

St. John of God Catholic Church

Serving the UCSF Medical Center Community Since 1967

1290 – 5th Avenue, San Francisco CA 94122

Parish Office Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Monday -Tuesday -Thursday (closed Federal Holidays)

Tel. 415.566.5610 | Email: stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net | Website: <https://sjog.net>

Daily Mass: Monday – Friday 12:10 p.m. (followed by Holy Rosary)

First Friday: Benediction Service (after Mass)

Weekend Mass: (Saturday) Sunday Vigil 4:15 p.m., Sunday: 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Reconciliation (as requested or by appointment)

November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent



Today: Please welcome and enjoy the Swahili Choir.



Prayer Before Liturgy

Dear Father in heaven, I come before your sacred altar to assist the divine sacrifice of your Son Jesus. Fix my mind on you and by his precious blood wash away all my sins as I repent of having offended you. Grant that we may celebrate this holy mystery with strong faith and devotion.

Send us the Holy Spirit of love to ignite our hearts to receive devoutly the Holy Eucharist. Bless our family, our parish, and our community. We ask this through Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever and ever. Amen.

Sacraments

- Anointing of the Sick & Healing
- Baptism
- Holy Communion
- Reconciliation
- Marriage/weddings (requires six months preparation for in-church ceremony.)
- Funerals

An Invitation

Come reconcile with our Compassionate loving God and experience His mercy and joy. No sin is new to Him. Ask the celebrant or call the Parish Office to make an appointment.



The Mission of St. John of God Church

Following the dedication of Saint John of God to healthcare workers caring for the poor and the sick, we walk the same path to minister to patients and their families, hospital staff and faculty in the UC San Francisco Medical Center to help meet Jesus Christ through our actions, charity, transparency, social justice, and inclusiveness.

Today's Readings:

First Reading – The Lord will gather all nations into the eternal peace of the kingdom of God. (Isaiah 2:1-5)

Psalm – [Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.](#)

(Psalm 122: 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9)

Second Reading – Our salvation is nearer. (Romans 13:11-14)

Gospel – Stay awake, that you may be prepared. (Matthew 24:37-44)

Saint of today: St. Andrew, Apostle

Thoughts on today's Gospel according to Matthew 24:37-44

Today marks the first Sunday of Advent and the start of a new liturgical year, with four Sundays preparing for the coming of Jesus. The season focuses on watchful waiting, preparation, and justice, recalling both Christ's birth and his final return. Advent reminds us that every moment holds the possibility of encounter with Christ, whether in His final return, in the sacraments, or in the quiet movements of grace.

This year, readings from Matthew's Gospel -- written after 70 A.D. for Jewish Christians adapting to life after the destruction of the Temple -- will be central. Jesus and John the Baptist warned that the end could arrive unexpectedly and encouraged us to reflect on our values -- are they aligned with the Kingdom of God?

Today's passage emphasizes that no one knows when the Lord will return, making vigilance essential; expecting signs is futile. Like a homeowner anticipating a thief, Christians are urged to remain alert and prepared for Christ's coming, since its timing is unknown. (Adapted from LoyolaPress-Sunday Connection)

Some ways to prepare for the coming of Christ in our lives:

- Make an effort to attend liturgies/Mass, not just on Sundays.
- Spend an hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.
- Participate in community outreach to help the less fortunate.
- Be positive, encouraging of others, joyful, grateful, kind, considerate.
- More prayer time and/or scripture reading; less consumerism.
- Be generous with our God-given gifts of time – treasure – talents.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) for Adults seeking Baptism, Confirmation, and/or Holy Communion, or joining the Catholic Church. Please call or send an email to the Parish Office. For more information, please contact Debbie Feliz at 415-819-9093, dafeliz50@gmail.com or Paul Riofski at 415-517-647 sjogmusic@aol.com.

Welcome to St. John of God Church



Welcome to those who may be visiting with us. If you are new to this area, we hope to see you again and that you may consider joining this community. Please join us for refreshments after Sunday 9:30 or 11:30 Mass.

Ways to Donate to SJOG Church

1. Monetary offerings during Mass.
2. Electronic transfer (convenient way to make a one-time or recurring donation) via: <https://www.sjog.net/donate>.
3. Scan the QR image below with a mobile/smart phone.



Either #2 or #3 will open the Vanco SJOG donation page. If you have questions, please send an email to stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net.

2025 Archbishop Annual Appeal

We are nearing the end of this year and hoping to bring closer to shore our goal for the Annual Appeal. Your contribution is a vivid expression of your commitment to bring Christ to others

Bulletins can be found at <https://sjog.net>

The St. John of God Prayer (by Rev. Thomas L. Seagrave)

Dear God, Through the intercession of St John of God, patron of the poor and the sick, grant me the grace this day to greet every person that I meet with understanding and compassion. Reveal to me their needs and give me the means and inspire in my heart the humility and generosity of St. John so that I might be to them a revelation of Christ's love. Amen.

Mass intentions this week

Date & Time	Intentions	Celebrant
Sat. Nov. 29 4:15 pm - Vigil	RIP – Diane Ploucher	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
Sun. Nov. 30 9:30 am 11:30 am	Thanksgiving – Jo Boxer	Fr. Narcis Kabipi Fr. Narcis Kabipi
Mon. Dec. 1 12:10 pm		Fr. Te Van Nguyen
Tues. Dec. 2 12:10 pm		Fr. Te Van Nguyen
Wed. Dec. 3 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
Thurs. Dec. 4 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
Fri. Dec. 5 12:10 pm	RIP –Chris Pienta	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
Sat. Dec. 6 4:15 pm - Vigil	RIP – Marie Pienta	Fr. Te Van Nguyen

[If you wish to dedicate a Mass for a loved one or for yourself, please visit the Parish Office to select available date and time, call or send an email to stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net. The Office is open Monday-Tuesday-Thursday 10am-1pm, except Federal holidays.]

and enhances our ability to spread and celebrate our faith.” Please consider this tax-deductible donation. Thank you.

Community News

Christmas Fair at Saint Anne of the Sunset Parish

Sunday, Nov 30th | 9am–3pm

Moriarty Hall, St. Anne Church,
1371 Funston Ave.



Join our sister Parish for a joyful day of crafts, gifts, and swap meet treasures, from handmade wreaths and knitted hats to toys, treats, trading cards, and more. Plus, snap a family Christmas card photo while you are here!

Winter Clothing Drive by St. Vincent de Paul Society of SF Friday, Dec. 5th, 9am-3pm

Colder months have begun and shelter guests are in need of warm clothing.

Most needed items are: jackets, long pants, long-sleeved shirts, women’s leggings, beanies, gloves, scarves, men’s shoes (size 7-13).

Questions: volunteers@svdp-sf.org

Golden Gate Boys Choir and Bellingers Concert

Sunday, Dec. 7th at 2:30 p.m.

Where: Carmelite Cristo Rey

Monastery Chapel

721 Parker Ave., SF

FREE admission; donations gratefully received.

Weekly Readings, Special Observances, Blessed Persons

First Week of Advent

01 Monday – St. Anuarite Nengapeta

Isaiah 4:2-6 | Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9 [Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.](#) | Matthew 8:5-11

02 Tuesday – St. Bibiana

Isaiah 11:1-10 | Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.](#) | Luke 10:21-24

03 Wednesday – Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

Isaiah 25:6-10a | Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.](#) | Matthew 15:29-37

04 Thursday – St. John of Damascus

Isaiah 26:1-6 | Psalm 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.](#) | Matthew 7:21, 24-27

05 Friday – St. Sabas | Isaiah 29:17-24 | Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14 [The Lord is my light and my salvation.](#) | Matthew 9:27-31

06 (Saturday) Sunday Vigil 4:30 p.m.

07 Sunday – Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10 | Romans 15:4-9 | Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.](#) | Romans 15:4-9 | Matthew 3:1-12

Blessed Person This Week

St. Anuarite Nengapeta

Anuarite Nengapeta was born in 1939 in the then–Belgian Congo (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo). Though her parents were non-Christians, she attended a mission school and was baptized in 1945. Admiring the sisters in her school, she wished to enter religious life, a choice her parents opposed. Nevertheless, they yielded to her wishes after she stowed away on a truck carrying postulants to the convent of the Holy Family Sisters. In 1959 they were present to witness her first vows and even presented two goats to the nuns for the occasion. Anuarite took the religious name Sr. Marie-Clementine. She adapted easily to religious life, gladly performing any work assigned to her. She said her mission was to do her duty and to make others happy.

In 1964 civil war erupted. On November 29, soldiers invaded the convent and forced all the sisters into a truck for transport. On December 1, Sr. Marie-Clementine was separated from the rest and presented to an officer. When she resisted his increasingly forceful advances, he ordered his soldiers to beat her and stab her with bayonets. “I forgive you for you know not what you are doing,” she said, before he shot her.

Anuarite was beatified in 1985 by Pope John Paul II, who said that in her faithfulness unto death she demonstrated the transfiguration that occurs in the soul united with God. She was canonized in 1999.

(Written by Robert Ellsberg, author of All Saints.)

37th Annual Respect Life Essay Contest

Theme: Religious freedom, an essential requirement of the dignity of every person. For all students in grades K-12 in the Archdiocese of SF. Essays are due by Jan. 23, 2026. For details: <https://sfarch.org/essay-contest/>

Pastoral Staff:

- Rev. Narcis Kabipi, Administrator/Pastor and Hospital Chaplain
- Rev. Te Van Nguyen, Parochial Vicar and Hospital Chaplain
- Liturgy Committee: Fr. Narcis Kabipi, Bob Gajewski, Paul Riofski, Lynette Castiglione
- Pastoral Committee: Debbie Feliz, Lynette Castiglione, Chuck Witherell, Gilda Witherell
- OCIA: Debbie Feliz, Paul Riofski
- Marriage Preparation: Susan Collins

Administrative Staff:

- Finance Committee: Susan Fox, Bob Gajewski, Bill Becker, Dave Freitas
- Bookkeeper: Jessica Flores
- Bulletin Editor: Marilu I.
- Webmaster: Joe Humphreys
- Custodian: Phil Thurman

FIRST ADVENT CANDLE MEANING

Happy Advent! During this penitential season we prepare our hearts and our homes to celebrate the birth of the King, Jesus Christ. Many of us participate in the beautiful tradition of the Advent Wreath, lighting a new candle each week.

Today we light one purple candle and will continue to light one purple candle each day this week. What does this one purple candle represent? The candle we light this week is the “Prophecy Candle” or the “Hope Candle”, reminding us Christ, whose coming was foretold by the Prophets in the Old Testament, will come again.

Since we know Christ will come again, we await in joyful hope for the great day, symbolizing the hope we have this Advent season. To help us prepare to celebrate Christmas Day *may we dive deeper into prayer* as we await in joyful hope the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ.
