# St. Patrick Catholic Church

# San Francisco's Historic Landmark #4 Founded in 1851

756 Mission St. (between 3rd and 4th Streets)
San Francisco, CA 94103
Tel (415) 421-3730 ~ Fax (415) 512-9730
www.stpatricksf.org

# Pastoral Staff

Rev. Andrew Spyrow - Pastor

Rev. Teodoro "Fr. Ted" P. Magpayo - Parochial Vicar

Rev. Patrick Okoye - Parochial Vicar

Deacon Ferdinand Mariano - OCIA Coordinator

Rachelle Morales and Nenette Murata -

Religious Education Coordinators

Charles Corpus - *Music Coordinator* Virginia Dilim - *Wedding Coordinator* 

Nora Regaspi - Office Manager

Camelle Sudario - Parish Receptionist

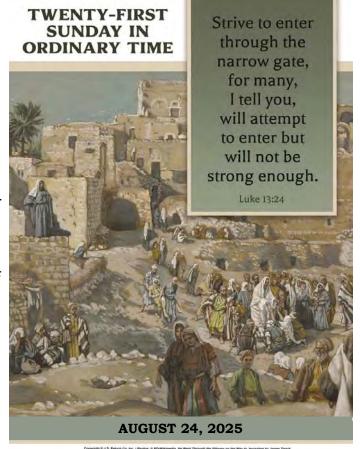
Emy Pasion - Bookkeeper

# 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.



# August 24, 2025 - Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Strengthen your drooping hands and your weak knees. Make straight paths for your feet, that what is lame may not be disjointed but healed. ~ Hebrews 12:12-13



# August 24, 2025 ~ Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year C

*Is* 66:18-21; *Ps* 117:1-2; *Heb* 12:5-7,11-13; *Lk* 13:22-30

No one is to be excluded from the kingdom for all peoples are called to proclaim the praises of the Lord and confess his holy name. No ethnic or religious group possesses exclusive rights to the kingdom (1,Ps,3). Suffering and pain are part of the human condition (2).

# God's People Gather

Our readings today remind us of the larger story of the Bible, of God's purposes and promises for the world. Because of humanity's rejection of God, as told in Genesis, human communities were first dispersed. Isaiah proclaims that one day God will gather these communities to be healed and reconciled with God. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus echoes Isaiah and teaches that all peoples in God's promised future "will recline at table in the kingdom of God." Notice that in Isaiah, the nations coming to God do not lose their ethnicity or unique identity. They bring their own distinct cultural gifts to God's table. Each people has its unique history with God, has received distinct blessings from God, and each is accountable to God. Today, we live in a global and multi-cultural Church. When God's diverse peoples gather in worship today, may we honor and celebrate each other's gifts and blessings.

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# Treasures From Our Tradition

Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians share a love for the Byzantine liturgy because it is during the Eucharist that the Church is most true to its identity, expresses its integrity, and discovers its vocation. Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians celebrate essentially the identical liturgy, with only very slight variations. It is a fairly complex ritual weaving together three separate layers of prayers: a liturgy prayed in the sanctuary by priests, often hidden by a curtain or screen; a liturgy sung by the assembly and led by a deacon in front of a screen formed of painted icons; and a third layer of private prayer by the priest, who prays in support of the deacon and the faithful. It is an eyeswide-open experience, gorgeous in visuals, and filled with the sound of God's people singing prayer. The energy of the worship centers on the presence of Christ, largely through an awareness of heaven touching earth when the Church gathers to celebrate.

In the late twentieth century, Latin Rite Catholics were encouraged to embrace a style of worship that was "full, conscious, and active," a value that has never been lost in the East. The liturgy has great impact in its beauty, in its poetry and contemplation, and by the actions of bowing, signing with the cross, and chanting that are required of the assembly. Contact with the Eastern Church reveals some key values that have been obscured in our own Church and are slowly being recovered.

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

# Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time August 24, 2025

Strengthen your drooping hands and your weak knees. Make straight paths for your feet, that what is lame may not be disjointed but healed.

~ Hebrews 12:12-13

# Prayer of the Week

**Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time** 

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

### Reflection question:

How can I know what God commands?

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# Patrician Meeting

Join us next Sunday for the monthly Patrician Meeting, a Catholic discussion group sponsored by the Legion of Mary. This month's topic is...

# The Virtues of Mary

Speaker ~ TBD

Date ~ Sunday, August 31, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.

### McKenna Hall

Join us for a lively discussion and share your thoughts and experiences with other Catholics just like you.

# AAA Update (as of 13 August 2025)

2025 AAA Goal	\$38,705.00
Received	\$22,107.00
Amount Remaining	\$16,598.00
% of Goal	57%

# Happy Birthday!!

Happy Birthday to our Parishioners celebrating a birthday this week.

Lexy Martinez	8/24	Michael Sullivan	8/29
Nashley Peter Mascarenha	8/27	Raymond Magpantay	8/31
Matthew Medina	8/28	Lester Ibarra	9/2





# Please Pray for Pope Francis' Intention for August

<u>Pope's Intention</u>: For mutual coexistence. Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

# 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. Enroll your child after all Masses every Sunday in August. First-time students must provide a valid baptismal certificate. Classes begin on Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> and run through May. Class hours are from 9:45 - 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.

# **Saint Monica** (332 - 387)

(August 27)

She had smiles for the neighbors, though her husband found her religion and the charity it inspired annoying. She made tearful prayers in private for a son, outwardly self-assured but, as his mother knew, inwardly restless, and whose girlfriend of a dozen years had borne his child out of wedlock. Though not the first or last such mother and son, Monica and Augustine are the Church's most famous, so we keep their feast days back to back, with Monica's, fittingly, first. To Rome she followed Augustine, then to Milan, where years of prayer—and nagging—finally bore fruit in his conversion by Saint Ambrose. For six months, mother and son enjoyed the blessing of rediscovering each other. Just in time! On the way home to North Africa, Monica took sick and died near Rome. No child who has mourned a parent can read, unmoved, Augustine's tender account, in his Confessions, of Monica's last days. At this time of the year, when parents watch apprehensively as children leave for school, may Monica's perseverance and Augustine's long-prayed-for conversion ease anxiety and kindle hope.

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

# St. Patrick Children's Choir

Children of all ages are welcome to join the St. Patrick Children's Choir. Members will have the opportunity to learn to read music, sing in harmony, practice vocal techniques, and develop cantoring skills. We encourage parents and guardians to participate, as they serve as important role models for children. Registration forms are available in the office and at the back of the church. For more information, please contact the Parish Office.

# Saints & Special Observances

Monday: optional memorial ~ St. Louis optional memorial ~ St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest

Wednesday: Memorial ~ St. Monica

Thursday: Memorial ~

St. Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Friday: Memorial ~ The Passion of St. John the Baptist TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# Readings for the Week

Monday: I Thes 1:1-5,8b-10; Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8; Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Mt 23:27-32 Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Mk 6:17-29 Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Mt 25:14-30

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Sir 3:17-18,20,28-29; Ps 68:4-7,10-11; Heb 12:18-19.22-24a;

Lk 14:1,7-14

# Today's Readings

First Reading — Brothers and sisters of every race and language will be brought to Jerusalem (Isaiah 66:18-21).

Psalm — Go out to all the world and tell the Good News (Psalm 117).

Second Reading — Strengthen your drooping hands and your weak knees (Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13).

**Gospel** — People from east and west, north and south recline at table in the kingdom of God (Luke 13:22-30).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

# Saint of the Week



Augustine, † 430; born in Tagaste, north Africa; after a dissolute life, he received baptism at age thirty-three from Ambrose; elected bishop of Hippo; combated Manichees, the Donatists and Pelagius; most noted for his Confessions and City of God; over 500 homilies are extant; considered a founder of monastic life in the West, his Rule (whose mantra for community life is anima una et cor unum ad Deum ~ one soul and one heart for God) is observed by some 100 religious communities today,

including the Augustinian Canons Regular, Friars, and Sisters, Dominicans, Norbertines, Trinitarians, Ursulines, and the Visitation Order; one of the four great doctors of the Latin Church (with Ambrose, Jerome & Gregory the Great); called the 'Doctor of grace.'

# Living God's Word

We pray for the wisdom to live justly, that is, in such a way that we keep ourselves in proper relationship with God, with each other, and with the earth. We pray for the wisdom to use our financial resources to help bring about such "just living."

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# Acts of the Apostles

I never heard anything about the resolutions of the apostles, but a great deal about their acts.

Mass Intentions for Aug 24 - 30			
Date	Time	Intention	
Sunday 24	7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Judy Neri Labaria † Nicomedes Abello † Rene Perez SI Tita Labaria	
Monday 25	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	BD Louis Equaras SI Dan & Annie Lacap SI Felicitas Locsin	
Tuesday 26	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Merly Lorete TG Stephen Sun SI Fe Macatangay	
Wednesday 27	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Beltran C. Marces † Lourdes Villanueva SI Corazon Mariano	
Thursday 28	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Marilyn Sumulong BD Erlinda Orillano SI Loren Masangcay	
Friday 29	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Evelyn Mendoza SI Rachelle Morales SI Jeff & Nenette Murata	
Saturday 30	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Vilma Nangca † Rosalinda Del Rosario SI Glorina Ochangco	

# 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 Rectory)**

(appointments are preferred)
Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

# Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

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

### Sto. Niño Devotion

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

### Sacred Heart

First Friday of the month at 11:00 a.m.

### 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.

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

www.stpatricksf.org

# 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 93 Lifetime Donors as of 14 August 2025

In Memory of Nicomedes & Juanita Abello Kusina ni Tess Judy Neri Labaria Cristina Agbayani Marilou Alegre Tita Labaria Corazon M. Ambata Dan And Annie Lacap Roberto Andrey Eleanor Lawsin Perla Ardanas Felicitas Locsin Fernando Balbuena Merly Lorete Joy, Jen & Jackie Bandelaria Fe Macatangay Valente Banez 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

John & Judith Casper Vilma Nangca

Sandra Cea Glorina Ochangco

Derrick Chang Florentina Palacio

Felix Chang Jesus & Marilu Paningbatan

Max & Josephine Chin 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 Lolita Ramos † Rosalinda Del Rosario Alma Raymundo Brian Dela Pena Hersie Rosales Jiasmin Delago Matthew Rothschild Rowena Cruz Diaz Rosalina San Diego Justin Edwards Concesa San Pedro Joycelyn Espanol Jaymie Lynn Santiago

Lydia Eusebio Mario, Nelly, & Tracy Sarmiento
Joseph & Maria Fang Estela Sullivan
Riz A Novicio Fernandez Jennifer Sunga

Riz A. Novicio Fernandez Jennifer Sunga Familia Galindo Moreno y Berziga Veronica Tayo Precious & Ryan Tizon † Jo Tjin Thoy Lilian Gomez Derek Tillotson

Josefa Gonzales Victoriano & Carmen Uchi & Family

Rodil, Ruby Gonzales & Children Laura Vanmunching
Alvin Gonzalez Boying & Rosie Vasquez
Therese Guintu Alden, Mercy Ventigan & Kids

Norma Gumawid Vida Ventura Ina Howard Josephine Villa † Ponciano & Marlene Icatar Rianty Winarta

Georgina Jose Edwin Rosalie Krista Ezra & Juliana

Kaiser PermanenteSF, 4Center & Oncology Cielito Littaua Yoma Agnes Kumi † Charlie A. Yparraguirre

# Relevant Radio

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

### 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



The Founder Frank Duff 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

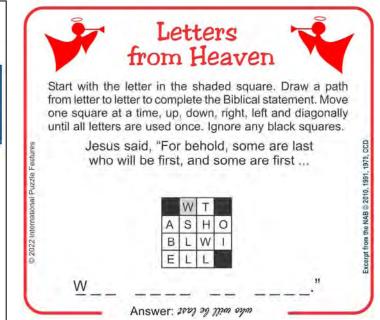
and hospitals and through collaboration in every apostolate and missionary undertakings

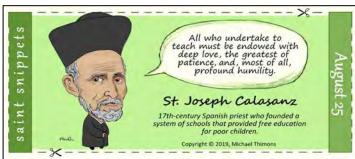
sponsored by the parish. The works are more of spiritual works of mercy.

### Legion of Mary's Active Membership

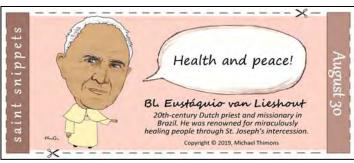
This membership is open to all faithfully practicing Catholics. Members attend weekly meetings and engage in prayers and active works. Candidates under 18 years of age can be received in a Junior Praesidium.

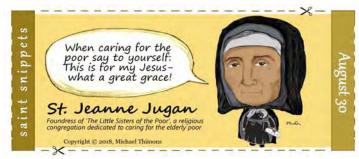


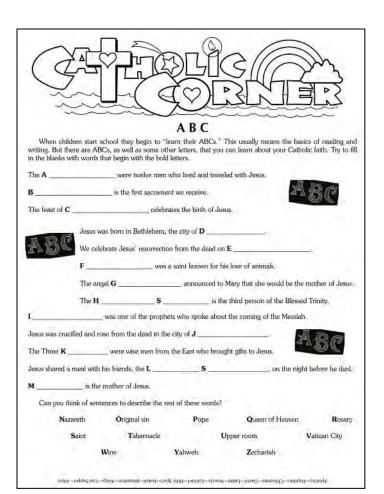


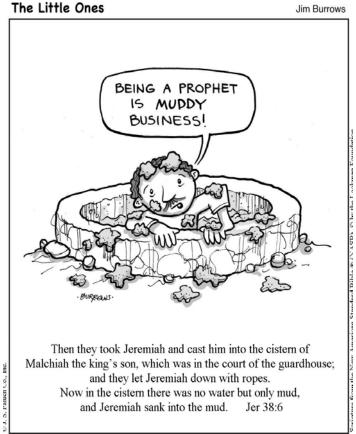


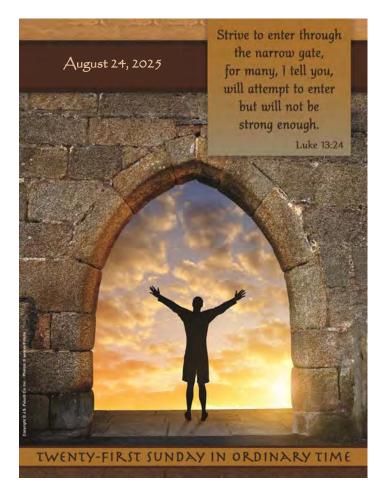














# Welcome the Stranger

We have become accustomed to seeing pictures in the media and stories on the news about immigrants from Latin America and refugees from Syria fleeing violence and destruction in their own countries, trying to make their way to a safe place. We have also seen the reactions of people who want to keep them away from their countries, who fail to welcome the stranger and the helpless children. Have we forgotten Jesus' call to comfort the homeless and the stranger? "They shall bring all your brothers and sisters from all the nations . . . to Jerusalem, my holy mountain, says the LORD."

In the three readings for this day, we are told that we are to welcome these strangers, to welcome the discipline of the Lord, which leads to peace, and to "strive to enter through the narrow gate" into the glory of God's own homeland, the reign of God.

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# Treasures From Our Tradition

The wonderful diversity of life and worship among Roman Catholics of East and West is an example of God writing straight with crooked lines. The steady hand of the villainous Emperor Diocletian drew a line across Europe and Africa that split the empire in two, and for the most part determined how Christians would worship two thousand years later.

Italy's heel and the far northern city of Trieste fell on the Eastern side, and have had a form of Eastern liturgy ever since. Constantinople, which soon became the seat of the Roman Empire, became a base for Christianizing the East up to Russia and Poland. Poland was on the Eastern side, but a series of wars and medieval mayhem pushed the religious boundary back to the Ukraine, and Poland remains an outpost of the Latin Church to this day.

An old rule of thumb declared that whatever religion was observed by the local prince, the people had to follow. This gave rise to persecution and migration as people sought toleration for their expressions of faith. In the United States, we are accustomed to peaceful collaboration among Christians of East and West, a situation that challenges churches that still feel the pinch of age-old division.

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

# QUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

# Discipline

It is no accident that the words "disciple" and "discipline" are nearly identical. Their relationship in Christian faith and life, however, has fallen somewhat out of favor in the past generation, as certain prescribed Church rules and regulations have been reduced and relaxed. These rules were often referred to as "disciplines." We are mistaken, however, to think that it no longer takes discipline to follow Christ. The Letter to the Hebrews assures us of that today. Our discipline is more like that of an athlete pursuing a victory or a personal best, or a musician striving for a concert career or to master a new piece of music. This discipline comes from desire, not from regulations. It was the desire to do the will of God that led Jesus on the path to his cross. It is that same desire he encourages in us today: to strive to enter through the narrow gate, to find ourselves in the kingdom with a surprising assortment of people who are there not because of mere observation of rules, but out of a genuine desire to recline at the table of the heavenly banquet.

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# Treasures From Our Tradition

In recent decades, attention has shifted away from headgear as a symbol of a bishop's authority to a more substantial symbol: the chair, called the *cathedra*. The word comes from the Latin word for a chair with armrests. It is exactly the reason why dining room sets were marketed in this country a few years ago with only one chair with armrests, the captain's chair. In many rectories of a certain vintage, you will see only one chair with arms at the dining table, a sign to the assisting priests of their proper place in the constellation. For us, as with most Anglicans and some Lutherans, the *cathedra* is a sign of the teaching authority of the bishop. We inherited the symbolism of the chair from Roman civil life in the fourth century. A church that houses a *cathedra* is called a cathedral, and the chair may be used only by the bishop of that diocese. Priests who preside at liturgy there must use a different presidential chair.

You may find the *cathedra* in its most traditional place at the head of the apse, or against a side wall as was favored in medieval times, but increasingly bishops are locating the *cathedra* in the midst of the assembly of the faithful. In the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, visitors will find no barrier to their trying out the *cathedra*, an expression of hospitality that helps the archbishop be mindful of those whom he serves.

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



# Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

We have become accustomed to seeing pictures in the media and stories on the news about immigrants from Latin America and refugees from Syria fleeing violence and destruction in their own countries, trying to make their way to a safe place. We have also seen the reactions of people who want to keep them away from their countries, who fail to welcome the stranger and the helpless children. Have we forgotten Jesus' call to comfort the homeless and the stranger? "They shall bring all your brothers and sisters from all the nations . . . to Jerusalem, my holy mountain, says the LORD."

In the three readings for this day, we are told that we are to welcome these strangers, to welcome the discipline of the Lord, which leads to peace, and to "strive to enter through the narrow gate" into the glory of God's own homeland, the reign of God.

**Discipline**As summer stretches on into fall, perhaps we have become somewhat distracted from the liturgy and the readings of Ordinary Time. The reading from Hebrews seems particularly puzzling to some. What discipline are we undergoing, and how do we feel about it? Is it really a sign of God's love for us, or just a pain, or worse, a punishment for something? It is really the sign of God's love for us, "for whom the Lord loves, [the Lord] disciplines." Of course, no one likes to be disciplined, but we are told, "At the time, all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it." To be disciplined is to be taught the right way.

# The Narrow Gate

Life is difficult, and we need this preparation, for as Jesus tells his followers, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many . . . will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." We need to understand that we are strangers here; we all belong in another place, another time: the reign of God. If we do not know how to follow the right road, to welcome the stranger and help those who are in trouble, how will we find the right way ourselves? If we side with those who want to cast out others who do not resemble themselves in order to keep themselves and their countries somehow "pure," we ourselves will be treated in the same way, and will not enter through that narrow gate. If we consider ourselves to be better than others, we lack the humility to enter the reign of God. For as Jesus tells us, "some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

God's discipline will make us strong and kind, peaceful and good. It teaches us how to walk in the way of Jesus, and to enter through that narrow gate.

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# **Looking Good**



Don't you love it when the underdog wins? When the Cardinals beat the Yankees for the championship or the Blues beat the Redwings, or the Rams beat anyone? Even when I watch a game with no St. Louis teams playing, I still like to root for the underdog. That is what I like about today's Gospel: the last will be first and the first will be last.

Some say that Jesus was referring to the Jews, God's chosen people, whom Jesus called first to be his disciples. When they rejected him, the call went out to the Gentiles, who became followers. Or perhaps in Jesus' time, he was talking about the leaders of the Jews, the scribes and Pharisees. These refused to follow Jesus, while ordinary Jews who did not feel threatened by Jesus' teaching became disciples.

In a way, you can understand why the leaders rejected Jesus. They made a nice living out of the offerings made by ordinary Jews. As long as they could decide who could enter the temple, they had a nice income flow. They were smart enough to include the poor, by asking them for smaller offerings. And who could argue with them? They worked for God. How dare Jesus say that they would be cast out, while people from the rest of the world would enter the Kingdom of God!

And how about us? Remember that the Gospel was not written for non-believers. Are we threatened by Jesus' message? Just as the scribes and Pharisees considered themselves important in God's eyes because of their office, do we consider ourselves "saved" because we call ourselves Christians? Do we respect all people, or just the ones we like? Are we generous to the poor, or just to our friends? Do we give good example to the people we work with? Do we follow our conscience or do we follow the crowd?

Entry into the Kingdom of God is not a fashion statement. We don't get there by looking good. We are invited by Jesus to be last on earth so we can be first in the Kingdom.

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

# Reflections on the Reign of God

A threefold message is developed in today's readings. First, everyone is called to proclaim God's glory and receive salvation. Second, salvation is not for the unprepared. Like a loving parent, God gently corrects and disciplines those who have been called. Often, suffering may be part of the formation process. We learn to accept it as Jesus once accepted his cross. Third, some people who are treated with contempt and disdain by the self-righteous actually do have a place in God's kingdom.

We need to take these lessons to heart. Recall your initial excitement upon hearing God's word. How has the Good News that once struck your fancy taken deeper root in your life? Look again at the crosses you have been given. How are others transformed when they see how you have accepted and grown from your sufferings?

Finally, are there some people you imagine as not invited into God's kingdom? Why do you feel this way about them? For a moment, imagine them on the inside and yourself on the outside. How can this be possible? Always try your best to enter by the narrow gate, gladly proclaiming God's glory.

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# Grace and Struggle

The gift of grace increases as the struggles increase.

# The Struggle

Asked to name a saint of our times, many of us would say "Mother Teresa." Born in Albania, she began religious life as a sister in a teaching order, which sent her to a girls' school in Calcutta, India. She was shocked to see the dismal poverty beyond the school grounds. In 1948 she responded with unquestioned faith to an inner calling: to leave the teaching order and serve the destitute in Calcutta's slums. Very soon, other women joined Mother Teresa in her works of mercy, forming the Missionaries of Charity. Over the next fifty years Mother Teresa became a world-renowned symbol of compassion and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. A book published after her death contains letters she wrote to friends, superiors, and confessors, and reveals that this small, energetic nun had spent long years in a spiritual desert. She had such deep longing for God, but felt no faith, love, or fervor. Her fame increased, but except for a brief few weeks in 1958, her faith did not return. She said her smile was a mask, as she struggled mightily to see any value in all of her labor: if there is no God, there can be no soul and Jesus is not the Christ. She had even stopped praying for a while because it seemed so meaningless. Mother Teresa apparently died with her doubts in 1997. Prominent atheists declared that the letters show that all religious faith is a sham. Those of us who struggle with faith are encouraged by her heroism. Like Saint John of the Cross, Saint Teresa of Ávila, and many others, she kept doing God's will in spite of spiritual darkness. Her dying wish was that her letters be destroyed, but the Church decided to keep them. Perhaps now we know why.

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# Proclaim God's Glory

A threefold message develops in today's readings. First, everyone is called to proclaim God's glory and receive salvation. Second, salvation is not for the unprepared. Like a loving parent, God gently corrects and disciplines those who have been called. Usually suffering is part of the formation process. We are to accept it as Jesus once accepted his cross.

Third, some people who imagine themselves saved are really not. The door of salvation has been closed in their faces despite their cries and pleas. On the other hand, some who are treated with contempt and disdain actually do have a place in God's kingdom.

We need to take these lessons to heart. Recall your initial excitement on hearing God's word. How has the Good News that once caught your fancy taken deeper root in your life? Look again at the crosses you have been given. How are others transformed when they see how you have accepted and grown from your sufferings?

Finally, are there some people whom you imagine are not invited to God's kingdom? Why do you think so? For a moment, imagine them on the inside and yourself on the outside. How might this be possible?

Always try your best to enter by the narrow door. Come and proclaim God's glory.

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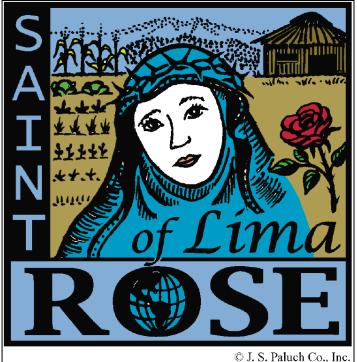
Let us understand that God is a physician, and that suffering is a medicine for salvation, not a punishment for damnation.

~ St. Augustine

God in his omnipotence could not give more, in His wisdom He knew not how to give more, in His riches He had not more to give, than the Eucharist. ~ St. Augustine



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# Living Stewardship Now

If anyone expresses doubt about faith and religious belief, don't argue with them. Speak words of encouragement and pray for them.

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# How to Pray

Grant us grace, Almighty Father, so to pray as to deserve to be heard. ~ Jane Austen

# We Need a Little Epiphany

Today's first reading from Isaiah hearkens back to passages we hear from that same prophet as the Christmas season draws to a close on Epiphany. The message at that point in the Christian year is essentially the same as today: the redeeming grace of God knows no bounds. It is so marvelous that our human geographical regions or institutions cannot contain it. When it is revealed, the sheer wonder and magnitude of it draws people from all places, from unexpected places, from places that are sometimes considered undesirable by those who would like to contain or control the saving power of God. And then, in an ebb and flow of divine glory, the good news of God's steadfastness, kindness, love, and faithfulness that has caused myriads of people to come to God will turn about, and the message of it will return to all nations and all peoples, as today's psalm sings.

But Right This Very Minute?

The end of time, Jesus explains today, is going to be full of surprises. The undergirding surprise is the unknowability of the precise time of the coming of God's anointed One in glory. To those who were anxious about the number to be saved, Jesus replies not with a head count, but with a description of them: those who have been disciplined in the Lord to enter through the narrow way to heaven. Some will assume that they "know somebody" on the inside, and so are permitted a life of evil. Their insider status, Jesus says, will be for naught. The master at the door will not be able to recognize them through the veil of sinful living that covers them. Those who thought that their "good blood" in the patriarchal covenant would be a guarantee of joining the patriarchs and prophets will be grinding their teeth, not eating at the banquet table in the kingdom. All who erected boundaries and perpetuated status, according to Jesus, will see their imaginary celestial borders shattered, and the highest reserved places given away. Want a seat at the banquet table? Start living like somebody the other guests would like to have there.

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Discipline

It is no accident that the words "disciple" and "discipline" are nearly identical. Their relationship in Christian faith and life, however, has fallen somewhat out of favor in the past generation, as certain prescribed Church rules and regulations have been reduced and relaxed. These rules were often referred to as "disciplines." We are mistaken, however, to think that it no longer takes discipline to follow Christ. The Letter to the Hebrews assures us of that today. Our discipline is more like that of an athlete pursuing a victory or a personal best, or a musician striving for a concert career or to master a new piece of music. This discipline comes from desire, not from regulations. It was the desire to do the will of God that led Jesus on the path to his cross. It is that same desire he encourages in us today: to strive to enter through the narrow gate, to find ourselves in the kingdom with a surprising assortment of people who are there not because of mere observation of rules, but out of a genuine desire to recline at the table of the heavenly banquet.

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Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time August 21, 2022

Strengthen your drooping hands and your weak knees.

Make straight paths for your feet, that what is lame may not be disjointed but healed.

— Hebrews 12:12-13

# Reflecting on God's Word

When Jacob Marley appears to Ebenezer Scrooge at the beginning of *A Christmas Carol*, he wears a long chain, clasped around his middle, "made of cash-boxes, keys, padlocks, ledgers, deeds, and heavy purses wrought in steel." He tells Scrooge that he wears the chain he forged in life, and now he wanders the earth because in life his spirit never went beyond "the narrow limits of our money-changing hole." Old Marley's life had been about money until it ended; now he pays the price.

Luke calls on his community to consider its use of money. In today's parable a steward has been caught squandering his master's property. Seeing that his days are numbered, the steward acts quickly to ensure that he will have friends at the end. Surprisingly, the master commends him for "acting prudently." Jesus then comments that the children of this world have more gumption than the children of light, using their money to make friends.

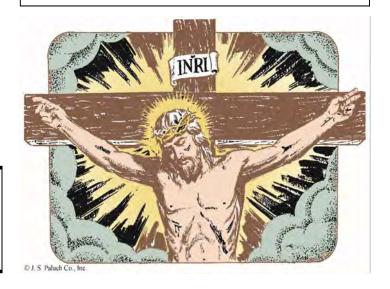
Three other comments follow: Use money to make friends for eternity; trustworthiness in small matters and earthly wealth will lead to being trusted with true wealth, i.e. God's kingdom; and you have to choose between God and "mammon" (whatever holds your deepest trust other than God). In a nutshell, use your money to serve; allow God to save.

Jesus is in line with the prophet Amos, who castigates the businessmen of his day for cheating the poor and needy. God is on the side of these little ones. They are the ones we are to befriend by using our money for their good. Jesus, who came as a "ransom for all" (1 Timothy 2:4), is our true wealth.

~ James A. Wallace, C.SS.R. Copyright © 2012, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

# St. Augustine's Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy. Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. Amen.



# "Do everything for the glory of God."



# **YOUR GIFTS CHANGE LIVES**

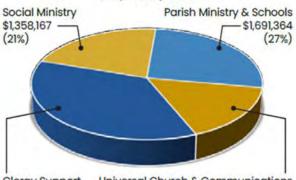
Your gift to the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal allows us to provide ministries, programs and services that benefit parishes and people throughout the Archdiocese of San Francisco. The Annual Appeal is an opportunity for all in the Archdiocese to come together as one community to support one another and everyone we serve.

"For almost a quarter of a millennium, the Church in San Francisco has been a beacon of hope, spreading the light of Christ to all in our community. I ask you to be generous with your prayers and with your material support for the mission of the Church here in our Archdiocese."



# ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2025 GOAL:

\$6,400,000



Universal Church & Communications Clergy Support \$2,331,813 (36%) \$1,018,656 (16%)

# CHANCERY BUDGET FOR 2025 SOURCES OF INCOME: \$17,200,000

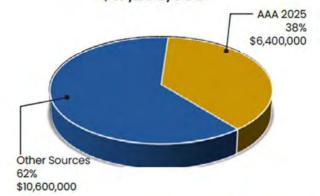










Photo by Dennis Callahan

Photo by Dennis Callahan

Photo by Christina Gray Photo by Dennis Callahan

PARISH MINISTRY & SCHOOLS

The Archdiocese provides additional funding for its parish schools, varied educational programs, and financial aid. Supported offices and ministries include: Department of Pastoral Ministry, Faith Formation, Youth & Young Adult, Office of Worship, Marriage and Family Life, Teacher Incentive Grants, Alliance for Mission District Schools and Child and Youth Protection.

22,950 Catholic School Students • 2,576 Teachers & Staff • 70 Teacher Incentive Grants • Premarital & Marriage Support . Office of Faith Formation . Office of Worship

### CLERGY SUPPORT

Clergy Support helps those who care for us. It supports priests, deacons and seminarians in their ministry. This ministry includes: Council of Priests, Vicar General, Vicar for Clergy, Clergy Education, Priests' Education Fund, Permanent Diaconate, Diaconate Formation, Office of Consecrated Life, Office of Vocations, Priests' Retirement Fund, Serra Clergy House and Priests' Elder Care.

Active Priests' Support • Retired Priests' Support • Seminarian Formation • Diaconate Formation

### SOCIAL MINISTRY

Through its variety of social ministries, the Archdiocese is able to thoughtfully engage with its diverse communities. Supported offices and ministries include: Hospital Chaplains, the Tribunal, Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Human Life & Dignity, Prison Ministry, Ethnic Ministry, Chinese Ministry, Ministry for the Spanish Speaking, Filipino Ministry, Ecumenical and Interreligious Programs.

Hospital & Prison Chaplains . Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministries · Respect Life · Restorative Justice · Ecumenical & Interreligious Programs . Ministry Support in 22 Languages

# UNIVERSAL CHURCH & COMMUNICATIONS

The Universal Church supports the larger work of the California Conference of Catholic Bishops, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Holy See. The Office of Communications provides internal constituent communications and external communications that fund media relations, public information and special projects.

The Holy See . Catholic San Francisco . San Francisco Católico • SFArchdiocese.org & Social Media . California Catholic Conference of Bishops . U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

# 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.
- THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT Give only your name; speak with an attorney present.
- THE RIGHT TO MAKE A PHONE CALL
   Call your attorney or family; keep a number ready.
- THE RIGHT TO A HEARING BEFORE A JUDGE You can ask for a judge to hear your case.
- 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**

There are additional laws and policies in place for Immigrant Tenants and Workers in CA. To learn more, please contact us!



SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS AND RESOURCE INFORMATION FOR SUPPORT.



Considering being a...

# Host Home for Refugee Youth

Refugee Foster Care is looking for kind-hearted individuals to open their homes and provide a room to youth (18yo+) in our program.

These young adults are ready to take on the challenge of independent living with just a bit of guidance.

Contact us to learn more!

Kimberly Lozano

408-325-5107

klozano@ccscc.org

www.CCSCC.org/Refugee-Foster
Care



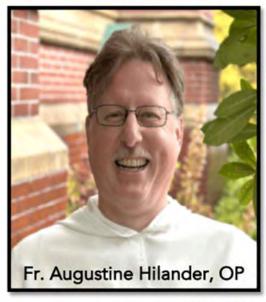


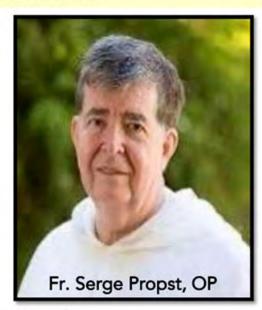
# Women's Silent Retreats September 5-7, 2025 September 19-21, 2025

# Meditations on The Last Discourse of Jesus

Join us in the Upper Room with Jesus and His disciples.

Let us prayerfully relive some awesome events that took place there: the Last Supper, where Jesus gave His Last Discourse, an appearance of the Resurrected Jesus to his disciples, and the Descent of the Holy Spirit. We will focus on this teaching of Jesus and enter into the fullness of life.







St Clare's Retreat 2381 Laurel Glen Road Soquel, CA 95073 831-423-8093

www.stclaresretreat.org





A-Cross America Relay for Pro-Life!



September 5th - October 25th

Course launches from New York City, San Francisco, Fargo, Austin... and for 51 days teammates will walk/run 5K legs to make a Cross over America. All In Christ!

Register at liferunners.org/across



# POLICE- FIRE - SHERIFF MASS

Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone, celebrant with Police and Fire Chaplains Reception to follow

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025, 9:30 AM ST. CECILIA CATHOLIC CHURCH

2555 17TH AVE, SAN FRANCISCO









The Police-Fire Mass originated as an annual way to honor the firefighters who lost their lives during the 1946 Herbert Hotel Fire and continues to honor all of our first responders. The Mass is sponsored by the San Francisco Fire Department, San Francisco Police Department, San Francisco Sheriff's Office, San Francisco Park Rangers, and the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

If going or questions check in with Remee Vargas for more details

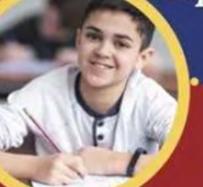
Vargasr@sfarch.org 415-614-5595





# ESSAY CONTEST ON-SITE

Express, Lead & Inspire!



HIGH SCHOOL:

**1ST PRIZE: \$800** 

2ND PRIZE: \$500

3RD PRIZE: \$300

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

1ST PRIZE: \$500

2ND PRIZE: \$250

3RD PRIZE: \$150

Open to all Middle School and High School students in the San Francisco Archdiocese

# HOPE: THE ENDURING VIRTUE OF FILIPINO SAINTS

Competition Date: September 13, 2025

Time: 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Location: Star of the Sea Church Auditorium

4420 Geary Blvd., San Francisco

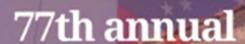
(Parking on 8th Ave. between Geary and Clement Sts.)

The winners will be announced at the San Francisco Archdiocese Filipino Ministry Gala on October 5, 2025. The 1st prize winners will be invited to the gala to read an excerpt from their winning essays.



REGISTRATION IS OPEN: MAY 5 - AUGUST 30, 2025

Send email inquiries to: FMCBEssay@gmail.com



# POLICE- FIRE - SHERIFF MASS

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Archdiocese of San Francisco Catholic Charismatic Renewal

28th Annual Holy Spirit Conference



Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption 1111 Gough Sreet Patrons Hall San Francisco, CA 94109

Doors Open 8:00 am Holy Mass 4:00 pm (Vigil)

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

TALKS IN ENGLISH, SPANISH, VIETNAMESE & YOUTH PROGRAM

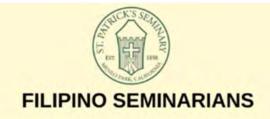
# Contact:

Danny Garza 650-270-8065 Sally Yeo 650-400-4825



SAVE THE DATE

SFSpirit.com



and



# invite you to the EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION HONORING SAN LORENZO RUIZ DE MANILA



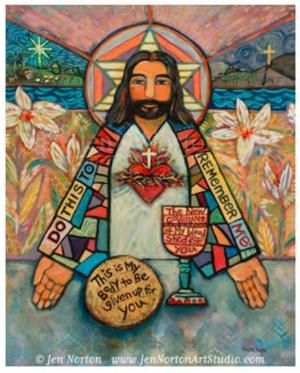
WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 24, 2025 | 5:00 PM ST. PATRICK'S SEMINARY & UNIVERSITY 320 Middlefield Rd, Menlo Park, CA 94025

Procession of the statue of San Lorenzo Ruiz and reception at SPSU's Refectory to follow after the Mass. RSVP by September 15 for food headcount. Contact Estrelle Chan at 415.336.9193.

www.filipinoministrysf.org | filipinoministrysf1@gmail.com



# Love the art? Meet the artist!



Come to "Creativity is the Language of God," and hear Jen Norton, whose work celebrates the traditions of Catholic faith with a contemporary twist.

Learn how she uses painting as a form of prayer, and then in an easy workshop after her presentation she will guide you on how to hear God through creative expression.

# Thursday, Sept 25 7:00 pm

Our Lady of Angels Gym 1721 Hillside Drive Burlingame, CA 94010







Invite family and friends

# See Jen Norton LIVE!

Hear her inspirational story and participate in an easy, hands-on workshop

# ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO RESPECT LIFE CONFERENCE

# THE ABORTION PILL: DANGERS, REMEDIES, AND LEGAL CHALLENGES

Chemical abortion is now the most common method of abortion in the U.S., often carried out with little or no medical oversight or patient care. Learn from top experts in medicine and law about the current landscape in California and across the nation.

# Our Speakers:



Dr. GEORGE DELGADO

Founder of the Abortion Pill Reversal Program; Medical Director, Culture of Life Family Services



TAMMY MAHANEY

Doctor of Nursing Practice; Family Nurse Practitioner, Real Options & Bella Primary Care



PETER BREEN

Executive Vice President and Head of Litigation, Thomas More Society

SEPTEMBER 27, 2025 8:30 AM - 2 PM

STAR OF THE SEA PARISH 4420 GEARY BLVD SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94118 For questions, contact us at lifeanddignity@sfarch.org or call 415-614-5571.

To RSVP, visit: sfarchdiocese.org/event/sfrespect-life-conference/









# 2025 White Mass for Medical Professionals

Doctors, nurses and healthcare professionals are invited to the Archdiocesan White Mass for Medical Professionals.

A White Mass, so-named for the traditional color of physicians' coats, is a way to honor and pray with and for all those who serve in the medical professions.

All are welcome to participate.

Organized by Office of Human Life & Dignity

Sponsored by Catholic Medical Association San Francisco Guild, Order of Malta Northern California Clinic, and Bella Primary Care.

# 2025 White Mass for Medical Professionals

October 3, 2025 6:00pm

# St. Dunstan Church

1133 Broadway Millbrae, CA 94030

# Valerie Schmalz

lifeanddignity@sfarch.org 415-614-5571



# Bay Area Rosary Rally in honor of St. Francis of Assisi and the Jubilee Year of Hope

7:00 a.m. Gather for the Jubilee Pilgrimage Walk at St. Anthony of Padua (SF)

7:15 am. Procession begins to the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption Cathedral

**9:15 a.m.** Talks on St. Francis and the Blessed Mother Fr. Bobby Barbato, OFM. Cap (English) Fr. Alberto Villafan, OFM (Spanish) \*Confessions available

10:00 a.m. Mass with Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone

**11:30 a.m.** Eucharistic Procession and recitation of the Rosary

12:00 p.m. Benediction

Due to safety concerns, no banners are permitted in the processions; however, religious images and statues are allowed

Bay Area Rosary Rally in honor of St. Francis of Assisi and the Jubilee Year of Hope

October 4, 2025 7:00am - 12:00pm Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption

1111 Gough St. San Francisco, CA 94109



# One Faith | One People | One Mission

Sunday | October 5, 2025 | 5:00 PM Patrons Hall, Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption 1111 Gough Street, San Francisco, CA 94109

Dinner Ticket: \$100 Raffle Ticket: \$20 1st Prize: \$3,000 | 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: \$2,000 | 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$1,000

To purchase dinner & raffle tickets, contact: 415.595.9248 (Estelle) | 415.317.5481 (Willie) | 415.336.9193 (Estrelle); 415.521.6934 (Sherry)

www.filipinoministrysf.org | filipinoministrysfl@gmail.com



# BLD - Open in Spirit to God

Catholic Charismatic Covenant Community under the Archdiocese of San Francisco

# MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND



Discover a weekend of love, faith, and renewal grow closer to your spouse and enrich your marriage in a truly unforgettable way.

OCT 24-25 2025

Vallombrosa Retreat Center, Menlo Park with Fr. Peter Eugenio, Spiritual Director

> For questions, contact Deacon Ric & May Cepriano 650 826 0221



# SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2025, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

The Restorative Justice Crime Survivors Retreat is a sa of healing, specially created for families who have lost a loved one to homicide. This retreat offers participants a chance to strengthen their faith, cultivate courage, and tap into their inner resilience. In addition to fostering spiritual growth, attendees will find moments of peace, gain renewed perspective, and embrace a sense of grace. Surrounded by others who share similar experiences, they will build connections, exchange wisdom, and support one another. By the retreat's end, participants will emerge feeling spiritually renewed, empowered, and equipped with newfound clarity to navigate life's challenges ahead.

# FREE RETREAT BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

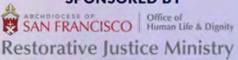
MERCY CENTER 2300 ADELINE AVENUE BURLINGAME, CA 94010

# INQUIRIES AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION

REGISTER AT: SFARCH.ORG/CRIMESURVIVORSRETREAT



### SPONSORED BY



INQUIRIES: EMAIL JULIO ESCOBAR AT ESCOBARJ@SFARCH.ORG OR CALL (415) 614-5572



<u>The Faith Formation Conference</u> Webpage and registration will begin in mid-August. Remember to have all catechists attend and continue on their catechist certification.

Beginning of Year Parish Catechetical Leaders gathering is September 5 or 6. Choose which date to attend. All parish directors/coordinators are asked to attend or send a representative.

<u>Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults</u> training for all parishes is October 3 & 4—Making Disciples Institute.

### Other fliers to know about

Catechetical Sunday

Radiant Love Training

Foundational Training

Youth on a Mission

ON Fire

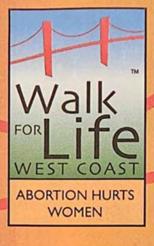
**Adult Confirmation Classes** 

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO
FAITH FORMATION CONFERENCE

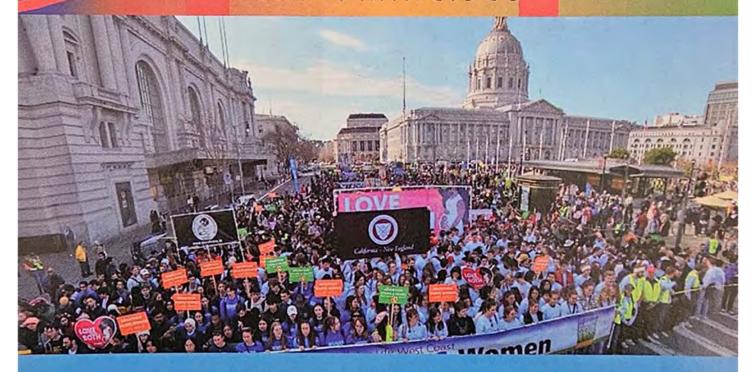
# HOPE Does Mol Disappoint LA ESPERANZA No Desilvasiona

November 7-8,2025 St. Matthew's Parish

philologi semedalism abayon 199



SAN FRANCISCO



Celebrating 250 years of the City of St. Francis and Mission Dolores! Join as as we bring the Life and Love of Christ to the streets and people of San Francisco!

¡Celebrando 250 años de la ciudad de San Francisco y la Misión Dolores! ¡Únete a llevar la vida y el amor de Cristo a las calles y la gente de San Francisco!



WalkforLifeWC.com



January 27 - February 11



Fr. Boie Espeleta Parochial Vicar St. Robert Church

Join us as we embark on a journey to strengthen our faith, reconnect to our rich religious and

cultural heritage, and

enjoy the Philippines!



Fr. Dominic Lee In-Residence, St. Mark Church Fr. Roy Remo Pastor, St. Charles Church

Land package with domestic airfare:

Based on Single Occupancy

US\$ 3,322 Based on Double/Twin Occupancy

International Airfare via Eva Air starts at US\$ 1,100 per person. Rates subject to change.

# RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW!

SCAN QR CODE



Filipino Ministry www.filipinoministrysf.org, email: filipinoministrysfl@gmail.com

Tour Operator: Rajah Tour's Philippines

Manila Office: inquiry@rajahtours.com.ph San Francisco Office: 1.415.397.0303

estherbriones@hotmail.com







Vicar for Filipinos







### Land package with domestic airfare:

US\$ 4,276 Single Occupancy

US\$ 3,322 Double/Twin Occupancy US\$ 2,918

International Airfare via Eva Air starts at US\$ 1,100 per person. Rates subject to change.



Fr. Angel Quitalig Vicar for Filipinos

Come with us on a meaningful journey to deepen our faith, rediscover our vibrant religious and cultural heritage, and experience the beauty of the Philippines!

# PHILIPPINES PILGRIMAGE 2026

January 27 - February 11 16 DAYS 15 NIGHTS







### Tour Package Highlights:

- Two (2) nights accommodation at Seda Ayala Center,
- Two (2) nights accommodation at Best Western Ivy Wall,
- Panglao, Bohol Three (3) nights accommodation in Seda Centrio, Cagayan de Oro City
- Two (2) nights accommodation at The Oriental, Legaspi City
- One (1) night accommodation at Summit Hotel Naga One (1) night accommodation at Villa Escudero,
- One (1) night accommodation at Pico de Loro, Nasugbu, Batangas
- Two (2) nights accommodation at Seda Manila Bay, Paranaque City
  One (1) night accommodation at Quest Hotel Clark
- All tours stated on the itinerary
- All meals stated on the itinerary Travel insurance within the Philippines during the tour
- English speaking guides during the tours

\*Terms and Conditions apply. Visit www.rajahtours.com.ph for more information.

# **RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW!**

Call or Text: 415.702.5694

Email: filipinoministrysfl@gmail.com Visit: www.filipinoministrysf.org



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### **LUZON - VISAYAS - MINDANAO**

CEBU - BOHOL - CAGAYAN DE ORO - BICOL - QUEZON - MANILA BATANGAS - PANGASINAN - TARLAC - PAMPANGA

### 27 January | Arrival in Cebu

Welcome reception at the airport by the Department of Tourism and Rajah Tours Philippines. Transfer to hotel and check-in. Rest of the day free at leisure. Mass at the hotel before dinner. Welcome dinner at the hotel.

### 28 January | Simala Monastery and Minor Basillica de Sto. Niño

Breakfast at the hotel.

Depart for a whole day Cebu Tour. Visit Simala Monastery of the Holy Eucharist.
Lunch at a local restaurant. Head back to Cebu City. Stop at the Archbishop
Teofilio Camomot Shrine. Mass at Minor Basilica de Sto. Nino de Cebu and then
visit Magellan's Cross. Head to a local restaurant for dinner then transfer to hotel.

### 29 January | Travel from Cebu to Tagbilaran

Breakfast at the hotel.

Head to Cebu Port for the your morning ferry to Tagbilaran.

Arrive in Bohol and meet and greet at Tagbilaran Port. Commence Bohol Countryside

Tour. Proceed to Backayon Church for Mass. After the Mass proceed to

River Cruise Lunch at Loboc. After lunch continue tour and visit Chocolate Hills

and the Tarsier Sanctuary. Head to your hotel and check in.

30 January | Free day
Breaklast at the hotel.
Free day. Optional activities to be offered.
Ballcasag Island Tour

- Cadapdapan Rice Paddies and Can-Umantad Waterfalls

### 31 January | Bohol - Cebu - Cagayan de Oro

Breakfast at the hotel. Breakfast at the hatel.
Check out and proceed to the pier for ferry to the Cebu.
Arrive in Cebu and transfer to Mactan Airport for flight to Cagayan de Oro.
Arrive in Cagayan de Oro and procced to hotel and check in.
Free time. Mass before dinner.

Dinner at a local restaurant

Ol February | Bukidnon Day Trip
Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to Dahilayan Adventure Park, Bukidnon.
During this visit, the guests will experience Panampulot, a ritual of Manobo Tribe.
Banag-Banag dance will welcome the arriving guests and they will experience 8
different stations of Manolo Fortich Culture. Various activities available such as
Tsokolate making, Bead making. Coffee Making, Binake wrapping & Tasting Corn
Grinding, Corn Grilling. Panampulot Ritual, Binakid Language Learning. Lunch at
Ricardo's restaurant. After lunch proceed to the Abbey of Transfiguration for
Mass. Head back to Cagayan de Oro in the afternoon.
Dinner at the hotel. Dinner at the hotel.

### 02 February | Cagayan de Oro City Tour

Breakfast at the hotel.

Depart for Cagayan de Oro City Tour.

Mass at St. Augustine Metropolitan Cathedral. After Mass, proceed to Cagayan De Oro City Museum, Museo de Oro and Plaza Divisorio.

Lunch at Panagatan Seaside Restaurant.

After Junch, proceed to Divine Mercy Shrine.

Head back to the hotel. Free time. Dinner at the hotel.

### 03 February | Cagayan de Oro - Legaspi (via Manila)

Packed breakfast at the hotel.

Check out and proceed to airport for your early flight to Legaspi.

Arrive in Legaspi and proceed to Albay Tour. Highlights are Cagsawa Ruins,

Sumlang Lake, Daraga Church, Casa Simeon for lunch, Tiwi Pottery,

Mt. Masaraga Volcano Camp Site for spectacular views of Mayon Volcano.

After the tour, proceed to your hotel for dinner and check in.

Mass before dinner.

Planer at the botal. Dinner at the hotel

# 04 February | Bicol tour options Breakfast at the hotel. Tour options are: • Dansol Eco Tour - Whale Shark Interaction

- Culinary Tour
   Ticao Island Hopping
  Head back to the hotel.

Mass at St. Gregory the Great Cathedral. Dinner at the hotel.

### 05 February | Legaspi - Naga

Breakfast at the hotel.

Check out and proceed to Naga City for Mass at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Pehalfrancia. Lunch at a local restaurant. Proceed to St John The Evangelist Metropolitan Cathedral, Museo del Seminario Conciliar de Nueva Caceres.

After the tour, proceed to the hotel and check in. Dinner at the hotel.

### 06 February | Naga - Quezon

Breakfast at the hotel. Check out and proceed to Quezon stopping at town churches along the way. Lunch at a local restaurant. Proceed to Kamay ni Hesus Healing Church. Mass at Kamay ni Hesus. Proceed to Villa Escudero and check in. Barrio Fiesta themed dinner at Villa Escudero.

### 07 February | Quezon - Batangas

Breaklast at Villa Escudero. Check out and proceed to Montemaria Shrine in Batangas City. Lunch at a local restaurant, Proceed to Taal Heritage Town. Mass at Minor Basilica of St. Martin of Tours. Proceed to Pico de Loro and check in. Dinner at the resort.

08 February | Pico de Loro - Manila via Tagaytay
Breakfast at the resort. Check out and proceed to Tagaytay for sightseeing.
Lunch at Farmer's Table. Head to Manila after lunch. Mass at Manila Cathedral.
Dinner at Illustrado restaurant, Intramuros.

### 09 February | Antipolo - Manila

Breakfast at the hotel. Proceed to Antipolo Cathedral for Mass. Lunch at Pinto Art Museum. Head to Manila after lunch. Proceed to Quiapo Church and Binondo Church then to Baclaran Church. Dinner at the hotel

### 10 February | Manaoag - Tarlac

Breakfast at the hotel
Check out and proceed to Manaoag for Mass at the Minor Basilica of Our Lady of
Manaoag, Lunch at a local restaurant. Proceed to Monasterio de Tarlac
for a visit. Visit Death March Monument. Depart for Clark and check in at hotel. Farewell Dinner at the hotel

# 11 February | Departure day Breakfast at the hotel. Check out and proceed to airport.

# Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope



As the Universal Church looks toward the Jubilee Year 2025, the USCCB is thrilled to support the Holy Father in this "event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church."

Pope Francis stated in his February 2022 letter announcing the Jubilee 2025: "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire..."

The Jubilee Year will offer the faithful opportunities to participate in various jubilee events at the Vatican and in their own dioceses. The great tradition of opening the Holy Door will begin when Pope Francis opens the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica on December 24, 2024. Other holy doors will be opened at the Rome basilicas of St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major and St. Paul Outside the Walls. For pilgrims who cannot travel to Rome, bishops around the world are expected to designate their cathedrals or a popular Catholic shrine as special places of prayer for Holy Year pilgrims, offering opportunities for reconciliation, indulgences and other events intended to strengthen and revive faith.





Pope Francis has asked that the year 2024 be dedicated to a "great symphony of prayer" as the Church prepares for the Jubilee of 2025. The Jubilee prayer can be found below.

Additional information about Jubilee events and materials can be found in the Calendar of Events below, or on the Vatican website <a href="here">here</a>. As information becomes available for specific initiatives of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, that information will be available on this web page.







# Information for Jubilee 2025 Preparation and Participation

Prepared by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for use in local dioceses and eparchies across the United States.

In preparation for Jubilee 2025 in the local Church, the USCCB has prepared this document for your reference.

# JUBILEE WEBSITE

https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html (English) https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/es.html

(Spanish)

# JUBILEE MOBILE APP

https://apps.apple.com/us/app/iubilaeum25/ id6467652982?platform=iphone (for iOS devices, i.e. Apple products)

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=va.iubilaeum2025.app&pli=1 (for Android devices)

The digital app for mobile devices, which makes registration for Jubilee 2025 events easier, can be downloaded from the App Store for iOS and from the Play Store for Android. By using the mobile app, which is available in six languages, a person can access all the latest news on the Jubilee, register as a pilgrim for the Holy Year, and obtain the Pilgrim Card for free. Once registered on the portal, individuals will also be able to register for Jubilee events and pilgrimages to the Holy Door.

# THE JUBILEE LOGO

Individuals and organizations may download the Jubilee logo in high resolution and the main languages at this link. Since the logo is subject to copyright, its use is intended for pastoral and non-profit purposes only. Such use is to be linked to the following pastoral and ecclesial initiatives with no commercial purposes:

- Place the trademark on materials related to the Jubilee, such as: leaflets, pamphlets, postcards, brochures, posters, outlines, banners, websites and other media;
- Place branding on pastoral materials to be used for spiritual preparation for the Jubilee;
- Place trademark on promotional materials related to the Jubilee, particularly on posters, banners, T-shirts, hats, mugs, and other materials and media; not for commercial use.
  - The use of the logo to third parties will not be granted.
  - A manual for logo use can be found online here at this link.

# THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

The official prayer can be found here in sixteen languages, other languages are being added.

# THE JUBILEE HYMN ("PILGRIMS OF HOPE")

- The official Jubilee hymn has been available for download.
- The necessary information (audio and sheet music) can be found at the following link.
- Currently, the hymn is available in Italian, English, Spanish, and French.
- The translations for other major languages are currently being worked on.

The Vatican invites all of us to use the hymn as widely as possible and in liturgical assemblies.

# THE JUBILEE CALENDAR

- The Opening of the Holy Door of St.
   Peter's Basilica will be December 24,2024.
- The Jubilee celebrations for various audiences will take place from January to December 2025.
- The overview calendar and tentative schedule for the Jubilee celebrations in Rome can be found in a separate information sheet, available at this link

# DIOCESAN AND EPARCHIAL PILGRIMAGES TO ROME

- Dioceses and eparchies are welcome to coordinate pilgrimages to Rome for the Jubilee celebrations.
- Dioceses and eparchies may come to Rome at any time throughout 2025 to celebrate the Jubilee, or they can choose to coordinate a visit in conjunction with one of the particular Jubilee events on the calendar.
- Dioceses and eparchies may consider working with a reputable local or national travel agency that specializes in overseas and/or pilgrimage travel. It may also be helpful to have 1 or 2 point person(s) at the diocesan/eparchial level who can coordinate activities for the group(s) and liaison with the travel agency.
- For official registration of diocesan or eparchial pilgrimages and large groups for the Jubilee, point persons should contact pilgrim@iubilae um2025.va and communicate the dates of the intended pilgrimage and an indicative estimate of the number of participants. Staff from the Vatican Dicastery for Evangelization will respond accordingly.



- As the Jubilee year approaches, as soon as practicably possible, it will be necessary for point persons to send the list of names of those from the local diocese or eparchy who will take part in Jubilee events.
- The Dicastery for Evangelization will register the participants among the official list of those enrolled.

### PLEASE NOTE:

The USCCB is <u>NOT</u> coordinating any national activities in Rome during the Jubilee Year, nor is the USCCB coordinating any official national delegation to Jubilee events.

# JUBILEE VOLUNTEERS

If people from dioceses/eparchies are interested in volunteering, here are the requirements and expectations.

# Who can serve as a volunteer for the 2025 Jubilee?

- Any adult member of the faithful who intends to offer their availability for a fixed period of one week, from Saturday to Saturday, or for specific events and/or jubilees.
- It will also be necessary to present a letter from the volunteer's parish priest at the time of application which attests to the volunteer's Catholic faith and active participation in parish life.
- Knowledge of the Italian language is preferable, but not mandatory.

# How can one apply to become a volunteer for Jubilee 2025?

- Via the official Jubilee platforms, www. iubilaeum202S.va or the iubilaeum25 app, applicants may submit their application and register the week of availability for service.
- Volunteers may also offer multiple weeks of service.

- The Secretariat will then contact the volunteer to confirm details depending on requirements.
- All travel expenses to and from Rome are the responsibility of the volunteers.
- The Dicastery for Evangelization will provide food and accommodation during the service period.

# What will be expected of a Volunteer for the Jubilee of 2025?

- Volunteers will welcome pilgrims at the different meeting points, providing them with information on all available services; accompanying them along the routes specially reserved to access the Papal Basilicas; and will provide assistance/ further services that may be necessary in various circumstances.
- He/she offers this service freely and without payment He/she is committed to carrying out the tasks assigned by the Jubilee Secretariat, based on the logistical-operational needs of the Jubilee program.

# COORDINATING "STATESIDE" CELEBRATIONS

- Recognizing that many cannot or choose to not travel to Rome for the Jubilee, it is highly recommended that dioceses and eparchies (and/or parishes and other organizations, apostolates, movements, and communities) develop "stateside" celebrations in conjunction with the Jubilee Year.
- The USCCB will be sharing ideas on how to develop these "stateside" local events, which will be posted on the bishops-only and public websites as they are created.



- Dioceses, eparchies, and local communities may wish to host their "stateside" activity in conjunction with the timing of the Jubilee celebrations of particular groups who will be gathered with the Holy Father in Rome throughout the year (i.e., catechists, families and children, young people, the elderly, the poor, etc.).
- The audience-specific "stateside" events can occur concurrently with events taking place in Rome; dioceses, eparchies, and local communities can also live-stream the Vatican celebrations with the Holy Father as part of their particular "stateside" celebration.
- Dioceses, eparchies and local communities may also wish to coordinate a domestic Jubilee pilgrimage to Catholic sites and destinations across the United States throughout the year or at a specific moment that corresponds to one of the audience-specific celebrations taking place in Rome.

# **FAQS ON THE JUBILEE**

# Should our diocese/eparchy coordinate a trip to Rome or plan a "stateside" event?

Both options can be done. However, to ensure engagement of the most Catholics with regard to the Jubilee, it is highly recommended that "stateside" activities and resourcing local communities be carried out in 2025.

# Will our diocese/eparchy be able to see the Holy Father?

Throughout the year, the agenda for most Jubilee celebrations involve programs at which the Pope is present, such as a Mass or particular audience. The exact details of those experiences are yet to be shared.

# What are the "Jubilee rites" that are listed on the agenda for the various Jubilee celebrations?

These are special moments of prayer that will take place at various basilicas and locations around Rome. The exact details of those experiences are yet to be shared.

# If we take a group to Rome, how do we get accommodation, meals, and transportation?

Should your diocese or eparchy or local group be working with a travel agency, those companies are able to book those elements of travel for or with you. If you are not going with an outside agency, diocesan/eparchial leaders may need to explore these options on their own as they would with any personal trip abroad.

# Will there be any U.S. activities happening in Rome during the Jubilee?

The USCCB is not coordinating any U.S. events during any of the Jubilee celebrations.

# What about the groups or ministries not included on the Jubilee calendar?

While the Holy See has designated a number of groups and ministries on their Jubilee calendar, not everything was included. However, in your local diocese or eparchy, or in collaboration with other dioceses, eparchies, or organizations, you can hold a special celebration for another population, ministry, or area of celebration in your local area. You can also celebrate the already-listed groups on alternative days, based on local circumstances.

# For any additional questions, you are welcome to contact the following individuals on staff at USCCB:

- Marilyn Santos, Secretariat of Evangelization and Catechesis, msantos@usccb.org
- Paul Jarzembowski, Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, pjarzembowski@usccb.org



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

Judy Labaria Alma Raymundo Cathy Bohol Sheila Montemayor Anonymous



# Black

Nazarene Feast Day January 9

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



# Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion

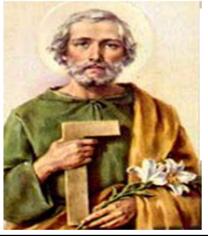
(every Tuesday after the 12:10 Mass)

Raya & Gamboa Families



San Lorenzo Ruiz First Filipino Saint (Sep 28)

Fe Macatangay Jeanette Chafe John & Gemma O'Donnell Evelyn Grande Mely Saavedra



# Saint Joseph

Feast Day March 19

Xenia Villamejor





# PRAYER TO OL. Hnne

bestowed on St.
Annes such grace
that she was found
worthy to become
the mother of
MARY, who
brought forth
Your only
begotten SON.
Grant that we may
be helped by her
intercession.
Amen.

MANY DESIGNATION OF

# Sacred Heart

First Friday Schedule

4pm Holy Hour 5:15 Mass





# OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Pray the rosary

The Graceful Chapter

# Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,

3 He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.
4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

6 Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The Graceful Chapter

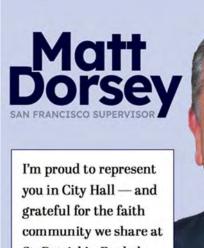
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OND ON THE SOUND O

# St. Patrick Charismatic Prayer Group

Charismatic & Healing Mass: Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 2:00 p.m.





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,

Monsey

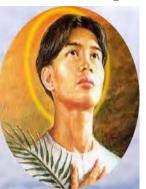


Our Lady of Guadalupe

Feast Day December 12



# St. Pedro Calungsod 2<sup>nd</sup> Filipino Saint (April 2)



Elena & Mark Ramoran Gayapa Family,

Romeo & Antonina Real Family, Dan & Annie Lacap Family,

Jesus, Jr. & Malou Paningbatan, Vida Ventura.

> Nenette Murata, Cristin Salangsang