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

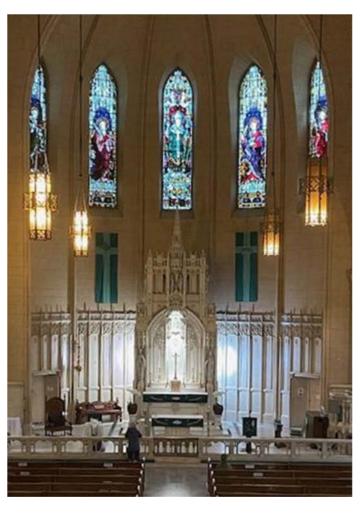
Fr. Roberto "Fr. Obet" A. Andrey - *Pastor* Fr. Ted (Teodoro) Magpayo - *Parochial Vicar* Deacon Ferdinand Mariano - *RCIA Coordinator*

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 through Friday: 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Saturday: 12:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 p.m.



January 28, 2024 - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the Lord who made us. ~ Psalm 95:6



January 28, 2024 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year B

Dt 18:15-2; Ps 95:1-2,6-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

Jesus came as one who spoke in the name of the Lord (1), teaching with authority (3). Let us listen to his voice (Ps) and adhere to him above anything else (2).

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Authority is seen negatively by many, perhaps most, in today's culture. This perception is the result of humans misusing authority, lording it over people, having an undesirable impact on their personal, professional, and civic lives. So when we read in today's Gospel that Jesus "taught them as one having authority," we might initially bristle. Of course, the authority that is attributed to Jesus is different. This is divine authority. God, the author of all, acts out of love for all. God respected the people's request for a prophet in the time of Moses. They promised to listen to him and to adhere to God's laws, knowing that the law was created for their good. This is the sort of adherence of which Saint Paul speaks as well when he tells the Christian community in Corinth to adhere to the Lord without distraction. As people who commit to living and growing in faith, we give God authority over our lives, knowing that God will guide us to truth, life, and love.

God is God

God does not lord divine authority over us, even though God is Lord of heaven and earth. God wants what is best for all of humanity and for all of creation. God desires that we live for God and for others. Jesus teaches as "one having authority and not as the scribes," because Jesus is the source of whatever authority the scribes had, whether they carried out their authority well or not. Those who heard Jesus speak were in the presence of the very truth of God's love. There is no greater authority than this. There is more, however. We are given free will, and may choose to live as God desires, or to walk away from the path of holiness. The Israelites to whom Moses spoke had failed to live God's law of love in the past, and recognized their need for someone to speak the words of the Lord to them. In the simplest of terms, they understood that God is God, and that they were not God.

We are Not God

We are not God. In our hearts, we know this. And yet, how often do we act as though we think we are? We might go to God in moments of weakness, difficulty, or trial and ask God for help, yet much of the time we go our own way. We hold onto a false sense of control, rather than finding freedom in reliance on God. Salvation history, as recorded in sacred scripture, shows us that there has been this tendency in humanity throughout the ages to try to be God, rather than to be *like* God. Such thinking does not work out well in the end. We are not God! Jesus came to express the depths of God's love. The authority with which he spoke and taught, healed and expressed forgiveness, is the authority of one who understands that love is the answer. Christ shows us the real transformation that is possible when we give God the authority. "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

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New Mass Schedule

We will return to our pre-COVID-19 Mass schedule beginning Sunday, February 4, 2024.

Sunday Masses:

5:15 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m.,12:00 p.m.,5:15 p.m. Masses on Sunday.

We will also have a monthly Tagalog Mass at 2:00 p.m. on the first Sunday of the month and a monthly Charismatic & Healing Mass at 2:00 p.m. on the third Sunday of the month.

Weekday Masses (Monday - Saturday) 7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 5:15 p.m. (Vigil Mass on Sat)

Confession will be available Monday through Thursday from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the rectory.

Appointments are preferred.

Looking for Lay Ministers

The proclamation of the Word of God at Masses and other Liturgies is one of the sources of faith, wisdom and understanding God and Jesus have given to the Church. Because of its importance, the Church takes great care in ensuring that the Spoken Word is proclaimed with dignity and reverence. As a parish, we try our very best to fulfill these expectations.

The source and summit of our life as a people of God are the gifts of Christ's Body and Blood, the Eucharist, and the community gathered to share in this Eucharist. Over time, the Church has seen the need for Lay Faithful to assist with the distribution of Communion at Masses and other Liturgies. As well, Eucharistic Ministers assist the parish by bringing Communion to people who are unable to attend Mass.

If you're looking for a way to serve your parish, or if you've ever wanted to be a lay minister and serve during Mass, now is your chance. Please contact the office to volunteer.

Lenten Recollection

Everyone is invited to our Lenten Recollection on Saturday, March 9th from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the church followed by Mass at 12:10 p.m.

Happy Birthday!!

Happy Birthday to our Parishioners born this week.

Maria Bravo	01/28	Isabella Cabungcal	01/31
Ariel Anne Sullivan	01/28	Fred Crosson	02/01
Russel Jan Gonzales	01/29	Samantha Marie Montemayor	02/01
Timothy Jon Udtohan	01/29	Pepito Perlas	02/02
Pacita Yuson	01/30	Yukari Wilkinson	02/02
Amelito Benzon	01/31	Chris Wilson	02/03

Please Pray for our Holy Father's Intention for January



<u>Pope's Intention</u>: For the gift of diversity in the Church. We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

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 89 Lifetime Donors as of 11 Jan 2024

In Memory of Nicomedes & Juanita Abello Eleanor Lawsin Felicitas Locsin Marilou Alegre Corazon M. Ambata Merly Lorete Roberto Andrey Fe Macatangay Ben Jacob Banatao Beltran C. Marces Joy, Jen & Jackie Bandelaria Corazon Mariano Valente Banez Loren Masangcay Eufemia Barcelona Evelyn Mendoza Evelyn Bird Rachelle Morales Maria Bravo Jeff & Nenette Murata Mercedita Cadiz Norman & Lily Nangca Mamerto (MC) Canlas Vilma Nangca John & Judith Casper Glorina Ochangco Dr. Beverly Lynn Bolinger Florentina Palacio

Sandra Cea Jesus & Marilu Paningbatan

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Kusina ni Tess Cielito Littaua Yoma Judy Neri Labaria Claudine Yu Tita Labaria Charlie A. Yparraguirre

Dan And Annie Lacap

Living Stewardship Now

Join a scripture study group in your parish to listen more responsibly. Your parish doesn't have a group? Start one. You need not be a scholar or an expert to begin.

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Saints & Special Observances

Wednesday: Memorial ~ St. John Bosco, Priest

FRIDAY: FEAST ~

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Saturday: optional memorial ~ St. Blaise, Bishop, Martyr optional memorial ~ St. Ansgar, Bishop SUNDAY: FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings for the Week

Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14,30;16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10,14b,24-25a,30-19:3; Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2,9-17; Mk 6:1-6 Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4,10-12; Mk 6:7-13

FRIDAY: Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34

SUNDAY: FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Jb 7:1-4,6-7; Ps 147:1-6; 1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23; Mk 1:29-39

Patrician Meeting

The Legion of Mary is inviting you to an in-person Patrician Meeting on Sunday, January 28th, at 1:30 pm in McKenna Hall, St Patrick's Church.

TOPIC: Servant of God Alfie Lambe, His Life and Works

In 1953, a shy Irish-born 20-year-old of delicate health left Dublin to promote devotion to Our Lady as a lay-missionary and a representative of the Legion of Mary to South America.

Alphonsus "Alfie" Lambe died only six years later on January 21st and was buried in Buenos Aires, Argentina. It was the Archdiocese of Buenos Aires that introduced Alfie's Cause for Beatification in 1978.

HIs cause for potential canonization to sainthood continues today.

Speaker: Margarita Galindo

Please join us and share your thoughts and questions about the topic.

Today's Readings

First Reading — Moses spoke to all the people, saying: "A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you" (Deuteronomy 18:15-20).

Psalm — If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

Second Reading — Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties

(1 Corinthians 7:32-35).

Gospel — The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching

(Mark 1:21-28).

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.

Care more than others think necessary. Trust more than others think wise. Serve more than others think practical.

~ Anonymous

No Surprises

We are told by all spiritual writers that one important point to bear in mind, as we seek to attain humility, is not to be surprised by our own faults and failures.

~ François Fénelon, archbishop of Cambrai

LEGION OF MARY - ST. PATRICK CHURCH

Contact Person – Cathy Bohol – (415) 760-1966

Margarita Galindo – (415) 283-9945, Parish Office – (415) 421-373

JOIN THE LEGION OF MARY, OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL **PRAESIDIUM**Meeting - Sundays at 11:30 am 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.

Presentation of the Lord

On Friday, February 2nd, the Feast of The Presentation of the Lord, the Blessing of Candles takes place. Christ is proclaimed again as the Light to us all. In remembrance of the divine gifts bestowed by the Christmas mystery, the Church gives us a lighted candle. If you wish, we encourage you to purchase your own candles at the back of the Church to be blessed and bring them home as a remembrance of your Baptismal Candle and of Christ's presence in your home.

Blessing of Throats

On Saturday, February 3rd, the Church bestows the traditional St. Blaise blessing of the throat after each Mass. As one of the many devotions of the Church, it channels the manifold blessings of redemption into every compartment of human activity, where the Church offers solace and healing.

You are invited to have your throat blessed on this day at the 12:00 Mass.

Leaders

Leaders are like eagles. They don't flock. You find them . . . one at a time.

~ Anonymous



Letters from Heaven



from the NAB @ 2010, 1991, 1970, CCD

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.

A man with an unclean spirit cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?

I know who you are — ...



Answer: polo go and moth of



Christ has made my soul beautiful with the jewels of grace and virtue. I belong to him whom the angels serve.

St. Agnes

A beautiful 12-year-old girl from a wealthy family who was martyred in the year 304 for being a Christian. Copyright © 2019, Michael Thimons

I want to do all I can to make God known and loved.

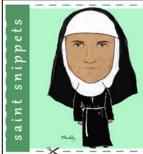
BL Laura Vicuña

12-year old Chilean girl with a deep love for God. Weakened by physical abuse from the man her mother was living with, Laura passed away in 1904 as she called her mother to repentance.



January 22

anuary 21



It would be my greatest delight to minister to the abandoned lepers.

St. Marianne Cope

German-born nun who cared for the lepers in Hawaii, including Fr. Damien of Molokai

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Do now what you wish to have done when your moment comes to die.

St. Angela Merici

16th-century Italian religious educator who founded the Company of St. Ursula (from which came the monastic Order of Ursulines) Copyright © 2019, Michael Thimons January

anuary 23

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

On February 2 we will celebrate the Presentation of the Lord. This feast takes place forty days after Christmas. It recalls the occasion when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple when he was forty days old to "present" him to God. Two elderly people, a holy man named Simeon and a prophet named Anna, greeted Jesus with great joy. Simeon took the baby in his arms and said that Jesus would be a light to the nations.





At the time of this feast the priest often blesses the candles that will be used to light our church and our homes during the coming year. These candles remind us of the words of Jesus: "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12). The candle you received at your baptism was lit from the great paschal or Christ candle in the church. It is a reminder that Jesus calls you to be a light for others, too.

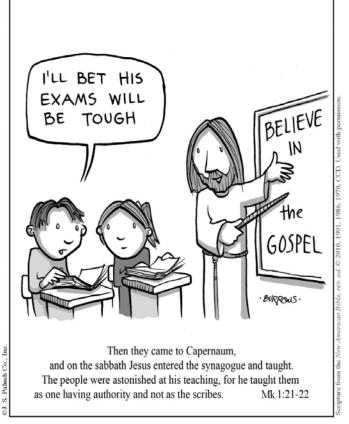
Look around your church today or make a visit sometime during the week. Notice all the different sizes and shapes of candles you see. Where do you find them? Draw pictures of all the different candles in your church. Begin with the largest one, the paschal candle that usually stands near the baptismal font. Count the number of candles on or near the altar. Did you notice a lit candle near the tabernacle? Do you see small votive candles anywhere in your church?

As you draw, think about how Jesus is the light of your life.

Think about how you can be a light for others.











for him, eating locusts would have been a step up."

Whose Authority?

A man stands on your front doorstep, holding a Bible:

"Good afternoon. May I share a few words of Christian truth with you?"

"Sure. Where do you get this truth?"

"From the Bible, of course."

"That's your authority? The Bible?"

"Yes, it's the only authority for Christians."

"Can you prove that from the Bible?"

"What do you mean?"

"I mean I don't believe the Bible claims to be the sole rule of faith. Please show me where the Bible claims such a status for itself."

Sometimes the conversation goes more like this:

"Good afternoon. May I share a few words of Christian truth with you?"

"No, I'm a Catholic."

The door closes.

Many door-to-door proselytizers have good intentions. They want to convert you to the "truth"—as they see it. From their perspective, the Bible is the sole authority for the Christian faith. Some are taught that Catholics are prohibited from reading the Bible or know nothing about the scriptures. However, not only do we have full access to the Bible, but we hear segments of it proclaimed every time we celebrate Mass. In today's first reading God gives Moses the right to speak with divine authority to the people of Israel. In today's readings Jesus and Moses are recognized as speaking and acting with the authority of God. Both Jesus and Moses acted as a bridge between the people and God. For us the scriptures are a bridge for God's truth, but so are the sacraments and the lived experience of the Church—what we call Tradition. It is part of our responsibility as disciples of Jesus to learn from the scriptures, to listen attentively at Mass, to read scripture prayerfully for ourselves, and to learn more about the Bible through reading, studying, and learning with others.

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Authority

The word "authority" comes from the Latin word *auctor*, which means "author." The word doesn't mean that a person with authority must be a writer. But it does mean that the person with authority must be an artist—someone who "authors" something. But what does that person author? Jesus knew the answer: life. The bringer of life has authority to change the world.

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God's Word Today

One line from today's Gospel stands out: "The people were astonished at his teaching." Saint Mark, of course, is speaking about the Lord's teaching in the synagogue at the beginning of his public ministry. Too often we come to church and the words that are proclaimed simply wash over us. When was the last time we were "astonished at his teaching"? Like the man with an unclean spirit in today's Gospel, we can have too many "spirits" that distract us and make us less receptive to the word of God. As we hear how Jesus drives the unclean spirit from the man, let us ask the Lord to drive from us any distractions that prevent us from knowing the true power of the word of God. Let the words of today's responsorial psalm become our own. Today, when we hear God's voice, let us pray that our hearts will not be hardened, but opened to transformation and astonishment.

From Saint Margaret Sunday Missal, copyright © J. S. Paluch Company

False Prophets, True Prophets

In Deuteronomy today we hear that God's very words will fill the mouth of a true prophet, but a false prophet will, in a manner of speaking, put mere mortal words into God's mouth. In Mark's Gospel, we see Jesus teaching and healing as a true prophet, one filled with the authority of God's own voice, the Holy One of God.

The whole history of our church is filled with both true and false prophets. But in today's Gospel we learn that Jesus' fame spread because he taught with authority; he wasn't an authority because he was popular or famous. We also learn from him, in his desert temptation confrontations with Satan, that anyone can quote scripture, even against God's purposes. And today we hear that his authority was not like that of the scribes, who held the official positions of religious authority in his day. Our work is to do our best to discern the true prophets in our midst, and to be true prophets as well. The psalmist tells us how to do this: by not hardening our hearts when God speaks. If we truly listen to God, it will be God's very words filling our mouths.

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Treasures From Our Tradition

Forty days after Christmas, this week's ancient feast of the Presentation of the Lord is an extension of the shining days of Christ's coming into the depths of winter. This is the day when, for a thousand years, the Church has blessed a year's supply of candles. In many places, a procession forms outside the church. The core memory is of Simeon and Anna's meeting with the infant Jesus and his parents outside the temple on the fortieth day after the child's birth, and the delight of going to the table of the Lord for the Eucharist, a foretaste of our final meeting with Christ.

For some Christians, today is known as "The Meeting," suggesting not only the encounter in the temple, but also our assembly at the Lord's table and our longing for the kingdom. One story suggests that the commotion made by so many candle -bearing, hymn-singing faithful in the wintry fields of Germany on their joyful way to Mass stirred the badger from hibernation to examine this promise of springtime. The interrupted nap of the groundhog is amazingly linked to the light of Christ driving away the shadows of the world's darkness. This beautiful feast only rarely falls on a Sunday. What better reason could there be for candles at dinner tonight?

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

True Prophets

In Deuteronomy today we hear that God's very words will fill the mouth of a true prophet, but a false prophet will, in a manner of speaking, put mere mortal words into God's mouth. In Mark's Gospel, we see Jesus teaching and healing as a true prophet, one filled with the authority of God's own voice. The whole history of our church is filled with both true and false prophets. Some false prophets were extremely popular and quite well-versed in scripture, and even held positions of authority. But in today's Gospel we learn that Jesus' fame spread because he taught with authority; he wasn't an authority because he was popular or famous. Elsewhere, we also learn from him, in his desert temptation confrontations with Satan, that anyone can quote scripture, even against God's purposes. Today we hear that his authority was not like that of the scribes, who held the official positions of religious authority in his day. Our work is to do our best to discern the true prophets in our midst, and to be true prophets as well. The psalmist tells us how to do this: by not hardening our hearts when God speaks. If we truly listen to God, it will be God's very words filling our mouths.

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Not the "Same Old, Same Old"

In today's Gospel, we see that the authority of Jesus was clearly grasped by the opposition. The cry from the demon, the spirit of evil, is unmistakable and chilling: "I know who you are!" This is to say, "You are the ultimate threat to us." Evil will no longer have its way. Jesus has served notice, and the spirit of evil knows it. The lines are drawn.

It is characteristic of Mark to draw the battle lines early in his Gospel. He shows us that the embodiment of God's goodness is diametrically opposed to the power of evil that is tolerated in the world. The collusion of systems and institutions that drives the people to distraction and keeps them poor and ignorant goes on and on and on. The words coming from the mouth of the single tormented man in the synagogue are startling, to say the least. But the great wonder is the durable hope of the people at large. Finally, at long last, could this be the author of life? The creator of something new under the sun? The crowd was held spellbound by Jesus. He spoke of newness. He did not sound like the tired, soulless teachers the plentiful poor had grown so weary of. Jesus was not the "same old, same old."

The first reading would have prepared the people at Capernaum. They knew by heart the grace and beauty of the book of Deuteronomy, literally, the "second law." This book gave them the great *Shema*: "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone!"(6:4) The revered Moses has primacy of place in this book.

It may come as a surprise to us that Moses is described as a prophet. Not only that, he is the standard by which all other prophets are measured. There is often widespread confusion about the vocation of the prophet. An authentic prophet is not one who sees into the future, but rather one who speaks for God. Moses, the great one who speaks for God, reminds the people that God will raise up a prophet like Moses himself. This prophet will speak in God's name and only in God's name.

We can easily make the transition to Jesus himself. We see him stand up to read the Scriptures in the synagogue of Capernaum. Those who heard him were astonished. The spirit of evil was enraged. The time was ripe. The Author of life was ready for battle.

A mere fifty-six years after Jesus' resurrection the world was changing. Paul writes a letter to the Church at Corinth, the second reading today. He understands that with baptism comes a new day that would yield to the supposedly imminent second coming. In the face of this grace-filled time of great expectation, we sense Paul's urgency. He counsels the Corinthians to be free of anxiety and to realize that they are called to devote themselves entirely to the Lord. For all his sense of urgency, Paul nonetheless bears within himself an assurance and serenity born not of self-confidence but of grace. He wishes this for the Corinthians and for us.

The Good News

God has raised up one like Moses and greater than Moses. Jesus is understood as good news for those who are willing to receive him. He is a threat or a matter of indifference for those who will not. In Mark's Gospel, the first miracle is a casting out, an exorcism. The simplest and the most sophisticated listeners understood that they were witnessing a new time. Sin had overstayed its time and lost its power. There was someone new under the sun, and he would change the world.

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Not Without Love

The soul cannot live without love.

Authority From God

According to Moses, the people decided they didn't want to hear God's voice directly any more. It was much too frightening. Why couldn't God send human teachers, prophets, instead? God agreed, but with a warning. The people had better listen to those teachers, because they spoke in God's name.

That arrangement, though, had its own problems, for them and for us. How do I know this teacher is truly from God? And if the teacher is from God, are all parts of the teaching meant for me? We have the Church and scripture to help us with those questions, but still there are always a few loose ends.

That is the powerful significance of the sentence in today's Gospel: "The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes." The people knew that this Jesus was authentic—truly a teacher sent by God. They knew it by hearing him. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Reflecting on God's Word

In Jesus' day, demonic possession was not uncommon. Mark presents Jesus as one who takes on the evil spirits, overturning their possession of this man. Jesus has declared war against the kingdom of Satan. Its hour of ascendancy is coming to an end. The unclean spirit recognizes Jesus as one with greater power, for it asks, "Have you come to destroy us?" Then it confesses Jesus as the "Holy One of God" (Mark 1:24). Jesus will battle the forces of evil to the death, his death. But what looks like defeat for Jesus will be changed to victory, because the power of God is at work in him.

In the first reading from Deuteronomy, Moses is speaking to the people before they enter the Promised Land. The entire book is his farewell speech to them. He will not go with them. He consoles them, saying that God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses and will speak through him: "I . . . will put my words into his mouth" (Deuteronomy 18:18).

Jesus is presented to us today as the prophet like Moses, who teaches with the authority of God and whose words are obeyed even by unclean spirits. There is no power on earth or beyond it greater than the power of God at work in him.

~ James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R. Copyright © 2014, World Library Publications. All rights reserved

Treasures From Our Tradition

The Oil of the Sick, usually labeled OI (for *Oleum Infirmarum*), is often reserved with chrism and the oil of catechumens in an ambry. An ambry is a cabinet, often beautifully ornamented and kept near the baptistery in the church. Olive oil, with no fragrance added, is blessed at the Chrism Mass in Holy Week by the bishop, although there is now a provision for a priest to bless oil if none is available. This restores to our Latin Rite practice a tradition never lost in the Eastern tradition, in which priests consecrate the oil of the sick, even at the sick person's home. Any vegetable oil may be used now, since olive oil is difficult to obtain in some places. Many priests keep a small supply of oil close at hand in a small metal tube called a "stock."

In the former rite, every sense of the body was anointed, accompanied by a prayer for forgiveness of sin. So, the eyes, ears, nostrils, mouth, hands, and feet were all touched. Today, this is simplified to an anointing of the forehead and the hands, but generally today the oil is used more lavishly, and the symbolism of touch so central to the rite is enhanced. Often, a priest will invite everyone present to join in the "laying on of hands." Sick persons are often pushed aside or feared in our culture, and to be reverently touched in love can be a profound experience of God's healing, forgiving, accepting presence through the ministry of the Church.

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

Authority

The word "authority" comes from the Latin word *auctor*, which means "author." The word doesn't mean that a person with authority must be a writer. But it does mean that the person with authority must be an artist—someone who "authors" something. But what does that person author? Jesus knew the answer: life. The bringer of life has authority to change the world.

Comment

In today's Gospel, we see that the authority of Jesus was clearly grasped by the opposition. The cry from the demon, the spirit of evil, is unmistakable and chilling: "I know who you are!" This is to say, "You are the ultimate threat to us." Evil will no longer have its way. Jesus has served notice, and the spirit of evil knows it. The lines are drawn.

It is characteristic of Mark to draw the battle lines early in his Gospel. He shows us that the embodiment of God's goodness is diametrically opposed to the power of evil that is tolerated in the world. The collusion of systems and institutions that drives the people to distraction and keeps them poor and ignorant goes on and on and on. The words coming from the mouth of the single tormented man in the synagogue are startling, to say the least. But the great wonder is the durable hope of the people at large. Finally, at long last, could this be the author of life? The creator of something new under the sun? The crowd was held spellbound by Jesus. He spoke of newness. He did not sound like the tired, soulless teachers the plentiful poor had grown so weary of. Jesus was not the "same old, same old."

The first reading would have prepared the people at Capernaum. They knew by heart the grace and beauty of the book of Deuteronomy, literally, the "second law." This book gave them the great *Shema*: "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone!"(6:4) The revered Moses has primacy of place in this book.

It may come as a surprise to us that Moses is described as a prophet. Not only that, he is the standard by which all other prophets are measured. There is often widespread confusion about the vocation of the prophet. An authentic prophet is not one who sees into the future, but rather one who speaks for God. Moses, the great one who speaks for God, reminds the people that God will raise up a prophet like Moses himself. This prophet will speak in God's name and only in God's name.

We can easily make the transition to Jesus himself. We see him stand up to read the Scriptures in the synagogue of Caper-naum. Those who heard him were astonished. The spirit of evil was enraged. The time was ripe. The Author of life was ready for battle.

A mere fifty-six years after Jesus' resurrection the world was changing. Paul writes a letter to the Church at Corinth, the second reading today. He understands that with baptism comes a new day that would yield to the supposedly imminent second coming. In the face of this grace-filled time of great expectation, we sense Paul's urgency. He counsels the Corinthians to be free of anxiety and to realize that they are called to devote themselves entirely to the Lord. For all his sense of urgency, Paul nonetheless bears within himself an assurance and serenity born not of self-confidence but of grace. He wishes this for the Corinthians and for us.

Reflection

God has raised up one like Moses and greater than Moses. Jesus is understood as good news for those who are willing to receive him. He is a threat or a matter of indifference for those who will not. In Mark's Gospel, the first miracle is a casting out, an exorcism. The simplest and the most sophisticated listeners understood that they were witnessing a new time. Sin had overstayed its time and lost its power. There was someone new under the sun, and he would change the world.

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Thunderbolts and Lightning

One of the most difficult duties of a disciple is to follow the command of Jesus to spread the gospel to all nations. (Lk 24:47, Mk 116:15, Mt 28:19) I think one reason may be that we don't feel we have the authority to tell someone else what to believe. Most of us don't think we know the gospel well enough to preach it. Or we are so afraid of offending atheists, that we use that fear as an excuse to say nothing. But being a disciple means following Jesus. The gospel this Sunday mentions twice that Jesus taught with more authority than any of religious leaders of Israel. So how can we get such authority?

First, Jesus didn't get his authority from winning a Messiah election. And he didn't threaten people with thunderbolts and lightning. He certainly didn't impress people by saying what they wanted to hear. He spoke the truth that he heard from his Father. His two main actions in his ministry were curing and forgiving people. Since the Jews thought sickness was a punishment for sins, by curing the sick and forgiving sins, Jesus showed that God loves even sinners. And those actions showed that Jesus got authority from his Father.

"But you still haven't answered the question: How do we get that authority?" We get it from the Holy Spirit, in Baptism and Confirmation. And like an athlete, who may be born with strength and abilities, yet has to work-out and practice to be any good, we still need to grow in that authority. One way is to read the scriptures and pray with them, so that we get to know God through his Word and begin to listen to him in our prayers. We can consciously decide to see God in other people, not just those we love, but everyone, even the ones who annoy us. (And especially the ones who challenge us to be more loving, patient and forgiving.) Most parishes have programs that encourage sharing your faith, such as RCIA, Christ Renews his Parish, etc. And of course, the Eucharist and other sacraments strengthen God's life in us. You'll know you have that authority when you can talk about your faith with confidence instead of hesitation, because you will be speaking from experience, not second hand knowledge.

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

Living God's Word

We pray at every Mass the Lord's Prayer, which concludes: "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." The power of evil has been overcome by Jesus' saving death, but we continue to pray that it does not find a home in us, in our Church, or in our society.

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Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time January 28, 2024

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us.

~ Psalm 95:6

The Inner Word: What's in your Heart?

esus spoke a new teaching, and he spoke with authority.

- ⇒ What do you do to imbue your words with wisdom and presence?
- ⇒ Do you convey teaching in a way that makes it concrete and real for people?
- ⇒ God raises true prophets to whom God's people listen. What are the ways you offer a prophetic word—one that calls people to God?

Applying the Word: The voice of authority today

Where do we go today to hear a voice that speaks with authority? Some turn to their favorite news source, whether it be Fox, CNN, EWTN, NCR, or the bloggers online. Some insist they listen only to the pope—but our American experience of the Vatican is itself highly mediated and selective. A few give their attention to the American bishops, and maybe someone still listens to his or her pastor—we can dream, can't we? Meanwhile teachers teach, experts pontificate, and a few contemplatives struggle quietly to approach the Source of authority without mediation, in prayer or scripture study. It's been three millennia since we stood at Horeb, and humanity yearns for a leader in whom we can put our trust. Jesus continues to assure his followers that his Spirit remains a vital indwelling presence upon which we can rely with confidence. ~ Alice Camille

Scripture links

Solomon's wives: 1 Kings 11:1-3

Meribah, Massah (AKA Marah): Exod. 16:25, 17:1-7; Deut. 6:16, 9:22, 33:8; Ps. 95:8

The great theophany at Horeb: Exod. 19:16-25, 20:18-22

The new covenant: Jer. 31:31-34

Catechism links

(Catechism of the Catholic Church paragraph numbers)

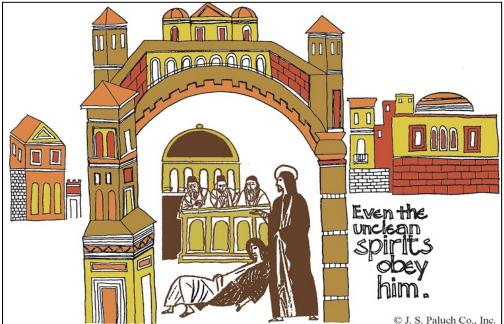
The great theophany: CCC 707-708; 751; 2085

Meribah: CCC 694: 2119

New Covenant: CCC 64-67; 368; 580; 715-716; 761-762; 1965-1966; 2713

The authority of Jesus: CCC 438; 581-582; 1673; 2173

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WHY CALL NAMES?

WAS WALKING past a schoolyard yesterday and the kids were hanging out waiting for the bell to ring to start the school day. As kids will, some little third grader was taunting another one. She said, "Why should I listen to you? You're just a dork."

For the gazillionth time one kid put down another kid by trying to demean and diminish who they are. Adults do it, too. In fact it was an adult in the synagogue where Jesus was teaching who cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?"

It may not seem as though the name, "Jesus of Nazareth" is a put-down. But in this case it was. The unclean spirit in this man obviously recognized that this teacher spoke with the authority of God. And he wanted to diminish that power by limiting Jesus to his human identity. Rather than calling him Jesus, Son of God, he wanted him to be simply Jesus of Nazareth, a regular Joe like anyone else.

He wasn't just Jesus of Nazareth, he was also Jesus, Son of God.
His origins were not just a sleepy
town in Judea. His origins were
in God's own self. And as the Son
of God, Jesus came to liberate us
from the unclean spirits that plague
us all—even the unclean spirit that
wants to put others down.

-Tom McGrath





Lectio Divina for the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

We begin our prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Grant us, Lord our God,
that we may honor you with all our mind,
and love everyone in truth of heart.
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.

(Collect, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Reading (Lectio)

Read the following Scripture two or three times. Mark 1:21-28

Then they came to Capernaum, and on the sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him. All were amazed and asked one another, "What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits

and they obey him." His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee.

Meditation (*Meditatio*)

After the reading, take some time to reflect in silence on one or more of the following questions:

- What word or words in this passage caught your attention?
- What in this passage comforted you?
- What in this passage challenged you?

If practicing <u>lectio divina</u> as a family or in a group, after the reflection time, invite the participants to share their responses.

Prayer (Oratio)

Read the Scripture passage one more time. Bring to the Lord the praise, petition, or thanksgiving that the Word inspires in you.





Contemplation (Contemplatio)

Read the Scripture again, followed by this reflection:

What conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me?

He taught them as one having authority. What resources are available to help me learn more about what the Church teaches? What is my proper response to authority?

In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit. Who do I consider "unclean" and try to avoid? How can I show Christ's love to people on the margins of society?

"Quiet! Come out of him!" What sinful behaviors do I need to cast out of my life? How can I cultivate virtuous habits to replace sinful ones?

After a period of silent reflection and/or discussion, all recite the Lord's Prayer and the following:

Living the Word This Week

How can I make my life a gift for others in charity?

Commit to learning more about your faith by attending a class in your parish or diocese or reading good Catholic books.

Closing Prayer:

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; let us acclaim the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us. For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:
"Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as in the day of Massah in the desert,
Where your fathers tempted me;
they tested me though they had seen my works."

(From Psalm 95)

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SAVETHE DATES!

Come out and join us



SCAN TO SEE THE COMPREHENSIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

or visit sfarch.org/events

Dec. 13: Simbang Gabi Commissioning Mass

The Mass, sponsored by the Archdiocesan Filipino Ministry, will take place at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption at 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 15-17: Women's Healing After Abortion Retreat

If you have been carrying a burden from a past abortion, you are invited to the next healing retreat for women. Father Vito Perrone of the Contemplatives of St. Joseph and Divine Word Father James Liebner will lead this three-day retreat, which will include Mass, the sacrament of reconciliation, counseling and sharing as much as each woman is comfortable doing in this warm and healing environment. It will be held at a confidential location. If you are interested, please call 415-614-5567 or email projectrachel@sfarch.org.

Dec. 22: Christmas Angels Program

The Restorative Justice Christmas Angels program supports children affected by homicide, children with a parent in prison and children affected by domestic violence and abuse. The project culminates with a family Christmas event on Dec. 22 from noon-4 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption. Gifts will be distributed, food and drinks will be served and children will have the opportunity to get their photo taken with Santa. Learn more at https://sfarchdiocese.org/christmasangels/.

Jan. 13, 2024: Santo Nino Celebration

Join the Archdiocesan Filipino Ministry for the 8th annual Santo Nino Fiesta on Jan. 13 at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption. The "Santo Nino" (or Holy Child Jesus) is a symbol of the birth of Catholicism in the Philippines more than 500 years ago when Magellan presented a statute of the Santo Nino to Queen Juana of the Philippine Island of Cebu in 1521.

Jan. 19-20, 2024:

20th annual Vigil for Life and Walk for Life

The 20th annual Walk for Life will be held on Saturday, Jan. 20, at 12:30 p.m. at the Civic Center in San Francisco.

Join the Walk for Life Vigil Mass on Jan. 19 at 5:30 p.m. at St. Dominic's Catholic Church, all-night adoration at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church and Star of the Sea Catholic Church, and the Walk for Life Mass at 9:30 a.m. on Jan. 20 with Archbishop Cordileone. List of events is at: www.walkforlifewc.com/event-info/event-schedule/

15

Jan. 25, 2024:

Vespers for the Week of Christian Unity

For the 18th year, Archbishop Cordileone and Greek Orthodox Metropolitan Gerasimos will be leading Solemn Vespers in observance of the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Join them at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25, at St. Pius X Catholic Church.

Feb. 3, 2024: Wedding Anniversary Mass

Celebrate your sacramental wedding anniversaries at a Mass and reception with Archbishop Cordileone on Feb. 3 at 10 a.m. Those celebrating at least five-year anniversaries (5, 10, 15, 20, etc.) will be recognized during the Mass.

Feb. 4, 2024: Consecrated Life Mass

The Mass for Consecrated Life will take place Feb. 4 at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption. Honor consecrated men and women who serve in the Archdiocese.

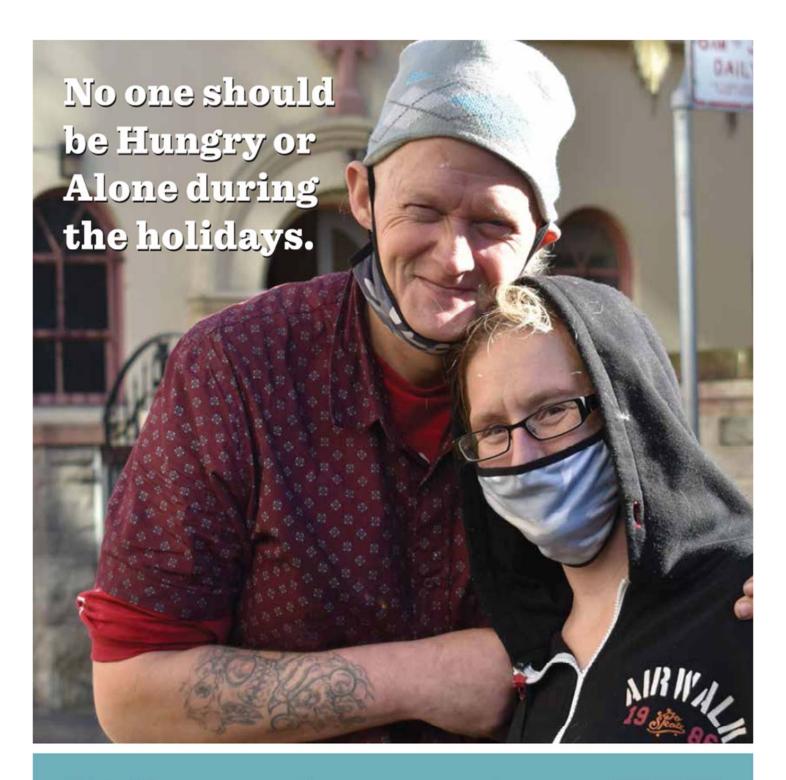
Feb. 14, 2024: Ash Wednesday

Feb. 24, 2024: Archdiocesan Women's Conference

Women are invited to attend the Archdiocesan Women's Conference on Feb. 24 at St. Dominic's Catholic Church with Mass at 9 a.m. with Archbishop Cordileone followed by a day of reflection and prayer.

Feb. 24, 2024: Chinese New Year Mass and Celebration

The Chinese Ministry of the Archdiocese invites you to their Chinese New Year Mass and Celebration at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption. Mass begins at 2 p.m. and a dinner will follow with traditional Chinese food and entertainment.



This holiday, we are counting on your compassion to help us feed, heal, shelter, clothe, and lift the spirits of those in need. Donate now to give the gift of Holiday Hope, Stability, and Renewal.





Scan the code or go to stanthonysf.org/givehope to make an immediate gift.



Wedding Anniversary Celebration

All husbands and wives are invited to attend and celebrate their sacramental wedding anniversaries in 2024. Couples celebrating "5 year anniversaries" (5, 10, 15, 20...) will be recognized during the Mass.



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2024

10:00 am Mass followed by reception \$20 suggested donation per family

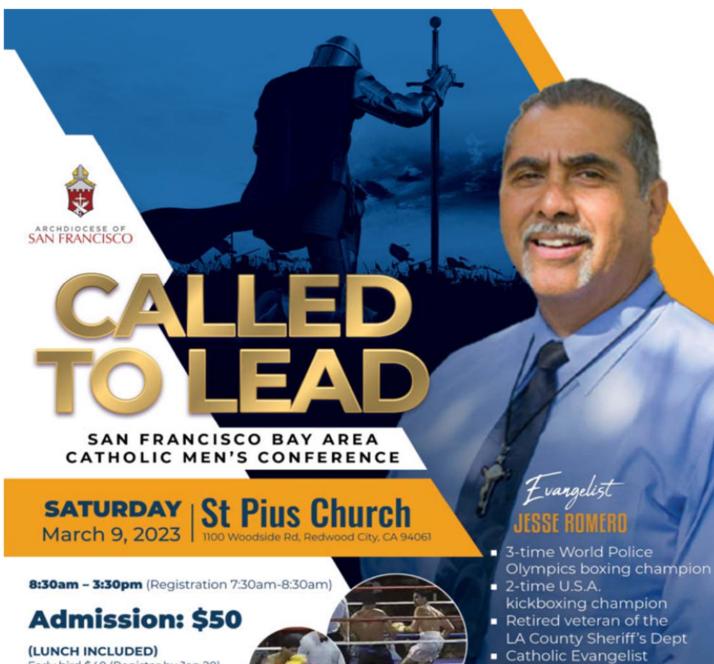
Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption 1111 Gough Street, San Francisco

Principal Celebrant: His Excellency Salvatore J. Cordileone Archbishop of San Francisco



REGISTRATION REQUIRED

www.anniversarymass.info or call (415) 614-5574 Please register by: January 26, 2024 Questions/information: (415) 614-5574



Early bird \$40 (Register by Jan 20) Under 20 years old: \$25

Mass with Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone

Sacrament of Confession will be available



Father SEBASTIAN CARNAZZO

- Seminary Professor Father Of Seven
- Ordained Melkite Priest



Poeter Scott French, MD

- Board-Certified ER Physician
- Board Member Magis Center



Register at:

www.sfbaymen.info

For more info, contact Ed Hopfner emaoil: hopfnere@sfarch.org
Alice (415) 614-5574



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We are seeking warm hearted, globally conscious families to welcome a refugee youth into their home.











REFUGEE FOSTER CARE

Who are Unaccompanied **Refugee Minors?**

Countless youth are forced to flee their countries due to persecution and war. Separated from family or orphaned by war and /or exploited by child traffickers, these children are displaced and alone. They long for safety, care, family, and a place to call home.

How can you help?

- Become a Resource Parent
- Rent a Room
- · Temporary Housing
- · Invite us to Your Community Events
- Donate















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REFUGEE **FOSTER CARE**





I CANNOT FAIL TO MENTION THE NEED FOR FOSTERING VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD. FOR AS SAINT JOHN PAUL II SAID,

THERE CAN BE NO EUCHARIST WITHOUT THE PRIESTHOOD

~POPE FRANCIS

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO • 2023-24 SEMINARIANS



David Sibrian



Elijah Miller College III Cathedral of St. Mary



Joseph McIntire Pre-Theology II St. Stephen Parish



Kyle Laluces Pre-Theology II Our Lady of Mercy



Abraham Garcia Theology I St. Anthony Parish,



Cameron Sellers Theology I Nativity, Menio Park



Jeff Yano Theology II Nativity, Menio Park



Jerick Rea Theology II



Dereck Delgado



Jimmy Velasco





Leandro Calingasan



Emmanuel Gutierrez Theology III



Deacon David Mees



Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone



Fr. Cameron Faller



Fr. Andrew Ginter Asst Vocation Director



Asst Vocation Director



Fr. Thomas Martin Fr. Juan Manuel Lopez Asst Vocation Director



GOPRIESTCOM

Do you know someone who is called to be part of this group? Contact us: vocations@SFArch.org

Mass Intentions for Jan 28 - Feb 03 Time Date Intention 8:00 a.m. SI Georgina Jose 10:00 a.m. SI Judy Neri Labaria Sunday 12:00 p.m. † Jordan Chavez 28 8:00 a.m. † Marilyn Sumulong Monday 12:00 p.m. † Jordan Chavez 29 † Aida Vivanco Zapata 8:00 a.m. Tuesday 12:00 p.m. † Jordan Chavez 30 8:00 a.m. SI Beltran C. Marces Wednesday 12:00 p.m. † Jordan Chavez 8:00 a.m. † Luis & Danilo Purqued Thursday † Jordan Chavez 12:00 p.m. † Helen & Jesus Delos Santos 8:00 a.m. Friday 12:00 p.m. † Jordan Chavez 02 12:00 p.m. † Jordan Chavez Saturday 5:00 p.m. † Nicomedes & Juanita Abello 03

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, Thursday, and Friday
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 is available on our website: www.stpatricksf.org



Black Nazarene

> Feast Day January 9

Rosie Drapiza Lydia Cagampan Rene & Elsa Tuazon



St. Anne Feast Day July 26

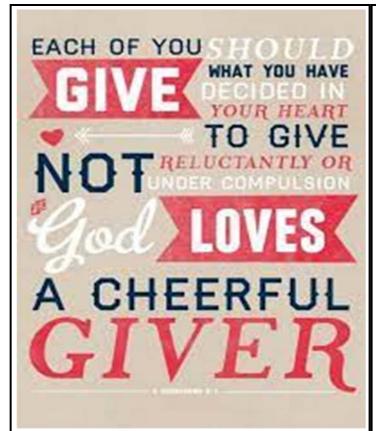


Ol, Jinne

O GOD, You bestowed on St. Anne 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.

Parish Registration			
Date:			
Name:			
Address:			
Ph. No.			
D.O.B.			
Gender			
Marital St	atus		
Occupatio	n		
Please dro	op in the collection basket or return to the parish office		



Krista Mari, Ezra Mari, & Juliana Mari



Laeti bibamus sobriam profusionem Spiritus.

St. Patrick Charismatic Prayer Group



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, call (415) 554-7970 or email me at Matt.Dorsey@sfgov.org.





Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Have Mercy on Us.

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

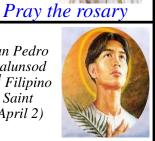


San Pedro Calunsod 2nd Filipino Saint (April 2)

OUR

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Marilen Ojeda