



## ***A Ministry of the Marist Priests and Brothers***

### **PASTORAL TEAM**

Pastor: Rev. Juan J. Gonzalez, S.M.

Principal: Mrs. Sarah Currier

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Alfred Puccinelli, S.M.

Vice Principal: Dr. Carrie J. Schroeder

### **CHURCH OFFICE**

566 Bush Street, San Francisco, CA 94108

Phone (415) 397-0113 Fax (415) 397-3217

E-mail: [ndveglise@ndvsf.org](mailto:ndveglise@ndvsf.org)

**Secretary:** Mertenesh Asrat

Office Hours: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday - Friday

Closed 12:00 noon to 12:45 pm

### **ECOLE NOTRE DAME DES VICTOIRES (NDV School)**

659 Pine Street, San Francisco, CA 94108

School Website: [www.ndvsf.org](http://www.ndvsf.org)

Phone (415) 421-0069 Fax (415) 421-1440

E-mail: [office@ndvsf.org](mailto:office@ndvsf.org)

**For Information on the Sacraments** of Marriage and Baptism,  
please call the Rectory at (415) 397-0113 weekdays

### **Daily Masses**

#### **Monday - Friday**

7:00 am

12:10 pm

#### **Saturday**

7:00 am

### **Sunday Masses:**

Vigil 5:15 pm (Sat.)

7:30 am (quiet)

9:00 am

10:30 am (French)

12:15 pm

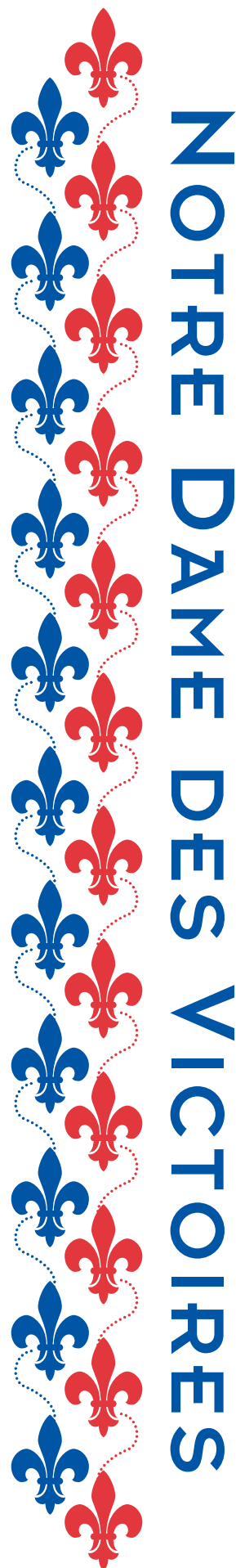
### **The Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Before each weekday Mass

Every Saturday from

4:30 pm to 5:00 pm

Our Lady of Victories Church and School community founded to serve French Immigrant Catholics; serving God's people; proud of our past; living our today



# Third Sunday of Advent – December 15, 2019

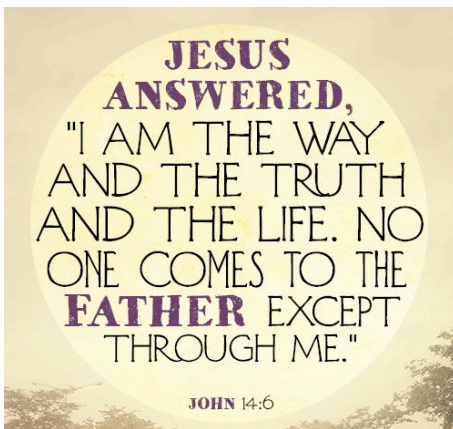
## NO OFFENSE, BUT...

In the First Reading, the prophet Isaiah predicts that when the Messiah comes, he will make the blind see, the deaf hear, the mute speak, and the lame walk and leap. In the Gospel Reading, when John the Baptist sends his disciples to ask Jesus whether Jesus is the one the Israelites have been waiting for, Jesus says they should tell John that Jesus has done all these things and more. Even the dead are raised! This is, of course, a spectacular list of wonders. Anyone who can make the blind see is amazing. Anyone who can raise the dead is working great miracles. And so a person who does what Jesus did clearly has the power of God. For that reason, he is to be admired, loved, and feared.

So why does Jesus finish his list of miraculous deeds by saying "Blessed is the one who takes no offense at me?" *Offense? Offense at what?!* Well, think about it this way. What is God anyway, philosophically? Pure act? Being itself? Utterly unknowable by us? Those phrases have a lot of dignity about them, don't they? Somehow, they seem worthy of the Deity. Why would we think our puny minds could know anything about something so magnificent, so great, as God? Why wouldn't God be something totally other than any of his creatures? But notice that it's hard to have a personal relationship with being itself, and pure act doesn't seem like a person who can seek you first. At any rate, if God is unknowable by you, then you don't have to worry about facing him on a daily basis. You can't face what you can't know.

And for how many people is that subterranean thought deeply comforting? But Christ wrecks it. Christ is not unknowable, and he is not something abstract like being itself. He is a particular person, and he has a face. True, he is God incarnate, and his face is human. But, still, his face is the face of God. If you have seen me, you have seen the Father, Jesus tells Philip (John 14:9). So we can know God, and we can see God's face in the face of Jesus. God is present to us as a person in the person of Christ. And God in the person of Christ is always with us (Mt 28:20)! We can know him and face him every day. Blessed is the one who takes no offense at this.

Eleonore Stump



## FRENCH CORNER

### Dieu est avec nous

« Qu'êtes-vous allés voir dans le désert ? » demande Jésus aux foules qui venaient l'écouter. A cette époque, le désert représentait l'endroit où les juifs allaient prier dans la solitude. C'est pourquoi Jean-Baptiste s'y était rendu quand il prêchait à ses compatriotes, les invitant à préparer la venue du Messie.

Nous pouvons regretter que la fête de Noël ait pris cet aspect mercantile qui ne cesse de se développer d'année en année, mais ce peut être l'occasion, dans notre vie personnelle, de nous demander si les choses matérielles n'ont pas pris trop de place.

Préparer la venue du Seigneur, c'est nous recentrer sur les valeurs sûres de la vie, nous faire prendre conscience que le superflu ne peut pas combler nos aspirations les plus profondes.

Nous attendons le Seigneur, mais, en fait il est déjà avec nous quand sa parole, de dimanche en dimanche, nous invite à regarder les signes de sa présence dans notre vie : ce pardon accordé à celui qui m'a blessé, ce service rendu à celle qui ne me plaît guère, cet effort pour qu'il y ait plus de justice sociale dans nos communautés.... Et finalement le partage de l'Eucharistie qui nous permet de goûter la joie du salut que le Fils de Dieu nous donne pour répandre cette joie de sa présence dans notre vie quotidienne.

Fr. Etienne Siffert, S.M.

## FROM OUR SCHOOL

Parishioners,

I hope you are having a Blessed Advent Season!

Thank you for all of the prayers and support you offer to our school community. This week, we celebrated the Feast of the Immaculate Conception as well as the Feast of Our Lady of Guadeloupe! Both Feast days were great opportunities for us to reflect on the Blessed Mother and all of the gifts she has given us.

If you or anyone you know is interested in applying for admission into the TK-8th grade program, please email [admissions@ndvsf.org](mailto:admissions@ndvsf.org)

God Bless and Have a Wonderful Week,  
Sarah Currier, Principal



## Mass Intentions for the Week

### SATURDAY – VIGIL December 14<sup>th</sup>

5:15 pm For the People of the Parish

### SUNDAY December 15<sup>th</sup>

7:30 am Shewaye Bekele - Sick

9:00 am Michael Fetzpatrick - Sick

10:30 am Georges Handras

12:15 pm Steve Sichert †

### MONDAY December 16<sup>th</sup>

7:00 am Belete Gebrewold Blessing

12:10 pm Shewaye Bekele - Sick

### TUESDAY December 17<sup>th</sup>

7:00 am Shewaye Bekele - Sick

12:10 pm Bernardino Rojas Sanchez †

### WEDNESDAY December 18<sup>th</sup>

7:00 am For Poor Souls in Purgatory †

12:10 pm Jean-Baptiste & Juliette Puts †

### THURSDAY December 19<sup>th</sup>

7:00 am For Priestly Vocations

12:10 pm For Single Parents

### FRIDAY December 20<sup>th</sup>

7:00 am For the Children of the World

12:10 pm Gloria Biagg †

### SATURDAY December 21<sup>st</sup>

7:00 am For the Hungry

## WE REMEMBER OUR SICK

Fanny Alcosiba, Simone Ampillac, Wondifraw Asrat, Michael Bartholomew, Annalyn Carlos, Elizabeth Desta, Patty Espiritu, Zachary Espiritu, Mark Fischer, Jack Flynn, Ernie Fox, Annemarie Gallagher, María Cerón Gamero, Yunina Graham, Benjamin Haller, Georges Handras, Erich Herbitschek, Lupita Herrera, Louise Hughes, Diane Kelley, Rose Le Bail, Matthew Lech, Lynn Leininger, Tom Leskie, Mike Leskie, Candi McMahan Lewis, Maria Lim, Jacqueline Lira, Carmen López, Maria Manley, Grant Melton, Alma and Armando Morales, Dyan Ocampo, Mary Jo Onopa, Catherine Stoner Persais, Rev. Matthew Peters, Joan Rasby, Cathie Reece, Vinod and Cynthia Sheth, Dani Stecko, key-Lang Tam, Dimitrios Tsokas, Ely Villacarlos, Alison Williams, Michael Wonderly, and Rosie Zedamoi.



## WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED

Alphonse Acheritogaray, Fr. George Baricar, Anna L. Bernadicon, Claire Casabonne, Denise Carrade, Jeannette Cornu, Magdalena Cravotto, Yvonne Delclaux, Paul Arthur Domergue, André Fournier, Jeannette Ganem, Barbara J. Higgins, Karine Jardin, Lydia A. Jewell, Barbara Charlene Johnke, Charlene Haught Johnson, Nasif Khoury, Ekho Lim, Paulette Lusinch, Frances McFarland, William McKnight, Mary Orley, Christiane Pelletier, Bernard Picard, Rolande E. Pottier, Yolanda Prioto, Juliette Puts, Stephen Rice, Arlene M. Sullivan, Marcel Uharriet,

## REMEMBER OUR SICK AND DECEASED:

Please note starting next week we will automatically remove anyone who has been on this list over a year unless we are notified not to remove. Thank you for your understanding.



**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT** is traditionally called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete* is the Latin word meaning “rejoice.” This Sunday is so named because “Rejoice” is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today's Mass taken from Philippians 4:4,5: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.” Some people mark this Sunday on their Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER COLLECTIONS:** On the weekends of December 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, you will have the opportunity to contribute to our Christmas Flower fund. Special Envelopes for the Second Collection Poinsettia Fund are placed in the pews. Thank you for your generosity.

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS: Religious give thanks.** “Thank you” hardly seems adequate to convey what it means to us,” says a Catholic sister of the financial assistance her community received from the Retirement Fund for Religious. Prayer-filled thanks for your donation **\$981.83** to last week’s second collection.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on the First Friday of each month in the church from 10:00 a.m. thru 12 noon. At noon Benediction will be celebrated and the scheduled Mass will follow. The next date for adoration will be January 3rd. On this Friday, the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place. Please spread the word to other parishioners and co-workers. Come spend a time with the Eucharistic Lord in quiet meditation. You can sign up for a time to visit the Blessed Sacrament on our website; [ndvsf.org](http://ndvsf.org). Please click the icon: Sign Up For An Adoration Time and follow directions. God bless.



**LITURGICAL MEMORIALS:** In the course of refurbishment and updating, the Parish on occasion finds it necessary to acquire liturgical items that will be used in our worship for many years to come. For example, we recently installed the new Ambry, the repository for our holy oils, which is located near the entrance to the sacristy. These types of items can make an excellent memorial for a loved one or a caring parishioner who wishes to leave a lasting tribute to the Parish. Please inquire with Fr. Juan if this opportunity is of interest.

**Tuesday, December 24th**  
**Christmas Eve**

**4:30 pm - 5:00 pm Christmas Carols**  
**5:15 pm - Christmas Vigil Mass**  
**8:30 pm - 9:00 pm Christmas Carols**  
**9:00 pm - Christmas Vigil Mass**

**Wednesday, December 25th,**  
**Christmas Day**

**Christmas Masses in English at 9:00 am**  
**and 12:15 pm, Mass in French at 10:30 am**

**Wednesday, January 1st**  
**New Year's Day**

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.**  
**Masses at 9:00 am in English and 10:30 am**  
**in French (A Holy Day of Obligation)**

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR THE “CLOTHING CLOSET”** Will you be compassion in action for the needy? St. Vincent de Paul’s Homeless Help Centers, strategically located in South San Francisco, San Mateo, and Redwood City, offer clients basic survival necessities such as a hot meal, clothing, sleeping bags, bus tokens, ID cards, laundry, and mail services. We have now expanded our services by opening a Clothing Closet in Redwood City. We are in need of volunteers to help with this effort. Hospitality volunteers work one-on-one with SVdP clients to provide much-needed clothing, necessities, and dignity. Shifts are available on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. If you are interested, please contact Alicia at: [arangel@svdpsm.org](mailto:arangel@svdpsm.org) or 650-588-5734

## MASS Intentions

If you would like to request a Mass for a specific intention, please call the Parish Office at 415.397.0113 and speak to our secretary Mertenesh. The Mass Book for 2019 is available to reserve a Mass Intention. Per the Archdiocese of San Francisco, the offering for a Mass request is \$10.00. If paying by check, please make the check payable to the order of: **MARIST FATHERS**.

### SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK

**December 15, 2019 – December 22, 2019**

<b>Sunday</b>	- Is 35:1-6a, 10	- Jas 5:7-10	- Mt 11:2-11
<b>Monday</b>	- Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a		- Mt 21:23-27
<b>Tuesday</b>	- Gn 49:2, 8-10		- Mt 1:1-17
<b>Wednesday</b>	- Jer 23:5-8		- Mt 1:18-25
<b>Thursday</b>	- Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a		- Lk 1:5-25
<b>Friday</b>	- Is 7:10-14		- Lk 1:26-38
<b>Saturday</b>	- Sg 2:8-14		- Lk 1:39-45
<b>Sunday</b>	- Is 7:10-14	- Rom 1:1-7	- Mt 1:18-24

### SUNDAY COLLECTION: December 7 & 8, 2019

Church Basket:	\$1,835.69
On-Line Giving:	\$242.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$2,077.69</b>

*Thank you and God bless!*

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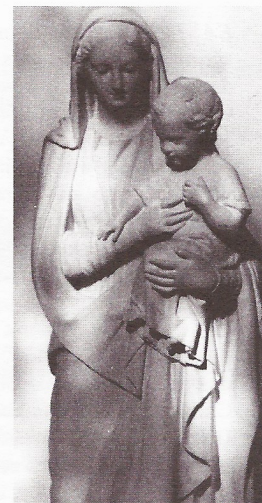


## SOCIETY OF MARY

Called by Mary

To live, to pray and serve  
the Church and the world

In the community  
which bears her name



[maristsociety.org](http://maristsociety.org)

For more information, contact:

The Vocation Director, Marist Fathers and Brothers

625 Pine St., San Francisco, CA 94108

Toll Free: 866-298-3715, or 415-398-3543

Email: [maristvocations@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maristvocations@sbcglobal.net)

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