

St. Anne Catholic Parish

Cabello and Dyer St., P.O. Box 292, Union City, CA 94587

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<http://www.saintannecatholic.org> ❖ stanne@sbcglobal.net (email)

December 23, 2007— Fourth Sunday of Advent



PARISH MISSION . . .

"We, the people of St. Anne will . . .

- seek unity in our diverse community.

- establish a living Church where people practice their faith.

- Develop a compassionate communal

Leadership. . . . To foster and preserve solidarity among God's people."

St. Anne Staff

Fr. Geoffrey Baraan	Pastor
Fr. Rick Boyle, O.S.M.	Parochial Vicar
Benigno Calub	Deacon
Manny Moya	Deacon
Carlos Rabuy	Deacon
Sydney Gargan	Office Administrator
Zella Yanos	Secretary
Jim Soltau	Youth Minister
Rico Monton	Liturgy & Music Coordinator
Helen Rojas	Faith Formation Coordinator
Christine Suarez	Faith Form. Office Assistant
Linda Canlas	Pastoral Council Facilitator
Helen Cabiles	Finance Council Chairperson

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekdays	8:00am
Saturdays	8:00am; 5:00pm (Vigil Mass)
Sundays	8:00 and 10:00 am 12:00 and 6:00 pm

1st Fridays	8:00 am and 7:30 pm
Holy Days	As announced

Saturday 3:30 pm

Baptism

By Appointment

Weddings

By Appointment. Call Rectory at least 6 months ahead.

Do not set any specific date without conferring with the Priest.

Funeral Arrangements

Should be arranged by Family, church and Mortuary. Normal Christian Burial consists of Vigil Service, Holy Mass and Burial in a Catholic Cemetery. any other arrangements should FIRST be discussed with Parish Priests.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANNE
CH:CHURCH, SH: SOCIAL HALL, CR: CLASS-
ROOMS, PO: PARISH OFFICE
LO: LITURGY OFFICE

Monday, December 24

5:30 am– MASS, CH (no 8:00 am Mass)

3:30 pm - Children's Choir, CR #106

Monday, December 24—Christmas Eve

5:00 pm - Family Mass, CH

12 midnight Mass, CH

Tuesday, December 25—Christmas Day

8:00 am – Mass, CH

10:00 am - Mass, CH

12:00 pm - Mass, CH

Wednesday, Dec. 26

8:00 am – MASS, CH

8:00 pm - Knights of Columbus, CR #104

8:00 pm - Lopez Choir, CR #106

Thursday, December 27

8:00 am - MASS, CH

7:30 pm - Pinto Choir, CH

7:30 pm - Lectors, CR #102

7:45 pm - Unity Choir, CR #105

Friday, December 28

8:00 am – MASS, CH

6:00 pm - Legion of Mary, CR #103

7:30 pm - Divine Mercy, CR #102

7:30 pm - 8:00 am Choir, CR, #106

8:00 pm - Knights of Columbus, CR #104

Saturday, December 29

8:00 am & 5:00 pm- MASS, CH

9:30 am - Lectors, CH

4:00 pm - Sacred Voices, CH

6:15 pm - Charismatics, CR #104

Sunday, December 30

8, 10 am, & 12, 6 pm, MASS, CH

4:00 pm - Jr. Legion of Mary, CR #103

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Tuesday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
 Wednesday: St. Stephen; Kwanzaa begins;
 Boxing Day (Canada)
 Thursday: St. John
 Friday: The Holy Innocents
 Saturday: The Fifth Day in the Octave of Christ
 mas; St. Thomas Becket



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — You will be given this sign: The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:10-14).

Psalm — Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory (Psalm 24).

Second Reading — God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

Gospel — The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, which means "God is with us" (Matthew 1:18-24).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79
 Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Midnight: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14] 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
 Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22
 Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
 Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Mt 2:13-18
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35
 Sunday: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14; Ps 128; Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

MASS INTENTIONS

December 22, 2007—December 29, 2007

Saturday, December 22

5:00 pm For the People

Sunday, December 23

8:00 am + Frank Bettencourt

10:00 Spe.Int. - Ernie Cabardo

12:00 pm Spe.Int. - Jesus Carpio

6:00 + Rosalina Cabardo

Monday, December 24

8:00 am + Christopher Lacson

Monday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

5:00 pm, 8:00 pm & 12 midnight

Tuesday, December 25 - Christmas Day

8:00 am, 10:00 am & 12:00 pm

Wednesday, December 26

8:00 am + Alex Bataan

Thursday, December 27

8:00 am + Cristina Ochoco

Friday, December 28

8:00 am + Victor Galang

Saturday, December 29

8:00 am + Prudencia & Philip Filmeno

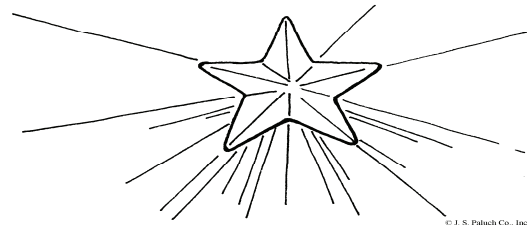


Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2007

They shall name him Emmanuel,
which means "God is with us."

— Matthew 1:23



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My dear friends in Christ,
It is Christmas!

In his Parable of the Birds, Louis Cassel tells of a man who refuses to go with his family to the Midnight Mass because he cannot understand the Mystery of Incarnation. Left alone at home, he finds a flock of birds in his backyard. Caught in the storm, the little creatures are desperate for shelter. He tries to usher the birds into the barn by sprinkling bread crumbs along the way. When this fails, he tries to shoo them in by walking around them, waving his arms in the air. But the birds still do not understand. Finally, he realizes the problem: the birds find him to be a strange and terrifying creature. They do not trust him. He murmurs, "If only I could be a bird for moment, perhaps I could save them. At that moment, he hears the church bells ring the good news of Christmas. He sinks to his knees, saying: "Now I see why God has to become one of us."

So Christmas is a celebration of God's coming into the world. In the Mystery of Incarnation the Word became flesh. He chose to reveal himself among the weak. In Jesus, God became a child wrapped in "swaddling clothes." He became like the creatures he loves. In his love, he chose to experience what it is to be human. The angel said to the shepherds, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord."

When you think about, it is not easy to rationalize God becoming "flesh." Perhaps, in his infinite wisdom, God knew that this is the most effective way to make us realize that he really loves. How great is his love for us!

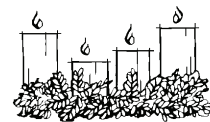
May this celebration of the feast of Christmas, in which we celebrate the coming of the Messiah and Savior into the world, finds us more aware of God's loving relationship with us. We rejoice today for the "one who is to come" has come to bring the good news of the kingdom. The lame walk, the blind see, the deaf hear and the good news is reaching the poor and the lowly.

Jesus coming into the world has made a difference in the life humanity. In Christ, the kingdom has been proclaimed. God's love is revealed and experienced. The world is changed and transformed! We are also asked to do the same. Are we willing to do the same? I believe that it is through the works of charity and social justice that we will truly find the meaning of the feast of Christmas. Are we willing to find a place in our heart where we can sow a few seeds of happiness and meaning even for a day? Can we keep the spirit of Christmas alive for a day? Well, why not always! That would be something. I pray and I believe!

On behalf of Fr. Lolo Rick, the Parish Staff, the Pastoral Council, I would like to greet you all a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year!

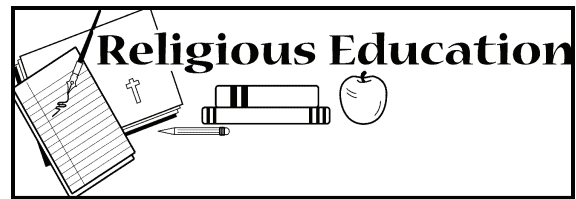
"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests!" It is Christmas!

Your humble servant,
Fr. Geoffrey



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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MON.,
DEC. 24 THRU WED., DEC. 26. WISHING YOU
A BLESSED CHRISTMAS SEASON!



St. Anne Youth Ministry

St. Anne Youth Ministry and Confirmation have had their last meetings of 2007! The next Youth Ministry meeting is Monday, January 7 and Confirmation will meet on Sunday, January 13. We closed out the year with two wonderful retreats for Youth Ministry and Confirmation....thank you to so many in St. Anne Parish that support our young people and the Youth Ministry and Confirmation programs!!

Thank you!

On behalf of Knights of Columbus and the St. Vincent de Paul members, thanks to all who donated food and gifts for the less fortunate. May the Good Lord bless you and may you have a Merry-Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you once again!

ST. JOACHIM SCHOOL ALUMNI

St. Joachim School in Hayward will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary on the weekend of May 3 and 4, 2008 with a festival, gala dinner on May 3 and liturgy and festival on May 4. For additional information, visit our website at www.stjoachimschool.org. If you would like to receive information, please email us your contact information at alumni@stjoachimschool.org or contact the school office at 510-783-3177.

THANK YOU, BULLETIN ADVERTISERS

This bulletin is subsidized completely by those companies whose advertisements appear on the last two pages. If you have the opportunity, you may thank them in the name of our parish by using their products or services. Should you desire to participate as a sponsor of our bulletin, you may contact J. S. Paluch Company at 800-675-5051.

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CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

Monday, December 24 - 5:00 p.m. - Church

CHRISTMAS BREAK

December 15, 2007 - January 5, 2008

NO CLASSES – School is closed.

Classes resume Monday, January 7, 2008

*WE WISH YOU ALL A BLESSED
CHRISTMAS
and A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
2008!!*

Taize – Prayer Around the Cross ...

Refresh your soul ... with a moment of peace and quiet ... away from the busyness of life ... listen to beautiful music ... join others in prayer and song around the cross ... offer your restlessness and worries to Jesus, the One who understands ... let the longing in our world and yours meet in Jesus the One who heals. Date: Third Friday of every month (next Dec 21st) Time: 8:00 p.m. Location: Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose, Motherhouse Chapel, 43326 Mission Blvd. Fremont, CA 94539. For further information, please contact S. Beth Quire, O.P. 510-657-2468 or beth@msjdominicans.org.

Tired of the usual New Year's Eve Parties?

Want to start 2008 in a more meaningful way?

Join the Dominican Sister of Mission San Jose and friends who will gather for a third year to Welcome the New Year! We'll share a Reflective Evening ... time to connect with friends and meet new people ... time to be with all that 2007 has held ... time to look ahead to 2008 ... time to pray with Taize – Prayer Around the Cross ... time to celebrate our faith together with a Mass starting at 11:30pm followed by a potluck celebration ...

Come for any part or all of the evening at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose 43326 Mission Blvd., Fremont CA, 94539. For more information or to RSVP call S. Beth Quire, O.P. @ 510-657-2468 or e-mail beth@msjdominicans.org

Volunteers Needed for Martha's Ministry

Anyone interested in this ministry to help out once a month to wash hand towels & iron the purificators (Communion cloths), please call Jackie @471-5262.

December 23, 2007

Collections

	Dec. 9, 2007	Dec. 16, 2007
Parish Collection	\$9,362.55	\$10,207.20
Building Fund	\$2,057.00	\$1,980.72
Immaculate Conception	\$1,557.00	
Rel. Ret. Fund	\$2,351.00	

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER/DANCE

Tickets are now on sale for the Traditional St. Anne's New Year's Eve Dinner/Dance, Monday, December 31, 2007 from 7:00 PM - 12 Midnight, Church Social Hall. Tickets are \$25.00 each. For tickets contact Myrla Raymundo - 489-0133 or Tess Gatan - 487-4671.

Concerned about your marriage?

Retrouvaille, a lifeline for marriages, is a program that, while Catholic in orientation, is open to all faiths. It is for couples who want their marriage to work. We will provide you with the communication tools that can heal your marriage. Our next weekend in the Oakland/East Bay area is January 11-13, 2008. For reservations or more information, please call Oakland *Retrouvaille* at 925-425-5222. Website: www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

4th Annual Walk for Life West Coast January 19, 2008!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 19, 2008. Join thousands of people for our 4th annual Walk for Life in San Francisco as we peacefully proclaim that abortion hurts women, men and society! Join us to witness to the belief that a better solution is possible! Youth groups are encouraged to attend the Walk for Life and the first annual YOUTH RALLY directly following the Walk, featuring Matt Maher and Jesse Romero. For more information visit www.walkforlifewc.com or contact Colleen Knutsen at cknutsen@oakdiocese.org or 510-267-8394.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

Experience a WWME weekend and you will understand the phrase—"A Weekend of Discovery; A Lifetime of Love!" For more information call Terry/Angela at 510-303-9019 or Ray/Roberta at 916-806-4601 or go to <http://oakland.lovemoredeeply.org>. Upcoming weekend: February 1-3, 2008 in Pleasanton. Deadline to register is January 2, 2008.



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

DAWN MASSES/SIMBANG GABI

Monday, December 24,
5:30 am

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Monday, December 24
5:00, 8:00 pm & 12 midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Tuesday, December 25
8:00 & 10:00 am, 12:00 pm



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By now, the first Christmas carols are heard in the home, but usually not yet in church. What is a "carol" anyway? Originally, a carol was any kind of communal song sung at a festival such as a harvest. By the thirteenth century or so, carols were associated with household celebrations. "Carol" comes from the Old French *carola*, meaning a circular dance. Carols weren't for church, since the language of liturgy was Latin and the carols were in the common language. Their characteristic sound comes from medieval chord patterns, and they often have strong refrains for everyone to sing. Even in the churches of the Reformation, carols didn't make it into church services until the 1870s or so, since there was a preference for psalms. Anglicans resisted popular carols; most of our beloved carols came via the Methodists, an offshoot of the Church of England. The Catholic Church generally didn't admit carols to liturgy either, but we didn't make laws against them.

We are told that the beloved carol "Silent Night" comes from Catholic Austria and a harried parish music director. Joseph Mohr, the priest of St. Nicholas in Oberndorf, had written the words in 1816, but offered them to his music director, Franz Gruber, when the church's organ broke. Mohr asked him to write a melody that could be played on guitar as a prelude to Mass. Gruber finished the tune just hours before midnight Mass in 1818. The people were shocked to hear a guitar in church, but were charmed by the sweet lullaby. The church was swept away by a flood in the 1990s and the village later relocated, but the townspeople have set up the "Silent Night Memorial Chapel" at the site. Today the carol is in print in some three hundred languages. How wonderful that the pipe organ broke on that night!

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

2007 CCD Christmas Pageant

