

2018 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

January

RISING STAR

Where is the newborn king of the Jews?
We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.

—Matthew 2:2

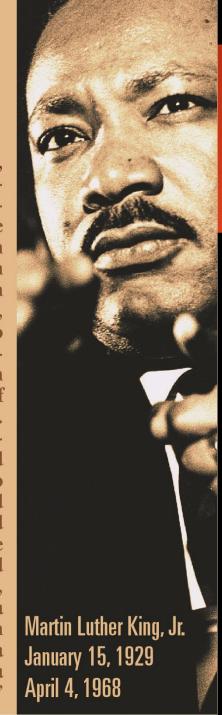


January 7, 2018
The Epiphany of the Lord

Drum Major for Justice

FIFTY YEARS AGO THIS SPRING.

Dr. Martin King, Jr. was assassinated while in Memphis, Tennessee, to support a strike by the city's predominantly African American sanitation workers. On April 4, 1968, outside of room 306 at the Lorraine Motel, Dr. King was shot and killed. Two months before his death, on February 4, King preached "The Drum Major Instinct" from the pulpit of Atlanta's Ebenezer Baptist Church. In that sermon, he told the congregation what he would like said at his funeral. Dr. King asked to be remembered as one who "tried to give his life serving others" and for his attempts to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and comfort prisoners. "Yes," he said, "if you want to say that I was a drum major, say that I was a drum major for justice. Say that I was a drum major for peace. I was a drum major for righteousness."



January 14, 2018 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

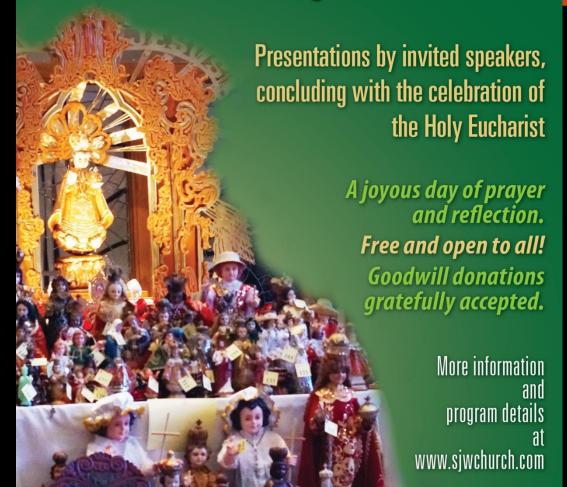
"We Are All God's Children"

—Colossians 1:16

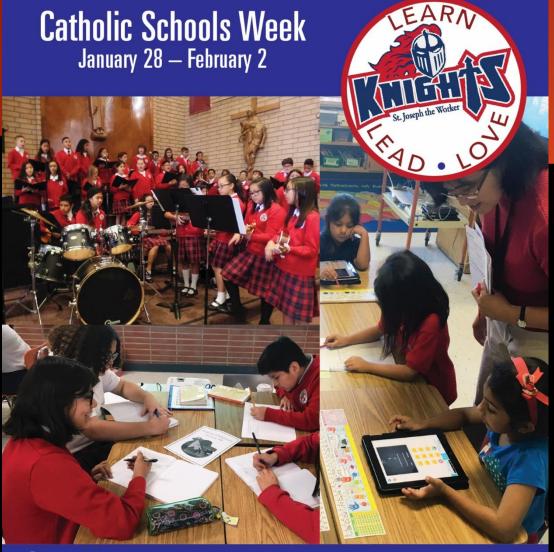
Nine-Hour Novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague

Saturday
January 27
Beging 6:45 a.m.
in the church

January 21, 2018 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



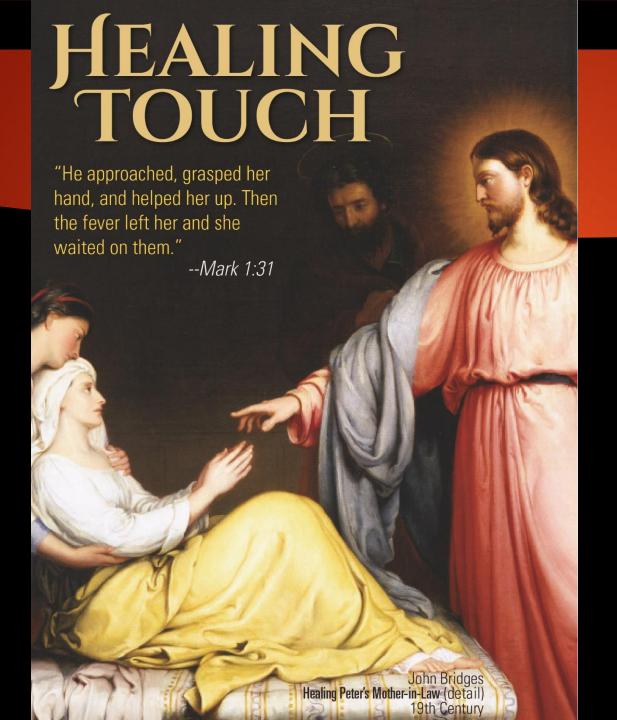
St. Joseph the Worker School



Open House with refreshments Sunday, January 28 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Visit Us This Week
See page 4
for schedule of activities

January 28, 2018 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time



February 4, 2018 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time





- POPETRANCIS

The love that Jesus calls us to is more than words and more than feelings. Christian love is a call to action. Jesus calls us to open our hearts and extend a helping hand to those who are most vulnerable and most in need.

All funds raised by Together in Mission go exclusively to our poorest parishes and schools. Please consider expressing your love by making a generous contribution.



Donate online at http://ourmissionla.org/

February 11, 2018 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time



THE CHALLENGE

Entering into the season of Lent requires a commitment and decision on our part. We commit ourselves to change and decide to strive to become the person God wants us to be.

"Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God."

With these words we are challenged by God through the prophet Joel. Will you decide to take up the challenge? Will you commit yourself to your Lenten practices?

Whether you "give something up" for Lent or choose to work on a personal improvement, at the conclusion of Lent, you will be closer to fulfilling your commitment and decision to become the person God calls you to be.

Let us journey together and pray for one another.

—Fr. Beto, Pastor

February 18, 2018 First Sunday of Lent



The Mountaintop

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves.

"We all need to go apart, to ascend the mountain in a space of silence, to find ourselves and better perceive the voice of the Lord. This we do in prayer. But we cannot stay there! Encounter with God in prayer inspires us anew to descend the mountain and return to the plain where we meet many brothers weighed down by fatigue, sickness, injustice, ignorance, and poverty, both material and spiritual."

—Pope Francis

February 25, 2018 Second Sunday of Lent



TheOther

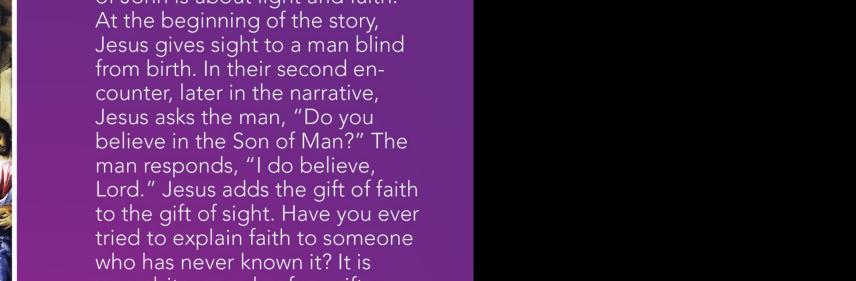
Today's Gospel opens with a tired and thirsty Jesus. He stops at the well of Jacob, and there he finds a woman who had gone to draw water. Jesus asks her for a drink. The woman has a complicated past. Shunned and rejected, according to society's rules, she did not belong. She is also a Samaritan, a group that Jews traditionally disdained. She and Jesus talk, focusing on their common thirsts that spring from their shared humanity, allowing their perception of the other to shift. Jesus and the woman break down the walls of separation between their two peoples. They are willing to stay in the conversation and not give up when they stumble over their differences.

This Lenten season, let the waters of understanding wash away ignorance and fear of the other, and may the gift of living water well up within us, making each of us a spring from which others who thirst may drink.

March 4, 2018 Third Sunday of Lent



The ninth chapter of the Gospel of John is about light and faith. every bit as much a free gift as Jesus gave to the man born blind. How often do we give thanks for it? Lent provides an opportunity to recognize the gift of faith, and ask for more.

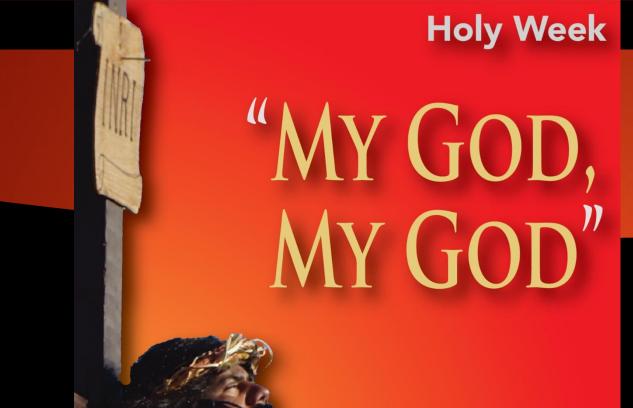




LiferromDeath

In John's Gospel, we find ourselves outside the tomb of Lazarus, viewing a dramatic scene unfold. Our Lord calls out to his friend, who has been dead for four days, "Lazarus, come out." And we watch in wonder as the dead man staggers out. When Lazarus emerges from the tomb, Jesus asks those around him to untie him and set him free. He wants Lazarus, as he does us, to have life and life to the fullest. This Gospel account points to the resurrection of Jesus, but it points even more to the power of Jesus to bring life out of death. In his final sign, Jesus calls Lazarus out of death to new life.

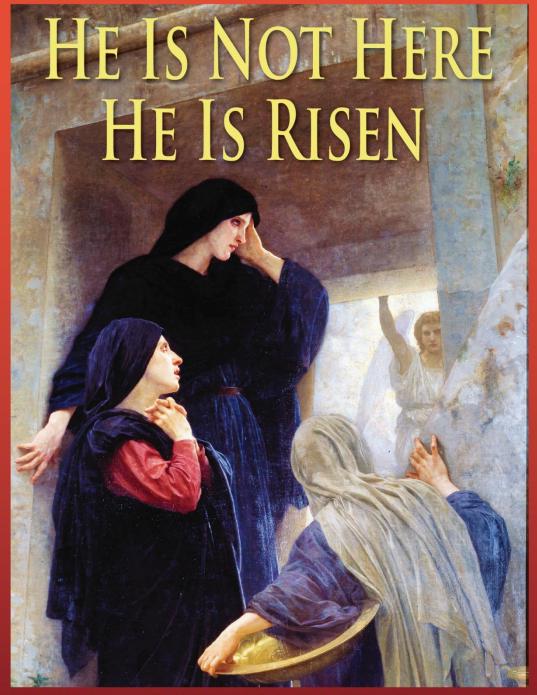
"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" March 18, 2018 Fifth Sunday of Lent



March 25, 2018
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

PHOTO: 2017 Live Performance of the Passion of Jesus Christ By Grupo de Jóvenes "Nueva Generación"

For the schedule of Holy Week services, visit www.sjwchurch.com



William-Adolphe Bouguereau - The Holy Women at the Tomb, 1890 - Royal Museum of Fine Arts, Antwerp, Belgium

April 1, 2018
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

DIVINE MERCY

IESUS, I trust in YOU

image, by the artist Eugene Kazimierowski. Jesus is shown raising his right hand in blessing and pointing with his left hand on his chest from which flow two rays, one red and one translucent. The image is symbolic of charity, forgiveness, and the love of God.

The feast of Divine Mercy is celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. The observance is closely associated with St. Maria Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938), a Polish nun who for much of her life reported having visions of April 8, 2018

Second Sunday of Easter

Jesus and conversations with him, of which she wrote in her diary. We are told that one such vision was of Jesus with one hand raised in blessing and with two fingers of the other hand resting on his heart. Sister Faustina arranged for the first rendering of the

Eugene Kazimierowski Original painting of the Divine Mercy (1934) Divine Mercy Sanctuary, Vilnius, Lithuania



We are grateful to the volunteer catechists who travel with our inquirers on the path to becoming Catholic and prepare them to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. At our Easter Vigil Mass ten Elect were baptized and fully initiated into the Catholic Church. The following

week, the Second Sunday of Easter, seven Candidates were confirmed and received Eucharist for the first time.



Front row, left to right: Claudia Lopez, Emilio Custodio, Gaudie Estrada, Leticia Velasquez, Reyna DePaz, Nam Phan.

Back row: Bill Sparks (Faith Formation Director), Liem Dinh, Kenn Hesley, Martha Aviles.

Not pictured: JP Barrientos, Dona Elepano, Melissa Gulick, Phuong Pham, Charity Rowsey.

April 15, 2018 Third Sunday of Easter



OUR COMMON HOME

Today is Earth Day. The year 2018 is the fiftieth anniversary of Apollo 8, the first manned mission to the moon. The spacecraft entered lunar orbit on Christmas Eve, December 24, 1968. During the fourth orbit of the moon, Astronaut Bill Anders took the famous photograph, shown here, titled Earthrise, a view of the beauty, awe, and grandeur of the Earth rising against the blackness of space. The photo had a powerful impact on the astronauts and the world, offering a perspective that transcended national, political, and religious boundaries. It is widely credited with inspiring the environmental movement which led to the first Earth Day in 1970.

Visit the parish website — www.sjwchurch.com — for resources on care for the environment and our common home.

Photo: Apollo 8, NASA

April 22, 2018 Fourth Sunday of Easter

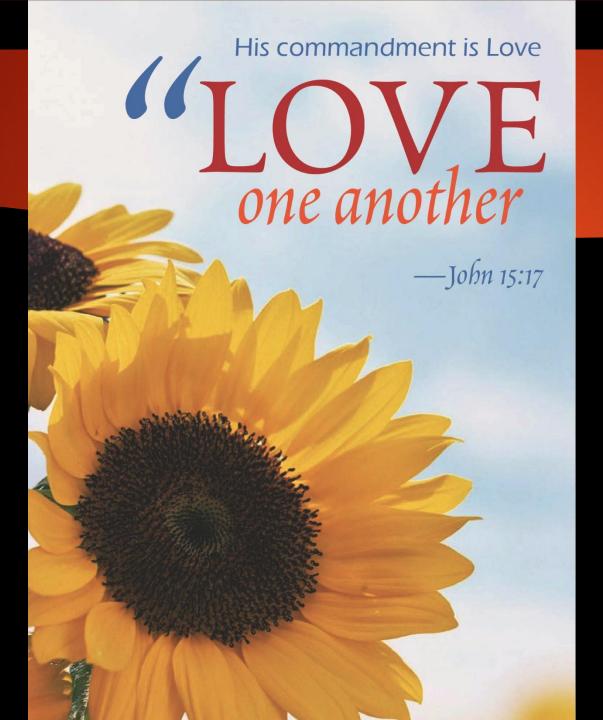




Tuesday of this week, May 1, we celebrate the feast of our beloved patron, St. Joseph the Worker. Much of what we know about Joseph comes from the opening chapters of Matthew's Gospel. We know he was a carpenter, a working man. Pope Pius XII established the feast day in 1955 to honor workers the world over. St. Joseph, who was given the noble task of caring for and watching over the Virgin Mary and Jesus, now cares for and watches over the Church and models for all the dignity of human work.

April 29, 2018 Fifth Sunday of Easter

April



May 6, 2018 Sixth Sunday of Easter

ALL SHALL BE WELL

Today is the feast day of a famous fourteenth-century Benedictine mystic and theologian, Julian of Norwich. In 1373, probably on May 13, after recovering from a serious illness, she experienced some fifteen visions — or revelations — in which God's love for humanity was made clear to her, through the person of Jesus Christ. She meditated on these visions for twenty years and eventually wrote an account of them, Revelations of Divine *Love*, believed to be the first book written by a woman in the English language (still in print today). Her book is a meditation on God's eternal and all-embracing love, as expressed in the Passion of Christ. During the visions, Our Lord said to her that whatever God does is done in love, and therefore that "all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well." This became the signature teaching of Julian of Norwich, quoted by preachers, poets, and Statue of Julian of Norwich on the front of popes to this day. Norwich Cathedral, England, holding Revelations of Divine Love.

May 13, 2018 Seventh Sunday of Easter

May

first HOLY The Gift of Christ COMMUNION

At Masses on May 5, May 6, and May 12, children from the Religious Education program, the Vietnamese community, and St. Joseph the Worker School received their First Holy Communion. Our gratitude to all involved in preparing these 224 children for this very special day.



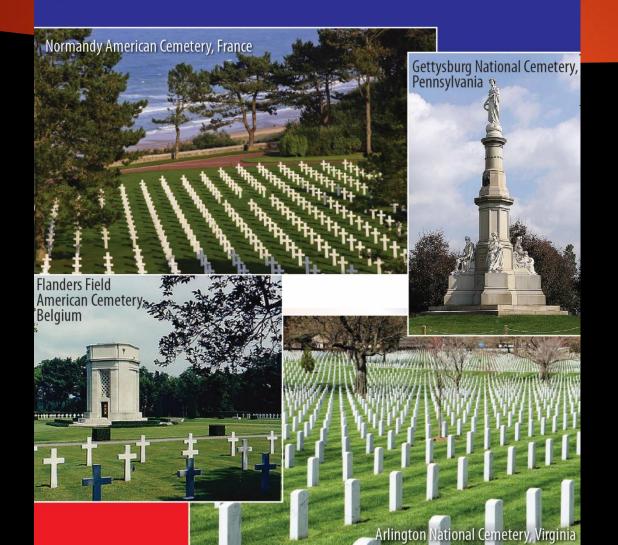
May 20, 2018 Pentecost Sunday

May

They Lie in the Holy Ground of Our Memories

Memorial Day, originally known as Decoration Day, honors the women and men who died while serving in the U.S. armed forces.

May 27, 2018 The Most Holy Trinity





The Gift of the Eucharist

Today's Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, also known as Corpus Christi, "Body of Christ, "originated in France in the mid-thirteenth century and was extended to the whole Church by Pope Urban IV in 1264. Corpus Christi is the time when we celebrate the great gift of the Real Presence of Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist. Mark's Gospel reminds us that the Eucharist is a memorial of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. We believe that Jesus is truly present to us in the elements of bread and wine. This celebration, as the Second Vatican Council taught us, is the source and summit of the Christian life.

June 3, 2018
The Most Holy Body and
Blood of Christ



Friday: 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday: 3:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.



June 10, 2018 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time

June

St. Joseph the Worker School

GRADUATING CLASS of 2018

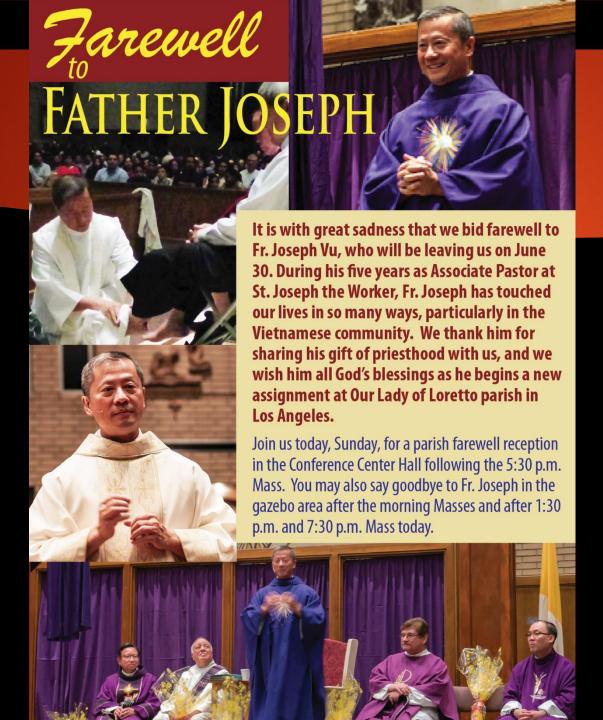


Top row: Stanley Santoso, Nicolas Gutierrez, Antony Fam, Cameron Hatch, Ethan Ezzati, Ethan Riddle, Carlos Monje, Andrew Corzo, Ms. Coffman, Eighth Grade Homeroom Teacher

Middle row: Fr. Alberto Villalobos, Pastor; Karl Kostekiewicz, David Flores,
Moises Bazan, Sal Ramirez, III, Joshua Maguerrero, Carlos Hernandez,
Jaden Basiser, Antonio Ceja, Gabriel Soria, Christopher Acosta,
Mr. CJ Kruska, Principal

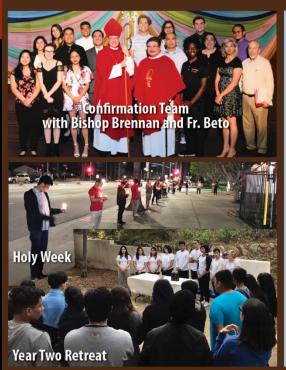
Bottom row: Amy Villanueva, Amy Coreas, Isabella Soto, Isabella Rangel,
Victoria Sacaguing, Angela Alfaro, Nghi Nguyen, Marlet Villanueva,
Fame Cayabyab, Kandace Bowens, Angela Tran

June 17, 2018 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time



June 24, 2018
The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

Forming Today's Disciples World



Our Youth Ministry/Confirmation team has developed a comprehensive approach to empowering young people to live as disciples of Jesus in today's world. Emphasis is placed on catechesis and preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation, participation in the life of our parish, justice and service projects, leadership development, and prayer and worship activities. On May 11, 2018, The Most Reverend Joseph V. Brennan, Episcopal Vicar of the San Fernando Pastoral Region, conferred the sacrament of Confirmation on our Year Two candidates.



July 1, 2018 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Welcome to Fr. Thuan Nguyen

Associate Pastor

With great pleasure, we welcome Fr. Thuan Nguyen to our parish family. Fr. Thuan (as he prefers to be called) comes to us from Our Lady of the Assumption parish, Claremont. He joined the Vietnamese Dominican vocation center at the age of thirteen where he completed studies in philosophy and



theology. When the government did not allow his ordination, he escaped his homeland and lived in a refugee camp in Thailand for nearly two years. He eventually settled in Canada and was ordained in 1993.

From 1993 to 1996, he served as associate pastor in three different parishes. After further study in Northern California, he relocated to Most Holy Trinity church in Phoenix, Arizona, a multicultural Dominican parish. Fr. Thuan then served as pastor of Vietnamese Martyrs parish in Phoenix for ten years while also leading the Vietnamese community in the Phoenix diocese before coming to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

July 8, 2018 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time





Vacation Bible Camp

Children Ages 5–11
July 30 – August 3 (Monday-Friday)
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Conference Center Hall

At "Splash Canyon" we will joyfully celebrate God's promise that He is with us today and always.

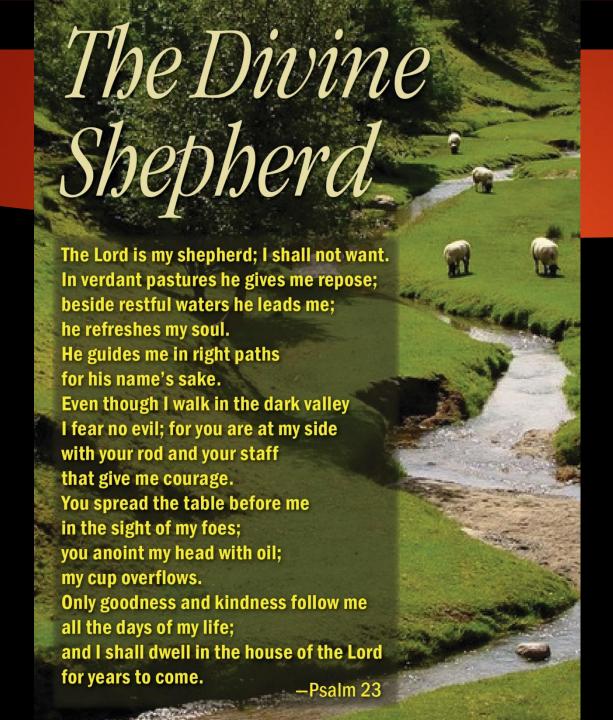
Songs • Games • Bible Stories • Skits • Snacks

REGISTER NOW!

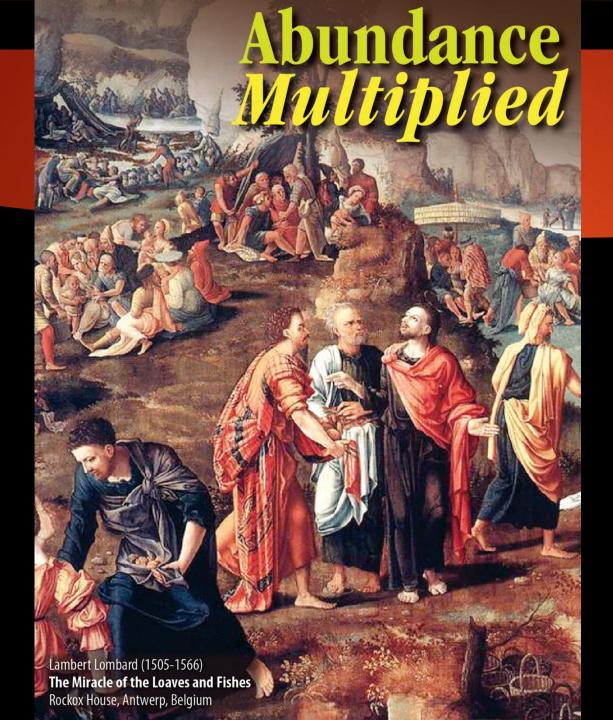
\$65.00 — One child \$105.00 — Two children (Siblings) \$130.00 — Three children (Siblings) Includes T-shirt, daily snacks, craft materials

Registration form at www.sjwchurch.com and the Parish Center Religious Education Program 818.341.6634, ext. 1016 July 15, 2018 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time





July 22, 2018 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time



July 29, 2018 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Iransfiguration of the Lord

Tomorrow (August 6) is the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. Scripture tells us that Jesus took his closest friends up to a mountain, and before their eyes Jesus was transfigured by a radiant light. Then came a cloud, and the disciples were fearful. From the cloud came a voice declaring Jesus' identity as "my beloved son." The disciples – and we – are to listen to him.

Paolo Veronese

The Transfiguration of Christ
(1555-1556)
Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta,
Montagnana, Italy

August 5, 2018 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Peter Paul Rubens • **Assumption of the Virgin** (1626) Cathedral of Our Lady, Antwerp, Belgium

"... she shines forth on earth, ... a sign of certain hope and comfort to the pilgrim people of God."

—Lumen Gentium (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church), 68 (Second Vatican Council, 1964)

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holy day of obligation, is celebrated on August 15.

August 12, 2018 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Behind the Scenes

We arrive for Sunday or weekday Mass and quiet ourselves in the presence of the Lord. Behind the scenes, many people have assured that all is in order for what is about to take place. Pictured here are the volunteers who offer their time day after day, week after week, to preparing the linens, vestments, accessories, and supplies needed for the holy sacrifice of the Mass.



August 19, 2018 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

For more about those who serve "behind the scenes," see page 5.

Gloria Sandoval

Dinh Phan and Veronica Rosete



"New Generation" YOUNG ADULTS



For more about the "New Generation" Young Adults, see page 5

The Hispanic Young Adults (Jóvenes Adultos "Nueva Generación) meet every Friday for an evening of joyful prayer, praise, and worship. The purpose of the gatherings is to help the "new generation" – today's Church – find God in their lives and develop a personal relationship with our Lord. In addition to their weekly meetings, the group is active in parish activities. The Young Adults present "The Passion of Christ" annually on Good Friday afternoon and participate in the Christmas Pastorela (Shepherd's Play), a dramatic re-creation of the shepherds' journey to the holy site of the Nativity.



August 26, 2018 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

MEDELLIN at 50



A landmark conference took place fifty years ago this week in Medellín, Colombia. The Latin American bishops gathered there for the second annual assembly of CELAM, the Conference of Bishops of Latin America, August 24 — September 6, 1968. The work of the conference marked a sea change in the Latin American church, denouncing unjust social structures and articulating for the first time the concept of a "preferential option for the poor," a core principle of Catholic social teaching. The bishops in Medellín concluded that the church must work with the poor for their liberation from the "institutionalized violence" of poverty. Fifty years later, Medellín continues to inspire the church in Latin America and the rest of the world. When Pope Francis speaks about a poor church for the poor, he reminds us that the wisdom and insights from Medellín are very much alive today.

September 2, 2018 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September

September

Vietnamese Community Leadership

The Vietnamese Council (pictured here) and leadership team meet monthly with Fr. Thuan Nguyen, Associate Pastor, to make preparations for community events, design programs to build the faith of parishioners, and coordinate the community's participation in parish activities. The members of the leadership team are Binh Nguyen (Chairman), Hai Le (Internal Affairs), Lien Le (Public Affairs), Annie Dang (Treasurer), and Alex Doanh Vu (Secretary).



Front, left to right: Loc Tran, Binh Nguyen, Annie Dang, Trang Pham, Loi Olsen, Lien Le, Long Tran, Bao Dinh, Hai Le

Back: John Vu, Hung Vu, Chau Tran, James Dao, Fr. Thuan Nguyen, Nam Phan, Thai Nghiem, Dinh Phan, Alex Vu

Not pictured: Hong-Dao Nguyen, Phong Nguyen, Tien Nguyen

September 9, 2018 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September

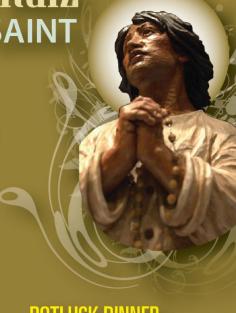
Catechetical Sunday Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ



Each year the Church designates the third Sunday in September as Catechetical Sunday. This year's national theme, "Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ," celebrates the women and men who present the story of faith to children, teens, and adults of our parish in a way that enables them to see and experience faith as a living reality. Through our catechists, may those whom they teach be transformed into lifelong witnesses for Our Lord Jesus Christ.

September 16, 2018 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time San Lorenzo Ruiz first filipino saint

"If I have a thousand lives to offer, I will offer them to the Lord."



PARISH CELEBRATION

Saturday
September 29
Mass: 5:30 p.m.
Celebration follows
in the
Conference Center Hall
6:30-10:00 p.m.

POTLUCK DINNER ENTERTAINMENT • DANCING Bring a dish to share!

INFORMATION

Tessie Millado 818.406.5681

Annie Uy 818.212.0296

Gaudie Estrada 818.998.3486

FREE—For all to enjoy!

About San Lorenzo Ruiz, see page 5

September 23, 2018 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time The Hispanic Council is one of our three community councils. Like the Vietnamese and Filipino councils, it is a representative body of the community's ministries, assures that the community is actively engaged in the mission of St. Joseph the Worker parish, and develops initiatives that nurture faith and spirituality.

HISPANIC COUNCIL



Top, left to right: Jaime Espinoza, Fr. Roberto Rueda, Daniel Becerra, Eduardo Rodríguez, Blanca Rodríguez, Rigo Trejo, Edward Trejo Middle: Carmen Ochoa, Vicky Rivera, Rosa Arévalo, Sebastián Arévalo, Juan Garrido, Ismael Ramírez

Bottom: Vilma Hernández, Maricela Sandoval, Matty Gutiérrez, Yessenia Rivera, Imelda Jiménez, Flavia Valadez, Rosa Trejo, Marta Aviles, Zulma López Not pictured: Lupe Díaz, Jorge Durón, Jesús Escobar, Ana Fisher, Raúl Hernández, Guadalupe Rivas, Julio Rodezno, Miriam Rodríguez, Lucy San Martín

September 30, 2018 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September

October

Holy Rosary

The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, celebrated today, was introduced by Pope St. Pius V (1504-1572). Known for several centuries by the title "Our Lady of Victory," the feast day commemorates the victory of the Christian forces over the Ottoman Turks in the Battle of Lepanto, October 7, 1571.



Juan Antonio García de Bouzas (c. 1680-1755) **Our Lady of the Rosary** Museum of the Church of San Paio Santiago de Compostela, Spain

Our parish prays the rosary year-round, Monday through Saturday, at 9:00 a.m. in the church. All are welcome!

October 7, 2018 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Pope Paul VI and Archbishop Oscar Romero at the Vatican, June 21, 1978

VOICES FOR THE POOR

Pope Paul VI and Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero will be canonized by Pope Francis today (October 14) at the Vatican. That they will be declared saints together is significant because they were close to each other in life. Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, spoke out on behalf of victims of violence, torture, and poverty at the hands of the repressive Salvadoran government. He was shot and killed while saying Mass in a hospital chapel on March 24, 1980. Paul VI, elected pope in 1963 following the death of Pope John XXIII, brought the Second Vatican Council (1962–1965) to a conclusion and led the implementation of the Council's vision. The first pope to travel to Latin America, Paul VI presided over the Conference of Latin American Bishops meeting in Medellín, Colombia (1968). A watershed event, that assembly declared the church's "preferential option for the poor."

For more about Archbishop Romero and Pope Paul VI, see page 5.

October 14, 2018 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October

FILIPINO COUNCII St. Joseph the Worker is home to people from around the world. As our mission statement says, "Out of this diversity we create unity." The Filipino Council plays an important role in fulfilling this aspect of our parish mission. The group coordinates the Filipino community's participation in parish events and organizes celebrations and liturgies to promote an appreciation of the diversity in our parish. Annual events include

the Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz, Simbang Gabi (Advent novena), and the celebration of Santo Niño (Infant Jesus of Prague).



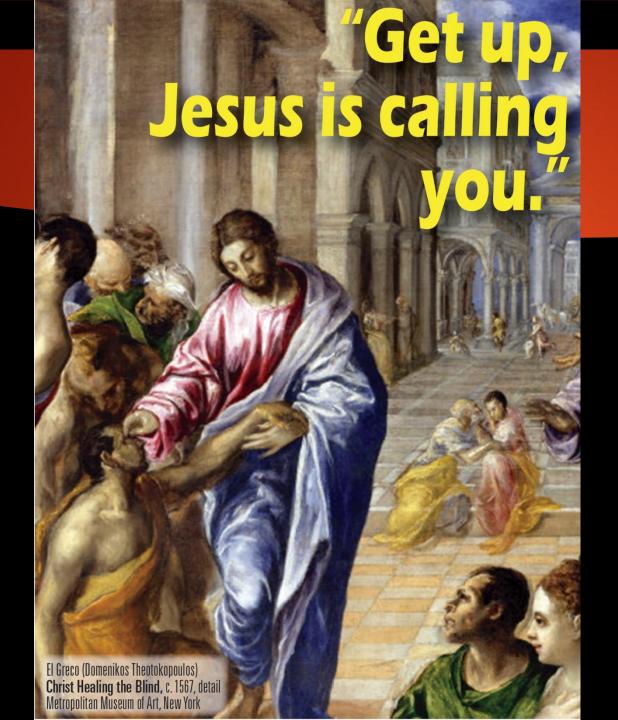
Top row, left to right: Ronald Lacap, Tess Lacap, Ressa Maschino, Marilou Fabros, Eden Flores, Nelly Sandan, Deacon Gus Mora

Second row: Tessie Millado, Annie Uy. Onie Mora

Third row: Vicky Morales, Fe Gonzales

Fourth row: Melita Bernabe, Lulu Mercado, Gaudie Estrada, Sr. Aurora Solano
Not pictured: Roy Cacacho, Cora Diamse, Norma Fabregas, Lydia Queza, Linda Ricafrente, Ada Roces,
Erlinda Tuazon

October 21, 2018 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time



October 28, 2018 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

REST IN PEACE

During the month of November we remember our beloved departed, whom our Lord has called through death to eternal life. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



November 4, 2018 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

LEST WE FORGET

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders fields the poppies blow between the crosses, row on row That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below.

November 11, 2018

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

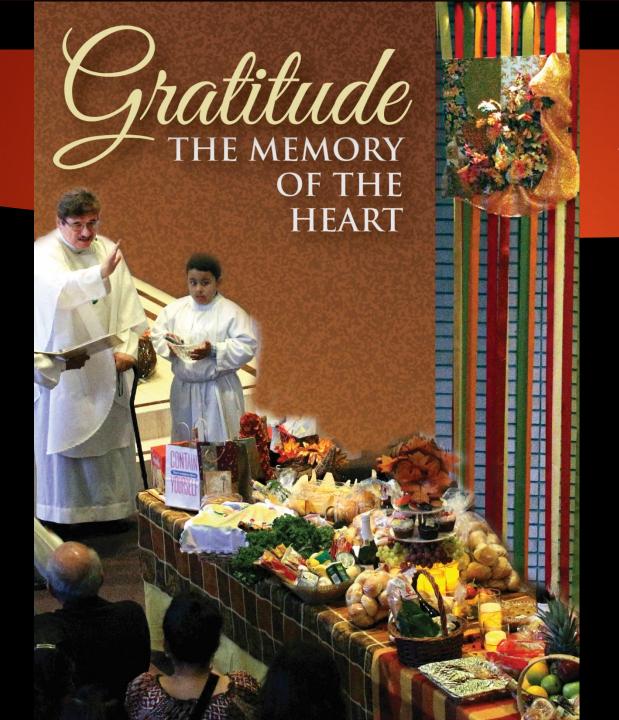
We are the Dead. Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow Loved, and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe: To you from failing hands we throw The torch; be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die We shall not sleep, though poppies grow In Flanders fields.

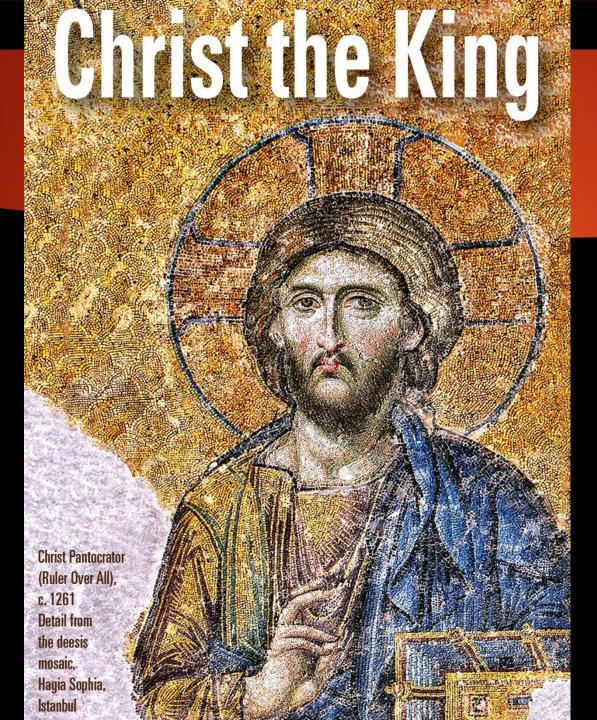
Written in 1915, during the First World War, by Canadian physician Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae. First published on December 8 of that year in the British magazine *Punch*.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO TODAY, November 11, 1918, the armistice was signed that ended major hostilities of World War I, "the war to end all wars." November 11 was known as Armistice Day until 1954, when the observance was renamed Veterans Day to remember and thank all who have served in the U.S.

armed forces.



November 18, 2018 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



November 25, 2018 Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universze



EXPECTATION

On this First Sunday of Advent,

let us remember what this season is all about. "Advent has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the solemnities of Christmas, in which the first coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight" (USCCB).

With excitement and anticipation, we prepare for the celebration of our redemption and the love of God manifested in His Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. The sacrament of reconciliation, daily prayer, and thoughtful meditation on the Advent scripture readings help to turn our minds and hearts to the celebration of the birth of Christ.

Let us journey together toward an encounter with our Lord as we encounter one another.

Blessings for this holy season.

—Fr. Beto

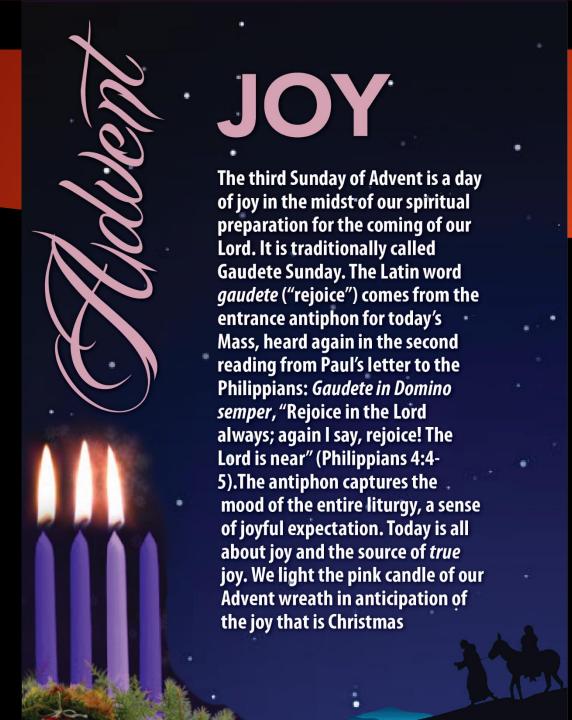
December 2, 2018 First Sunday of Advent



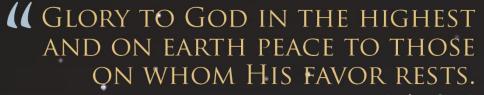
In today's Gospel, Luke introduces us to John the Baptist, who begins preparing the people of his time for the coming of the Prince of Peace. John's preaching about the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. The prophet Isaiah is quoted to show how John is preparing the people for Christ's coming. When the Jews were held captive in Babylon, they built roads for their captors. A day would come, Isaiah wrote, when they would build a highway for their God to prepare the way for His coming. Valleys would be filled in, and hills would be lowered.

As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming.

December 9, 2018 Second Sunday of Advent



December 16, 2018
Third Sunday of Advent



—Luke 2:14





December 23, 2018 Fourth Sunday of Advent

LOST and FOUND

Scripture tells us of the Holy Family's journey to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. On the trip home, Mary and Joseph discover that Jesus is missing and set about looking for him. For three days they did not know where the child Jesus was. Imagine the anguish in their hearts. Depicted here is the moment when Mary and Joseph find Jesus, who had stayed behind "in his

William Holman Hunt (1827-1910)
The Finding of the Saviour
in the Temple
(1854–1860)
Birmingham (England)
Museum and Art Gallery

Father's house."

December 30, 2018
The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph