

St. Anne Catholic Parish

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

Second Sunday of Advent December 7, 2008

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."



On this the second Sunday of Advent, the next candle will be lit. The message that it conveys is love.

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
	Confessions
Saturday	3:30 pm
	Baptism

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.

ST. ANNE STAFF

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANNE

CH:CHURCH, SH: SOCIAL HALL, CR: CLASS-ROOMS, PO: Parish Office, LO: Liturgy Office

Monday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception

8:00 am, 5:00 pm & 7:30 pm - Mass, CH

9:00 am - Legion of Mary, CR #103

5:00pm - Faith Formation Mass, CH

6:00 pm - Youth Ministry, SH

7:30 pm - Mass, CH

Tuesday, December 9

8:00 am - Mass, CH

4:30 pm - Faith Formation, CH

7:00 pm - Liturgy, CR #105

7:30 pm - Lectors, CR #102

7:30 pm - Facilities Committee, CR #103

7:30 pm - CYO, CR #104

7:30 pm - Couples for Christ, CR #105

Wednesday, December 10

8:00 am - MASS, CH

12:00 pm - COR, CR #106

5:00 pm - Faith Formation, CR#102-106

6:00 pm - SPRED, SH

7:30 pm - Young Adult Choir, CR #105

7:30 pm - Sacred Voices, CH

Thursday, December 11

8:00 am - Mass, CH

5:00 pm - Faith Formation, CR #102-106, SH

5:00 pm - Youth Choir, CH

7:30 pm - 10:00 AM Choir, CH

8:00 pm - Unity Choir, CR #106

Friday, December 12

8:00 am & 7:30 pm - Mass, CH

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

7:00 pm - Charismatics, CR #105

7:00 pm - Individual User, SH

7:30 pm - Divine Mercy, CR #102

7:00 pm - Baptism Class, SH

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

Saturday, December 13

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

9:00 am - Faith Formation, CH

9:00 am - SPRED, CR #106

9:00 am - Individual User, SH

4:00 pm - Sacred Voices, CH

6:15 pm - Charismatics, CR #104

Sunday, December 14

8:00, 10:00 am, 12:00 & 6:00 pm - MASS, CH

1:00 pm - Children's Choir, CR #106

6:00 pm - Individual User, CH

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

Psalm — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

Second Reading — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).

Gospel — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

MASS INTENTIONS

December 6, 2008 - December 13, 2008

Saturday, December 6

5:00 pm + Rosalina Papa

Sunday, December 7

8:00 am + For the People

10:00 am + Matilde Franco

12:00 pm + Ildelfonso Tambunting, Sr.

6:00 pm + Bernardo Aguilar

Monday, December 8

8:00 am + Danny Ignacio

5:00 pm + For the People

7:30 pm + Concepcion Danunday

Tuesday, December 9

8:00 am Spe.Int. - Ken Eidelberg

Wednesday, December 10

8:00 am + Angel Oquendo

Thursday, December 11

8:00 am Spe.Int. - Lilyann Laguardia

Friday, December 12

8:00 am + Restituta Libiran

Saturday, December 13

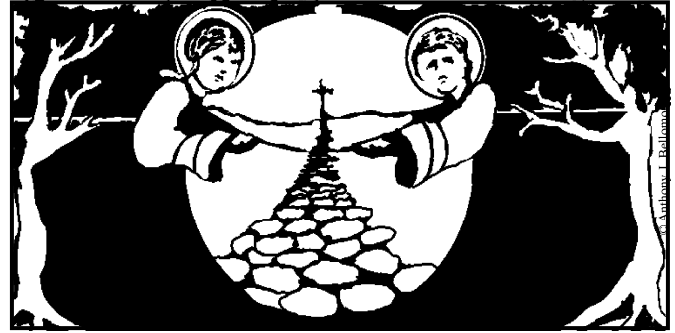
8:00 am Spe.Int. - Jonathan Libiran

5:00 pm + Lucia Riego De Dios



Second Sunday of Advent December 7, 2008

Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill shall be made low.
— *Isaiah 40:4*



*My dear friends in Christ,
“Where is God?”*

I am sure that you have asked this question many times in your life! Usually we ask this question **when we are confronted** with very serious illness, or when tragedy strikes a community or a family. If God is a loving God, why is it that he would allow that **horrible situation in Darfur, the killing of innocent children, and the September 11 attack on America?** There are other countless human realities that the world had seen and there will be more. **So, where is God in all these situations?** When these things happen, we question the existence of God. **The absence of God becomes the focus and not the truth about the human condition.**

There was a time when **the Babylonian Empire, under a very gifted King Nebuchadnezzar,** six hundred years before Christ, ruled the city of Jerusalem. **During this time, Jerusalem was destroyed and the people were sent to exile.** Because of this, the Israelites were discouraged and depressed. They had lost their beloved city, Jerusalem, their temple, their king and kingdom. And they asked,

“Where is our God?”

This was their reaction from this experience. But in the midst of sadness, isolation, and despair, an unknown prophet known as **Second Isaiah announced a message of consolation from God, “Comfort, give comfort to my people. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her servitude is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the Lord double for all her sins.”**

These are the consoling words of God from Second Isaiah to assure us of his faithfulness. It is easy for us sometimes to react with doubt and despair. **That’s why these words of Second Isaiah are truly comforting to someone who is discouraged, sad, and depressed.** When the prophet Isaiah announced to the Israelites that their exile was coming to an end, it brought rejoicing and hope to the people. **After fifty years in exile, they were at last going home.**

What is the message of the Second Sunday of Advent readings? HOPE! HOPE! I believe that it is about not giving up and always trusting in the presence of God. God is active in human activities and will always remain with us. In the book of Isaiah, God assures, **“Be not afraid for I am with you always.”**

And to the question of Israel,

“Where is our God?”

Second Isaiah answers, **“Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord God. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.”**

BE ALERT! STAY AWAKE! BE WITH GOD! GOD IS HERE! HE PROCLAIMS PEACE TO HIS PEOPLE!

In Christ,
Fr. Geoffrey



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St. Anne Youth Ministry

There will be NO meeting on Monday, December 8 due to the Mass for the Feast of The Immaculate Conception. ALL Youth Ministry students are invited to attend either the 5:00 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. liturgy, as December 8 is a Holy Day of Obligation for the Feast of The Immaculate Conception.

Please pray for the 50 Youth Ministry students who are on their Winter retreat this weekend at the Diocesan Youth Retreat Center in Lafayette.

St. Anne Confirmation

There will be a Confirmation retreat meeting for all parents and candidates this afternoon (December 7th) at 3:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. It is very important that all candidates and at least one parent from each family attend. The Confirmation retreat is next weekend, December 12-14 at Mission Springs Christian Conference Center.

SEE'S CANDY SALE

The Faith Formation teachers are going to start selling See's Candy after the weekend masses and in the CCD office daily, starting Nov.24,2008. This fund raising will help teachers go to the LA Religious Education Congress in February 2009.

As you know our teachers are all volunteer parishioners. This will give them an opportunity to learn more about teaching and how to help our young ones to grow in their faith. They will also learn new and creative ways of teaching and hopefully experience a deeper understanding of their faith through the prayer service and activities at the workshops.

Won't you please help our CCD teacher?

Pls. call the CCD office, 471-7766 ex 21, for more information or if you want to help!

REMINDER:

**DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON,
PLEASE REMEMBER TO LOCK YOUR
CARS AND KEEP ALL VALUABLES OUT
OF SIGHT.**

(We have had several cars broken into during Masses and parish meetings)



December Virtues: Service is helping people in need, even if it means interrupting our activities. God gave us talents to use and share with other people. *Serve one another with the gifts each of you received.....1 Peter 4:10.* Happiness is a state of being glad or content. Joy comes out of knowing God's love for us. Let God's love in your heart and show it to others. *The commandment that ends with a promise is: Honor your father and mother so that you may live a happy life.....Ephesians 6:2-3*

REMINDER

All FC Candidates & at least one Parent must attend:

CELEBRATION OF FIRST RECONCILIATION - CHURCH

Tuesday, Dec 9 – 4:45p-6:00p

Class of Ester Claudio, Mila Abiera, Nilda Cabardo & Lee Ramos

Tuesday, Dec 9 – 6:15p-7:30p

Class of Vangie Marquez, Melinda Dorotheo & Collins McCulley

Saturday, Dec 13 – 9:00a-10:15a

Class of Luisa Lorico, Carmen Quing, Joanna Velasquez & Myrna Garcia



Christmas Concert & Pageant Dec. 19, 2008 at 7:00pm

Rehearsal schedule: Tuesday – Dec. 16 at 6:00pm

Dress rehearsal: Wednesday – Dec. 17 at 6:00pm

Final rehearsal: Thursday – Dec. 18 at 6:00pm

Everyone is invited to attend the play. There is still time for students to sign-up for the play. We are also in need of volunteer parents to help us with rehearsal. Just call the CCD office and ask for Christine.

CHILDREN'S STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

- Denisis Marufo.....gave \$2.00 of his own money.
- Elizabeth Dadey.....Helped Mom clean living room.
- James Poblete....Helped Mom in the kitchen.
- Lea Mae Albano...Fixed my bed & helped Lolo.
- Faith Centena.....Helped take care of my sister.
- Joe Badua.....Gave \$2.00
- Kenneth Abalos.....Cooked rice for the family.
- Troy Gonzales.....Helped Mom push baby stroller..
- Moirra Duya.....Cleaned the bathroom.
- Jasmine Velasquez Figueroa.....Comedian, makes others laugh.
- Alana McGovern.....Took my friend home when it was dark.
- Georgie F. Pisco...Love my family & Jesus.

Sunday, December 7, 2008



Collections

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

	Nov. 23, 2008	Nov. 30, 2008
Parish Collection	\$10,814.95	\$10,589.23
Building Fund	\$1,601.00	\$4,432.63
Campaign Hum.Dev.	\$1,202.00	
Thanksgiving		\$3,281.00
St. Vincent de Paul		\$1,177.00

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

St. Vincent de Paul will be selling raffle tickets for \$3 to benefit the celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12, 2008 at St. Anne Church, starting with a mass at 5:30 a.m. Please buy your ticket at the entrance of the church and win a flat screen 32" TV.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Everyone is invited to attend a special mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Friday, December 12, 2008 at 5:30 in the morning. **Please bring flowers to offer to Our Lady.** Reception to follow after the mass in the hall! Also, the winner of the 32" flat screen TV, home theater, digital camera and blue tooth will be drawn during the reception. It's not too late to buy the tickets. If you have not turned in your tickets, please do so by December 11. Any questions about the tickets, please call Jean Gatan-Liwanag at (510) 415-0647 or Maria Garcia (510) 468-6980.

Christmas Nativity Open House

Come and see a 109 year-old Victorian House decorated for the holidays with 300 nativity sets!!

This is a benefit for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Alameda County that serves homeless and low-income men, women and children.

Dates: Saturday, December 13th
Sunday, December 14th

Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: 37445 Nilas Boulevard in Fremont

Cost: There is no cost to attend, but financial contributions are gratefully accepted

For more information, please call 510-794-1368

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

The St. Vincent de Paul and Knights of Columbus continue to collect non perishable food for Christmas baskets. Please bring your donations and gifts (from giving tree) by Friday, December 19, 2008 and place them in the barrels at the entrances of the church. We will prepare and deliver the baskets on Saturday, December 20, 2008. Also, if you know a **needy, low income** family who will benefit this, please call the rectory and leave name, address, and phone number.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

St. Vincent de Paul is hosting the 4th year Christmas party for homeless, low income families, elderly and the poor on Sunday, December 21, 2008 at 2:00p.m. in the hall. If you know anyone who will benefit this, please let them know. If you would like to help out, please call the rectory and leave your name and number.

HOW TO BE HEALTHY NATURALLY

Get a head start on the New Year!

Healthy Living Made Easy!

There is only one goal to accomplish so that you do not get sick but there are 5 things you **Absolutely** must do, to achieve that goal.

Find out what to do, how to do it, what not to do, and you will:

- feel healthier
- live longer
- be more active
- have less pain
- sleep better
- stay off medications
- avoid surgeries
- lose/maintain weight
- reduce medical bills
- and much, much more...

All you have to do is attend a workshop given by Daniel B. Klein, D.C. on December 20th at 10AM in St. Anne's Church. Just bring a pencil, paper and a willingness to learn information that you can apply immediately so you can begin feeling better now!

CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIGHT

Holiday Cheer on the Cathedral Plaza , Oakland You are cordially invited to an Evening of Holiday Cheer on the Christ the Light Cathedral Plaza on Wednesday, December 10, 2008, from 4:00 – 8:00 pm, hosted by The Cathedral Shop and The Cathedral Café. Please come and listen to the Christmas music by Dickens Carolers, partake in refreshments courtesy of The Cathedral Café, take advantage of the 10% discount on holiday shopping at The Cathedral Shop, and join the tour of the Cathedral at 4:30 pm.



A "Thanksgiving" Reflection

The reflection shared by **Dennis La Flam** on Thanksgiving day was one that we should all heed. He said " that our thanks-giving should not be limited to only one day of the year.....that we should give thanks often and always throughout the entire year." Dennis also said "the meaning of thanksgiving from a Catholic Christian perspective is that, we are called by God to always be a thankful people, and that whenever we *gather at mass* we come together as a community to give *thanks to God*"

He continues by saying " God has endowed us by creating us with the talents, abilities, skills, that have made us what we are. And what we are able to provide for ourselves and our families.....employment, income, basic necessities such as food, and material things we have accumulated.....all because of our loving Creator!"

Thank you Dennis for a wonderful way of reminding us that "ALL IS GIFT, GIFT FROM GOD"

