rice that will eventually find its way to our tables. Instead, God is the provider of the soil, the sun, and the rainfall that make sure the seedlings grow into a delicious, nutritious food. God made the farmer, and keeps his heart beating to perform his daily tasks. God is the essential "behind the scenes" person, the real presence behind every "they." God is behind everything in the entire universe. And when we finally find God, our lives become transformed with true gratitude.

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Feast of Faith

Remembering

When Jesus broke the bread on the night before he died, he told his disciples, "do this in memory of me" (Luke 22:19). Christians have been faithful to that solemn command. Our eucharistic remembering is not nostalgia, nor is it merely historical, recalling events and facts of long ago. In the liturgy, remembering is action. "Do this," Jesus said. In the Eucharist, we remember by doing. And as we remember, the sacrifice of Jesus is renewed, truly made present, no longer then, but now.

After the consecration, each of the Eucharistic Prayers includes a section called the *anamnesis*, a Greek word that means "remembering." In this part of the prayer, "the Church, fulfilling the command that she received from Christ the Lord through the Apostles, keeps the memorial of Christ, recalling especially his blessed Passion, glorious Resurrection, and Ascension into heaven" (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 79e). We pause and call to mind the whole paschal mystery, Christ's dying and rising. "We celebrate the memory of his death and resurrection" (*Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation II*). Obeying Christ's command, we remember.

Corinna Laughlin, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the final verses of today's Gospel reading Jesus says that when two or three are gathered in his name, "there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). So we understand that fraternal correction is always undertaken with Jesus present to us.

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We live in a "do your own thing" age when moral objectivity is often ignored. Clearly when the message we share with others is one of love, our motives cannot ever be misinterpreted. As St. Paul writes, "Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law" (Romans 13:10).

A Tough, Compassionate Love

The model of fraternal correction described by Jesus and enacted in the early church is often paralleled today in the ways that family members and friends respond to loved ones who abuse drugs.

First, there is a private encounter in which a family member or friend implores the abuser to recognize the destructive behavior and take the first steps toward seeking a new way. Should this step fail, an "intervention" takes place. More friends and acquaintances intervene and compel the abuser to seek professional treatment. Unfortunately, this step, too, sometimes fails. It is only then, when "tough love" takes over, that the abuser is left to hit bottom, in the hope that he or she can begin the climb to recovery.

A Community That Cares

Today's Gospel gives Jesus' directions for correcting a member of the community who has sinned. Its three-stage process was likely practiced in the early church. The first step is private correction, to tell the person his or her fault so there is no chance for public humiliation. If this fails, the matter is to be brought before the assembled church. In the third step of this process, when the person does not listen to even the church acting in Jesus' name, then the sinner is to be dismissed from the community.

Even this dismissal is a qualified one. Jesus ministered to the most despised of society. And the church continues to offer pastoral care to all in need. More telling is Jesus' invitation to pray, that "if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father" (Matthew 18:19). Through prayer, we can be assured that even those whom we expel in the name of "tough love" will be treated mercifully and compassionately by our loving God.

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~ Virginia Stillwell

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Presence

Wherever you see another, there I am.

~ Rabbinical saying

St. Peter Claver (1581-1654)

September 09

Nearly two hundred years before the Declaration of Independence proclaimed "that all men are created equal," two hundred fifty years before the Emancipation Proclamation mandated an end to slavery, three hundred fifty years before Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream," and four hundred years before the election of an American president boasting African heritage, Peter Claver left his native Spain behind to volunteer for the Jesuit missions in Colombia. There, he was horrified both by slavery as an institution and by the inhuman brutality inflicted upon the slaves. He solemnly vowed to become "the slave of the slaves," and lived that vow heroically for close to forty years. Not knowing their language, Peter began his ministry among the slaves by using the universal language of practical charity, providing medical care and a tangible though wordless assertion of their human dignity: "We spoke to them not with words but with our hands, kneeling beside them, bathing their faces and bodies, encouraging them with friendly gestures" (see *Liturgy of the Hours, Volume 4*, p. 2018). Then came evangelization and baptism. Holiness as human wholeness: Peter Claver's enduring witness.

~ Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

God's Watchers

In the ancient world watchmen were extremely important people. They kept communities safe, and were there to alert them to any impending danger or attack. Before locks, alarms, and security systems, watchmen were the protectors, the safety measure. So when the Lord charges Ezekiel as a watchman today, it is a weighty charge. So weighty, we learn, that if Ezekiel fails to sound the alarm for those around him and they perish in a state of wickedness, Ezekiel will be held responsible! This profound connection between God's will on earth and in heaven is repeated in today's Gospel, where Jesus instructs us that we are to be the security force, the watchers placed on alert that nowhere in the Body of Christ, the church, will there be any two members of the one Body who are not reconciled. Scripture tells us that Jesus reconciled all things in heaven and on earth through the blood of his cross. But we are given the mission to continue that reconciliation on earth as in heaven through our ceaseless efforts to be, as Paul would write, ambassadors of reconciliation. Let us not get too comfortable thinking that we are responsible only for keeping our own lives from the path of wickedness and disagreement. We are also held accountable for the lives of the members of Christ's body around us.

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Treasures From Our Tradition

We've seen how the rescue of Eucharistic Prayer II from the mists of history changed the style of our prayer, introducing a sleek simplicity to the prayer said aloud by the priest. Remember, before the reform of our prayer in the late 1960s, the priest whispered the words of the Roman Canon, Eucharistic Prayer I. His voice was not amplified, his back was to the people, who could only tell what was going on by a shift in his posture as he bowed and genuflected and as bells were rung to indicate his progress through the prayer.

With the emergence of the new prayers, some feared that the old prayer would be lost forever if it weren't somehow changed. The reformers asked that it be streamlined a bit by omitting the repeated "Through Christ" at the end of various intercessions, and trimming the list of somewhat obscure saints. The new edition therefore brackets parts of the two lists of saints in the prayer, unfortunately dropping all the women from the second set. The decision was also made to keep the Lord's words at the consecration exactly the same in every Eucharistic Prayer, although there is precedent for more variety. On November 2, 1968, Pope Paul VI signed off on the plan of the new Mass, and by April 1969, the publication of the revised order of Mass was announced. Its fortieth anniversary is not so far away!

~ Rev. James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Teamwork and Ego - A Fable

The sin (and danger) of excessive pride (or an excessive ego) is admirably demonstrated in this simple fable:

A frog asked two geese to take him south with them. At first they resisted; they didn't see how it could be done. Finally, the frog suggested that the two geese hold a stick in their beaks and that he would hold on to it with his mouth.

So off the unlikely threesome went, flying southward over the countryside. It was really quite a sight. People looked up and expressed great admiration at this demonstration of creative teamwork.

Someone said, "It's wonderful! Who was so clever to discover such a fine way to travel?"

Whereupon the frog opened his mouth and said, "It was I," as it plummeted to the earth.

Heed the Warning

In answering God's call to be a prophet, Ezekiel took on a serious duty. Just as the watchman sounded a trumpet to warn the citizens of impending danger, so was it the prophet's responsibility to warn the people to repent. If the townsfolk ignored the watchman's trumpet and were taken by the enemy, the watchman was not to blame. Yet in the task of warning the people, the watchman was responsible for the welfare of the entire community. In the same way, the prophet only needed to deliver the message. What the listeners did upon receiving it was their own choice. Nevertheless, the prophet's responsibility to the community was clear. To shirk that duty would be a disservice to all.

In Paul's Letter to the Romans, he tells us to go beyond the letter of God's law to its heart, which is love. What the fourth through tenth commandments really challenge us to do is love our neighbor. As Paul points out and as the Gospel clarifies, we cannot do this passively or by choosing not to get involved.

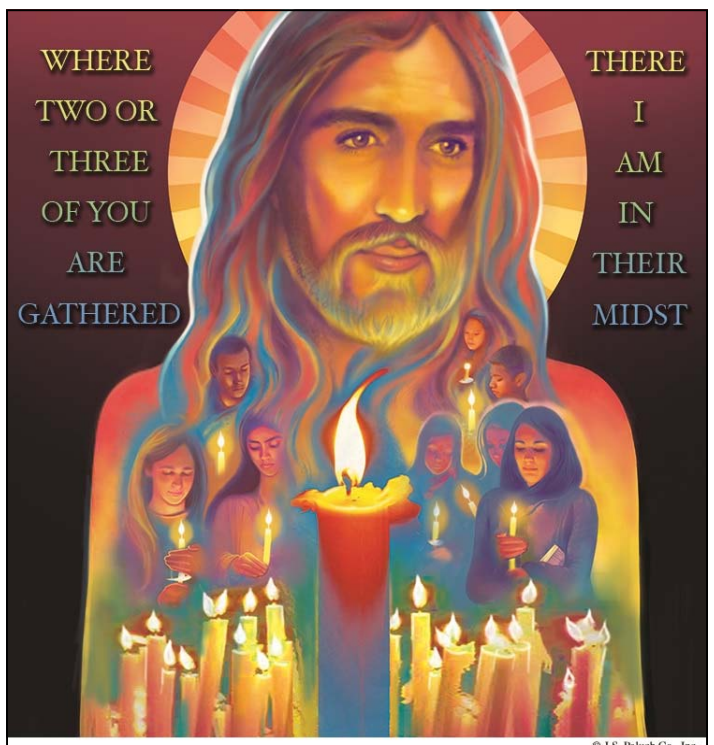
A Responsible Christian

Loving one another is not easy to do. There will always be those whose actions damage and disrupt the community and cause harm to the world at large. It is our responsibility to challenge those actions and shed the light of the gospel on them, but to do so in a loving way. In a culture where public sentiment can run strong, demonstrating such restraint and respect may feel like swimming upstream. Yet today's Gospel invites us not to condemn out of hand, but to engage in a dialogue with the offender that can result in conversion and change. To fail to do so is to shrink from our Christian responsibility. In the light of today's Gospel, what do you think could be the appropriate Christian responses to the many different actions of relatives, friends, fellow citizens, and government authorities in the past year?

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Relevant Radio

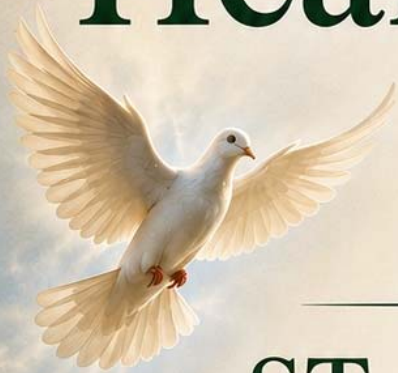
Tune your radio to 1260 AM or 101.7 FM for 24-hour broadcasts concerning Catholic teachings and prayers.



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Everyone is invited
to join the monthly

Charismatic and Healing Mass



ST. PATRICK
CATHOLIC CHURCH



756 Mission St.
San Francisco, CA



— Every Third Sunday of the Month —
at 2:00 p.m.

IMMIGRANT KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

IN THIS COUNTRY, EVERY INDIVIDUAL HAS RIGHTS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, RACE, LEGAL STATUS, NATIVE LANGUAGE, RELIGION, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, OR GENDER IDENTITY.

1. THE RIGHT TO NOT OPEN THE DOOR

Ask for warrant under the door; verify details first.

2. THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT

Give only your name; speak with an attorney present.

3. THE RIGHT TO MAKE A PHONE CALL

Call your attorney or family; keep a number ready.

4. THE RIGHT TO A HEARING BEFORE A JUDGE

You can ask for a judge to hear your case.

5. THE RIGHT TO HAVE YOUR PHYSICAL INTEGRITY RESPECTED

No one can abuse you physically or verbally.

6. THE RIGHT TO NOT SIGN ANY DOCUMENTS

Only sign documents with attorney approval.

7. THE RIGHT TO EVALUATE WHETHER YOU QUALIFY FOR ANY IMMIGRATION PROCESS

Ask an attorney if you qualify for relief program.

ADDITIONAL RIGHTS

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God's Transforming Mercy

Isaiah 55:6-9

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8 AM - 5 PM

Featured Speakers



Fr. Daniel
Klimek, MIC



Fr. Raymund
Reyes

Talks in English, Spanish, & Vietnamese

Contacts

Danny Garza

Sally Yeo

(650)270-8065

(650)773-8145

Doors Open

8 AM

Holy Mass

4 PM (Vigil)

Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption

1111 Gough St. Patrons Hall,
San Francisco, CA 94109

Recitation of the Holy Rosary, Praise &
Worship, Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament, Confession, Baptism in the Holy
Spirit, Healing Service, Holy Mass

Registration

\$35

Lunch
Included

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OF ASSISI

— EAST PALO ALTO, CA —

YOU ARE INVITED TO A

SOLEMN MASS

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ARCHBISHOP
SALVATORE J.
CORDILEONE

ARCHBISHOP OF SAN FRANCISCO



SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 20, 2026



12:30PM

BILINGUAL
(ENGLISH & SPANISH) MASS



This Mass is celebrated in honor of the
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marked by a special
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Music provided by
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and JUNIOR SCHOLA



RECEPTION
follows the Mass in the
ST. FRANCIS PARISH HALL



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IN COOPERATION WITH THE



ARCHDIOCESE OF

SAN FRANCISCO

Filipino Ministry

C O R D I A L L Y I N V I T E Y O U T O

**The 31st Annual
Celebration of**

**THE FEAST OF
SAN LORENZO
RUIZ
& COMPANION MARTYRS**

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2026
FRIDAY**

**Holy Mass & Procession 5:00 PM
Reception 6:15 PM**



Principal Celebrant:
**HIS EXCELLENCY, THE MOST REVEREND
ANDRES "ANDY" C. LIGOT, JCD**
Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of San Jose



The Mass and reception will be held at
ST. PATRICK SEMINARY & UNIVERSITY

320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025

To RSVP, please contact 415.595.9248 or email: filipinoministrsf1@gmail.com



Save ^{the} Date

FILIPINO MINISTRY

14th Annual Gala

Honoring the Filipino Priests and Deacons
of the Archdiocese of San Francisco

October 4, 2026
4:00 PM

**Cathedral of
St. Mary of the Assumption**

1111 Gough Street
San Francisco, CA 94109



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO
FILIPINO MINISTRY

Stay tuned for additional information.
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ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO
FILIPINO MINISTRY

14th ANNUAL GALA

Honoring the Filipino Priests & Deacons
of the Archdiocese of San Francisco

ONE FAITH | ONE PEOPLE | ONE MISSION



Sunday | October 4, 2026 | 4:00 PM

Patrons Hall, Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption

Join us for an unforgettable evening of live music,
dancing, and exciting fundraising activities,
including a silent auction and raffle!



**Dinner & Dance
Ticket: \$150**

Preferred Attire:
Formal or Filipiniana

Raffle Ticket: \$25

1st Prize: \$5,000

2nd Prize: \$3,000 | 3rd Prize: \$2,000



Proceeds from this event to benefit: Filipino Ministry of ADSF and NAFP-USA.
Scan the QR code for details on the event and
how to support the 14th Annual Gala fundraising.

www.filipinoministrsf.org | email: filipinoministrsf1@gmail.com

RESPECT LIFE ESSAY CONTEST 2027

St. Joseph PROTECTOR OF THE HOLY CHILD

ESSAYS DUE FRIDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 2027

For all students in grades K-12 in public school, Catholic school, and home school in the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

For Essay instructions, visit
sfarch.org/essay-contest



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO

Office of
Human Life & Dignity



***Sto. Niño
Devotion***
(every Friday
after the
12:10 p.m. Mass)

*Judy Labaria
Alma Raymundo
Anecita Achivida*



***Black
Nazarene***
Feast Day
January 9

*Rosie Drapiza
Lydia Cagampan
Rene & Elsa Tuazon
Celia & Paul Gravador*



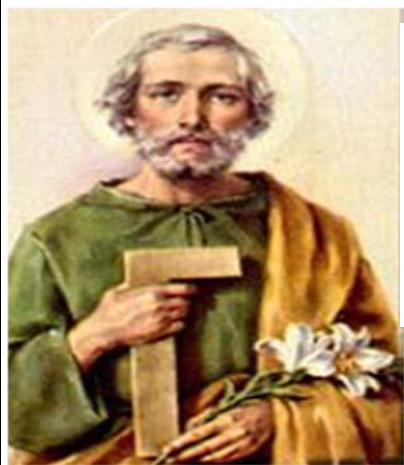
***Our Lady of
Perpetual Help
Devotion***
(every Tuesday
after the
12:10 Mass)

*Raya & Gamboa
Families*



San Lorenzo Ruiz
First
Filipino Saint
(Sep 28)

*Maria Bravo
Evelyn Grande
Mely Saavedra*



***Saint
Joseph***

***Feast Day
March 19***

Xenia Villamejor

***St. Anne
Feast Day
July 26***

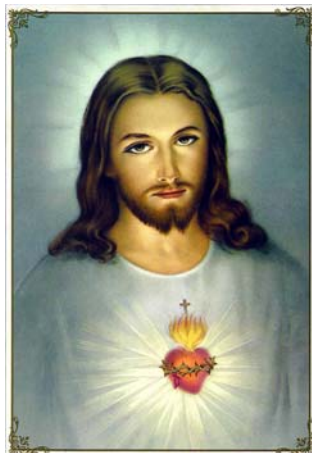
*Fe Macatangay
Jun & Emy Pasion
Emma Damian
Rowena Lawsin
Rowena G. Mendoza
Anonymous*



***Sacred
Heart***

*First Friday
Schedule*

*4pm Holy Hour
5:15 Mass*



***OUR
LADY
OF
FATIMA***

*Pray the
rosary*

PSALM 91

The one who lives under the protection of the Most High dwells in the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say concerning the Lord, who is my refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust:

He himself will rescue you from the bird trap, from the destructive plague.

He will cover you with his feathers; you will take refuge under his wings. His faithfulness will be a protective shield. You will not fear the terror of the night, the arrow that flies by day,

the plague that stalks in darkness, or the pestilence that ravages at noon.

Though a thousand fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, the pestilence will not reach you.

You will only see it with your eyes and witness the punishment of the wicked.

Because you have made the Lord—my refuge, the Most High—your dwelling place, no harm will come to you; no plague will come near your tent.

For he will give his angels orders concerning you, to protect you in all your ways.

They will support you with their hands so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the young lion and the serpent.

Because he has his heart set on me, I will deliver him; I will protect him because he knows my name.

When he calls out to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble. I will rescue him and give him honor.

I will satisfy him with a long life and show him my salvation.

Yap Family



St. Patrick Charismatic Prayer Group

Charismatic & Healing Mass:
Every 3rd Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Matt Dorsey
SAN FRANCISCO SUPERVISOR

I'm proud to represent you in City Hall — and grateful for the faith community we share at St. Patrick's. For help with city matters, feel free to call my office at (415) 554-7970 or email Matt.Dorsey@sfgov.org.

Best,

Matt Dorsey

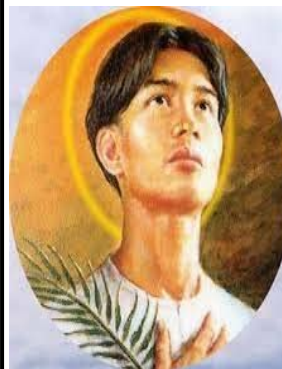


*Our Lady
of Guadalupe*

**Feast Day
December 12**



**St. Pedro Calungsod
2nd Filipino Saint (October 21)**



Elena Ramoran
& Mark Ramoran Gayapa
Romeo & Antonina Real,
Dan & Annie Lacap,
Jesus, Jr. & Malou Paningbatan,
Vida Ventura,
Marigold