



## ***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

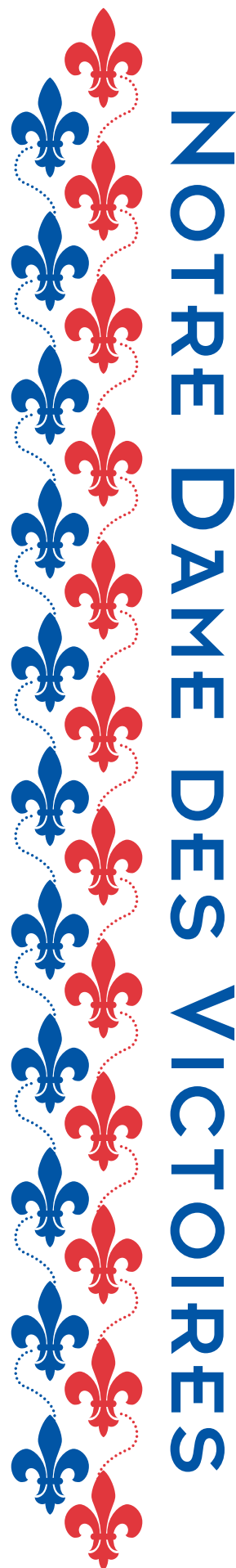
### **The Sacrament of Reconciliation**

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



# Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 22, 2019

## THE GREATNESS OF MARY

In the Gospel Reading, in a dream, God tells Joseph to marry Mary, even though Joseph had discovered she was pregnant. According to Jewish law, premarital sex is punishable by death; and, in the ordinary course of things, pregnancy doesn't occur without sex. So, Mary's pregnancy out of wedlock exposes her to the penalty of death. Even apart from legal penalties, Mary's pregnancy jeopardizes her flourishing. As Joseph's own attitude shows, in Mary's society, no one wants to marry a woman who looks like a sinful woman and has an illegitimate child to support. It is clear, then, that Mary's pregnancy exposes her not only to legal penalties but also to suffering and shame in her society.

It is noteworthy too that Joseph needs to hear from God himself that God, and no man, is the father of Mary's child. Presumably, Joseph had already asked Mary how she came to be pregnant, and Joseph didn't believe her when she told him. That's why God had to confirm Mary's story for Joseph. How shaming for Mary to be thought a little liar as well as a sinful woman! Why would God put Mary through this? As the First Reading indicates, it helps us to recognize Jesus as Emmanuel—God with us—to know that Jesus did not have a human father; and we are helped towards that view by knowing that Mary was pregnant before she was married.

But why didn't God protect Mary from the shame and suffering of being an unmarried pregnant woman by having the conception of Jesus result from some great public miracle involving Mary, so that everyone knows Mary's pregnancy stems only from the miraculous workings of divine power? God doesn't have to expose Mary to humiliation to make her pregnant, does he? Well, here's one way to think about the matter. Mary's steadfastness and trust in God even in the trouble of being an unmarried pregnant woman are a training for her and a sign for us, aren't they? Mary will eventually find the greatness of soul to love God and her son at the foot of the cross, in the shame of having her son die a shaming death. And, from watching Mary standing by the cross we learn that human greatness has at its core fidelity through shame and suffering, don't we? And so the greatness of Christ on the cross is foreshadowed by the greatness of this small woman, pregnant, shamed, and faithful.

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 that your preparations for Christmas are going well and that you have been able to set aside time for the coming of Christ.

At NDV, we have Schoolwide Learning Expectations that guide our school they are: Responsible Citizen, Effective Communicator, Active Christian, and Lifelong Learner. Each month we focus on one particular expectation so that we can grow together as a school community. This month we focused on our roles as Lifelong Learners who demonstrate curiosity and motivation, apply knowledge to new situations, appreciate opportunities for growth, and understand that learning is a process. It is so wonderful to support our students as they grow and thrive.

May God Bless you this Christmas Season,  
Sarah Currier, Principal

Respectfully Models Catholic Values



## Mass Intentions for the Week

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

5:15 pm Gezahegne Gebrewold †

### SUNDAY December 22<sup>nd</sup>

7:30 am For the People of the Parish

9:00 am Margaret Brennan †

10:30 am Christiane Pelletier †

12:15 pm Margaret Hasset †

### MONDAY December 23<sup>rd</sup>

7:00 am For the Incarcerated

12:10 pm Perez-Hughes Families

### TUESDAY December 24<sup>th</sup>

7:00 am For the Sick of the Parish

5:15 pm For the People of the Parish

9:00 pm Charlene Haught Johnson †

### WEDNESDAY December 25<sup>th</sup>

9:00 am Children of the World

10:30 am Paroissiens de NDV

12:15 pm Refugees

### THURSDAY December 26<sup>th</sup>

7:00 am For Widows & Widowers

12:10 pm Marie Hong Tran †

### FRIDAY December 27<sup>th</sup>

7:00 am Intentions of Pope Francis

12:10 pm Jean-Baptiste & Juliette Puts †

### SATURDAY December 28<sup>th</sup>

7:00 am Missionaries

## 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. Bernadico, 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.



Lord, in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory, and are bathed in its radiance.

Be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas, the incomprehensible comprehended, the poetry made hard fact, the helpless Babe who cracks the world asunder. We kneel before you shepherds, innkeepers, wisemen. Help us to rise bigger than we are. Amen.

**2019 NDV GIVING TREE:** Many thanks to all the parishioners and the families at school who participated in this year's Giving Tree. Over 150 youth being served through Hamilton Families will receive gifts because of NDV's beautiful generosity. Our contributions were delivered on Monday morning and are valued at least \$5,500. Most NDV families fulfilled more than one wishlist item, and exceeded the \$35 recommended amount to spend. NDV Cares would like to extend a huge thanks to the Coordinators Koryn Pachla, Dr. Carrie Schroeder, Mrs. Currier and Fr Juan. Also thanks to our church secretary, Mertenesh Asrat and school's front office staff (Michelle, Bernadette and Desiree) for all their support. A huge thanks also goes to the 8th graders for preparing the Jesse Tree in the chapel, making all the tags for our two giving trees and for the internal support of this community project.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER COLLECTION:** This weekend of the 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.

**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)*

**HOLY DAYS:** Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25, the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, is a holy day of obligation. An evening Mass on Christmas Eve (a vigil Mass, meaning a Mass at 4:00 pm or later) will fulfill the obligation for Wednesday Mass. Wednesday, January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, is a holy day of obligation. Again, a vigil Mass on the evening of December 31 will fulfill the obligation for January 1.

## 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 22, 2019 – December 29, 2019

<b>Sunday</b>	- Is 7:10-14	- Rom 1:1-7	- Mt 1:18-24
<b>Monday</b>	- Mal 3:1-4, 23-24		- Lk 1:57-66
<b>Tuesday</b>	- 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16		- Lk 1: 67-79
<b>Wednesday</b>	- Is 52:7-10	- Heb 1:1-6	- Jn 1:1-18
<b>Thursday</b>	- Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59		- Mt 10:17-22
<b>Friday</b>	- 1 Jn 1:1-4		- Jn 20:1a, 2-8
<b>Saturday</b>	- 1 Jn 1:5—2:2		- Mt 2:13-18
<b>Sunday</b>	- Sir 3:2-6, 12-14	- Col 3:12-21	- Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

### SUNDAY COLLECTION: December 14 & 15, 2019

Church Basket:	\$1,243.63
On-Line Giving:	\$175.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,418.63</b>

*Thank You and God Bless!!!*



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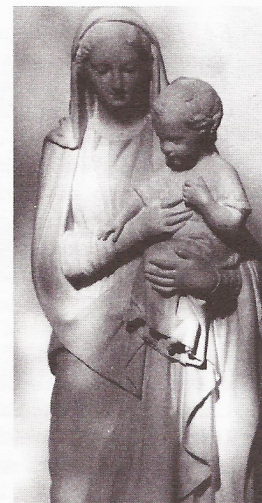


## SOCIETY OF MARY

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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