

St. Patrick Catholic Church

San Francisco's Historic Landmark #4

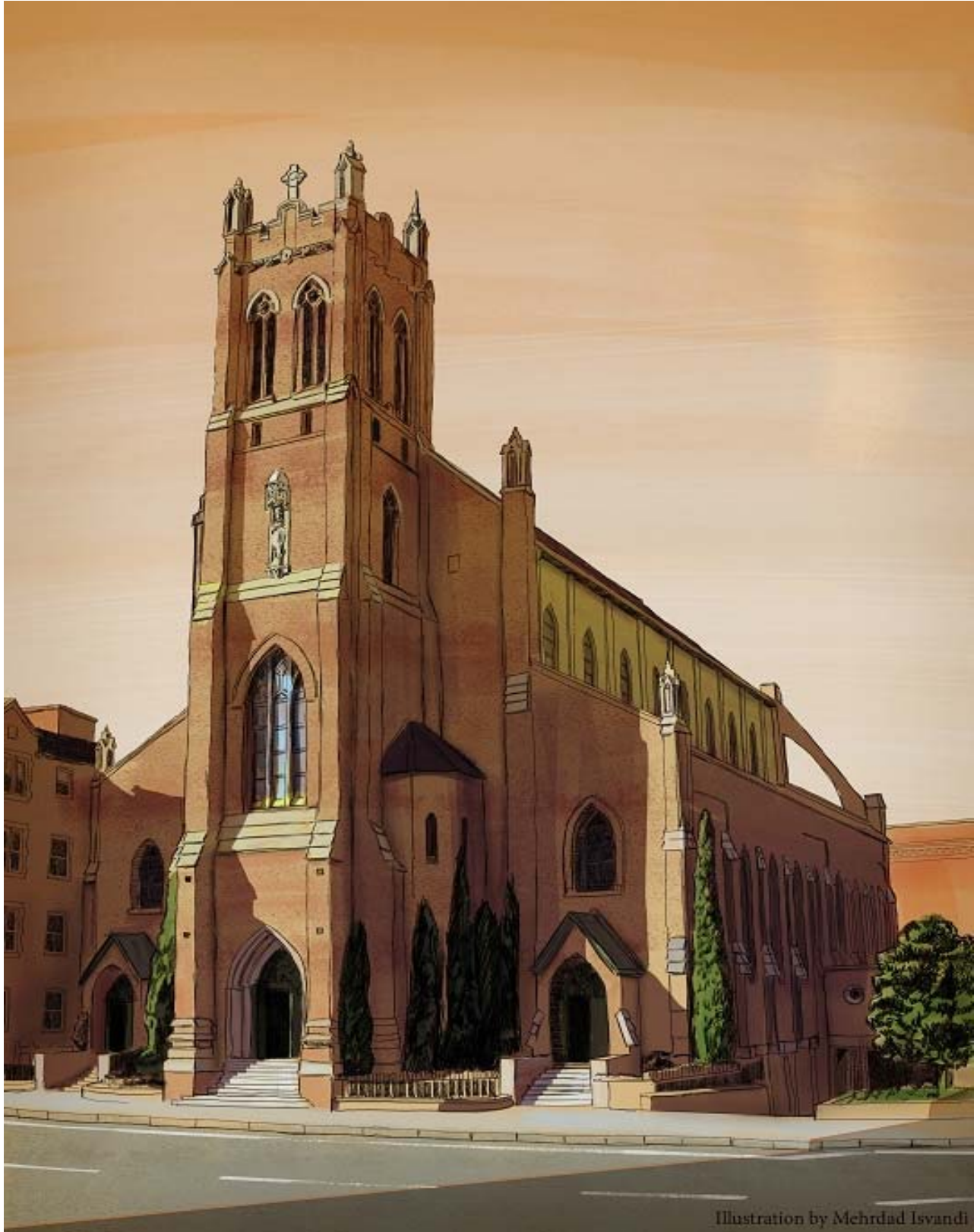
(Founded in 1851)

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

www.stpatricksf.org

November 30, 2025 - First Sunday of Advent

*I rejoiced because they said to me,
"We will go up to the house of the Lord." ~ Psalm 122:1*



November 30, 2025 ~ First Sunday of Advent ~ Year A

Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Rom 13:1-14; Mt 23:37-44

Let us rejoice (Ps) in the Lord's peace (1); let us live honorably (2) as we await his return (3).

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Andrew Spyrow - *Pastor*

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

Rev. Patrick Okoye - *Parochial Vicar*

Deacon Ferdinand Mariano - *OCIA Coordinator*

Parish Staff

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.

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.

Catholic Prayer Corner

Advent Prayer

Come, Lord Jesus.

O God, you are great indeed.

Look upon us and reveal your glory,
promised to Abraham and sent to us
through David and his lineage.

Send us the warmth of your love, the light of your Word,
the vision of your wisdom, and the comfort of your people.
Open our hearts in welcome and grant us your salvation.
Fill our minds with watchful hope
and let us see your kindness.

Give us new life, the promise and joy of salvation.
May the glory of your Son dwell in our land forever.

We pray: Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

At Table During Advent

Advent candles may be lighted as the leader says:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation:

In the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you in this food and in our sharing.

Blessed are you as we wait in joyful hope
For the coming of our savior, Jesus Christ.

All respond:

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now
and for ever.

The leader says:

Come, Lord Jesus!

All respond:

Come quickly!

From Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers

Time of Preparation

This life is the time of our preparation for our future state.
Our souls will continue for ever what we make them in this
world.

~ John Tillotson, Archbishop of Canterbury

Happy Birthday!!

Happy Birthday to our Parishioners
celebrating a birthday this week.

Isaac James Dalapit	11/30	Adelfimar "Mark" Polintan	12/4
Shalom Ikhenia	11/30	Gerardo Tech	12/4
Ann Marie Jelacich	12/1	Frances Bazan	12/5
Corinth De Leon	12/2	Milene Masangcay	12/5
Giordana Ignacio-Ramos	12/3	Francis James	12/6
Ferdinand Mariano	12/4		

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



Please Pray for Pope Francis' Intention for December

Pope's Intention: *For Christians in areas of conflict.* Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Parol Making Workshops

At Yerba Buena Center for the Arts
(701 Mission Street)
and Bayanihan Community Center
(1010 Mission Street) in San Francisco.

Want to learn how to make your own *parol*, the Filipino lantern symbolizing hope, peace, and community? Join the SOMA Pilipinas' Parol-Making Workshops at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA) and other participating locations!

Note: The December 6 & 7 workshops will be held at the Bayanihan Community Center (1010 Mission St, San Francisco, CA 94103).

Workshops are free, family-friendly, and open to all!

Parol Kits:

Suggested donation: \$20 per kit
(\$10 for seniors or youth 18 & under).

Limit one per person.

Please arrive 15 minutes early to check in.

Bring your parol to the 23rd Annual Parol Lantern Festival on Saturday, December 13th at YBCA and be part of this beautiful community tradition!

Health & Safety: Masks are strongly recommended, and we encourage participants to take a COVID test before attending.

Parol Workshop Schedule:

YBCA Workshops (701 Mission Street, SF):

- Sunday, November 2: 12–4 PM
- Sunday, November 9: 12–4 PM
- Sunday, November 16: 12–4 PM
- Saturday, November 22: 12–4 PM
- Sunday, November 23: 12–4 PM
- Thursday, December 4: 4–8 PM

Bayanihan Community Center Workshops
(1010 Mission St. SF):

- Saturday, December 6: 12–4 PM
- Sunday, December 7: 12–4 PM

Come early, bring friends, and take part in a creative, heart-warming tradition that connects generations.

Sign up now to reserve your spot: bit.ly/2025parolworkshop

Today's Readings

First Reading — The Lord said to David, "You shall shepherd my people Israel" (2 Samuel 5:1-3).

Psalm — Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord (Psalm 122).

Second Reading — Thanks to the Father who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light (Colossians 1:12-20).

Gospel — Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom (Luke 23:35-43).

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.

AAA Update (as of 04 November 2025)

2025 AAA Goal	\$38,705.00
Received	\$32,479.00
Amount Remaining	\$6,226.00
% of Goal	84%

People of the Light

We are called to reflect the light of God's love through the ways in which we live our lives. Imagine the impact if each of us took this call to heart, every day, at home, work, or school, in our parish, in the world. "All nations shall stream toward it," toward the love that only comes from God. Yet, we must admit that much of the time we fail to be beacons of God's light. We fall asleep, complacent, preferring to go the easy route, which often leads to darkness rather than the radiance of Christ's light. As we begin the season of Advent, Saint Paul admonishes us to throw off the works of darkness, to awaken to the call of light and love. In today's Gospel, Jesus too tells us to stay awake, to be prepared to greet the Lord of light as people of the light.

Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Our Fascinating Faith

The Season of Advent

What are we really waiting for during Advent? The longstanding tradition of the Church is that the Advent season really marks not one but three comings of Christ: his coming into history two thousand years ago, his coming in glory at the end of time, and his coming into our hearts here and now. Advent starts with a focus on the future coming of Christ so that we might see the big picture. If Christmas is to make any sense at all, we have to ask the question, "What are you doing to get ready for the (final) coming of Christ?" This perspective opens us up to the sense of anticipation experienced by the Jewish people on the eve of the first coming of Christ. This Advent, we will hear John the Baptist tell them (and us) how best to prepare. He urges repentance and an examination and reform of our way of life.

Then on the Fourth Sunday, we are drawn in to the history of Jesus' arrival as the child of Joseph and Mary. Our work of spiritual preparation brings us to the point of the whole season. What good is it that Christ comes into my heart if I don't then carry that presence out into the world, just as Mary did?

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Patrician Meeting

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

The Approved Apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Speaker ~ Karen Gascon

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

McKenna Hall

Saints & Special Observances

Wednesday: Memorial ~ St. Francis Xavier, Priest

Thursday: optional memorial ~

St. John Damascene, Priest, Doctor of the Church

Saturday: optional memorial ~ St. Nicholas, Bishop

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings for the Week

Monday: *Is 4:26; Mt 8:5-11*

Tuesday: *Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24*

Wednesday: *Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37*

Thursday: *Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21,24-27*

Friday: *Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31*

Saturday: *Is 30:19-21,23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1,5z,6-8*

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Mass Intentions for Nov 30 - Dec 06

Date	Time	Intention
Sunday 30	7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	FH Luna & Greg BD Pauline Wilkom † Marie Babasa SI All Parishioners of St. Patrick
Monday 01	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	BD Sr. Georgina Macatangay BD Janet Murata SI Marilou Alegre
Tuesday 02	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Poor Souls In Purgatory BD Hersie Rosales † Douglas Stewart
Wednesday 03	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Lolita & Catalina Purqued BD Christina Mejia SI Cristina Agbayani
Thursday 04	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Marilyn Sumulong FH David Sun † Nicomedes & Juanita Abello
Friday 05	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Souls In Purgatory SI Ryan, Precious & Baby Raya Rizon † Charlie Yparraguirre
Saturday 06	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Corazon M. Ambata BD Salve Platero SI Rev. Roberto Andrey

Sponsors Needed For the 9-Day Misa de Gallo

December 16 - 24, 2025 at 6:00 a.m.



As the liturgical year winds down with Advent right around the corner, we are looking for kind-hearted and generous people who would like to share some of their God-given blessings by sponsoring one of the pre-dawn *Misa de Gallo* Masses. Donations will go toward the festive and joyful fellowship each day featuring hot refreshments. Please bring your contribution to the office or give it to one of the parish staff by Friday, December 12th, so your donation may be acknowledged in the *Misa de Gallo* program. Thank you for sharing the joy of your blessings and your Christmas spirit with your fellow parishioners!!

Living God's Word

What will it mean for you to "walk in the light of the Lord" this Advent? Will it mean changing an aspect of your life that is darkened by sin, or noticing and alleviating some of the suffering in our world?

Copyright © 2012, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

Living Stewardship Now

Drop something you usually do at this time of year but do not enjoy. Choose an Advent custom and make it part of your daily routine.

Copyright © 2010, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

Diaconate Formation Informational Evenings

The Office of Formation for the Permanent Diaconate will hold Informational Evenings for men considering the possibility of serving the Church as Permanent Deacons. The evening will include discussion of the ministry of the Deacon in the Church, the Formation program and the application process. Please join us.

Deacon Fred Totah, Director of Diaconate Formation
Deacon Arthur Sanchez, Director of Permanent Diaconate

Who should attend?

Single and married men between the ages of 30 and 60 may apply for the program and are invited to the evening. However, married applicants must be married at least five years. All married applicants need the complete support of their wives in order to pursue the program; therefore, wives are encouraged to attend.

Dates:

Wednesday, January 07, 2026
St. Raphael Church
1104 5th Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94901

Wednesday, January 14, 2026
Archdioceses of San Francisco
One Peter Yorke Way
San Francisco, CA 94109

Wednesday, January 21, 2026
St. Mark Catholic Church
325 Marine View Avenue
Belmont, CA 94002



Time:

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Diaconate Formation Office
Deacon Fred Totah,
Director of Diaconate Formation
Phone: 415-614-5615
Email: totah.fred@sfarch.org

Advent

Advent has a two-fold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered, and as a season when that remembrance directs our mind and heart to await Christ's second coming at the end of time. Advent thus is a period of devout and joyful expectation (General Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar [henceforth, General Norms], 39).

- Advent begins this year with Evening Prayer I on Saturday, 26 November 2022, and ends after Midday Prayer (None) on Christmas Eve.
- The use of the organ and other musical instruments and the decorating of the altar with flowers should be done in a moderate manner, as is consonant with the character of the season, without anticipating the full joy of Christmas (*Ceremoniale Episcoporum*, 236). The same moderation should be observed in the celebration of Matrimony (*Ordo Celebrandi Matrimonium*, 32).
- The official color for the season of Advent is violet. In order to distinguish between this season and the specifically penitential season of Lent, the bluer hues of violet may be used during Advent. Light blue vestments, however, are not authorized for use in the United States.

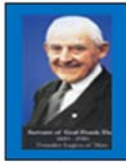
LEGION OF MARY - ST. PATRICK CHURCH

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

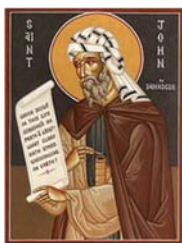
The Legion sees as its priority the spiritual and social welfare of everyone. The members participate in the life of the parish through visitation of families, the sick, both in homes and hospitals and through collaboration in every apostolate and missionary undertakings sponsored by the parish. The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

St. John of Damascus (c. 675-749)

December 4



From almost 1300 years ago, John's message for the church's spirituality and mission is surprisingly contemporary. Pope Benedict said that in our modern culture of images, sacred images often speak more eloquently than words. This "incarnational theology," the concept that visible, tangible elements can give believers access to divine realities beyond, found an eloquent champion in John of Damascus. He challenged the Iconoclasts (image-breakers), whose misinterpretation of the biblical prohibition of idolatrous images (Exodus 20:4-5) led them to campaign for the destruction of all sacred art. Before this controversy, however, John bore witness to Christ in a way that provides a timely example for Christians in today's pluralistic society. Succeeding his grandfather and father, John served as chief financial officer to the Muslim caliph, professing his Christian faith without compromise, while winning the esteem of his Islamic sovereign by his competence and integrity. No wonder John could eloquently defend icons as "windows into heaven"—he had already learned to see Christ in the living icons of people different from himself yet fashioned in the same divine image!

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



Letters from Heaven



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

Jesus said to his disciples, "You must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son ...

N	I	L	C
W	A	O	L
	M	M	E
		F	O

O _ _ _ _ _ .

Answer: *of Man will come*

© 2021 International Puzzle Features

Excerpt from the NAS © 2010, 1991, 1970, CCD

saint snippets

I surrender myself into your hands without reserve, and with boundless confidence, for you are my Father.

Bl. Charles de Foucauld
French cavalry officer, explorer, and geographer who became an inspirational priest and hermit. He was martyred in Algeria by tribal raiders in 1916.
Copyright © 2019, Michael Thimons

December 1

saint snippets

I forgive you, for you know not what you are doing.

Bl. Marie-Clémentine Nengapeta
Holy Family Sister who was martyred in the Congo in 1964 for refusing to violate her vow of chastity.
Copyright © 2019, Michael Thimons

December 1

saint snippets

The giver of every good and perfect gift has called us to mimic his giving.

St. Nicholas of Myra
4th-century Greek bishop known for putting coins in the shoes of the poor
Copyright © 2018, Michael Thimons

December 6

Saint of the Week



Francis Xavier, † 1552 at age forty-six on the island of Sancion off the China coast; from Navarre; one of the founding Jesuits; preached in India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Japan; with St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus (1 Oct), co-patron of the Apostleship of Prayer and of the foreign missions.

CATHOLIC CORNER

WAIT FOR THE LORD

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, a time of waiting while we count the next 24 days until Christmas. Waiting can be hard, but it helps if we have something to think about while we wait. For each week of Advent you will see a page with statements that teach something about this season. Read each strip and answer the question or discuss the idea with your family. Color the strip and cut it out. Make a chain by taping or gluing one strip in a circle and looping the next one around it, taping or gluing it into a circle, etc. By Christmas you will have a long chain you can hang on your tree.



December 1

Advent means waiting and preparing. What can your family do together to prepare for Christmas?



December 2

Jesus is our Light. Do you light an Advent wreath in your home every night?



December 3

"Let us walk in the light of the LORD!" (Isaiah 2:5). How do you walk in God's light?



December 4

"Peace be with you" (Psalm 122:8). How can you bring peace to your family, your classroom, your neighborhood?



December 5

Make an ornament using the word *Peace*. Hang it on your Christmas tree.



December 6

St. Nicholas Day! Place a candy cane on everyone's dinner plate, with a note promising to do a good work for each person.



December 7

"Stay awake!" (Matthew 24:42). What do we watch for as we wait for Christmas? What will you do to help someone today?

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



Jesus said to his disciples, "Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming." Mt 24:42

November 30, 2025

FIRST SUNDAY of Advent



You must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come.

Matthew 24:44

Pastor Al™



"Yes, we all like Christmas, but is there another reason to choose St. Nicholas for your confirmation name?"

© 2002 World Library Publications, a division of J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

First Sunday of Advent

Here we are again, beginning a new church year, and looking ahead to Christmas. We have been through a long period of Ordinary Time, with several secular holidays: Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving. We celebrated all of these, and now it is time to prepare for the great feast of Christmas.

As Christians, we are not preparing only to celebrate the secular Christmas that has crept into our year for the last hundred years or more. We are celebrating the coming of Christ, both into our world at the Nativity and again at the end of time. It is time to awaken from our sleepy ordinary time and await the coming of Christ.

No Time For Insomnia

We can get very busy and preoccupied with preparations for Christmas, both secular and sacred. Often, at the bombardment of advertising and “holiday specials” of every kind, from store and Internet sales to Christmas specials on TV and “holiday” parties, we push the peaceful and reflective preparations of Advent to a back burner. Then we get exhausted and sometimes resentful of all that has somehow piled on top of our usual busy lives.

We need to slow down, and perhaps we can eliminate some of the more extraneous parts of this celebration. Do we really need to put lights on our houses, which is time-consuming, and will require taking down again, sometimes too long after the Christmas season has passed? Do we really need all the decorations we put around the house, or would a lovely Christmas tree, a crèche, and some poinsettias do? Do we need hundreds of cookies, or would a few dozen do? Does everyone really need multiple presents, or would one per person do?

Think about how much better this time would be if we could slow down, read, and ponder a scripture reading each day, and not be in such a tizzy that we cannot get a good night's rest. Today's urging to “stay awake” does not mean to toss and turn all night pondering the “to do” list and wondering if and how we will get it all done.

The Light of the Lord

What a relief it would be if we had time to ponder the miracle of God-with-us. In our troubled world, we very much need to pray for peace. “They shall beat their swords into plowshares / and their spears into pruning hooks; / one nation shall not raise the sword against another, / nor shall they train for war again” (Isaiah 2:4). If only we could make it so by wishing, but Jesus has said that if we ask for anything in his name, it will be granted. Perhaps we can find time for even a small prayer for our war-torn, weary world.

“O house of Jacob, come, / let us walk in the light of the LORD!” (Isaiah 2:5).

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Company



Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Do What You Can



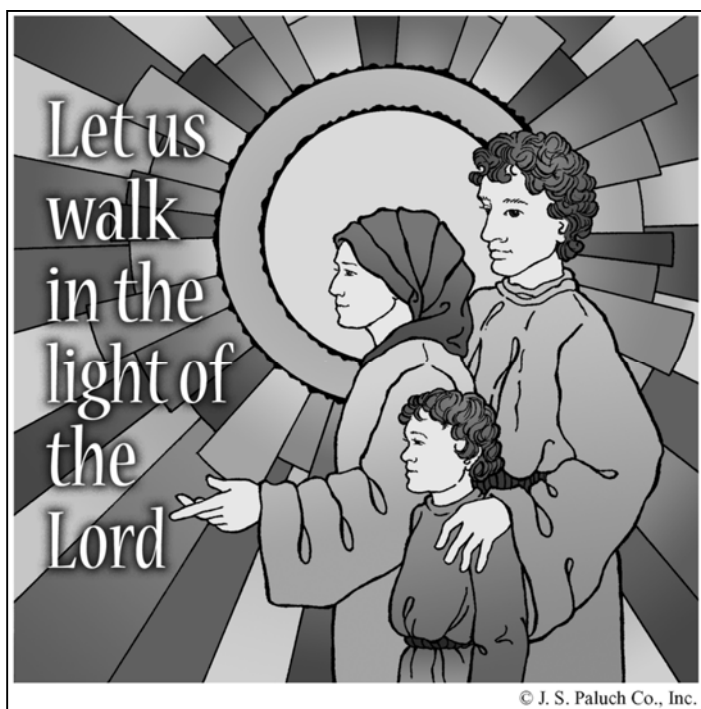
The reading from the prophet Isaiah this Sunday contains a remarkable prediction—the end of war between nations (Isaiah 2:4). While most of the good predictions of the prophets were fulfilled in Jesus, we still await the end of all wars. So why hasn't that one been fulfilled? We can look to the second reading and the Gospel for some hints.

Both readings talk about being awake and ready for our salvation (Romans 13:12) or the coming of the Son of Man (Matthew 24:39). Being awake doesn't mean consuming lots of coffee or turning the music volume all the way up. Paul calls it “putting on the Lord Jesus Christ” as a soldier would put on armor before a battle. He even mentions rivalry and jealousy as attitudes to avoid. Both of those vices have been the cause of many wars in our history. What if we not only avoided them, but also taught our children to avoid them? What if everyone eventually learned not to be jealous and hateful?

We are a long way from ending all wars. There are still people who teach hate to the poor instead of helping to feed them. There are still people who get rich selling the weapons of war. This brings us back to the first reading, in which Isaiah speaks of beating swords into plowshares. Do we have enough faith in God's love to stop building weapons and use those resources to feed the hungry or cure diseases in underprivileged countries? Until we convert everyone to following Jesus, that's not likely. The Gospel calls us to be ready. Maybe we need to be ready to share our faith. Maybe we have to be awake to any opportunity to show God's love to those around us. Are we afraid to offer to pray for someone in need? Maybe we need to put on the “armor of light,” as St. Paul calls it. Instead of trying to stop all wars, could we at least show forgiveness to someone who has hurt us?

Jesus never said to do the impossible. If we can be ready to see Jesus in those around us, to show his love to those who need it, or just be patient with other people's faults and weaknesses, we may not stop all wars, but we will be prepared for the coming of the Prince of Peace.

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



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Be Prepared

Be prepared. It's that simple. As this Advent season opens before us, the Lord Jesus summons us to stand ready for his coming. At this time of year much of our attention is focused on being prepared for the details that accompany the holiday season. We purchase gifts; we decorate our homes, inside and out; we prepare foods that we eat only during the holidays; we write and send Christmas cards; we attend holiday concerts; we prepare either to welcome family and friends into our homes or arrange for visits to their homes. We really can't escape the details that make up the season. Perhaps this Advent is a time to attend to all those details with a different spin. As we prepare to celebrate the feast of Christmas, why not be deliberate about acknowledging the presence of the Lord as we go about these tasks? The Lord often comes to us in wonderfully surprising ways. Let us be prepared.

© Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Treasures From Our Tradition

Before the Second Vatican Council in the mid-1960s, Advent had a strong penitential tone, reminiscent of Lent. From as long ago as the fourth century, some Christians began a solemn fast on St. Martin's Day, November 11. This "Saint Martin's Lent" extended all the way to Christmas, and was widely followed in the dioceses of France and Germany, and in the Middle Ages in England. Fasting was required, and dancing and similar activities were banned for the duration. The fast had a social function, too, assuring that the winter food supplies would stretch into spring.

At the Second Vatican Council, some bishops argued that a revival of the long winter's fast would give the Church a chance to establish the message and themes of the Incarnation long before the holiday hubbub took hold. This proposal didn't pass, and Advent emerged as a four-week period of reflection, expectant waiting, and joyful preparation for the coming of the Lord. The season has two principal phases, with the first beginning this Sunday. The second phase commences on December 17, when the liturgy begins to unfold the story of the Savior's coming. Interestingly, the Eastern Church maintains a strongly penitential note in Advent, which is called "Winter Lent," "The Nativity Fast," or "Christmas Lent," and has laws forbidding people to absent themselves from liturgy from December 17 onward.

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

Peaceful and Still

Several years ago I had the opportunity to spend a night at the Timberline Lodge on the slopes of Oregon's Mount Hood. Peering out the window of my room in the early morning, I saw the snow-covered slope of the top of the mountain appear as the sun began to rise. I quickly got out of bed, got dressed, and walked through the lodge to the front door. Opening the door, I was stunned by the fact that the cloud line was only a few feet below me. Only the lodge and the top of the mountain itself were above the clouds. As I climbed up the face of the mountain, the sun began to rise, piercing the clouds with shafts of pink, orange, and yellow light. When I climbed higher and higher, the snow-capped peaks of the surrounding mountains began to pierce the clouds. All was still and peaceful, like the world proclaimed in today's passage from Isaiah.

The Mountain of Peace

Isaiah describes the mountain of the Lord's house as a place where we receive instruction from God. In prophetic exhortation we are reminded that we are to beat our swords into plowshares and our spears into pruning hooks. We are not to raise a sword against another nation or train for war again. We can choose to throw our hands in the air and give up hoping that this could ever become a reality. Or we can choose to heed the call of Saint Paul, issued in today's second reading: "Let us throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light" (Romans 13:12). Preparing ourselves for the coming of the Lord means much more than putting our own spiritual house in order. It means that in our everyday life we dedicate ourselves to being peacemakers: at home, at work, and in our relationships. The stunning prophecies we hear during this holy season remind us that, like a peaceful mountaintop high above the clouds, our world can become a place of peace, tranquility, and light.

~ Copyright © 2007, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

First Sunday of Advent

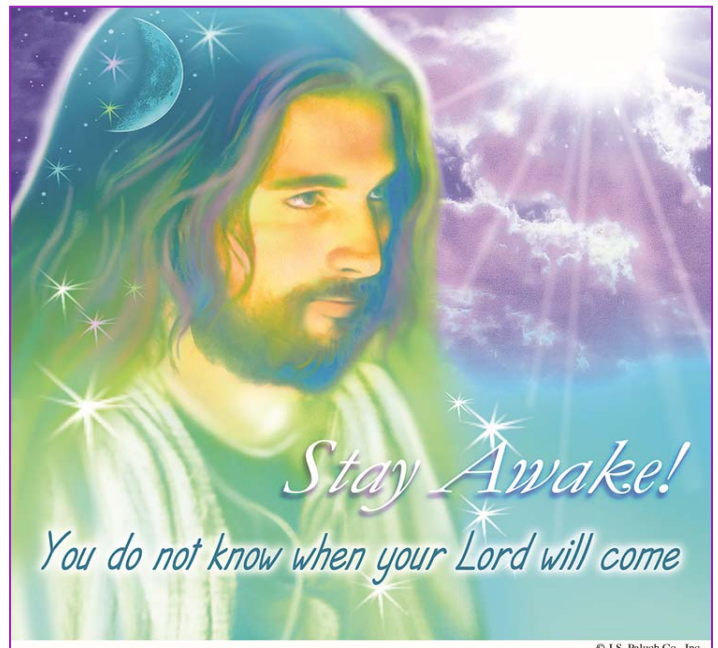
November 30, 2025

"You . . . must be prepared,
for at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come."

~ Matthew 24:44



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



© J.S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Getting Ready

Today marks the beginning of another liturgical year. The tone of today's readings casts us in the role of students learning solemn lessons. The reading from Isaiah sets the stage, calling us up a mountain to receive the Lord's instruction. In this passage we study peace.

Then Paul steps forth with sober admonitions. We have to wake up; the day is almost here. Live honorably in the light. Paul reminds us that we really do know the time in which we are living.

Finally, Matthew presents Jesus the storyteller. Just imagine, Jesus tells us, what it was like in Noah's time. He paints a vivid picture of ordinary people living ordinary lives and ignoring the warnings that Noah heeded. Totally unconcerned, they were destroyed. How will it be any different for us? No one knows when the Lord will come. But we have been warned.

Perhaps we find such sobering scriptures unappealing and threatening. But within them there is promise. We are to live in the light with nothing to hide. We are to be ready.

© Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Treasures From Our Tradition

"People in love make signs of love," wrote our bishops in a document guiding the renewal of liturgical music. They were not merely urging us to sing at Mass, but suggesting that the song itself is a sign of the love of Christ. Love never expressed dies, as we know from experience. Flowers for no special reason, a caress, a hug, a turn around the dance floor, a note on the pillow or in the lunchbox, the aroma of fresh bread in the kitchen, all are signs of love's vitality.

A significant treasure in our Catholic tradition is the place of the sacraments as signs of Christ's love. We can trace the sacraments back to scriptural sources, through centuries of history. They are woven through family tradition and our own life story. Sacraments are the way Christ makes signs of love for the Church. For twenty centuries, God has spoken to us in the arena of the sacraments, and we have responded.

For the next year of "Treasure" essays, we will explore the story of sacraments: their sources, their signs and rituals, and the way Christ nurtures and sustains us as we encounter him, the companion on our journey who loves us and faithfully makes signs of that love.

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



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Reflecting on God's Word

"O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel!" So begins the familiar chant that will be heard in churches throughout the world this Advent. It is based on the O Antiphons, which are the verses for the Gospel acclamation at Mass on the last seven days of Advent. Each of those antiphons prays for the coming of Christ, and each one seems to capture the spirit of a different Sunday of Advent. The verse that harmonizes with this Sunday's scriptures expresses our longing for the "Radiant Dawn" of the Lord's coming at the end of time when the "sun of justice" will "shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death." In the readings we hear Isaiah describe the peaceful "days to come," when all will "walk in the light of the Lord!" (Isaiah 2:2, 5). Paul tells us it is time "to awake from sleep" and "put on the armor of light" for "the day is at hand" (Romans 13:11, 13, 12). Jesus, too, cautions us to "stay awake" to be ready for the "day your Lord will come" (Matthew 24:42).

All around us we seem to be getting a similar message: "No time to waste! Only thirty shopping days left till Christmas! Don't be caught unprepared!" What's the difference between the two messages? One tells us to anticipate a day of giving and getting and eating and drinking. We might prepare for that day by rushing and buying and wrapping and baking. The other tells us to anticipate a day, not of avarice and jealousy, but of justice for the oppressed and peace on earth. We will prepare for that day when we "throw off the works of darkness" and "put on the Lord Jesus Christ."

~ Virginia Stillwell

Copyright © 2013, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

Relevant Radio

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

F

I

R

S

T

Sunday

of

Advent

They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another.

Isaiah 2:4

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. - Photos: © Patti Caffy/Stock, © edmu/Adobe Stock
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass (c) 2001, 1998, 1997, 1988, 1970, CCD.

November 30, 2025

The First Sunday of Advent

The Deep, Anguished Seriousness Of Advent

But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand. ~ Luke 21:28

Christian optimism is not a perpetual sense of euphoria, pure comfort in whose presence neither anguish nor tragedy can possibly exist. We must not strive to maintain a climate of optimism by the suppression of tragic realities. Christian optimism lies in a hope of victory that transcends all tragedy: a victory in which we pass beyond tragedy to glory with Christ crucified and risen.

We must remember the deep, in some ways anguished, seriousness of Advent, when the phony celebrations of our marketing culture so easily harmonize with our tendency to regard Christmas as a return to our own innocence and our own infancy. Advent should remind us that the "King Who is to Come" is more than a charming infant smiling in the straw.

O God, help us to live hopefully and joyfully this Advent in the face of the daily news of the anguish and tragedy of human life. Amen.

Thomas Merton

Seasons of Celebration © 1965 the Abbey of Gethsemani, Far-
rar, Straus and Giroux, New York

Advent

Let's approach Christmas with an expectant hush, rather than a last-minute rush.

~ Anonymous

Blessing of An Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is made of four candles and a circle of branches. Before the first candle is lighted, the household gathers for this blessing.

All make the sign of the cross. The leader begins:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All respond: Who made heaven and earth.

The leader may use these or similar words to introduce the blessing:

In the short days and long nights of Advent, we realize how we are always waiting for deliverance, always needing salvation by our God. Around this wreath, we shall remember God's promise.

Then the Scripture is read:

Listen to the words of the prophet Isaiah:

Isaiah 9:1-2 or Isaiah 63:16-17 or Isaiah 64:2-7

The reader concludes: This is the Word of the Lord.

All respond: Thanks be to God.

After a time of silence, all join in prayers of intercession and in the Lord's Prayer. Then the leader invites:

Let us now pray for God's blessing upon us and upon this wreath.

After a short silence, the leader prays:

Lord our God,

We praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:

He is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,

He is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,

He is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God,

Let your blessing come upon us

as we light the candles of this wreath.

May the wreath and its light

be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.

May he come quickly and not delay.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R./ Amen.

The first candle is then lighted. The leader says:

Let us bless the Lord.

All respond, making the sign of the cross:

Thanks be to God.

The blessing concludes with a verse from

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel":

O Come, desire of nations, bind

In one the hearts of humankind;

Bid ev'ry sad divisions cease

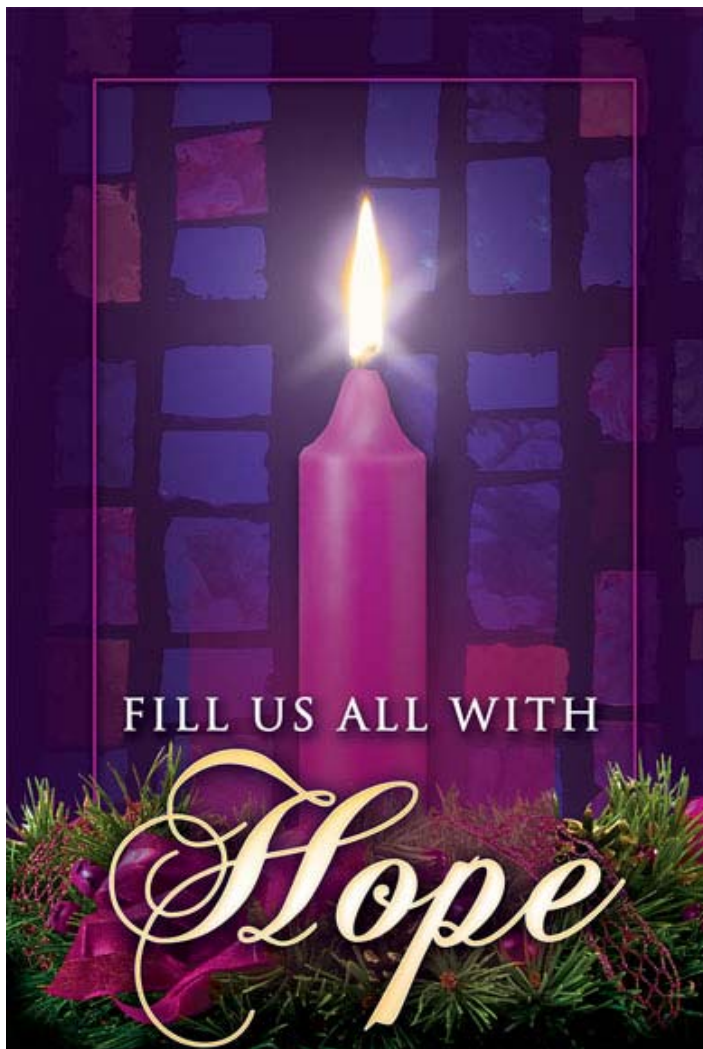
And by thyself our Prince of peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Each day in Advent, perhaps at the evening meal, the candles are lighted: One candle the first week, two the second, and so forth.

From Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers



Hopeful Expectation

Our liturgical year begins with the season of Advent—a time of hopeful expectation of the coming of the Lord. On the First Sunday of Advent we look forward to the end of time when we will awaken to the dawn of Christ's new day.

Today we hear Isaiah speak of a day when God's power will have brought universal peace and God's Word will have instructed all people, radiating God's "light" (teachings) into all of human society. Only when humanity walks "in the light of the LORD" (Isaiah 2:5), when all people desire to be instructed "in [God's] ways" (Isaiah 2:3), will the world be set aright and our deepest longings fulfilled. The reading from Romans calls us to "awake from sleep" for this final "day is at hand" (Romans 13:11, 12). Together this Sunday's scriptures proclaim our Christian faith that Jesus is the One who will finally come to fulfill God's plan of salvation.

Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Feast of Faith

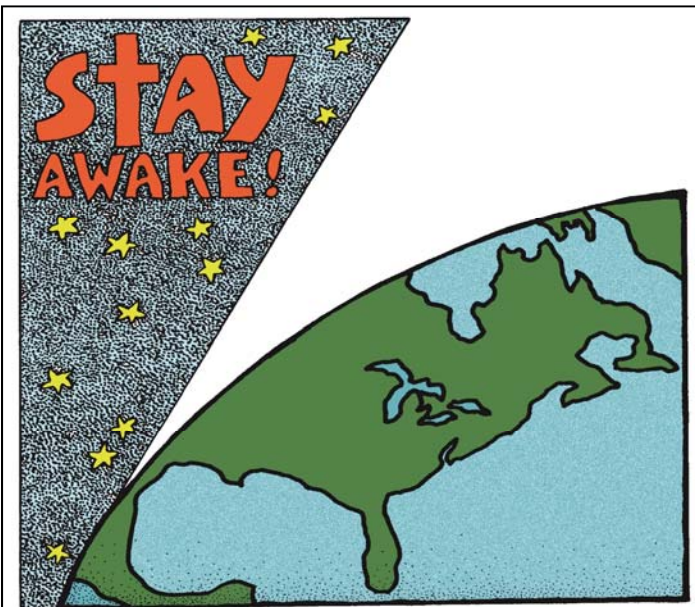
What Is the Mass?

What is the Mass? There is no simple answer to that question. The Church uses many different images and terms to describe our most important prayer. The Mass is the celebration of the Eucharist, a Greek word that means "thanksgiving." It is the Lord's Supper. It is the Breaking of the Bread. It is the memorial of the Lord's passion, death, and resurrection. It is the Holy Sacrifice, in which the sacrifice of Christ on the cross is perpetuated. It is the holy and divine liturgy, the sacred mysteries. It is the source and summit of our Christian lives, the new covenant, the work of the Holy Spirit, the paschal mystery. The many different words and images that we use when we speak of the Mass are not signs of confusion, but of wonder at what the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (1328) calls the "inexhaustible richness" of the Eucharist. The Mass, our greatest prayer and our deepest mystery, is celebrated every day, many times a day, the world over. The Eucharist is both "bread from heaven" and "daily bread." The Mass is our everyday miracle.

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

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.

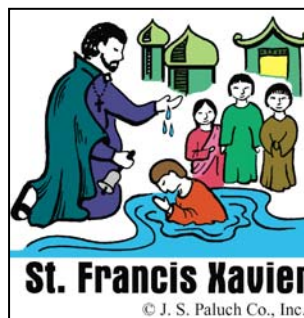


© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Jesus is the Reason

In today's world the Christmas season starts on the day after Thanksgiving and ends on December 25. For many of us this time is filled with baking, sending cards, choosing gifts, attending parties, and setting up a Christmas tree and decorations. Add to this our daily work schedules and the needs of our children and this time of the year can be very stressful. The Church puts a different emphasis on the next four weeks. This is Advent, the season of expectation, with scripture readings and prayers calling on us to prepare in our hearts and lives for the Lord's coming on Christmas Day. According to our heritage, we may already have Advent customs such as the lighting of candles on the Advent wreath, a Jesse tree, setting up a manger scene ready for the Christ child at Christmas, or special devotions. An Advent tradition from Germany called *Kristkindl* (meaning "Christ child") is suitable for families, small church groups, or even for individuals. The original custom was for the mother of the house to pass a bowl around the family circle containing rolled-up slips of paper with a family member's name on each one. Each would take one slip and carefully looked at the name so no one else could see it. For the rest of Advent the person named on the paper became the *Kristkindl* of the person who took the slip of paper, and he or she would do at least one good deed a day for them, but without them finding out who did it! Even young children could do this. It became a treasured way of preparing hearts to serve Christ through serving other people. Honor Jesus in the person of your *Kristkindl*: pray for them, save money to send to a good cause in their name, donate gifts to a shelter, do extra chores unasked, adopt a needy family.

Copyright © 2010, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

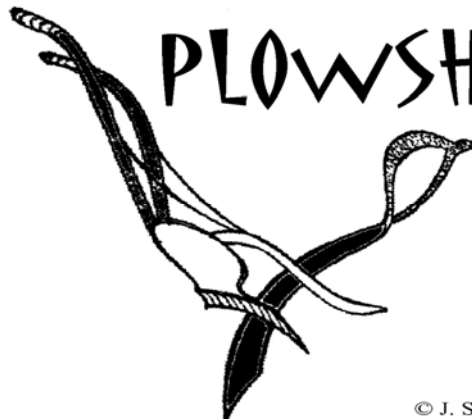


© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

THEY SHALL BEAT
THEIR SWORDS
INTO
PLOWSHARES



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

*“Do everything for
the glory of God.”*

1 Corinthians 10:31



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.”

ARCHBISHOP SALVATORE CORDILEONE



Photo by Brother Chris Garcia

ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2025 GOAL: \$6,400,000

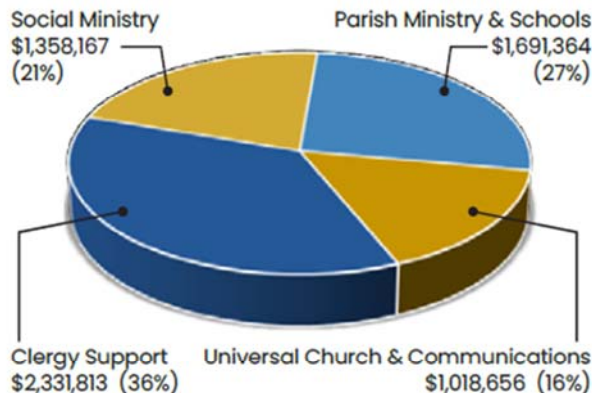


Photo by Dennis Callahan



Photo by Dennis Callahan

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

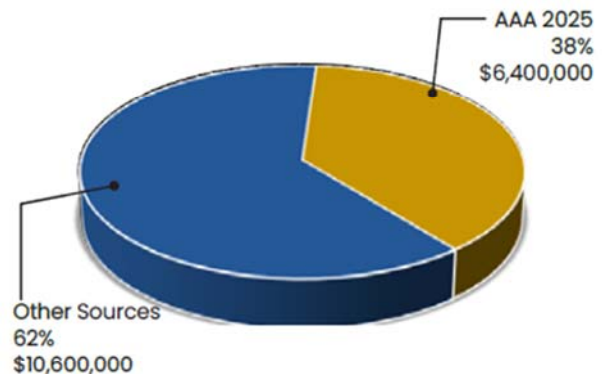


Photo by Christina Gray



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

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

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

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.

2. THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT

Give only your name; speak with an attorney present.

3. THE RIGHT TO MAKE A PHONE CALL

Call your attorney or family; keep a number ready.

4. THE RIGHT TO A HEARING BEFORE A JUDGE

You can ask for a judge to hear your case.

5. THE RIGHT TO HAVE YOUR PHYSICAL INTEGRITY RESPECTED

No one can abuse you physically or verbally.

6. THE RIGHT TO NOT SIGN ANY DOCUMENTS

Only sign documents with attorney approval.

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

Ask an attorney if you qualify for relief program.

ADDITIONAL RIGHTS

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.



(415) 552-5637 | www.somcan.org | info@somcan.org

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





*Enjoy an extraordinary opportunity to meet
Jesuit priest and founder of Homeboy Industries*

Fr. Greg Boyle LIVE!

*Learn About Cherished Belonging: The Healing Power of
Love in Divided Times*

At a time when society is more fractured than ever before, Fr. Greg Boyle invites us to see the world through a new lens of connection to build the loving community that we long to live in.

**Thursday,
Dec 4
7:00 pm**

Our Lady of Angels
1721 Hillside Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010

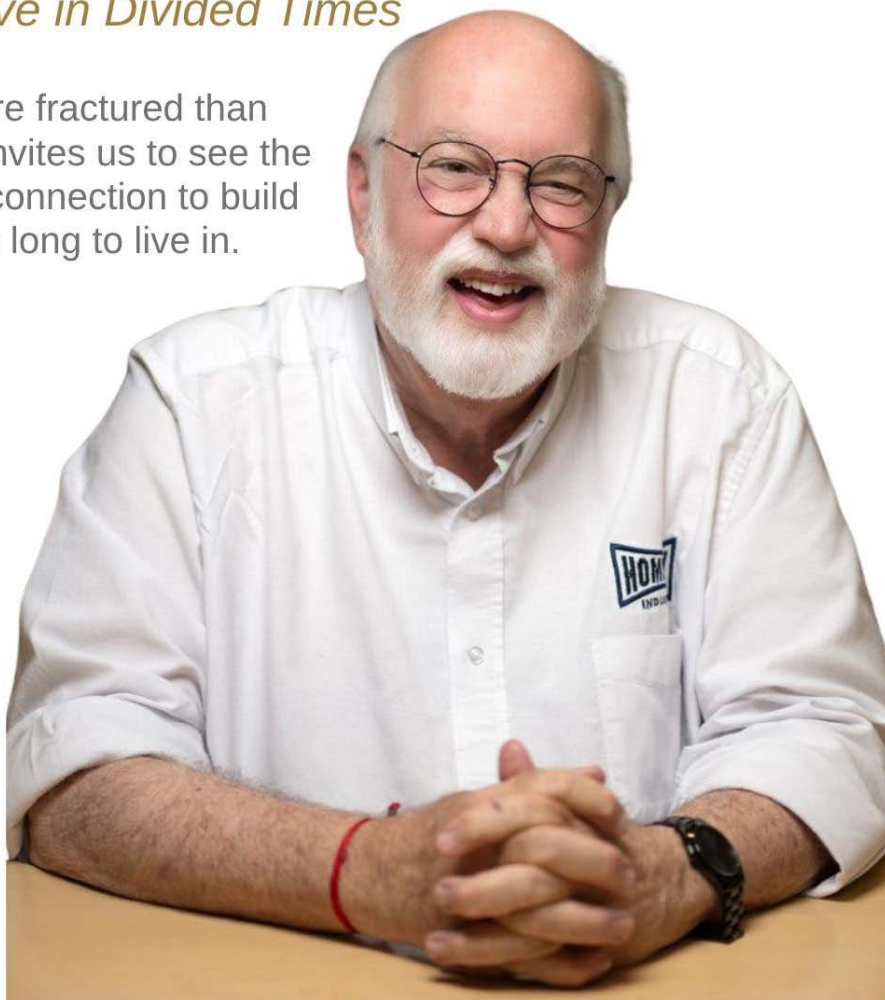
FREE

Gift to the community in honor of the
year of HOPE

REGISTER NOW
using one of these methods



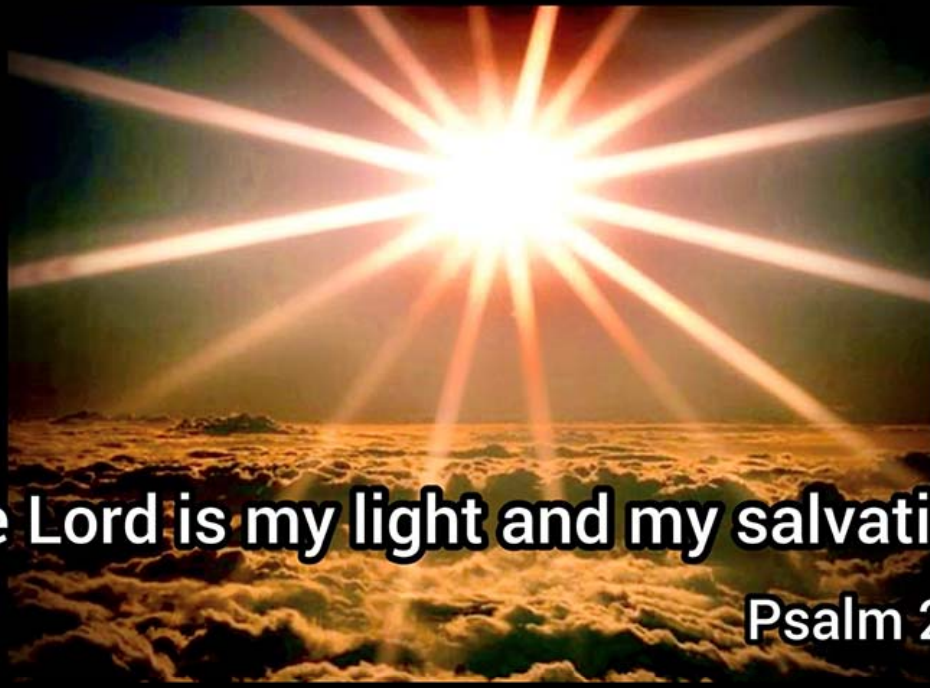
- Use this QR Code, OR
- Fill out form in vestibule and drop in Rectory mail slot, OR
- Visit Rectory to fill out form in person



Fr. Boyle has received countless awards and accolades, including The 2024 Presidential Medal of Freedom. He is a best-selling author including the 2010 New York Times-bestseller *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*. His most recent work is *Cherished Belonging: The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times* (2024).

REGISTRATION REQUIRED TO ATTEND EVENT

Experience God's love and healing; December 5, 2025



"The Lord is my light and my salvation."

Psalm 27:1



St Dunstan Catholic Church

1133 Broadway in Millbrae, CA 94030

Main Presider: Fr. Al Furtado C.S.Sp.

Concelebrating: Fr Andrew Ibegbulem, OSA

Visit SFSpirit.com for Info on Upcoming Events.

***Note: Changes in Time Schedule**

6:30 pm: Recitation of the Holy Rosary

Praise and Worship

7:00 pm: Holy Mass and Healing Service

Contacts:

Danny Garza (650) 270-8065

Sally Yeo (650) 400-4825

Sponsor & Music : BLD Prayer Community



**Sponsored by: Catholic Charismatic Renewal
of the Archdiocese of San Francisco**



Restorative Justice Christmas Angels Archdiocese of San Francisco

Please Give a Little Joy to Our Local Children

Help support local families and brighten the Christmas season for children in need! The Restorative Justice Christmas Angels program aims to assist children affected by homicide, those with a parent in prison, and children impacted by domestic violence and abuse. With your support, we can bring extra joy into their lives during the holiday season.

Adopt a Family Online

BY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024

sfarch.org/christmasangels/

Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption - Event Center
1111 Gough Street, San Francisco, CA

CONTACT JULIOE SCOBAR FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL ESCOBARJ@SFARCH.ORG



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO IS A 501(C)(3) NONPROFIT. TAX ID #ID 94-1156707



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO
FILIPINO MINISTRY

Simbang Gabi Commissioning Mass and Celebration of the Feast of *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

Friday | December 12, 2025 | 6:00 PM

Main Celebrant:

Rev. Domingo Orimaco

Pastor, Our Lady of Mercy Parish

Concelebrants:

**Priests of the
Archdiocese of San Francisco**

Homilist:

Deacon Nestor L. Fernandez II



OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

One Elmwood Drive, Daly City, CA 94015



Parish leaders and parol-bearers are requested
to be at OLM Church by 4:30 PM for the rehearsal.

Reception and Christmas Concert to follow after Mass.
For inquiries, email: filipinoministriesf1@gmail.com

DELIVER CHRISTMAS CARDS AND TREATS



**DELIVER CHRISTMAS CARDS AND TREATS
TO INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS IN
SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY JAILS**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025
11:00 AM AND 1:00 PM**

**REGISTRATION AND BACKGROUND
IS REQUIRED**

**PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE AT
WWW.SFARCH.ORG/RJVOLUNTEER**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION, CONTACT:
JULIO ESCOBAR AT ESCOBARJ@SFARCH.ORG
OR CALL (415) 614-5572**

2026 RESPECT LIFE ESSAY CONTEST

Theme: Religious Freedom,
*an essential requirement of the dignity
of every person*



Essays due Friday, January 23, 2026
**For all students in grades K-12 in public school,
Catholic school, and home school in
the Archdiocese of San Francisco.**

*Cash
Prizes!*

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



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO

Office of
Human Life & Dignity

Because Women Deserve Better than Abortion.®

22ND ANNUAL

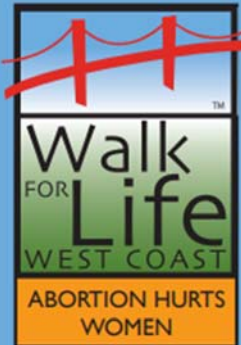
WALK for LIFE

WEST COAST



SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2026 • CIVIC CENTER PLAZA • SAN FRANCISCO

Rally: 12:30PM
CIVIC CENTER PLAZA
Info Faire: 11:00AM
Saturday, January 24, 2026



Rally starts at Civic Center Plaza,
walking down Market Street (2 miles).
Walk ends at Embarcadero Plaza.

BART stations at both locations. Ample parking.



Register and info:
(415) 658-1793 | email: info@WalkforLifeWC.com

WalkforLifeWC.com

© Women Deserve Better is a registered trademark of Feminists for Life of America.

Porque Las Mujeres Merecen Algo Mejor que el Aborto.®

22ª Caminata Anual

CAMINATA por la VIDA

COSTA DEL OESTE

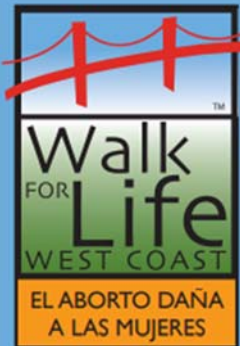


SÁBADO, 24 DE ENERO 2026 • PLAZA DEL CENTRO CÍVICO • SAN FRANCISCO

Rally: 12:30PM

(Mesas informativas: 11:00AM)

Sábado, 24 de enero 2026



Rally da inicio en la Plaza del Centro Civico. Luego caminaremos por la calle Market (2 millas). Finaliza en Embarcadero Plaza/Ferry Building. BART en ambos lugares. Amplio estacionamiento.



Información:
415/658-1793 | email: info@WalkforLifeWC.com

WalkforLifeWC.com

® Las mujeres merecen algo mejor es una marca registrada de Feministas por la Vida de América.

因為墮胎傷害婦女

第二十二屆

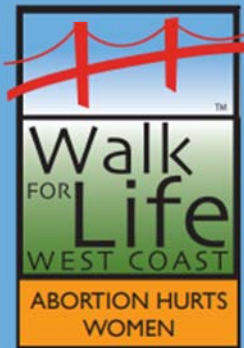
為生命而行

西岸



星期六、一月二十四日・三藩市・CIVIC CENTER PLAZA 市政府廣場

聚會: 下午十二時半
市政府廣場
資訊展: 早上十一時
星期六、二零二六年一月二十四日



聚會由 Civic Center 市政府廣場
為起點, 沿著 Market 街行二英里。
於 Embarcadero 廣場為終站。

這兩個地點均有 BART 站和充裕的停車位。



欲登記或查詢, 請電:
(415) 658-1793 | 電郵: info@WalkforLifeWC.com

WalkforLifeWC.com

PILGRIMAGE 2026

16 DAYS 15 NIGHTS

PHILIPPINE TOUR

January 27 - February 11



Fr. Francis Garbo
Pastor, Mission Dolores
Basilica



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:

US\$ 4,276

Based on
Single Occupancy

US\$ 3,322

Based on
Double/Twin Occupancy

US\$ 2,918

Based on
Triple Occupancy

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

RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW!

SCAN QR CODE

Or visit www.rajahstours.com.ph/pilgrimage2026



Organized by:
**ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO**
Filipino Ministry
www.filipinoministrysf.org
email: filipinoministrysf@gmail.com



Tour Operator:
**Rajah Tours
Philippines**
Manila Office: inquiry@rajahstours.com.ph
San Francisco Office: 1.415.397.0303
estherbriones@hotmail.com



Fr. Angel Quitaig
Vicar for Filipinos



**LOVE
THE PHILIPPINES**

Follow [filipinoministrysf](https://www.facebook.com/filipinoministrysf) for more information on the Pilgrimage Tour 2024

Land package with domestic airfare:

US\$ 4,276

Based on
Single Occupancy

US\$ 3,322

Based on
Double/Twin Occupancy

US\$ 2,918

Based on
Triple Occupancy

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

Tour Package Highlights:

- Two (2) nights accommodation at Seda Ayala Center, Cebu City
- Two (2) nights accommodation at Best Western Ivy Wall, Panglao, Bohol
- Three (3) nights accommodation in Seda Centria, 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, Tiaong, Quezon
- 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.rajah tours.com.ph for more information.



RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW!

Call or Text: 415.702.5694

Email: filipinoministrsf@gmail.com

Visit: www.filipinoministrsf.org



Follow **filipinoministrsf** on Facebook.



Organized by:

ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO

Filipino Ministry

www.filipinoministrsf.org

email: filipinoministrsf@gmail.com

Tour Operator:

Rajah Tours
Philippines

Manila Office: inquiry@rajah tours.com.ph

San Francisco Office: 1.415.397.0303

estherbriones@hotmail.com



LOVE
THE PHILIPPINES



Fr. Angel Quitallig
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

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 Basilica 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 Teofilo 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 Baclayon 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

Breakfast at the hotel. Free day. Optional activities to be offered.

- Balicasag Island Tour
- Food Tour
- Cadapdapan Rice Paddies and Can-Umantad Waterfalls

Mass before Dinner. Dinner at the resort.

31 January | Bohol – Cebu – Cagayan de Oro

Breakfast at the hotel. 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 proceed to hotel and check in. Free time. Mass before dinner. Dinner at a local restaurant.

01 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. Banog-Banog 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, Binukid 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.

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 Divisoria. Lunch at Panagatan Seaside Restaurant. After lunch, 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. Dinner at the hotel.

04 February | Bicol tour options

Breakfast at the hotel. Tour options are:

- Donsol 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 Peñafrancia. 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

Breakfast 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 [here](https://www.vatican.va). As information becomes available for specific initiatives of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, that information will be available on this web page.

USCCB Jubilee Calendar: <https://www.usccb.org/resources/jubilee-celebration-calendar-2025>
Vatican website: <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>



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@iubilaeum2025.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 NOT 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.iubilaeum2025.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*



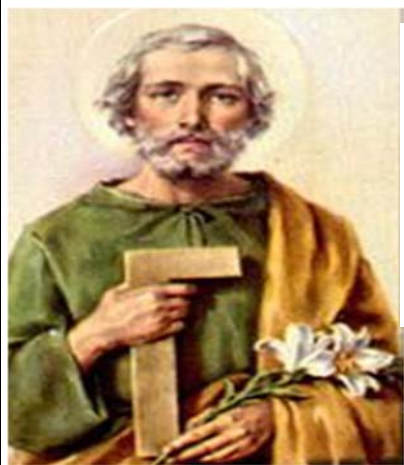
***Our Lady of
Perpetual Help
Devotion***
(every Tuesday
after the
12:10 Mass)

*Raya & Gamboa
Families*



San Lorenzo Ruiz
***First
Filipino Saint***
(Sep 28)

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

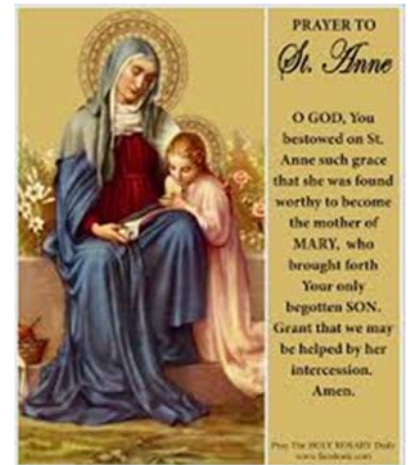


***Saint
Joseph***

***Feast Day
March 19***

Xenia Villamejor

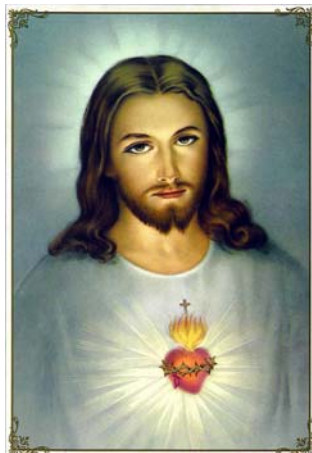
St. Anne
***Feast Day
July 26***



***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

Yap Family



St. Patrick Charismatic Prayer Group

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

Matt Dorsey
SAN FRANCISCO SUPERVISOR

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

Best,

Matt Dorsey

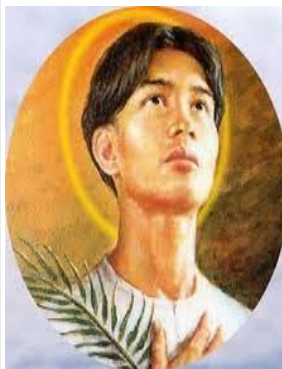


*Our Lady
of Guadalupe*

*Feast Day
December 12*



*St. Pedro Calungsod
2nd Filipino Saint (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*