

## **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 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.

### 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.

### 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)

### 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?

## Sacraments

Anointing of the Sick & Healing

Baptism

Holy Communion

Reconciliation

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

Funerals

**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](mailto:dafeliz50@gmail.com) or Paul Riofski at 415-517-647 [sjogmusic@aol.com](mailto:sjogmusic@aol.com).

## 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).

## 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. 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

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, 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.

**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.

**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/)

## 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.

**Pastoral Staff:**

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

**Administrative Staff:**

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

**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.*

