



# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

*Catholic Church*

DECEMBER 6, 2020



2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT



"Prepare the way of the Lord." - Mk 1:3

## Sacraments

### Masses

A mask is required and must be worn at all times. Please sign in for contact tracing purposes.

#### Weekend Mass Times

3:00pm (Sat)

10:00am & 11:30am (Sun)

Soccer Field

#### Daily Mass Times

Currently cancelled

### Reconciliation / Confession

Saturday 3 - 4:30 pm  
& by appointment

### All Other Sacraments

Please call the office for information.

## Clergy

Fr. Renier Siva

**Pastor**

Fr. Cleetus Karakkat

**Parochial Vicar**

William Goeke

Jim McFadden

**Deacons**

Fr. Ignatius Haran

**Pastor Emeritus**

## Parish Office

The office is closed until further notice. Please call and leave a message.

307 Montrose Drive, Folsom

Phone: 916-985-2065

*Website:*

FolsomCatholic.org

*Social Media:*

@FolsomCatholic

## Bulletin

FolsomCatholic.org/bulletin

**Bulletin Date**   **Ads Due by 5pm**

Dec 13                  Dec 2

Dec 20                  Dec 8

Dec 27                  Dec 16

# Welcome to

## St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

We are a community where we welcome all as members of the Body of Christ.

We are welcoming, faithful, passionate, joyful, authentic,  
sacramental, loving and charitable.

### Today's Readings

Is 40:1-5, 9-11 / Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8] / 2 Pt 3:8-14 / Mk 1:1-8

*"Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation. "*

(Ps 85)

### Gospel Meditation

People knew over a year in advance that the Pope was coming for a visit to America and the preparations began. Security, space limitations and requirements, protocols, crowd management, itineraries, invitations, regulations, and so much more was necessary to pull this event off effectively. It's not every day that we get a visit from such a prominent dignitary. Thought, effort, meticulous attention to detail and vision all are necessary to make this thing work. After all, he can't just show up in the ordinary and normal daily routines of life and catch people unprepared! Tickets have to be purchased, buses rented, hotel rooms reserved, and travel arrangements made early because it will be impossible to see him if we wait too long!

We do this kind of preparing not only for prominent religious figures but for political dignitaries, notable sports figures, people of fame, and even actors. If an individual intrigues us, we are going to want to do all we have to do to get a "good seat" in the house. Does Jesus Christ captivate this much of our attention? We are asked to prepare the way of the Lord and to do so not with frantic frenzy but patient enthusiasm. We do not have to stand on a street corner making profound announcements about God's coming or become overly zealous in our embrace of the Good News. Our task is quieter, more interior, captivating, and consuming. We are asked to change. We have to conduct our lives with holy devotion.

Is the cost of that ticket too much for you? Don't you want the "best seat" in the house? You don't want to miss Our Lord's arrival when he comes, do you? After all, if he comes while you are going about your daily routines without you even knowing, he may catch you off guard. Or, he may come in disguise looking like a beggar, a prisoner, migrant, refugee, or someone who is lost. Would you be ready to recognize him then? Preparing for the coming of Christ requires a change of mind, heart, and behavior. It is not adequate to simply do the things we always do. We want our lives to speak of the exciting news of Christ's coming and the joy that the Gospel brings. It has to do with our demeanor, values, priorities, choices, and how we structure daily routines. Of course, it involves sacrifice. All anticipations do! Are you excited, captivated, enthusiastic, and sitting on the edge of your seat eager to celebrate his coming among us at Christmas, and waiting for him to come again? If not, why not?

## Scripture Reflections

### First Reading

Five hundred years before the birth of Christ, Isaiah prophesied these words of comfort and hope to the Israelites captive in Babylon. What would bring comfort and hope to you in this season of Advent?

### Second Reading

Today we hear how Peter challenged those in his day who denied that Christ would return. Peter argued that our human timeline is not God's timeline. How do you reason with people today who deny the fundamentals of our faith?

### Gospel

Mark opens his Gospel by presenting the words and activities of John the Baptist in the context of fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy heard in our first reading. Why do you think connecting Isaiah to John the Baptist was important to Mark and his community?



**Feast Day of the  
Immaculate Conception**  
Holy Day of Obligation  
December 8, Tuesday, 10am

Mass celebrated on the Soccer Field

**Praise and Worship**

December 8, Tuesday, 6:30pm  
Contact: Sheila Fitzpatrick  
Sheilafitz1@yahoo.com

Join us for an evening of inspiring music and powerful prayer with Praise and Worship, this month with special devotion to Our Blessed Mother! Join us via Facebook Live on the St. John the Baptist Parish Facebook page. All are welcome to join us!

**Christmas Mass Sign-ups**

Sign-ups for Mass coordinators, EMs and lectors for Christmas Masses will be in the sacristy.

**Check Our Parish Website For Updates**  
[folsomcatholic.org](http://folsomcatholic.org)

Please check our website for updates regarding the COVID-19 status here in our parish. Bulletins are also posted. Just click on the word "Bulletin" located near the top of our Home page. A limited number of printed copies are also available in the vestibule.

**2021 Mass Intentions**

Scheduled Mass Intentions are being accepted for the first quarter of the new year. Since the Parish Office remains closed, please mail in or call the office with the intention and a possible date and time you would like to reserve. If the particular Mass is not available we will reserve the next open opportunity. There is a limit of 5 intentions per family.

Donations can be made online or mailed to the Parish Office. Please include "Mass Intention for" and the prayer intention noted in the memo section of the check or in the comments on the online giving form.



*"Immaculate Mary,  
your praises we sing!"*

December 8th is one of our feasts celebrating Mary - the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. From the beginnings of the Church, spiritual writers and theologians have acknowledged the innocence and holiness of Mary. St. Irenaeus called her the "new Eve." Both faced with the pure freedom to accept or reject God, Mary began with work of redemption with her yes to Christ! The Church began to celebrate the feast of Mary's conception in the early Middle Ages. In 1854, Pope Pius IX infallibly declared that Mary was free of original sin from the first moment of her conception. On this feast day, we celebrate the beauty and goodness of Our Lady.

**Inspiration for the Week**

Prepare the way of the Lord! The message of John the Baptist becomes the calling of every baptized disciple of Jesus Christ. Each one of us is asked to prepare the way of the Lord. Given the humble means of our lives, how can we do this? It certainly does not require that we stand on street corners announcing God's future coming! We can more readily take up the task of our lifework by clearing our lives of unnecessary, distracting clutter. By creating solid and deep spiritual lives, we can heighten our awareness of God's presence and help people point to and discover God's presence around them. By conducting ourselves in holiness and devotion, we can speak volumes to those we meet. Not by preaching actual words, but by living lives that communicate the comfort God wants His people to know. As the world sometimes frantically unfolds around us, we can be people of patience who show others that it's okay to wait for God's gift to come. Conducting our lives in this manner, we will know the peace that comes from doing what we have been asked to do.

At St. John the Baptist Parish,  
we welcome all  
as members of  
the Body of Christ.

# P R A Y E R

## Mass Intentions

Scheduled prayer intentions will be offered by the priests of the parish during their private mass.

### Sunday, December 6th

Felicidad Reyes†  
Purificacion Siruno†  
People of the Parish

### Monday, December 7th

Jose†  
Sal Mazzola†

### Tuesday, December 8th

Mary Eileen Hodur†  
Ron Smith†

### Wednesday, December 9th

Rochelle Brown†

### Thursday, December 10th

Robert Kilburg†

### Friday, December 11th

Susan Vasquez†

### Saturday, December 12th

Augustus Martinez (*in Thanksgiving*)

## Observances

### We Celebrate This Week

**Mon:** St. Ambrose

**Tue:** The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Wed:** St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

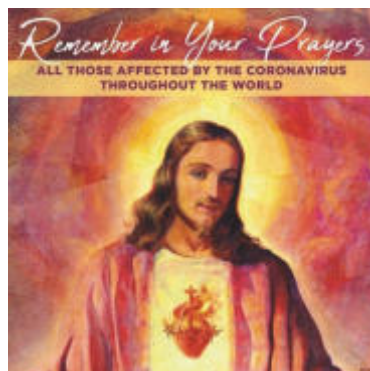
**Fri:** St. Damasus I

**Sat:** Our Lady of Guadalupe

### December is Dedicated to: The Immaculate Conception

### Pope Francis' Monthly Intention for December For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



## Intercessory Prayers

### Prayers for the Sick

*We pray for our sick parishioners, family and friends, and those in need of healing of the body and soul.*

Christopher Kovarik	Kimanh Davis
Dharmo Dhillon	Mark Penman
Jen Fancher	Phyllis Dexter
Jesse Diaz	Robert Coughlin
Joanne Harden	Sarah Norberg
Jody Park	Zachary Whiten
Kainoa Wood	

### Prayers for Our Troops

*We pray for our military personnel abroad and at home, and for their families.*

Michael Dalupan

### Prayers for the Recently Deceased

*We pray for the souls of all who have died, our family members, friends, and parishioners. May they rest in peace.*

Anne Acosta	Lillian Robert	
Bernie Powers	Lorraine Roche	
Brian Trevisan Maxey	Maria Perez	
Bud Powers	Maurico Padilla	
Cal Dexter	Nasri Michael	
Chris McDowell	Ofelia Bagabaldo	
Clifford W. Kinney	Pete Sidhu	
Daniel Kelly	Prabasheeni	
Doug Jackson	Iddamalghoda	
Francisco Bejarano	Purificacion Siruno	
Herbert Kohagura	Rose Imbriani-Ajalat	
Jean Mellberg	Tommy Nunez	Valenzuela
Jean Walsh	Sunta de Rivera	
Joyce Margaret Elliott		
Kay Warren		

## Prayer Requests

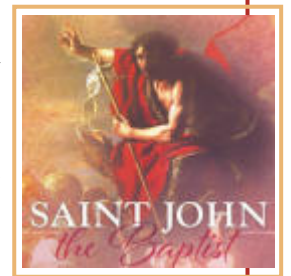
Prayer requests for the sick, military or recently deceased may be made by calling our Parish Office. Names will appear for four months.

O God,

You raised up St. John the Baptist to prepare a perfect people for Christ.

Fill Your people with the joy of possessing His grace, and direct the minds of all the faithful in the way of peace and salvation.

Grant that as St. John was martyred for truth and justice, so we may energetically profess our Faith in You, and lead others to the Way, the Truth, and Eternal Life.  
Amen.



At St. John the Baptist Parish, time in conversation with our Lord is at the center of our lives.





### The Adoration Chapel

The Adoration Chapel is closed until further notice  
Adoration has been moved to the Church

A link to an Adoration Video (50mins) is located our website.

Scroll down to midpage and click on "Spend Time..."

A YouTube video will pop up to play the video.

Another Adoration Video (30mins) is also posted and pinned on our Facebook page.

A Facebook account is not necessary to view.

Once on our Facebook page click on the Monstrance picture to start the video.

[www.facebook.com/FolsomCatholic](http://www.facebook.com/FolsomCatholic)

### Live Stream Mass

[scd.org/coronavirus/livestream-mass](http://scd.org/coronavirus/livestream-mass)

Please visit the Diocesan page. It lists Parishes which are currently live streaming Sunday and Daily Masses.

### Church Hours

#### Monday - Friday

The church will remain open for those who would like to pray before the Blessed Sacrament from 8am-4:30pm.

#### Saturday - Sunday

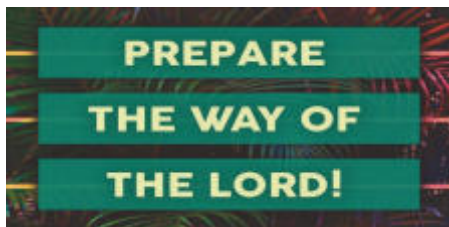
On the weekends, the church will be open from 7am-6pm.

**Please keep in mind your minimum 6ft "social distancing"**

### Confession

**Saturdays: 3 - 4:30 pm  
and by appointment**

Please note confessions at this time will still be offered but not in the confessional. We will be doing a face to face format in a larger setting in order to maintain the recommended minimum 6ft "social distancing."



### Prayer of Pope Francis During the Coronavirus Pandemic

*O Mary,  
you always shine on our path  
as a sign of salvation and of hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,  
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain,  
keeping your faith firm.*

*You, Salvation of the Roman People,  
know what we need,  
and we are sure you will provide  
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,  
we may return to joy and to feasting  
after this time of trial.*

*Help us, Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform to the will of the Father  
and to do as we are told by Jesus,  
who has taken upon himself our sufferings  
and carried our sorrows  
to lead us, through the cross,  
to the joy of the resurrection.  
Amen.*

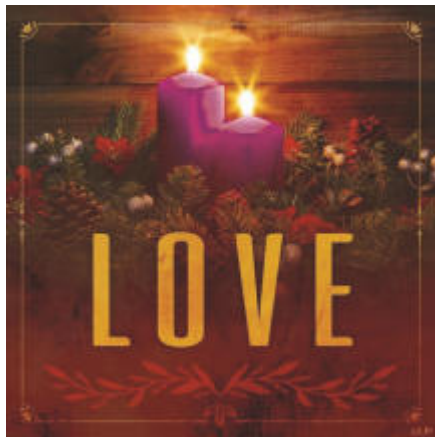
*Under your protection, we seek refuge,  
Holy Mother of God.  
Do not disdain the  
entreaties of we who are in trial,  
but deliver  
us from every danger,  
O glorious and blessed Virgin.*



At St. John the Baptist Parish,  
time in conversation with our  
Lord is at the center of  
our lives.



At St. John the Baptist Parish,  
we foster a  
commitment to lifelong  
spiritual growth.



### Jubilation to Share

Sometimes you have something to share with people that causes you to well up inside with excitement to the point of going crazy. A pregnancy test, a pay raise, a college acceptance, a wedding or engagement are all examples of moments in life when we might be bursting at the seams to tell somebody the good news. When we finally get the chance to tell somebody, joy just seems to flow through us with ease. We literally want the entire world to share in our jubilation.

When was the last time you shared with a friend or loved one how much your faith in Jesus means to you? You don't feel the same motivation to share? Are you not overwhelmed with a desire to spread the Good News?

Don't feel bad. You are not alone. As Christians, we often fail to grasp the powerful implications of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. We can become complacent and lose sight of what matters the most. That is when sharing with others about our faith seems uncomfortable.

Faith is a gift. As everyday stewards we are called to share with others what God has given us. Advent is a great time to grow in our faith and love of the Lord. The more we cultivate our faith and the closer we draw to Him, the more we will want to share about Him. We might not have the impact of John the Baptist in the course of human history, but our proclamation of the Gospel to another might be the gift that changes their history.

~ Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## Be Alert, Get Ready, and Welcome the New King!

4 week on-line Advent Bible study series  
with Deacon Jim

December 8, Tuesday, 7pm

Contact: Theresa Grant

tgrant203@aol.com.

*The True King is Coming!*

Christ proclaims himself as the King of everything. This is bold claim for it puts everything under him. However, he is a very different King than what we typically expect. So, with the arrival of the King, we must change all our expectations.

To register for the series, please email Theresa. You will receive an email prior to the scheduled session with the Zoom link & instructions. Please check your spam/junk mail in case you do not receive the email in your inbox.

### Into The Mix

December 10, 2020, 7:00-8:00

Contact: Antony Ta

ata@scd.org.

Join us for our next stream scheduled from 7:00-8:00pm. "Into the Mix" is a monthly livestream where we will have guests share about their spiritual lives, talk theology and reveal their signature drink. Come and ask questions through chat, engage in dialogue, and hear about various topics through the lens of the Catholic faith. Come to the table with a drink, some snacks and join in the conversation.

### Navigate

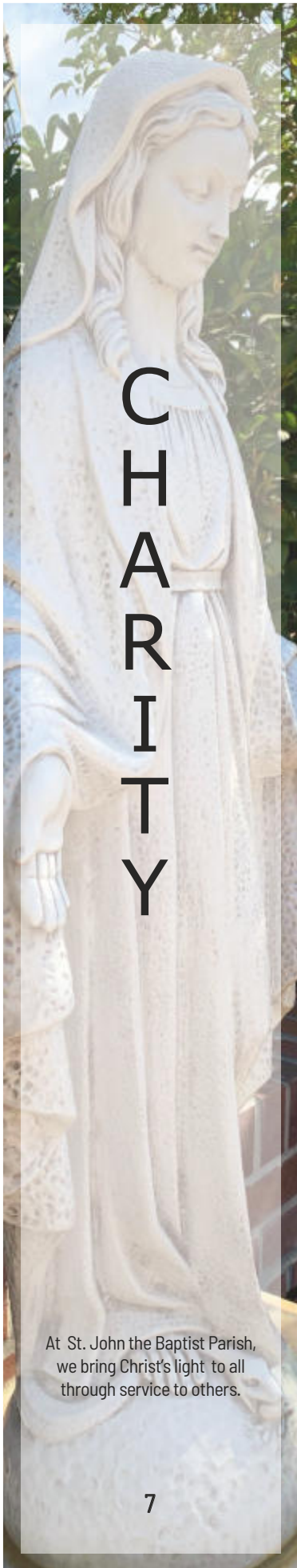
December 13, 20

Contact Antony Ta, ata@scd.org.

www.scd.org/Navigate

Our diocesan wide virtual youth group has launched and invites all Middle School and High School teens to watch the next livestream at 7PM via YouTube. All teens are encouraged to participate and dive deeper into the Catholic faith and explore its richness. This is a time for teens to find community and fellowship as they learn how to navigate their lives towards Christ.





At St. John the Baptist Parish, we bring Christ's light to all through service to others.

## 2nd Collection

Our second collection on November 21/22 was to support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in six people lives in poverty. Together we collected \$492.

This weekend our second collection will be for the RE Program and SJND.

Next weekend our 2nd collection is for the Building & Maintenance Fund.

## St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Giving Tree

Due to the COVID-19, we have made the very difficult decision to not put up our Christmas Giving Tree this year. Unfortunately, due to the vulnerability of our volunteers, we are unable to participate as in the past. Once again, I reassure you that Christmas gifts are being distributed by other organizations in the area and we will help our families make contact. We continue to check phone messages, and as with Thanksgiving, if we are contacted by a family who is in need for Christmas, we will respond on a one-on-one basis. We look forward to resuming our Thanksgiving and Christmas activities in 2021 when it will be safer for all. Thank you for your support and we wish you all a Blessed Christmas.

## Do You Have Any Christmas Themed Unused Greeting Cards Available?

The Christmas and holiday seasons are especially difficult times for people who are incarcerated. Chaplain Greg Mellor invites you to contribute to this year's New Folsom Prison Christmas Card Drive. With the help of donors, over 5,000 Christmas cards will be distributed so that each inmate will have two cards to send to family and friends. Unused Christmas cards can be placed in the box in the vestibule from now through December 31.

## Stewardship of Treasure the Lord Has Entrusted to Us

Weekly goal: \$25,529.00

Weekly Offerings:

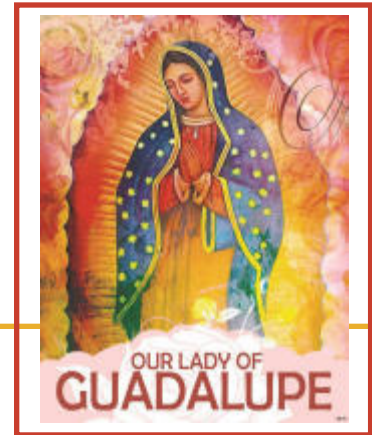
November 21/22 \$17,288.25

November 28/29 \$8,125.25

St. Vincent de Paul Collection

Online donations for November \$1321.92

5th Sunday collection \$1692.00



On December 9, 1531, Our Lady appeared to a simple Aztec Indian who had converted to the Catholic faith, Juan Diego. Three days later, at Juan Diego's request, Mary provided a sign so the local bishop would believe that she actually had appeared. Roses grew out of the cold winter soil, and when Juan Diego opened his cloak to show the bishop what he had found, an image of Our Lady appeared on the fabric. These occurrences led to the conversion of most of Mexico and remain today a strong sign of Our Lady's concern and love for us.

Church-approved Marian apparitions always point to her Son, Jesus. For many of us with a strong Marian devotion, Mary is a pathway into a stronger relationship with our Lord. Her generosity shown to Juan Diego is the same generosity shown to each of us that choose to ask her intercession. Families pray for one another and she is a very prominent member of our family. May the miracle of Our Lady of Guadalupe be a sign of warmth for you in the cold of winter and of Advent hope for a Christ Child that has redeemed the world.

**Feast Day: December 12**

### Sharing the Gospel

John the Baptist had an important message. When you make sinful mistakes, and when you turn away from God, stop. Learn from your mistakes, and do things God's way. Were you bossy or rude? Be thoughtful and kind. Did you tell a lie? Be honest instead. God wants you to share his love with other people.

### ✝️ Mission for the Week

Ask your family if you have hurt their feelings. Ask them to forgive you.

### 🙏 Prayer

Jesus, help me to learn from my mistakes. Thank you for forgiving me.

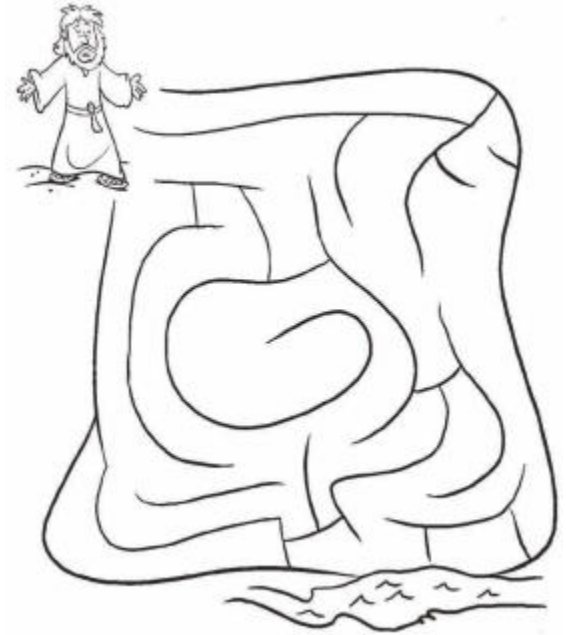
### 🖍️ Read the Gospel and Color

Mk 1:1-8



### 🧩 Puzzle

Help John the Baptist find his way to the Jordan River



"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."



Our parish is enriched with many ministries, please consider learning about and engaging in one or more of our ministries. Call the contact listed or see a Minister of Hospitality after Mass.

## Welcoming Ministries

### Communications Ministry

Loreen McMahon, 916-933-1330

### Ministers of Hospitality

Shannon Bleeker, 916-200-8059

### New Parishioner Welcoming Ministry

Lori Hopper, 916-337-0139

### Ushers

Stanley Posis, 916-705-9192

## Prayer Ministries

### Companioned Prayer

Bill Stobbe, 916-505-3800

### Divine Mercy Devotion/Cenacle

Zoanne Tafolla, 707-333-7359

-*Chaplet/Rosary/Morning Prayer*

-*Divine Mercy Chaplet/Mass*

-*Cenacle* - Zoanne Tafolla, 707-333-7359

-*Cenacle-Spanish* - Ana Haid, 916-956-1177

### Eucharistic Adoration

Veronica Thomas, thomas\_vera@yahoo.com

*Perpetual Adoration*—1st Fri 9am - Sat 4pm

### Marian Cenacle (Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle)

-*English* – 1st Saturday of the month

Sally Gomez, 916-693-2411

-*Spanish* – 2nd Wednesday of the month

Ana Haid, 916-956-1177

### Our Lady of Fatima

Henry Altamirano, 925 - 899-7769

## Spiritual Growth Ministries

### Adult Scripture Study

Lee & Teresa Weider, 916-983-8065

### Couples for Christ

Myrah Empleo, 661-993-4721

### Praise & Worship

Sheila Fitzpatrick, 925-437-0798

### Religious Education

Shannon Langer, 916-985-7338

### Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Debbie Duncan, 916-798-0201

### Theology on Tap

Aaron Santos, 916-985-2065

### WINGS (Women in Growth Spiritually)

Sue Collins, 916-337-6237

### Youth/Young Adults Ministries

Aaron Santos, asantos@folsomcatholic.org

## Parish Committees/Councils

### Finance Council

Elizabeth Beigh, 916-730-1291

### Liturgy Committee

Barbara Bowden, 916-984-9476

### Pastoral Council

## Outreach/Charity Ministries

### Bereavement Hospitality/Receptions

Nina Pucci, 916-947-6386

### Catholics for Life

Kathy Baxter, 916-337-6824

### Gabriel Project

Helen Boyd, 916-367-8071

### Grace Quilters Ministry

Catherine Scott, 831-402-4681

### Grupo Pastoral Hispano

Anna Haid, 916-956-1177

### Knights of Columbus

Dick Phelan, 916-221-0596

### Pastoral Care Ministry

Dan Dunne, 916-817-1675; Sunday

Candice Ralston, 916-806-8090; Tuesday

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

Catherine Scott, 831-402-4681

### Prison/Restorative Justice Ministry

-Folsom Prison - Fr. H. Gomez, 916-985-2561 x 4206

-CSP Sacramento - Greg Mellor,  
Catholic Chaplain, 916-985-8610 x6425

### School Ministry (St. John Notre Dame)

Keith Martin, Principal, 916-985-4129

### Senior Visitation

Charlene Agles, 916-984-9602

### St. Vincent de Paul (Helping Hands)

John Knight, 916-985-4630

## Liturgical Ministries

### Altar Servers

Hugo Schmidt, 916-817-4541

### Children's Liturgy during Mass

Shannon Langer, 916-985-7338

### Extraord. Ministers of Holy Communion

Steve & Maryanne Ashley, 916-479-2214

### Lectors

Patti Midtlyng, 916-837-8322

### Liturgical Environment

Arlette Peterson, 916-220-5968

**Music** - See choir director after Mass.

## Additional Ministries

### Children's Babysitting at Mass

Georgia Oatmeyer, 916-201-3193

### Family Fellowship

Carol Stephenson, 916-952-6744

### Gift Shop

Connie Aley, 916-984-9284

### Women's Game Day

Roberta Puzio, 916-933-2561

Please send ministry updates and corrections to  
Loreen McMahon, mcmahon510@comcast.net.

# MINISTRIES

"Here am I, Lord;  
I come to do your will."

THE GREAT  
THING TO  
REMEMBER  
IS THAT,  
THOUGH OUR  
FEELINGS  
COME AND GO,  
GOD'S LOVE  
FOR US  
DOES NOT.  
C.S. LEWIS

©LPI

**Our prayer group is discussing ways we can change and strengthen our faith. What one thing could we change that would have the greatest impact on our faith?**

A famous coach once said that when the team is in trouble and things aren't going well, go back to the basics; when the team is winning and things are going well, go back to the basics! Any renewal program, faith development, or spiritual growth effort has to start with the basic core of what it means to believe. If the foundation is not strong, the house will not stand.

So if you work on one thing, begin with the idea that God is love, who loves us and calls us to love one another. If we really take that belief to heart, it changes how we see God, ourselves, and one another. It would change how we pray, how we treat others, and how we understand and live our own life. Our sense of mission and purpose will be more focused on God's plan and our role in it. Love is the core of faith, the goal of life, and the hope of heaven. Whatever we do to strengthen and deepen our faith will begin and end with love.



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**SHANNON MASON**  
Family Law Attorney  
(916) 587-2997  
[shannon@mylawyermason.com](mailto:shannon@mylawyermason.com)  
[mylawyermason.com](http://mylawyermason.com)



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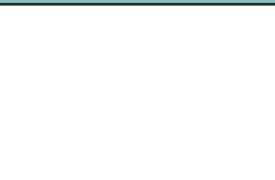
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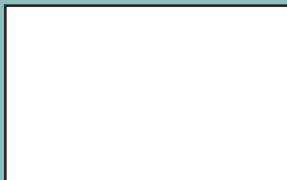
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