



Third Sunday of ADVENT

Parish Staff

Pastor Monsignor Labib Kobti
Parochial Vicars Father Andrew Johnson
 Father Richard VanDeWater
Deacon: Khaled Abu Shaer
Administrative Assistant Elvira Garcia
Receptionist Sister Teresa Malave, VMF

Campus Ministry

Sisters of Verbum Dei (650) 994-6919
RCIC: Kathy Sanford (650) 738-0646
RCIA: Suzanne Hockel (415) 826-6834

St. Thomas More School (415) 337-0100
 Principal Joe Elsbernd

Sacrament of Baptism (infants):

Parents and godparents must attend Baptism Preparation Class. Call the office for Schedule.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Sundays 9:15—9:45 AM; Saturday 4:30 PM
 Any time upon request.

Sacrament of Matrimony:

Contact a priest at least six months prior to planned wedding date.

SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

1300 Junipero Serra Boulevard
 (at Brotherhood Way)
 San Francisco, CA 94132-2913
 Office: (415) 452-9634
 Fax: (415) 452-9653
 Www.stmchurch.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday

8:00 AM Portuguese/Brazilian
 10:00 AM English
 11:45 AM Arabic
 8:00 PM English

Weekdays:

8:30 AM (Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.)
 5:30 PM (Tue., Thu.)

Holy Days:

8:30 AM & 8:00 PM
 First Saturdays:
 10:00 AM Burmese

First Fridays:

8:30 AM
 7:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 8:00 PM Mass for healing

Communion to the homebound and the ill:

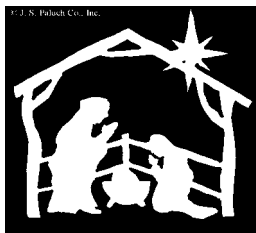
Please call the office if you know of anyone who is ill and unable to come to Mass so we could bring Communion to them.

Anointing of the Sick:

Any time upon request.
 If any parishioner is ill at home, please inform the parish office regarding a visit and Communion.

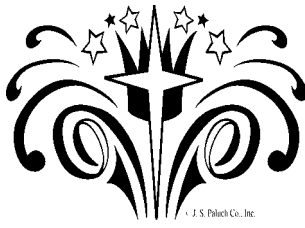
Funeral arrangements:

Funeral Director will contact us. If relative dies elsewhere, contact Parish Office.



Christmas Day is a holy day of obligation. Mass attendance is required. It is also necessary to attend Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent. To fulfill the weekly Sunday Mass obligation and Christmas obligation, one needs to participate in two Masses next weekend.





Third Sunday of Advent December 17, 2006
[T]he King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.
— Zephaniah 3:15b

*Upcoming
 Parish
 Events*

*Mon. Dec. 18—
 Bible Study &
 Prayer Group,
 7:30 pm, Chapel*

*Tue. Dec 19—
 Legion of Mary in
 Scanlan Hall 7pm*

*Wed. Dec. 20—
 Boy Scouts, 7:30
 pm. Carroll Hall*

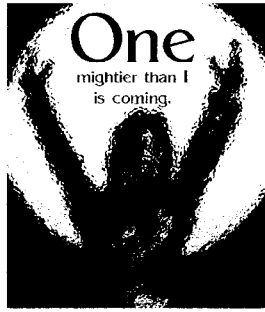
*Fri. Dec 22—
 AACC Youth Grp,
 6:30 pm, Scanlan
 Hall*

*Sat Dec 23—
 RCIC, 9 am,
 Sacristy*

Prayer Group,
 Scanlan Hall
 6:30pm

Gaudete Sunday

by Father Andrew Johnson



During Advent, we are somewhat subdued as we get ready to celebrate Christmas, the birth of our Lord. This is a season of joy and we are joyful for two reasons: (1) Our Lord has taken our human existence, our human flesh, to open the doors of heaven for us and share eternal life with us. (2) We look ahead in hope for the second coming of Jesus. Gaudete means joy and our joy at this time of year is accompanied by hope. The Hebrews lived in hope and that is reflected in the Old Testament, the Hebrew Bible. They knew that the Messiah was coming to redeem them and solve all the world's problems. The blind would see, the lame would walk, the deaf would hear, all of their dispersed people would be re-united and all the people of the earth would enjoy everlasting peace and material abundance.

The ancient Hebrews had the courage and faith to hope for big things. We hope for much the same things that they did, but we are fortunate to live in the world that has been blessed by the coming of Jesus. We can see that God's promises to the ancient Hebrews have been partly realized in our world. This greatly strengthens our faith and our hope. We understand that God is in our midst and the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Jesus revealed that we have a kind, loving and compassionate God, a forgiving God, who wants us to grow close to Him. We have a better vision of who God is, our loving Father.

Our Blessed Mother and John the Baptist are important in the Advent liturgy because they saw the presence of Our Lord, the Messiah in the world. They are models for our faith and our hope for the future. The spirit of Our Lord lived in us by virtue of our Baptism, the Eucharist and the other Sacraments. We can live in love, peace, truthfulness and forgiveness and complete confidence of Our Lord's eternal love for us.

Regular Activities

AACC Youth Group	Friday, 6:30 PM	Bible Study & Prayer Group	Monday, 7:20 PM
Campus Ministry/Newman Club	Tuesday, 12-1PM, Student Center	Legion of Mary	Saturday, 6:00 PM
Liturgy Committee	To Be Announced	Parish Council	1st & 3rd Tuesday, 7 PM
Perpetual Novena: Sto. Nino	Last Friday, 7 PM	Prince of Peace	4th Tuesday, 7:30 PM
			Friday, 8:30 PM

Full Plate Program: Thanks for your support of this program. Pls. bring your donations of canned foods and dry goods & place them in the green bins at the church entrance. Dec. menu items: 1 bag of mashed potatoes, 1 can of meat gravy, 1 can of cranberries, 1 canned turkey (or chicken meat), 1 fruit juice. No glass items, please. Thanks.



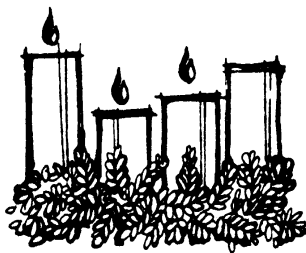
***Christmas Day is a holy day of obligation.** Since it falls on a Monday this year, one needs to attend two Masses next weekend. To fulfill our 4th Sunday of Advent obligation, our Masses are 5 PM Saturday, Sunday: 8 AM & 10 AM. Please keep in mind that there will be **no 8 PM Mass next weekend, i.e., our Sunday evening Masses are vigil Masses** for Christmas Day. Please refer to our attached flyer for a complete schedule.

*Mark the date: Penitential rites with confessions on **December 18 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.**

*Everyone is invited to come to our **International Christmas Novena.** It starts this Friday night at 7:00 PM. Be a part of this beautiful Christmas tradition we have started here at STM!

***Thanksgiving Once A Month** is asking our help to collect macaroni & cheese and cans of mushroom soup during Advent to help feed the needy at Christmas. Boxes are in the vestibule for your donation. Please call Linda Shah at (415) 218-0401 if there is any question.

*There is still time to buy tickets for the **mini-raffles, drawing** has been moved to after the 10:00 AM Mass on Christmas Day. Prizes are: 1st prize: the bronze sculpture of The Last Supper (in the vestibule of the church); 2nd prize: weekend in Napa Valley (for up to 6 persons); 3rd prize: \$250.00 in cash.



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***Thank you** for taking an ornament and buying the gift items listed on it. There are a few ornaments left, please take one or two if you haven't done it yet. The gifts should be wrapped and brought to the church before Christmas. Please place your gifts (with the original tag on it) under the Christmas tree at the vestibule of the church. They will be taken to the Ozanam Center of the St. Vincent de Paul Society by Christmas Day. For someone less fortunate, your generosity will help the Christmas star shine a little brighter this year. Thank you!

***Mass intentions** for next year are now available. If you want to reserve a particular date, please call the office asap.

school news

*We hope to see all the school children and their families at the **4:30pm Mass on Sunday, Dec. 24th.** This is our children's Christmas Mass and we look forward to the nativity play. Our thanks to Sue Kennedy and Joan Elliott who have taken the lead in putting this together.

alma via

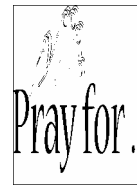
*Needs an **On Call-P/T receptionist.** Prior receptionist experience needed. Mature, reliable, good people skills, good computer skills, good telephone manners, basic office skills required.

MASS INTENTIONS

Dec 17—Dec 23, 2006

12/17 Sun 10:00 am People of STM
8:00 pm Remedios Librojo †
12/18 Mon 8:30am Eleanor Morris†
12/19 Tue 5:30 pm Josephine Ryan†
12/20 Wed 8:30am Verner Marcaida†
12/21 Thu 10:00 am Peter Navarro†
12/22 Fri 8:30 am Special Intention
12/23 Sat 8:30 am Souls in Purgatory
5:00 pm Mario Bocalbos†

Please call the office to schedule. Participating in the Mass you offer is appreciated.



All the sick people in our parish especially John Silva, Zenaida Salamat, Martha Panaszewicz, Rhona Palencia, Mary Lee Burke,

George Crawford, William & Deena Tannous, Nazzal Nazzal; for those recently deceased in our parish especially John Martha.

Your **offerings** for the weekend of **Dec. 10th:**

\$2,979

Thank you for your contributions.

vocation

**Have you ever thought be becoming a Catholic Priest? You are invited to attend a Discernment Retreat, 4pm on Friday, Jan 26 thru 1pm, Sunday, Jan 28, 2007 at St. Patrick's Seminary to better understand if a vocation to the ministry of God's priesthood is for you!* Single Catholic men, 21 years of age or older, are invited to explore the possibility of a priestly vocation. The weekend is designed to provide the tools needed to help you determine if God might be calling you to a vocation to the priesthood. Discernment Retreat will include prayer, discussion and presentations about the priesthood, group interaction and following the daily routine of a seminarian. For further information, please see one of our priests.