

2026-03-15	2
2026-03-08	7
2026-03-01	13
2026-02-22	18
2026-02-15	23
2026-02-08	28
2026-02-01	34
2026-01-25	39
2026-01-18	44
2026-01-11	49
2026-01-04	54

## St. John of God Catholic Church

Serving the UCSF Medical Center Community Since 1967

1290 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Francisco CA 94122

Tel. 415.566.5610 | Email: [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net) | Website: <https://sjog.net>

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Reconciliation / Confession (by appointment)

Stations of the Cross - Fridays of Lent, after 12:10 PM Mass, and 6:30 PM

March 15, 2026

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

Laetare Sunday (from the Latin word for "rejoice")



March 15, 2026



### Prayer Before Liturgy

Lord,  
when  
you declare to  
a woman at the well  
everything about her life,  
we think of our own lives as  
well.

You know each  
of our ins and outs too,  
when we sit and when we  
stand.

when we  
yearn for light, love, beauty  
and peace, for  
worship of you in Spirit and  
truth.

Still, often we remain dry!

Come, Lord Jesus,  
quench our thirst  
for life within  
your  
living water.

(by Anne Osdieck at [liturgy.slu.edu](http://liturgy.slu.edu))

### Sacraments Celebrated:

Anointing of the Sick & Healing  
Baptism

Holy Communion

Reconciliation

Marriage / wedding (requires six  
months preparation ceremony.)

Funerals / Celebration of Life

March 15, Fourth Sunday of  
Lent, **CHANGE IN MASS TIMES**

**Only one Mass at 10:30 AM**

Please see page 5 for more  
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### 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** – David is anointed as king of Israel.  
(1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a)

**Psalm 23:** 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**Second Reading** – Arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light. (Ephesians 5:8-14)

**Gospel** – The man who was blind went off and washed himself and came back able to see. (John 9:1-41)

Laetare Sunday is the fourth Sunday of Lent, and occurs exactly 21 days before Easter Sunday, marking the midpoint of Lent a day of joy and celebration amid the penitential season, named from the Latin Introit "Laetare Jerusalem" meaning "Rejoice, O Jerusalem."

### Today's Gospel:

"The Gospel recounts the episode of the man blind from birth, to whom Jesus gives sight. He operates illumination on two levels: a physical level and a spiritual level: the blind person first receives the sight of the eyes and then is led to faith in the "Son of Man," that is, in Jesus. It is all a journey. ...

He takes a route that leads him to gradually discover the identity of the One who opened his eyes and to confess his faith in him. At first he considers him a prophet; then he recognizes him as one Who comes from God; finally he welcomes him as the Messiah and prostrates himself before him. ...

He is no longer a beggar marginalized by the community; he is no longer a slave to blindness and prejudice. His path of enlightenment is a metaphor for the path of liberation from sin to which we are called. ...

The healed blind man, who now sees both with the eyes of the body and with those of the soul, is the image of every baptized person. ... But it is not enough to receive the light, one must become light. Each one of us is called to receive the divine light and manifest it with our whole life."

Pope Francis, Angelus, 4th Sun of Lent  
March 22, 2020

### Reconciliation/Confession:

Come reconnect with God to experience mercy and joy.

Call the Parish Office to make an appointment or by speaking directly with the celebrant before or after Mass.

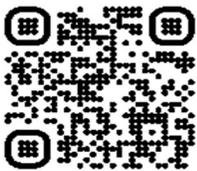
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### Welcome to St. John of God Church



A warm welcome to those who may be visiting with us. Please join us for refreshments after Sunday Mass.

### 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.

### Daily Readings of the Week, Special Observances, and Blessed Persons

#### 16 Monday – Fourth Week of Lent (Blessed Robert Dalby)

Isaiah 65:17-21 | Psalm 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b. I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me. | John 4:43-54.

#### 17 Tuesday – Fourth Week of Lent (St. Patrick, Bishop, Apostle of Ireland)

Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12 | Psalm 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9. The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God of Jacob. | John 5:1-16.

#### 18 Wednesday – Fourth Week of Lent (St. Anselm of Lucca)

Isaiah 49:8-15 | Psalm 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18. The Lord is gracious and merciful. | John 5:17-30.

#### 19 Thursday – Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 | Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29. The son of David will live forever. | Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22 | Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a.

#### 20 Friday – Fourth Week of Lent (Bl. John of Parma)

Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22 | Psalm 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted. | John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30.

#### 21 Saturday (Sunday) Vigil 4:30 p.m.

#### 22 Sunday – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37:12-14 | Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption. | Romans 8:8-11 | John 11:1-45.

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## In Memoriam



### Mark Robert Reedy

1956 – February 2026

**Celebration of Life on Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM Mass,**

**Followed by Reception at the Hall**



## Community News

### Sunset Deanery Lenten Penance Service

**Where:** Saint Cecilia Church

**Date:** Wednesday, March 18

**Time:** 6:15pm (after 5:30pm Mass)

For more information please visit [stcecilia@stcecilia.com](mailto:stcecilia@stcecilia.com)

### Easter Basket Food Drive By Catholic Charities

Share your blessings this Easter

**Deadline: March 25<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday**

For more details, please see page 6 of this bulletin.



Please continue to drop your coins or dollar bills into the 'rice bowls.' A good way to introduce almsgiving to the young. If you misplaced your bowl or need more bowls, we still have quite a few bowls awaiting for pick up.

**Mark Reedy**, 69, passed away peacefully in the presence of his loved ones. After graduating from Jesuit High School (Sacramento), he earned a Geology degree from UC Davis and a Law degree from USF. Mark devoted much of his life to service, volunteering for decades with organizations such as the South Bay Sanctuary Covenant and St. John of God Parish to assist immigrants, seniors, and those with limited income. His commitment extended to frequent trips to El Salvador, advocacy and humanitarian work on the US-Mexico border, and mentoring law students at the Alexander Community Law Center. Deeply passionate about the environment, he supported local conservation efforts and organized meal programs for San Francisco's unhoused community. Through his compassion and dedication, Mark built lasting friendships and made a profound difference in the lives of many.

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Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, March 27, 2026 at 11am at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish in Sacramento.



### Easter Flower

Offering envelopes are now available. We invite you to contribute towards the enhancement of the Liturgies with floral arrangements. Contributions may be dedicated in honor or memory of loved ones. **Please submit envelopes by April 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.**

### Pastoral Staff:

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- Bulletin Editor: Marilu I.
- Webmaster: Joe Humphreys
- Custodian: Phil Thurman

**Gather some friends, neighbors, and family to fill up a box or basket with healthy non-perishable food items. All to be turned in by March 25<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday. Please call 415-972-1371 to arrange for drop-off.**

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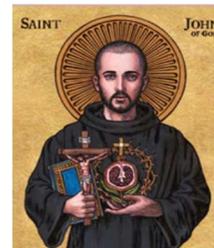
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March 8, 2026

Third Sunday of Lent



The Samaritan Woman at the Well



Today - Feast Day of Saint John of God

March 8, 2026



### Prayer Before Liturgy

Lord,  
when  
you declare to  
a woman at the well  
everything about her life,  
we think of our own lives as  
well.

You know each  
of our ins and outs too,  
when we sit and when we  
stand.

when we  
yearn for light, love, beauty  
and peace, for  
worship of you in Spirit and  
truth.

Still, often we remain dry!

Come, Lord Jesus,  
quench our thirst  
for life within  
your  
living water.

(by Anne Osdieck at [liturgy.slu.edu](http://liturgy.slu.edu))

### Sacraments Celebrated:

Anointing of the Sick & Healing  
Baptism

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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** – God tells Moses to bring forth water from the rock.  
(Exodus 17:3-7)

**Psalm** 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

**Second Reading** – Christ died for us while we were still sinners.  
(Romans 5:1-2, 5-8)

**Gospel** – The water I shall give will become a spring of water welling up to eternal life. (John 4:5-42)

**Today's Gospel:** Over the next three Sundays, readings shift from Matthew to John's Gospel, which is woven across the liturgical cycle.

Today's passage recounts Jesus' conversation with a Samaritan woman—a notable break from his era's social norms due to gender and religious divisions. Jesus has sent his disciples off for food, and he is sitting at a well when she comes to draw water. There is every reason he should not talk to her. This interaction highlights the historical tensions between Jews and Samaritans and anticipates worship beyond traditional boundaries. He opens the conversation with her by asking her to give him a drink.

The encounter centers on the promise of "living water." The woman, an outcast for her history, initially misunderstands but later recognizes Jesus as the Messiah. The high point of the conversation is when Jesus reveals himself to her as the Messiah. His answer to the Samaritan woman's questions about worship is meant to predict a time when worshiping in truth and spirit will become the way to worship. After their exchange, the woman becomes a disciple, sharing her experience with her community, leading many to believe in Jesus. The story demonstrates: personal conversion because Jesus speaks with the Samaritan woman even when he knows her grave sin, social change through evangelism to her community, and Jesus' lesson to his disciples about God's boundless mercy and the inclusive nature of faith.

Per Pope Francis: "Every encounter with Jesus leads to a change in a person's life. Generated to new life through Baptism, we too are called to witness the life and hope that are within us."

(Partially adapted from LPI-Sunday Connection)

**Reconciliation/Confession:**

Come reconnect with God to experience mercy and joy. Call the Parish Office to make an appointment or by speaking directly with the celebrant before or after Mass.

**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.

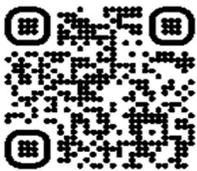
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**Mass intentions this week**

Date & Time	Dedicated Intentions	Celebrant
<b>Sat. Mar. 7</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	Souls in Purgatory	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Sun. Mar. 8</b> 9:30 am 11:30 am	Alexandra Hood – Birthday People of the Parish	Fr. Narcis Kabipi Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Mon. Mar. 9</b> 12:10 pm	Gilda Azcona - RIP	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Tues. Mar. 10</b> 12:10 pm	Alfredo Padilla - RIP	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Wed. Mar. 11</b> 12:10 pm	Celestina Mich - RIP	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Thurs. Mar. 12</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Fri. Mar. 13</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sat. Mar. 14</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	People of the Parish	Fr. Te Van Nguyen

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## Special Observances and Blessed Persons Third Week of Lent

**9 Monday** – St. Catherine of Bologna

**10 Tuesday** – St. John Ogilvie

**11 Wednesday** – St. Teresa Margaret Redi

**12 Thursday** – St. Maximilian

**13 Friday** – St. Agnellus of Pisa

**14 Saturday (Sunday) Vigil 4:30 p.m.**

**15 Sunday –Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**10:30 AM Mass** (No 9:30 nor 11:30 Mass)

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**Where:** Saint Cecilia Church

**Date:** Wednesday, March 18

**Time:** 6:15pm (after 5:30pm Mass)

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### Blessed Person This Week

#### St. John of God, Founder of Fatebenefratelli, Patron of Brothers Hospitaller

From a young age, John was guided by strong impulses, striving to follow the Holy Spirit rather than his own desires. At eight, inspired by a priest's tales of adventure, he ran away from home, eventually being adopted by an estate manager after falling ill. John worked as a shepherd until 27, then joined the Spanish army to escape pressure to marry, where he led a reckless life before a near-death experience prompted him to reform.

He returned home, but his change in behavior alienated his comrades, leading them to trick him into abandoning his post. After narrowly escaping execution and being discharged, he returned to shepherding. Hearing of another war drew him away, but after its end, he discovered his parents had died. As a shepherd, John reflected on his purpose, later deciding at 38 to travel to Africa to help Christian captives. Instead, he assisted an exiled noble family, nursing them through illness despite harsh conditions, which challenged his faith. Following advice, he returned to Spain when the family received pardons.

Back in Spain, John did manual labor by day and read spiritual books by night, eventually becoming a book peddler to share his joy of reading. A vision led him to Granada, where, following a powerful sermon on repentance, he dramatically gave away his belongings. His actions were misunderstood as madness, and he was institutionalized but later moved to better conditions after guidance from John of Avila.

John began caring for other patients and, upon release, resolved to start a hospital for the poor. He became known for his tireless charity, urging others to "Do good to yourselves! For the love of God, Brothers, do good!"



Do you receive the Catholic San Francisco magazine that is printed 6 to 8 times a year? Or weekly Catholic SF E-Newsletter version? To receive the print version or weekly e-newsletter visit [Catholic SF - Archdiocese of San Francisco](http://www.sfarch.org/catholic-sf)

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There are more news announced than what are in the parish bulletins. You will not want to miss out.

Looking for a new primary care provider in the San Francisco Bay Area?

**Bella Primary Care** is a Catholic, nonprofit clinic providing primary care, women's health and crisis pregnancy services. Bella offers life-affirming, comprehensive and personalized care to men, women and families. To make an appointment please visit [www.bellaprimarycare.org](http://www.bellaprimarycare.org), call (415) 775-1500 or email [info@bellaprimarycare.org](mailto:info@bellaprimarycare.org).

## In Memoriam

**Mark Robert Reedy**

1956 – February 2026

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**Catholic Charities**  
S'ANNE

# EASTER BASKET FOOD DRIVE

*Acts of Faith. Meals of Hope.*

This Easter season, help ensure **no one goes hungry.**  
Your generosity can bring nourishment, dignity, and hope to **individuals**, seniors, and families served by **Catholic Charities.**

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Fill an **Easter basket** with healthy, non-perishable food items
- Invite friends, **colleagues**, or **classmates** to join you
- **Drop off your donations** by the deadline

*Every basket makes a difference.*

#### PROGRAMS IN NEED

- Mission & Bayview Access Points
- Homelessness & Housing Prevention
- Edith Witt Senior & Family Housing

#### MOST NEEDED ITEMS

*(Unopened, non-expired, health conscious options)*

- ✓ Nut butter
- ✓ Canned fruit (in juice)
- ✓ Low-sodium soups
- ✓ Low-sodium canned vegetables or beans
- ✓ Canned tuna or **salmon** (in water)
- ✓ Brown rice
- ✓ Whole-grain pasta
- ✓ Whole grain, low-sugar cereals
- ✓ Olive or canola oil

#### IMPORTANT DETAILS

Donation Deadline: **MARCH 25, 2026**

To coordinate a drop-off:  
**Darlene Wilson**  
Volunteer Manager

✉ [volunteer@catholiccharitiessf.org](mailto:volunteer@catholiccharitiessf.org)  
☎ 415-972-1371

### SHARE YOUR BLESSINGS THIS EASTER

Together, we can turn compassion into action—  
one basket, one meal,  
one family at a time.

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March 1, 2026

## Second Sunday of Lent



### The Transfiguration of Jesus

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”

Matthew 17:1-9

March 1, 2026



### Prayer Before Liturgy

O Christ,  
give us a glimpse.  
Let us find you shining

in sliver echoes from the moon,  
in geese streaking for home,  
in the evening sky,  
in the spider's  
intricate  
web.

In  
workers, coffee growers,  
climate crisis workers,  
crossing guards,  
and homeless  
folks.

Let no one and no place  
ever be hidden from  
the glow of your  
Godly, earthly  
presence.

Let us find your glory  
in all things.

(Anonymous from liturgy.slu.edu)

### Sacraments Celebrated:

Anointing of the Sick & Healing

Baptism

Holy Communion

Reconciliation

Marriage / wedding (requires six  
months preparation ceremony.)

Funerals / Celebration of Life

### Reconciliation/Confession:

Come reconnect with God to  
experience mercy and joy.

Call the Parish Office to make an  
appointment or by speaking  
directly with the celebrant before  
or after Mass.

### 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 call of Abraham, the father of God's people.  
(Genesis 12:1-4a)

**Psalm** 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

**Second Reading** – God has saved us and called us to be holy.  
(2 Timothy 1:8b-10)

**Gospel** – Jesus is transfigured on the mountain in the presence of Peter, James, and John. (Matthew 17:1-9)

### Thoughts on the readings:

The three apostles, Peter, James, and John, were in anguish when they heard about Jesus' upcoming death. Jesus takes them up the mountain with him. In the Bible, the mountain always has a special significance: it is the elevated place where heaven and earth touch each other; where Moses and the prophets had the extraordinary experience of encountering God. At times because of moments of darkness do we need to go up the mountain too?

We often face difficult times, uncertainty, and challenging questions about life, death, and suffering. On our faith journey, we may struggle with the challenges of selflessness and love. To move forward, we need a broader perspective—seeking insight that allows us to see life's deeper meaning and find hope, inspired by the example of the Risen One and the promise of renewal. We cannot remain on the mountain and enjoy the bliss of this encounter on our own. Jesus himself brings us back to the valley, among our brothers and sisters and into daily life. Going up the mountain does not mean forgetting reality.

The Transfiguration inspires hope, reminding believers that adversity can reveal divine glory and that the promise of resurrection extends to all who follow Christ. Believers are called to let Christ's light transform them, inspiring hope and service in all aspects of life. We are called to experience the encounter with Christ so that, enlightened by his light, we might take it and make it shine everywhere.

(Summarized by Anne Osdieck from Pope Francis Angelus, Feb 28, 2021)

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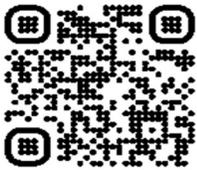
**The St. John of God Prayer (by Rev. Thomas L. Seagrave)**

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**

**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](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net).

Date & Time	Dedicated Intentions	Celebrant
<b>Sat. Feb. 28</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	Maxi Cruz - Thanksgiving	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sun. Mar. 1</b> 9:30 am 11:30 am	Grace Brummel - Healing Salim & Accad Family - Thanksgiving	Fr. Te Van Nguyen Fr. Narcis Kipi
<b>Mon. Mar. 2</b> 12:10 pm	Yvette Labiaga – Personal Intention	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Tues. Mar. 3</b> 12:10 pm	Veneice Rodrigues - Birthday	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Wed. Mar. 4</b> 12:10 pm	Eden & Nemila Family - Thanksgiving	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Thurs. Mar. 5</b> 12:10 pm	Ramona Carrion - Thanksgiving	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Fri. Mar. 6</b> 12:10 pm	Jessie Gomez - Thanksgiving	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sat. Mar. 7</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	Poor Souls of the Purgatory	Fr. Narcis Kabipi

**Community News**

**Welcome to St. John of God Church**



A warm welcome to those who may be visiting with us. Please join us for refreshments after Sunday Mass.

The Celebrant or Priest may be subject to change based on varying circumstances. To request a Mass dedication for yourself or another individual, please contact the Parish Office to select an available date and time. You may reach us by phone at (415) 566-5610 or via email at [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net). The Parish Office is open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, closed on Federal holidays.

## New - Nametag Ministry

If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please contact one of the following parishioners 10–15 minutes prior to Mass:

**Paul Riofski** for the 4:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass

**Muriel Scala** for the 9:30am Sunday Mass

**Bob Gajewski** for the 11:30am Sunday Mass

Looking for a new primary care provider in the San Francisco Bay Area?



**Bella Primary Care** is a Catholic, nonprofit clinic providing primary care, women's health and crisis pregnancy services. Bella offers life-affirming, comprehensive and personalized care to men, women and families. To make an appointment please visit [www.bellapriarycare.org](http://www.bellapriarycare.org), call (415) 775-1500 or email [info@bellapriarycare.org](mailto:info@bellapriarycare.org).

## Daily Readings of the Week, Special Observances, and Blessed Persons

**March 2 Monday – Second Week of Lent** (St. Angela of the Cross) Daniel 9:4b-10 | Psalm 79:8, 9, 11 and 13. Lord, do not deal with us according to our sins. | Luke 6:36-38.

**3 Tuesday – Second Week of Lent** (St. Katharine Drexel) Isaiah 1:10, 16-20 | Psalm 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23. To the upright I will show the saving power of God. | Matthew 23:1-12.

**4 Wednesday – Second Week of Lent** (St. Casimir) Jeremiah 18:18-20 | Psalm 31:5-6, 14, 15-16. Save me, O Lord, in your kindness. | Matthew 20:17-28.

**5 Thursday – Second Week of Lent** (St. John Joseph of the Cross) Jeremiah 17:5-10 | Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6. Blessed are they who hope in the Lord. | Luke 16:19-31.

**6 Friday – Second Week of Lent** (St. Colette) Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a | Psalm 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21. Remember the marvels the Lord has done. | Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46.

**7 Saturday – Second Week of Lent** (Sts. Perpetua and Felicity)

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**8 Saturday (Sunday) Vigil 4:30 p.m.**

**8 Sunday –Third Sunday of Lent (St. John of God)**

Exodus 17:3-7 | Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. | Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 | John 4:5-42.

### General Intentions:

**For the Church:** that we may be transfigured more and more into the image and likeness of Christ.

**For the grace to listen:** that we may hear the voice of Christ in prayer, in events, and in relationships so that we may respond more fully to God's invitation.

**For courage:** that we, like Abraham, may go forth from all that is familiar to new places into which God leads us and be a blessing to others.

**For Candidates for full communion with the Church:** that God will lead them to a deeper awareness of the New Life within them and help them to be renewed by their Lenten observance.

**For all the descendants of Abraham, for Jews, Muslims, and**

**Christians:** that we may honor all that we share in common and work together to overcome the evil that ensnares human hearts.

**For the names and intentions in the Book of the Sick:** that God will heal their physical and emotional wounds and illnesses.

**For all souls in purgatory:** that Eternal rest grant unto them by our loving God and let perpetual light shine upon them.

**For the gift of peace:** that God will turn hearts from violence and open new pathways for dialogue with Iran, Russia, and Ukraine so that all may experience peace.

In Memoriam  
Mark Robert Reedy  
1956 – February 2026

**Celebration of Life on Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM Mass**



**Pastoral Staff:**

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

Mark Reedy passed away peacefully with family and friends by his side. Mark was a graduate of Jesuit High School, obtained his Geology degree from UC Davis and Law degree from University of San Francisco(USF). Mark was put on this earth to help people and that is exactly what he did his entire life. Truly, a "man for others."

Mark made a lasting difference through decades of volunteer work, from supporting Central American immigrants and assisting seniors impacted by fraud to teaching ESL and tennis. He participated in numerous sanctuary and immigrant support organizations, including leadership roles with the South Bay Sanctuary Covenant and St. John of God parish.

Mark participated in trips to El Salvador, advocacy at the School of the Americas, and humanitarian efforts along the US-Mexico border. He generously supported the Katherine and George Alexander Community Law Center, mentoring law students and helping low-income clients.

Passionate about environmental preservation, he contributed to restoration projects and groups like the Sierra Club. Mark also led teams providing meals for the unhoused in San Francisco. His deep compassion, friendships, and commitment to service left a profound impact on all who knew him.

## St. John of God Catholic Church

Serving the UCSF Medical Center Community Since 1967

1290 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Francisco CA 94122

Tel. 415.566.5610 | Email: [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net) | Website: <https://sjog.net>

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**Daily Mass:** Monday – Friday 12:10 p.m. (**Holy Rosary after Mass**)

**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 / Confession (by appointment)

**Stations of the Cross - Fridays of Lent, after 12:10 PM Mass, and 6:30 PM**

February 22, 2026

First Sunday of Lent



The Temptation of Jesus

Matthew 4:1-11

February 22, 2026

### Prayer Before Liturgy

Jesus  
take us to the  
desert and stay with us.  
Speak to our hearts about all  
that matters.  
Chase away everything that  
does not.  
Caress our hearts so they know  
you better,  
see you more clearly in the  
suffering  
of your children and your  
planet.  
Let us say to all who suffer,  
“Your tears are my tears.  
Your pain is my  
pain.” \*

\* Pope Francis, Congo 2/1/23

#### Sacraments Celebrated:

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Baptism  
Holy Communion  
Reconciliation  
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#### Today's Readings:

**First Reading** – The creation of our first parents, and their sin.  
(Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7)

**Psalm** 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

**Second Reading** – Through the obedience of Jesus, many will be made righteous. (Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19)

**Gospel** – Jesus fasts for 40 days in the desert and is tempted by the devil. (Matthew 4:1-11)

#### Thoughts on the readings:

Jesus went into the wilderness and struggled with the demons. Such is the metaphor of spiritual life presented to us in today's Gospel. In the course of our lives, we are all “led into the desert by the Spirit,” and we must struggle with the demons.

We struggle with the demon of self-sufficiency. Ignoring our interdependence, we imagine that we can “go it alone,” and end up dividing ourselves into isolated units of races, classes, and genders, living as though we do not need the other. We may even reach the point of living as though we do not need the Other.

We struggle with the demon of power. We begin by setting ourselves above others, and often end with oppressing them, using our power in a cruel or unjust manner to keep others down.

We struggle with the demon of pride, imagining ourselves to be better than others, or the ‘top dog’ in our little world, or number one in the world. Lent is a time to struggle with the demons, “to rid ourselves of the hidden corruption of evil.”

(By Gerald Darring)

The desert is not merely a place of deprivation; it is a place of decision. There, strengthened by grace, we learn whom we will worship and whom we will serve.

**Suggested action:** Identify one temptation that weakens you and ask Jesus for strength.

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## Community News

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### 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	Dedicated Intentions	Celebrant
<b>Sat. Feb. 21</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	Jimmy Jimenez - Thanksgiving	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Sun. Feb. 22</b> 9:30 am 11:30 am	Hermina Sangalang - Thanksgiving	Fr. Narcis Kabipi Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Mon. Feb. 23</b> 12:10 pm	Cali Doval	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Tues. Feb. 24</b> 12:10 pm	Ian Mendez Clarke - Intentions	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Wed. Feb. 25</b> 12:10 pm	RIP – Eluminado Sangalang	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Thurs. Feb. 26</b> 12:10 pm	Cora Intertas - Thanksgiving	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Fri. Feb. 27</b> 12:10 pm	Auring Penner - Thanksgiving	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sat. Feb. 28</b> 11:00 am 4:15 pm - Vigil	Margery Cunningham – Celebration of Life Maxi Cruz - Thanksgiving	Guest Priest Fr. Narcis Kabipi

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**Training Session for Prospective Lectors (or as refresher for current Lectors):**

**When:** Saturday, February 28, from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

**Where:** Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church, located at 1329 7th Ave, San Francisco

**Facilitators:** Deacon Brian and Cindy Conway

**RSVP:** Cindy Conway at [cconway42@aol.com](mailto:cconway42@aol.com)

**New - Nametag Ministry**

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**Paul Riofski** for the 4:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass

**Muriel Scala** for the 9:30am Sunday Mass

**Bob Gajewski** for the 11:30am Sunday Mass

**Daily Readings of the Week, Special Observances, and Blessed Persons**

**23 Monday – First Week of Lent** (St. Polycarp)

Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18 | Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15. Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life. | Matthew 25:31-46.

**24 Tuesday – First Week of Lent** (St. John Theristus)

Isaiah 55:10-11 | Psalm 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19. From all their distress God rescues the just. | Matthew 6:7-15

**25 Wednesday – First Week of Lent** (Bl. Maria Adeodata Pisani)

Jonah 3:1-10 | Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19. A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn. | Luke 11:29-32

**26 Thursday – First Week of Lent** (St. Isabel of France)

Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25 | Psalm 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8. Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me. | Matthew 7:7-12

**27 Friday – First Week of Lent** (St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows, Passionist)

Ezekiel 18:21-28 | Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8. If you, O Lord, mark iniquities, who can stand? | Matthew 5:20-26

**28 Saturday After Ash Wednesday** (St. Peter Damian)

**March:**

**01 Saturday (Sunday) Vigil 4:30 p.m.**

**02 Sunday – Second Sunday of Lent** (St. Angela of the Cross)

Genesis 12:1-4a | Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. | 2 Timothy 1:8b-10 | Matthew 17:1-9

**Some General Intentions:**

**For the Church:** that the Spirit will deepen our identity as daughters and sons of God, inspire us on our Lenten journey, and help us to live as faithful disciples.

**For one another:** that the prayer, fasting, and almsgiving of Lent may bring forth a new springtime of faith in our lives.

**For all who are alienated from the Church:** that God will touch their hearts and lead them to a renewal of faith and a reconnection with the community of faith.

**For all who struggle with attraction to wealth, power, and control:** that God will free their hearts and guide them to a life of faith and trust.

**For all who are homebound:** that they may experience God's presence in their prayer, in their family members, and in the visits from members of their faith community.

**For greater respect for all human life:** that we may honor God's gift of life, promote the dignity of each person, and work to end capital punishment

**For the names and intentions in the Book of the Sick:** that God will heal their physical and emotional wounds and illnesses.

Looking for a new primary care provider in the San Francisco Bay Area?



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- Rev. Te Van Nguyen, Parochial Vicar and Hospital Chaplain
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- Pastoral Committee: Debbie Feliz, Lynette Castiglione, Chuck Witherell, Gilda Witherell
- OCIA: Debbie Feliz, Paul Riofski
- Marriage Preparation: Susan Collins

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- Bookkeeper: Jessica Flores
- Bulletin Editor: Marilu I.
- Webmaster: Joe Humphreys
- Custodian: Phil Thurman

**In Memoriam****Margery Ann Cunningham****December 22, 1927 – December 15, 2025****Celebration of Life on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM**

Margery Cunningham, a parishioner of more than 30 years, passed away one week short of her 98th birthday. A Sunset District resident with her husband Robert since 1953, Marge was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. While raising eight children, Marge received her master's degree in theology and subsequently taught religion for several years at Mercy High School, Burlingame.

Marge received her master's degree in marriage and family counseling and embarked on a 25-year career as a counselor and therapist. She served as a Sunday reader, committee member, and Lenten Soup Dinner server at St. John of God.

One of her great pleasures was exchanging ideas, recounting stories of her life, and sharing her accumulated wisdom and knowledge with her eight children, nineteen grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. Her warm and nurturing presence will be deeply missed while her loving spirit lives on.

Her Celebration of Life will be held at St. John of God Church on Saturday, February 28, 2026, at 11:00 am with a reception to follow.

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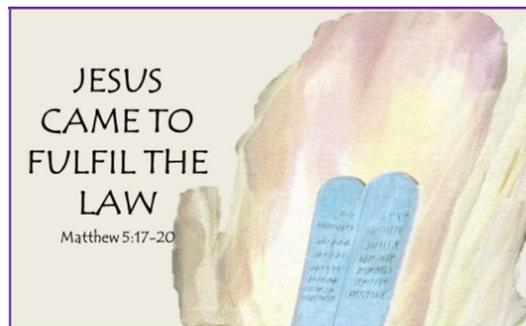
**First Friday:** Benediction Service (after Mass)

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

Reconciliation / Confession (by appointment)

### February 15, 2026

### Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



### February 18, 2026

### Ash Wednesday

### Mass Times: 12:10 PM & 7:00 PM



February 15, 2026

### Prayer Before Liturgy

Dear God, I am humbly in your presence. Please open my heart and my mind so that I may dwell in your Spirit in the midst of your assembly.

Jesus,

Let us grasp your teaching of the law.

Justice. Love. Compassion.

Let your law make us holy.

You showed us with your every breath

just what it means to be holy.

You are the wonder, the goal, the summit of the law.

Teach us.

Turn all of our law-keeping into love.

By: Anne Osdieck

### Lent is coming soon!

> A liturgical ceremony for burning old palm leaves will be held Sunday, February 15 at 11:15 AM in the courtyard. The ashes will be used to trace the cross on foreheads during Mass on Wednesday, February 18.

> **Ash Wednesday Masses:** 12:10 PM and 7:00 PM.

> **Stations of the Cross** on all Fridays after Ash Wednesday, beginning February 20.



### 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** – No one does he command to act unjustly. (Sirach 15:15-20)

**Psalm** 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

**Second Reading** – God predestined wisdom before the ages for our glory. (1 Corinthians 2:6-10)

**Gospel** – I have not come to abolish the law and the prophets but to fulfill them. (Matthew 5:17-37)

### Thoughts on the readings:

Today's Gospel, the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, highlights that Jesus fulfills rather than diminishes the moral law, *urging internal transformation over mere external compliance*. He reinforces the lasting authority of the Law and the Prophets, while clarifying its purpose: to foster genuine change within. By connecting actions like murder and adultery to inner attitudes such as anger and lust, Jesus stresses that *ethical conduct starts in the heart*. Sin is portrayed as a destructive force requiring mercy and divine help for true change. The Sermon on the Mount calls for righteousness beyond legalism, inviting believers to live by grace and sincere devotion to God.

-----  
**Ash Wednesday** marks the start of Lent, a period to prepare for Easter by renewing commitments to *prayer, fasting, and almsgiving*. The ashes symbolize both human mortality and Christ's victory over death. The readings on Ash Wednesday, which is the same every year, is from the Sermon on the Mount and emphasizes *practicing faith sincerely* rather than for appearances reminding us that God knows our intentions. Jesus warns his followers against acting for the sake of appearance. The meaning of Lent is deeper than any of the practices it entails. When Jesus' disciples give alms, pray, and fast, they are to do so in such a way that only God, who sees the heart and knows what is hidden, will know.

**Sacraments Celebrated:**

Anointing of the Sick & Healing  
 Baptism  
 Holy Communion  
 Reconciliation  
 Marriage / wedding (requires six months preparation ceremony.)  
 Funerals / Celebration of Life

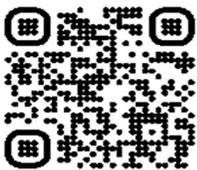
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**The St. John of God Prayer (by Rev. Thomas L. Seagrave)**

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	Dedicated Intentions	Celebrant
<b>Sat. Feb. 14</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil		Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Sun. Feb. 15</b> 9:30 am 11:30 am	RIP – Jessie & Jose Felix Gomez	Fr. Narcis Kabipi Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Mon. Feb. 16</b> 12:10 pm	RIP – Wayne Green	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Tues. Feb. 17</b> 12:10 pm	RIP – Rosalie Manalo	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Wed. Feb. 18</b> 12:10 pm	RIP – Lourdes Villanueva	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Thurs. Feb. 19</b> 12:10 pm	RIP – Patricia Fenn	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Fri. Feb. 20</b> 12:10 pm	Eva & Ted Illegano - Thanksgiving	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sat. Feb. 21</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	Jimmy Jimenez - Thanksgiving	Fr. Te Van Nguyen

The Celebrant or Priest may be subject to change based on varying circumstances. To request a Mass dedication for yourself or another individual, please contact the Parish Office to select an available date and time. You may reach us by phone at (415) 566-5610 or via email at [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net).  
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## Community News

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Looking for a new primary care provider in the San Francisco Bay Area?



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### Daily Readings of the Week, Special Observances, and Blessed Persons

**16 Monday – Sixth Week in Ordinary Time** (Bl. Joseph Allamano)  
James 1:1-11 | Psalm 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76. Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live. | Mark 8:11-13

**17 Tuesday – Sixth Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Alexis Falconieri)  
James 1:12-18 | Psalm 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19. Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord. | Mark 8:14-21

**18 Ash Wednesday** (St. Agatha Lin) Joel 2:12-18 | Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. | 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2 | Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

**19 Thursday After Ash Wednesday** (Bl. Alvarez of Corova)  
Deuteronomy 30:15-20 | Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19. A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn. | Matthew 9:14-15

**20 Friday After Ash Wednesday** (St. Jacinta Marto)  
Isaiah 58:1-9a | Psalm 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15. I am the Lord, your God: hear my voice. | Mark 7:31-37

**21 Saturday After Ash Wednesday** (St. Peter Damian)

**21 Saturday (Sunday) Vigil 4:30 p.m.**

**22 Sunday – First Sunday of Lent** (St. Margaret of Cortona)  
Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 | Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. | Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 | Matthew 4:1-11

#### General Intentions:

**For the Church:** that we may persistently seek greater holiness and never be satisfied with merely fulfilling the letter of the law.

**For healing:** that God will heal the sick, give hope to those preparing for surgery, comfort the parents of sick children, and strengthen all who care for the sick.

**For all who struggle with anger:** that God will give them the strength to direct it in productive ways and not allow it to become violent or self-destructive.

**For the grace to let go of hurts and wounds:** that God will free our minds and hearts from the pain of what others have done to us and help us forgive and pray for them.

**For peace:** that God will bring an end to violence in Ukraine, in workplaces, in our city streets, and within families and help all to find ways to resolve differences in life-giving ways.

For the intentions in the Book of the Sick.

**For the recently deceased** especially our long-time parishioners, **Mark Reedy and Margery Cunningham**, that God give them eternal peace and may their families find comfort in shared memories with loved ones.

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- Bookkeeper: Jessica Flores
- Bulletin Editor: Marilu I.
- Webmaster: Joe Humphreys
- Custodian: Phil Thurman

**Blessed Person - Bl. Joseph Allamano**

Birth: 1851, Death: 1926  
Beatified: Pope John Paul II

He was born on the 21st of January in 1851 at Castelnuovo d' Asti (now Castelnuovo Don Bosco) and died on the 16th of February 1926 in Turin (Italy).

He was a diocesan priest of the diocese of Turin and rector of the Shrine of Our Lady Consolata for forty years. Deeply in love with Mary under this title and open to the Spirit's promptings, he responded to the discerned will of God to form a group of priests and brothers called to share the Gospel in Africa.

As the Christian Community grew in number, it became evident that priests and brothers couldn't cater for the needs of women and children. From this realization the presence of Sisters in the Mission field was conceived. Joseph Allamano expressed this concern to the Pope Pius X during a visit to the Vatican.

**In Memoriam****Margery Ann Cunningham**

**December 22, 1927 – December 15, 2025**



Margery Cunningham, a parishioner of more than 30 years, passed away one week short of her 98th birthday. A Sunset District resident with her husband Robert since 1953, Marge was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. While raising eight children, Marge received her master's degree in theology and subsequently taught religion for several years at Mercy High School, Burlingame.

Marge received her master's degree in marriage and family counseling and embarked on a 25-year career as a counselor and therapist. She served as a Sunday reader, committee member, and Lenten Soup Dinner server at St. John of God.

One of her great pleasures was exchanging ideas, recounting stories of her life, and sharing her accumulated wisdom and knowledge with her eight children, nineteen grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. Her warm and nurturing presence will be deeply missed while her loving spirit lives on.

Her Celebration of Life will be held at St. John of God Church on Saturday, February 28, 2026, at 11:00 am with a reception to follow.

## St. John of God Catholic Church

Serving the UCSF Medical Center Community Since 1967

1290 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Francisco CA 94122

Tel. 415.566.5610 | Email: [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net) | Website: <https://sjog.net>

**Parish Office Open:** Monday-Tuesday-Thursday 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. (closed on Holidays)

**Daily Mass:** Monday – Friday 12:10 p.m. (Holy Rosary after Mass)

**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 / Confession (by appointment)

February 8, 2026

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Where Is The Salt?  
Where Is The Light?

MATTHEW 5:13-16

February 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday

February 8, 2026



**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.

**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** – Light shall rise for you in the darkness. (Isaiah 58:7-10)  
**Psalm** 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9. The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.  
**Second Reading** – Paul shows that he came to Corinth preaching Christ crucified. (1 Corinthians 2:1-5)  
**Gospel** – Jesus teaches that his disciples are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. (Matthew 5:13-16)

**Lent will begin in less than two weeks.**

- > Please bring palm leaves from previous Palm Sundays and place them near the Paschal Candle.
- > A liturgical ceremony for burning old palms will be held on Sunday, February 15 at 11:15 AM in the courtyard. The ashes will be used for Ash Wednesday, February 18.
- > **Ash Wednesday Masses: 12:10 PM and 7:00 PM.**

**Sacraments:**

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

**Thoughts on today's Gospel:**  
Following the teaching of the Beatitudes, Jesus employs the well-known metaphors of salt and light to illustrate the essence of discipleship. While today salt and light are readily accessible, these commodities held significant value in ancient societies; salt was utilized for seasoning, preservation, and healing purposes. The pervasive presence of electricity in modern life has diminished our appreciation for the importance of light.  
Nonetheless, our familiarity with this passage from Matthew's Gospel underscores the enduring strength of the imagery that Jesus conveyed. The directive to be salt of the earth and light of the world articulates the mission of both the Church and its followers. *A commitment to social justice is rooted in the exhortation found in this Gospel.* This commitment is often manifested through the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. By feeding the hungry, clothing those in need, consoling the bereaved, and engaging in other compassionate actions, individuals embody the principles of being salt and light. Undertaking these actions within the context of the faith community further exemplifies the role of the Church as "a city set on a mountain" that cannot be concealed. (Summarized partly from LPI-Sunday Connection)  
February is recognized as Black History Month, dedicated to honoring the achievements and legacies of notable individuals. This week we feature **Servant of God Friar Martin de Porres Maria Ward.**

**Reconciliation/Confession:**

Come reconnect with God to experience mercy and joy. Call the Parish Office to make an appointment or by speaking directly with the celebrant before or after Mass.

**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](mailto:sjogmusic@aol.com).

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1. Monetary offerings during Mass.
2. Electronic transfer (convenient way to make a one-time or recurring donation) via: <https://www.sjog.net/donate>.
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**The St. John of God Prayer (by Rev. Thomas L. Seagrave)**

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**Mass intentions this week**

Date & Time	Dedicated Intentions	Celebrant
<b>Sat. Feb. 7</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	RIP – Joseph Yackle	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sun. Feb. 8</b> 9:30 am 11:30 am	RIP - Beverly Terra Barry Del Buono - Healing	Fr. Te Van Nguyen Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Mon. Feb. 9</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Tues. Feb. 10</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Wed. Feb. 11</b> 12:10 pm	RIP – Lourdes Villanueva	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Thurs. Feb. 12</b> 12:10 pm	Shawn McCoppin - Birthday	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Fri. Feb. 13</b> 12:10 pm	Barry Del Buono - Healing	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sat. Feb. 14</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil		Fr. Te Van Nguyen

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## Daily Readings of the Week, Special Observances, and Blessed Persons

**09 Monday – Fifth Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Apollonia, Virgin and Martyr of Alexandria, Egypt) 1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13 | Psalm 132:6-7, 8-10. Lord, go up to the place of your rest! | Mark 6:53-56

**10 Tuesday – Memorial of Saint Scholastica, Virgin**  
1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30 | Psalm 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11. How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God! | Mark 7:1-13

**11 Wednesday – Fifth Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Saturninus)  
1 Kings 10:1-10 | Psalm 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40. The mouth of the just murmurs wisdom. | Mark 7:14-23

**12 Thursday – Fifth Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Buonfiglio Monaldo) 1 Kings 11:4-13 | Psalm 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40.  
Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people. | Mark 7:24-30

**13 Friday Fifth Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Catherine de Ricci)  
1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19 | Psalm 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15. I am the Lord, your God: hear my voice. | Mark 7:31-37

**14 Saturday (daytime) – St. Valentine**

**14 Saturday (Sunday) Vigil 4:30 p.m.**

**15 Sunday – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time** ( ) Sirach 15:15-20 | Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! | 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 | Matthew 5:17-37

## Servant of God Friar Martin de Porres Maria Ward

Friar Martin de Porres, born in 1928 in Boston to a bi-racial family, dedicated 51 years to the Conventual Franciscan Friars, mostly in Andrelândia, Brazil. He became the first African American Conventual Franciscan in North America and volunteered for missions in Brazil after being ordained in 1955. Known for his cheerful and humble service, he ministered especially to the poor by celebrating funerals, conducting marriages, and hearing confessions. Friar Martin overcame prejudice and illness through faith and devotion to the Immaculate Virgin. His commitment to faith was reflected in his practice of the virtues of simplicity, joy, poverty, and humility, especially in his interactions with the poor. Friar Martin was a devoted Franciscan friar and priest with a profound devotion to the Eucharist. He passed away on June 22, 1999, at age 81.

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**In Memoriam**  
**Margery Ann Cunningham**  
**December 22, 1927 – December 15, 2025**



Margery Cunningham, a parishioner of more than 30 years, passed away one week short of her 98th birthday. A Sunset District resident with her husband Robert since 1953, Marge was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. While raising eight children, Marge received her master's degree in theology and subsequently taught religion for several years at Mercy High School, Burlingame.

Marge received her master's degree in marriage and family counseling and embarked on a 25-year career as a counselor and therapist. She served as a Sunday reader, committee member, and Lenten Soup Dinner server at St. John of God.

One of her great pleasures was exchanging ideas, recounting stories of her life, and sharing her accumulated wisdom and knowledge with her eight children, nineteen grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. Her warm and nurturing presence will be deeply missed while her loving spirit lives on.

Her Celebration of Life will be held at St. John of God Church on Saturday, February 28, 2026, at 11:00 am with a reception to follow.

**In solidarity we grieve with our Nation and pray for:  
Keith Porter, Jr., Renee Good, and Alex Pretti**



***You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world.***

**Lord,  
show us how to be salt worthy  
and how to give  
light.**

**We want to share our bread with the hungry;  
we want to shelter the homeless  
and clothe the naked.**

**Show us how to help the immigrant,  
and free those who are  
prisoners.**

**Help us take your light  
everywhere dark.**

**Teach us to give  
a little at first,  
then all we have.**

**(by Anne Osdieck)**

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Reconciliation (by appointment)

February 1, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



February 2, 2026

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord



February 1, 2026



### 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.

### Blessing of the Throats on the Feast of Saint Blaise – a tradition of faith and healing – to be celebrated as follows:

Saturday, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:15 PM Mass.

Sunday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Masses.

Tuesday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:10 PM Mass – the actual Feast Day.

### Sacraments:

Anointing of the Sick & Healing

Baptism

Holy Communion

Reconciliation

Marriage / wedding (requires six months preparation for in-church ceremony.)

Funerals / Celebration of Life

### The Mission of St. John of God Church

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### Today's Readings:

**First Reading** – I will leave in your midst a people humble and lowly. (Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13)

**Psalm** 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

**Second Reading** – God chose the weak of the world. (1 Corinthians 1:26-31)

**Gospel** – Blessed are the poor in spirit. (Matthew 5:1-12a)

### Thoughts on today's Gospel:

Today's passage introduces the beginning of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew. The Beatitudes presented here are not exclusive to Jesus; similar forms appear in the Old Testament, including the Psalms. It is noteworthy that the individuals whom Jesus describes as "blessed" or "happy"—such as the poor in spirit, the meek, and the persecuted—are not typically those who are considered fortunate by conventional standards. The message of this Gospel often involves a reversal of expected norms.

The term "blessed" can also be translated as happy, fortunate, or favored. Thus, Jesus asserts that divine favor is extended to those who are poor, mournful, or persecuted—a perspective that may have been both welcome and unexpected for his original audience. The Beatitudes function as a framework for Christian conduct. From this viewpoint, the Christian calling emphasizes seeking prominence in the eyes of God rather than in worldly measures. By highlighting the rewards awaiting the faithful, the Gospel of Matthew reinforces that *those who embody the virtues described in the Beatitudes will ultimately find their reward with God.* (Summarized partly from LPI-Sunday Connection)

February is **Black History Month** when we remember and celebrate holy women and men of God. It behooves us to learn something about their lives to serve as reminder of God's never-ending love and how these people responded to God's calling. God speaks to us in many ways through them and also through scripture. This week we highlight **St. Josephine Bakhita** whose feast day is on February 8.

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**Mass intentions this week**

Date & Time	Dedicated Intentions	Celebrant
<b>Sat. Jan. 31</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	RIP – Martin Howard	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sun. Feb. 1</b> 9:30 am 11:30 am		Fr. Te Van Nguyen Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Mon. Feb. 2</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Tues. Feb. 3</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Wed. Feb. 4</b> 12:10 pm	Kawika Yackle - Birthday	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Thurs. Feb. 5</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Fri. Feb. 6</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sat. Feb. 7</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	RIP – Joseph Yackle	Fr. Te Van Nguyen

The Celebrant / Priest is subject to change, depending on circumstances. If you wish to dedicate a Mass for someone or for yourself, please visit the Parish Office to select available date and time or call (415) 566-5610 or send an email to [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net). The Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10am-1pm; closed on Federal holidays.

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## The Creed: Ladder of Faith with Dr. Sean Innerst

This year we commemorate the 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Council of Nicaea where the Creed was born. Discover the Creed as a spiritual ladder, guiding believers step-by-step toward deeper faith, transformation, and union with God.

An online course on the Creed for six(6) Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 PM, starting January 6, 2026. Join live and interact with the professor, Dr. Sean Innerst. Registered participants have access to the classroom webpage, class recordings, and access to reading materials.

**Register here:** [The Creed: Ladder of Faith - Archdiocese of San Francisco](#) or visit [www.sfarch.org/creed-course/](http://www.sfarch.org/creed-course/)

## Daily Readings of the Week, Special Observances, and Blessed Persons

### 02 Monday – Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Malachi 3:1-4 | Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord! | Hebrews 2:14-18 | Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

### 03 Tuesday – Fourth Week in Ordinary Time (St. Blaise)

2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30–19:3 | Psalm 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6. Listen, Lord, and answer me. | Mark 5:21-43

### 04 Wednesday – Fourth Week in Ordinary Time (St. Joan of Valois)

2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17 | Psalm 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7. Lord, forgive the wrong I have done. | Mark 6:1-6

### 05 Thursday – Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12 | Psalm 1 Chronicles 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd. Lord, you are exalted over all. | Mark 6:7-13

### 06 Friday – Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

Sirach 47:2-11 | Psalm 18:31, 47 and 50, 51. Blessed be God my salvation! | Mark 6:14-29

### 07 Saturday (Sunday) Vigil 4:30 p.m.

### 08 Sunday – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St. Josephine Bakhita)

Isaiah 58:7-10 | Psalm 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9. The just man is a light in darkness to the upright. | 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 | Matthew 5:1-12a

## Saint Blaise - Feast day on February 3

### Patron of throat illnesses, animals, wool combers, and wool trading.

Saint Blaise, originally both the bishop of Sebastea (in Armenia) and a physician, is first mentioned in the medical writings of Aëtius Amidenus, who records that Blaise was invoked for help with patients suffering from objects lodged in their throats. Many stories of St. Blaise's miracles and life—particularly those found in the "Acts of St. Blaise"—were written approximately 400 years after his martyrdom, contributing to the legendary aspects of his legacy.

According to tradition, Saint Blaise began his life as a healer of physical ailments before becoming known as a "physician of souls." He eventually withdrew to a cave for prayer and contemplation, and his reputation for performing healing miracles attracted many people seeking both physical and spiritual aid.

In 316 AD, the governor of Cappadocia and Lesser Armenia, Agricola, arrested Blaise for his Christian faith. On the journey to jail, a woman—according to legend—placed her only son at his feet as the boy was choking on a fish bone. Saint Blaise is believed to have cured the child choking on a fish bone through prayer.

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**Saint Josephine Bakhita – Feast day on February 8****Patron Saint of Sudan and Victims of Human Trafficking**

Saint Josephine Margaret Bakhita was born around 1869 in Olgossa, Sudan, into a prominent family of the Daju people. Her early childhood was happy, but in 1877, Arab slave traders kidnapped her. Forced to walk over 600 miles to El Obeid, she was bought and sold more than a dozen times over twelve years, suffering severe trauma that led her to forget her original name.

Eventually, she served as a nanny for a family who received her as a gift. Josephine was left with the Canossian Sisters in Venice, learned about Christianity, and stayed when her mistress returned to Sudan. Legal action freed her since slavery was illegal; she chose baptism and received the name Josephine Margaret Fortunata from Archbishop Giuseppe Sarto. She joined the Canossian Daughters of Charity in 1896, serving for over forty years as a cook and doorkeeper, known for her kindness and faith.

She remained positive despite health issues until her death in 1947. Canonization began in 1958: declared venerable in 1978, beatified in 1992, and canonized in 2000.

**In Memoriam****Margery Ann Cunningham****December 22, 1927 – December 15, 2025**

Margery Cunningham, a parishioner of more than 30 years, passed away one week short of her 98th birthday. A Sunset District resident with her husband Robert since 1953, Marge was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. While raising eight children, Marge received her master's degree in theology and subsequently taught religion for several years at Mercy High School, Burlingame. Marge received her master's degree in marriage and family counseling and embarked on a 25-year career as a counselor and therapist. She served as a Sunday reader, committee member, and Lenten Soup Dinner server at St. John of God. One of her great pleasures was exchanging ideas, recounting stories of her life, and sharing her accumulated wisdom and knowledge with her eight children, nineteen grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. Her warm and nurturing presence will be deeply missed while her loving spirit lives on.

Her Celebration of Life will be held at St. John of God Church on Saturday, February 28, 2026, at 11:00 am with a reception to follow.

## St. John of God Catholic Church

Serving the UCSF Medical Center Community Since 1967

1290 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Francisco CA 94122

Tel. 415.566.5610 | Email: [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net) | Website: <https://sjog.net>

**Parish Office Open:** Monday-Tuesday-Thursday 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. (closed on Holidays)

**Daily Mass:** Monday – Friday 12:10 p.m. (Holy Rosary after Mass)

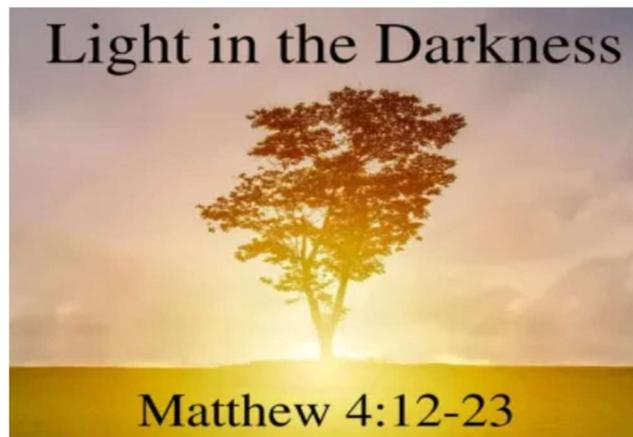
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**Weekend Mass:** (Saturday) Sunday Vigil 4:15 p.m., Sunday: 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Reconciliation (by appointment)

January 25, 2026

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



**January 25, 2026**



**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.

**Blessing of the Throats on the Feast of Saint Blaise – a tradition of faith and healing – to be celebrated as follows:**

Saturday, **Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>** at 4:15 PM Mass.  
Sunday, **Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>** at 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Masses.  
Tuesday, **Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>** at 12:10 PM Mass – the actual Feast Day.

**Sacraments:**

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

**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 people in darkness have seen a great light. (Isaiah 8:23—9:3)

**Psalm** 27:1, 4, 13-14. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

**Second Reading** – Paul urges the community at Corinth to be united as people baptized in Christ's name. (1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17)

**Gospel** – Jesus went to Capernaum, so that what had been said through Isaiah might be fulfilled. (Matthew 4:12-23 or 4:12-17)

**Thoughts on today's Gospel:**

Today's Gospel outlines the commencement of Jesus' public ministry. Within the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—this phase begins subsequent to Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist and his period of solitude in the desert, where he faces temptation from the devil. Upon returning from the desert, Jesus learns of John's arrest, and he immediately went into Herod's territory and began an intense program of teaching, healing and preaching repentance.

The initial section situates Jesus' ministry within the framework of the prophet Isaiah's writings. Matthew emphasizes that Jesus fulfills the prophecies made to the people of Israel, explicitly referencing Isaiah. According to Isaiah, the Messiah's ministry would originate in Galilee, a region associated with the Gentiles. When Jesus begins to preach in Galilee, Matthew points to his ministry as a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, proof that Jesus is the Messiah.

When Jesus calls his first disciples, Peter, Andrew, James, and John immediately leave their jobs to follow him. The Gospel provides little detail about any previous contact between them and Jesus, but their quick decision indicates that Jesus had a powerful influence.

The passage summarizes Jesus' early ministry in Galilee, where his teachings and healing abilities signal the arrival of the Kingdom of God. These acts serve as evidence of the kingdom's presence.

(Summarized partly LPI-Sunday Connection and Sunday Website)

**Reconciliation/Confession:**

Come reconnect with God to experience mercy and joy.

Call the Parish Office to make an appointment or by speaking directly with the celebrant before or after Mass.

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3. Scan the QR image below with a mobile/smart phone.



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**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	Dedicated Intentions	Celebrant
<b>Sat. Jan. 24</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	RIP – Peter Callen	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Sun. Jan. 25</b> 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish People of the Parish	Fr. Te Van Nguyen Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Mon. Jan. 26</b> 12:10 pm	Frances Peterson – Thanksgiving	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Tues. Jan. 27</b> 12:10 pm	RIP - Martin Howard	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Wed. Jan. 28</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Thurs. Jan. 29</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Fri. Jan. 30</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sat. Jan. 31</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	RIP – Martin Howard	Fr. Te Van Nguyen

The Celebrant / Priest is subject to change, depending on circumstances. If you wish to dedicate a Mass for someone or for yourself, please visit the Parish Office to select available date and time or call (415) 566-5610 or send an email to [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net). The Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10am-1pm; closed on Federal holidays.

# Community News

Welcome to St. John of God Church



A warm welcome to those who may be visiting with us. Please join us for refreshments after Sunday Mass.

## The Creed: Ladder of Faith with Dr. Sean Innerst

This year we commemorate the 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Council of Nicaea where the Creed was born. Discover the Creed as a spiritual ladder, guiding believers step-by-step toward deeper faith, transformation, and union with God.

An online course on the Creed for six(6) Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 PM, starting January 6, 2026. Join live and interact with the professor, Dr. Sean Innerst. Registered participants have access to the classroom webpage, class recordings, and access to reading materials.

**Register here:** [The Creed: Ladder of Faith - Archdiocese of San Francisco](#) or visit [www.sfarch.org/creed-course/](http://www.sfarch.org/creed-course/)

## Daily Readings of the Week, Special Observances, and Blessed Persons

**26 Monday – Memorial of Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops**  
2 Timothy 1:1-8 | Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10. Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations. | Mark 3:22-30

**27 Tuesday – Third Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Angela Merici)  
2 Samuel 6:12b-15, 17-19 | Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord! | Mark 3:31-35

**28 Wednesday – Memorial of Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church** 2 Samuel 7:4-17 | Psalm 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30. Forever I will maintain my love for my servant. | Mark 4:1-20

**29 Thursday – Third Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Aquilinus)  
2 Samuel 7:18-19, 24-29 | Psalm 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14. The Lord God will give him the throne of David, his father. | Mark 4:21-25

**30 Friday – Third Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Hyacintha Mariscotti)  
2 Samuel 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17 | Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. | Mark 4:26-34

**Jan. 31 Saturday (Memorial of Saint John Bosco, Priest)**

**Jan. 31 Saturday (Sunday) Vigil 4:30 p.m.**

**Feb. 1 Sunday – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13 | Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! | 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 | Matthew 5:1-12a

## Blessed Person This Week

**St. Angela Merici** – Patron of the sick, disabled and physically challenged people and those grieving the loss of parents. Canonized: May 24, 1807 by Pope Pius VII.

St. Angela Merici (1474–1540) was an Italian religious educator and founder of the Ursulines. Orphaned at a young age, she lived a devout Catholic life and was inspired by her faith to serve the Church. After losing her sister, Angela prayed for reassurance and experienced visions that deepened her commitment. She joined the Third Order of St. Francis, pledging herself to a consecrated life.

Seeing many uneducated girls near her home, Angela opened her house to teach them faith and practical skills. Inspired by another vision, she founded the Company of Saint Ursula—the Ursulines—in 1535, a community of women dedicated to educating girls and serving the Church outside the cloister. The Ursulines later became the first teaching order of women in the Catholic Church.

Angela traveled on pilgrimages, overcame temporary blindness, and declined Pope Clement VII's invitation to stay in Rome, preferring humility and service. Her order established schools and orphanages, and in 1537 she was named leader. The Ursulines were officially recognized by Pope Paul III in 1544. Angela died in 1540, remembered for her innovative approach to women's education and religious life.

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Margery Cunningham, a parishioner of more than 30 years, passed away one week short of her 98th birthday. A Sunset District resident with her husband Robert since 1953, Marge was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. While raising eight children, Marge received her master's degree in theology and subsequently taught religion for several years at Mercy High School, Burlingame. Marge received her master's degree in marriage and family counseling and embarked on a 25-year career as a counselor and therapist. She served as a Sunday reader, committee member, and Lenten Soup Dinner server at St. John of God. One of her great pleasures was exchanging ideas, recounting stories of her life, and sharing her accumulated wisdom and knowledge with her eight children, nineteen grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. Her warm and nurturing presence will be deeply missed while her loving spirit lives on.

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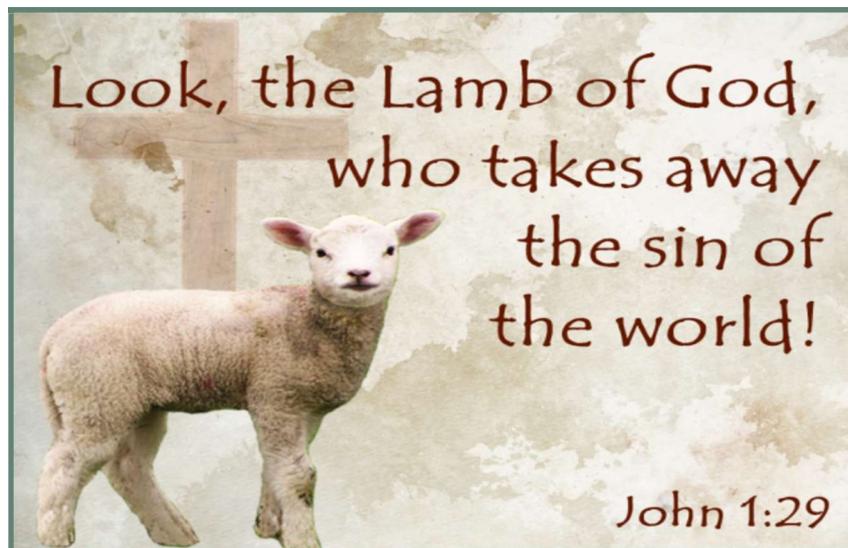
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Reconciliation (by appointment)

### January 18, 2026

### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Monday, January 19

The Parish Office will be closed. Mass at 12:10 p.m.

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22nd Annual Walk for Life – Saturday, January 24

22<sup>a</sup> Caminata Anual por la Vida de la Costa Oeste

January 18, 2026



### 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
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- Marriage/weddings (requires six months preparation for in-church ceremony.)
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### Today's Readings:

**First Reading** – God's servant, Israel, will be made a light to the nations. (Isaiah 49:3, 5-6)

**Psalm** 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

**Second Reading** – Paul greets the Church in Corinth. (1 Corinthians 1:1-3)

**Gospel** – John the Baptist testifies that Jesus is the Lamb of God, God's own Son. (John 1:29-34)

### Thoughts on today's Gospel:

This Sunday, instead of reading from Matthew's Gospel (which is usual for Cycle A), we turn to John's Gospel. Last week, on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we heard Matthew's version of Jesus' baptism. Today, however, we focus on John the Baptist's account as told in John's Gospel. Notably, John's Gospel doesn't directly describe Jesus' baptism; rather, *it shows John the Baptist declaring that Jesus is the Son of God.*

In this passage, John the Baptist sees Jesus coming toward him and publicly testifies about his identity. He describes witnessing the Spirit descend upon Jesus—a sign revealing to him that Jesus is the one who was prophesied to come.

John refers to Jesus with two meaningful titles: "Lamb of God" and "Son of God." These names emphasize Jesus' mission to redeem humanity from sin.

Furthermore, John's testimony distinguishes his own practice of baptizing with water from the baptism Jesus will later introduce, which involves the Holy Spirit. John's role was to prepare people for Jesus' ministry and help make him known to Israel.

Through these actions, John the Baptist demonstrates a clear sense of purpose, serving as a powerful example of discipleship.

Our own Baptism calls us to share Jesus with the world—through both our words and the way we live.

(Summarized from LPI-Sunday Connection)

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### Mass intentions this week

Date & Time	Dedicated Intentions	Celebrant
<b>Sat. Jan. 17</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	RIP – Lourdes Villanueva	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Sun. Jan. 18</b> 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish RIP – Lourdes Villanueva	Fr. Narcis Kabipi Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Mon. Jan. 19</b> 12:10 pm	RIP – Lourdes Villanueva	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Tues. Jan. 20</b> 12:10 pm	RIP – Lourdes Villanueva	Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Wed. Jan. 21</b> 12:10 pm	RIP – Christine Sheehan	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Thurs. Jan. 22</b> 12:10 pm	Michael Peterson - Birthday	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Fri. Jan. 23</b> 12:10 pm	Hugh Peterson - Birthday	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sat. Jan. 25</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	RIP – Peter Callen	Fr. Te Van Nguyen

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## The Winter Men and Women's Retreats at St. Ignatius Parish

**Saturday, January 24, 2026, 9 am- 3 pm, Fromm Hall (lunch included)**

650 Parker Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118 | 415.422.2188 | Office hours: 9-4pm Mon-Fri. [info@stignatiussf.org](mailto:info@stignatiussf.org)

**Men's Retreat** - John Fitzgibbons, S.J. will be the guide.

**Women's Retreat** - Catherine Kelly will lead retreatants.

Cost is \$25 (cash, check, or online). Lunch included. Please note "2026 Retreat" in the "Leave a Comment" section if paying online or in the memo section if paying by check. Cash or check may be dropped off at the Parish Office, any time before January 24.

Office hours: 9-4pm Mon-Fri.

Tel: 415.422.2188

**Register by January 21.**

## Weekly Readings, Special Observances, Blessed Persons

**19 Monday – Second Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Margaret of Hungary ) 1 Samuel 15:16-23 | Psalm 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23. To the upright I will show the saving power of God. | Mark 2:18-22

**20 Tuesday – Second Week in Ordinary Time** (Bl. Maria Christina Brando) 1 Samuel 16:1-13 | Psalm 89:20, 21-22, 27-28. I have found David, my servant. | Mark 2:23-28

**21 Wednesday – Memorial of Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr** 1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 | Psalm 144:1b, 2, 9-10. Blessed be the Lord, my Rock! | Mark 3:1-6

**22 Thursday – Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children** (St. Vincent Pallotti ) 1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7 | Psalm 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13. In God I trust; I shall not fear. | Mark 3:7-12

**23 Friday – Second Week in Ordinary Time** (Bl. Nikolaus Gross) 1 Samuel 24:3-21 | Psalm 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11 Have mercy on me, God, have mercy. | Mark 3:13-19

**Jan. 24 Saturday - Memorial of Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

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

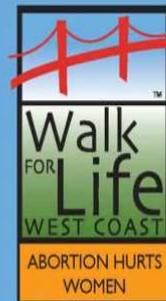
**Jan. 25 Sunday – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Isaiah 8:23—9:3 | Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14. The Lord is my light and my salvation. | 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 | Matthew 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

## 22nd Annual Walk for Life / Caminata por la Vida

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2026 • CIVIC CENTER PLAZA • SAN FRANCISCO

Rally: 12:30PM  
CIVIC CENTER PLAZA  
Info Faire: 11:00AM  
Saturday, January 24, 2026



Rally starts at Civic Center Plaza, walking down Market Street (2 miles). Walk ends at Embarcadero Plaza.

BART stations at both locations. Ample parking.



Register and info:  
(415) 658-1793 | email: [info@WalkforLifeWC.com](mailto:info@WalkforLifeWC.com)

[WalkforLifeWC.com](https://www.WalkforLifeWC.com)

Join us **January 24, 2026** as we walk for HOPE, walk for LOVE, and walk for LIFE, at the 22nd Annual Walk for Life West Coast!

Walk for Life Main Event

**12:30 – 1:30 – Civic Center Plaza, San Francisco**

**Rally: 12:30 to 1:30PM**

**Walk begins: 1:30PM**

**Pastoral Staff:**

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Martin Luther King Jr. was a visionary leader whose unwavering commitment to justice and equality transformed the fight for civil rights in America.

The Nun Who Witnessed the Life and Legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.:



Sister Mary Antona Ebo's participation in the 1965 Selma march highlighted how faith can drive action against injustice. As the only Black nun in her delegation, she joined Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others after "Bloody Sunday," witnessing firsthand the courage of demonstrators who had been attacked by police. Despite her fears, Sister Ebo prayed with protestors as they confronted state troopers, contributing to the pivotal 57-mile march to Montgomery.

Catholic leaders' involvement continued beyond Selma. When Dr. King was assassinated in Memphis, he was taken to a Catholic hospital, where Sisters Jane Marie Klein and Anna Marie Hofmeyer prayed with him after his death.

Sister Ebo's advocacy did not end in Selma. She co-founded the National Black Sisters' Conference, served as a hospital administrator and chaplain, and remained active in issues of racial justice, such as leading a prayer vigil in Ferguson after Michael Brown's death in 2014. She passed away in 2017 at age 93, remembered for her dedication to justice and faith.

*"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." -- MLK*

(Summarized from Catholic Online)

## **St. John of God Catholic Church**

Serving the UCSF Medical Center Community Since 1967

**1290 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Francisco CA 94122**

Parish Office Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Monday -Tuesday -Thursday

Tel. 415.566.5610 | Email: [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net) | Website: <https://sjog.net>

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

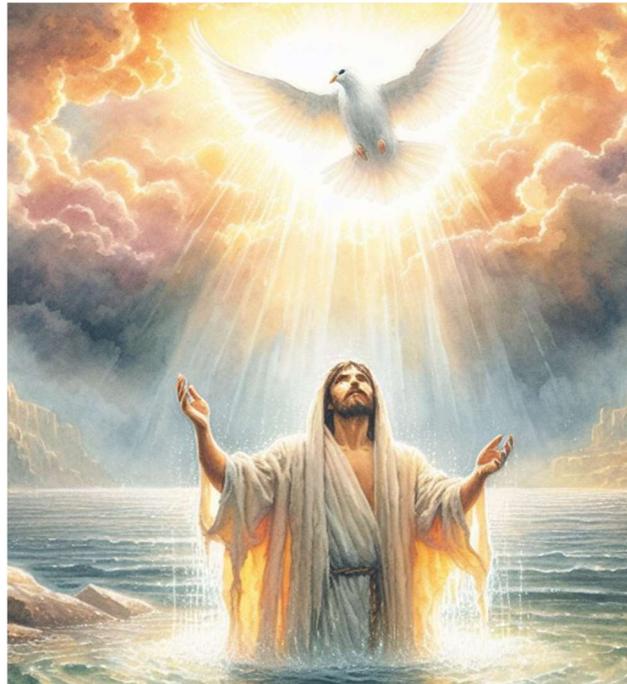
First Friday: Benediction Service (after Mass)

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

Reconciliation (as requested or by appointment)

# January 11, 2026

## The Baptism of the Lord



“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

Matthew 3:17

January 11, 2026



### 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.

### 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** – Behold my servant with whom I am well pleased. (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7)

**Psalm** 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

**Second Reading** – God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 10:34-38)

**Gospel** – After Jesus was baptized, he saw the Spirit of God coming upon him. (Matthew 3:13-17)

### Sacraments

Anointing of the Sick & Healing

Baptism

Holy Communion

Reconciliation

Marriage/weddings (requires six months preparation for in-church ceremony.)

Funerals

### Reconciliation/Confession:

Come reconnect with God to experience mercy and joy.

Call the Parish Office to make an appointment or by speaking directly with the celebrant before or after Mass.

### Thoughts on today's Gospel:

This Sunday marks the transition from the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. Today's observance represents a culmination of the Christmas period. Prior to Jesus' birth, angels announced his identity to Mary and Joseph. At the Nativity, both the shepherds and the Magi acknowledged Jesus as the Messiah. During his baptism, Jesus affirmed his role as God's son and commenced his mission.

The baptism of Jesus is described in Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Only Matthew includes a dialogue between Jesus and John and has the heavenly voice, "This is my beloved son . . ." speak to others rather than directly to Jesus. The baptisms performed by John the Baptist symbolize repentance, and Jesus participates to identify with sinners despite being sinless. In Matthew, John highlights that his baptism differs from the Messiah's, who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. Jesus's baptism marks the start of his mission, just as Christian Baptism initiates believers' roles as Christians. (Summed from LPI.)

At one of his weekly General Audiences Pope Francis explained that our Baptism "is the point of departure of a journey of conversion that lasts our whole life." His lit candle signifies the light of Christ that enlightens every person. How can you receive "the light of faith" for your brothers and sisters? In other words, how can you be a light for someone in darkness?

**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](mailto:sjogmusic@aol.com).

**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.

**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.



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**Community News**

**Welcome to St. John of God Church**



A warm welcome to those who may be visiting with us. Please join us for refreshments after Sunday Mass.

**The Creed: Ladder of Faith**

**Mass intentions this week**

Date & Time	Dedicated Intentions	Celebrant
<b>Sat. Jan. 10</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil	People of the Parish	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sun. Jan. 11</b> 9:30 am 11:30 am	<b>Feast of the Baptism of the Lord</b> People of the Parish RIP – Peter Callen	Fr. Te Van Nguyen Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Mon. Jan. 12</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Tues. Jan. 13</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Wed. Jan. 14</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Thurs. Jan. 15</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Fri. Jan. 16</b> 12:10 pm	<b>National Religious Freedom Day</b>	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sat. Jan. 17</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil		Fr. Te Van Nguyen

The Celebrant/Priest is subject to change, depending on circumstances. If you wish to dedicate a Mass for someone or for yourself, please visit the Parish Office to select available date and time or call (415) 566-5610 or send an email to [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net). The Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10am-1pm; closed on Federal holidays.

## with Dr. Sean Innerst

This year we commemorate the 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Council of Nicaea where the Creed was born. Discover the Creed as a spiritual ladder, guiding believers step-by-step toward deeper faith, transformation, and union with God.

An online course on the Creed for six(6) Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 PM, starting January 6, 2026. Join live and interact with the professor, Dr. Sean Innerst. Registered participants have access to the classroom webpage, class recordings, and access to reading materials.

**Register here:** [The Creed: Ladder of Faith - Archdiocese of San Francisco](https://www.sfarch.org/creed-course/) or visit [www.sfarch.org/creed-course/](https://www.sfarch.org/creed-course/)

### The Winter Men and Women's Retreats at St. Ignatius Parish

**Saturday, January 24, 2026, 9 am- 3 pm, Fromm Hall (lunch included)**

650 Parker Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118 | 415.422.2188 | Office hours: 9-4pm Mon-Fri. [info@stignatiussf.org](mailto:info@stignatiussf.org)

**Men's Retreat** - John Fitzgibbons, S.J. will be the guide.

**Women's Retreat** - Catherine Kelly will lead retreatants.

Cost is \$25 (cash, check, or online). Lunch included. Please note "2026 Retreat" in the "Leave a Comment" section if paying online or in the memo section if paying by check. Cash or check may be dropped off at the Parish Office, any time before January 24.

Office hours: 9-4pm Mon-Fri.

Tel: 415.422.2188

**Register by January 21.**

## Weekly Readings, Special Observances, Blessed Persons

**12 Monday – First Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Marguerite Bourgeoys) 1 Samuel 1:1-8 | Psalm 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19 To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise. | Mark 1:14-20

**13 Tuesday – First Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Hilary of Poitiers) 1 Samuel 1:9-20 | 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd My heart exults in the Lord, my Savior. | Mark 1:21-28

**14 Wednesday – First Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Felix of Nola, Priest) 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20 | Psalm 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will. | Mark 1:29-39

**15 Thursday – First Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Arnold Jansen) 1 Samuel 4:1-11 | Psalm 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 Redeem us, Lord, because of your mercy. | Mark 1:40-45

**16 Friday – First Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Joseph Vaz) [**National Religious Freedom Day**] 1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a | Psalm 89:16-17, 18-19 For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. | Mark 2:1-12

**Jan. 17 (Saturday) Sunday Vigil 4:30 p.m.** (St. )

**Jan. 18 Sunday – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 | Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will. | 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 | John 1:29-34

### Blessed Person This Week - St. Joseph Vaz

Apostle of Sri Lanka (1651–1711)

Joseph Vaz, born in Portuguese Goa to a Catholic Brahmin family, became a priest in 1676. In late 17th-century Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), Dutch authorities enforced anti-Catholic laws, banning worship and closing churches. The Catholic community, lacking clergy and facing penalties, held secret services in private homes and remote locations.

Joseph Vaz, moved by the situation, disguised himself as a laborer to enter Sri Lanka and began secret ministry work with Catholics despite constant danger. He later moved to Kandy, where religious tolerance allowed him to work more openly. Other Goan priests joined, living in poverty and blending in with the local poor.

In addition to spiritual work, Vaz and his companions set up clinics and treated the sick during epidemics, helping everyone regardless of faith. Vaz also read Buddhist texts and conversed with local leaders, encouraging understanding between religions. His compassionate actions earned community trust and fostered harmony.

Joseph Vaz declined Pope Clement XI's offer of bishop hood and died in Kandy on January 16, 1711. He established a strong Catholic community and was canonized by Pope Francis during his 2015 visit to Sri Lanka, honored for his service and interfaith goodwill.

*"Let it be known to all that I sell and offer myself as a perpetual slave of the Virgin Mother of God. This I do through a free, spontaneous and perfect act of devotion which in law is known as an irrevocable act among the living."*

**St. Joseph Vaz** (Narrative summarized from Give Us This Day)

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- Bookkeeper: Jessica Flores
- Bulletin Editor: Marilu I.
- Webmaster: Joe Humphreys
- Custodian: Phil Thurman

*May the Lord's light guide your path this New Year 2026, filling your days with peace, joy, and unwavering faith.*



**Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,**

We extend our sincere appreciation for your ongoing contributions of time-talent-treasure to St. John of God Church and Parish. Your participation in the Liturgies and other areas are highly valued by our community. Together, we remain dedicated to supporting one another wherever assistance is required.

As we enter the New Year 2026, may we continue to be guided in our mission to make Christ known and loved through our ministries and collective efforts.

**Wishing blessings to you and your families,**

*Fr. Narcis Kabipi and Fr. Te Van Nguyen*

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Reconciliation (as requested or by appointment)

# January 4, 2026

## The Epiphany of the Lord



“They prostrated themselves and did him homage.”

Matthew 2:11

January 4, 2026



**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.

**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 glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Isaiah 60:1-6)  
**Psalm** 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.  
**Second Reading** –Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body. (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6)  
**Gospel** –We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage. (Matthew 2:1-12)

**Liturgical Celebrations**

The Epiphany of the Lord

**Jan. 3, 2026 Saturday 4:14 PM Vigil**  
**Jan. 4, 2026 Sunday 10:30 AM (no 9:30 Mass)**  
• **Parish Christmas potluck party to follow after 10:30am Mass in the Hall.**

The Baptism of the Lord

**Jan. 10, 2026 Saturday 4:15 PM Vigil**  
**Jan. 11, 2026 Sunday 9:30 and 11:30 AM**

**Reconciliation/Confession:**  
Come reconnect with God to experience mercy and joy. Call the Parish Office to make an appointment or by speaking directly with the celebrant before or after Mass.

**Thoughts on today's Gospel:**  
The feast of Epiphany has the makings of high drama. It features long journeys, guiding stars, ominous danger, holy dreams, great escapes, and a threatened baby. The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord presents a significant revelation: God manifests His Son not exclusively to a select few, but universally to all nations. The celebration of Epiphany signifies more than an acknowledgment of light; *it is a call to action.* Upon Christ's revelation, individuals are compelled to respond. Three groups exemplify different reactions to this event. First, the Magi represent those who seek earnestly, demonstrate vigilance, and are prepared to invest effort and resources to pursue truth. Second, Herod's response is marked by apprehension and resistance, afraid of losing security and control. Third, the scribes and scholars illustrate intellectual familiarity without practical engagement; their response is characterized by inaction. Epiphany emphasizes the importance of accepting Christ after His manifestation. The central question is not whether revelation occurs, but rather how individuals respond to it—through active pursuit, resistance, or passive observation. Where do we expect to find this "newborn king," and who do we expect him to be?

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## Mass intentions this week

Date & Time	Dedicated Intentions	Celebrant
<b>Sat. Jan. 3</b> 12:00 pm 4:15 pm - Vigil	Baptism – Dominic Antonio Ferrey II	Fr. Narcis Kabipi Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Sun. Jan. 4</b> 10:30 am (No 9:30 Mass)	People of the Parish	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Mon. Jan. 5</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Tues. Jan. 6</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Wed. Jan. 7</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Thurs. Jan. 8</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Fri. Jan. 9</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sat. Jan. 10</b> 4:15 pm - Vigil		Fr. Narcis Kabipi

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# Community News

Welcome to St. John of God Church



A warm welcome to those who may be visiting with us. Please join us for refreshments after Sunday Mass.

**NOTE: On January 4 after the 10:30 Mass, please join our Parish Christmas potluck party in the Hall. Bring your favorite snacks or food to share.**

## The Creed: Ladder of Faith with Dr. Sean Innerst

This year we commemorate the 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Council of Nicaea where the Creed was born.

Discover the Creed as a spiritual ladder, guiding believers step-by-step toward deeper faith, transformation, and union with God.

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## Weekly Readings, Special Observances, Blessed Persons

### 5 Monday – Memorial of St. John Neumann, Bishop

1 John 3:22–4:6 | Psalm 2:7bc-8, 10-12a I will give you all the nations for an inheritance. | Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25

### 6 Tuesday after Epiphany (St. Andre Bessette) 1 John 4:7-10 |

Psalm 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. | Mark 6:34-44

### 7 Wednesday after Epiphany (St. Raymond of Pennafort)

1 John 4:11-18 | Psalm 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. | Mark 6:45-52

### 8 Thursday after Epiphany (St. Thorfinn) 1 John 4:19–5:4 |

Psalm 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. | Luke 5:12-16

### 9 Friday after Epiphany (Blessed Alix le Clercq)

1 John 5:5-13 | Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 Praise the Lord, Jerusalem. | John 1:19-28

**Jan. 10 (Saturday) Sunday Vigil 4:30 p.m.** (St. William of Bourges)

**Jan. 11 Sunday – The Baptism of the Lord** Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 |

Psalm 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 The Lord will bless his people with peace. | Acts 10:34-38 | Matthew 3:13-17

## Blessed Person This Week St. John Neumann

This American saint, John, was born in Bohemia in 1811. Facing a surplus of priests at home, he reached out to bishops across Europe but found no opportunities until a bishop in New York agreed to ordain him.

John left his homeland, arriving in New York as one of only 36 priests for 200,000 Catholics, often traveling to serve remote communities with minimal resources.

Seeking community, John joined the Redemptorists, dedicating himself to helping those most in need. In 1852, he became the bishop of Philadelphia and established the first diocesan Catholic school system, expanding local schools from two to 100.

Known for his humility and wit, he remained connected to the people, sometimes traveling by manure wagon and learning multiple languages—including Gaelic—to better serve his parishioners. John died on January 5, 1860, at age 48.

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**Goodbye 2025 - A Letter of Gratitude to God**

Dear God, as 2025 has passed, I look back with a heart full of gratitude. Year 2025 tested me in ways I never imagined. There were moments I felt like giving up...

But here I am, still standing, stronger than before.

Thank You for guiding me through every storm. Through wind and rain, You did not let me break – instead, You reshaped me in my brokenness and made me better.

May this prayer be the starting point for a New Year filled with hope and blessings. Amen

Written by Anonymous

*May the Lord's light guide your path this New Year 2026, filling your days with peace, joy, and unwavering faith.*

