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

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
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
Phone 415) 421-0069  Fax (415) 421-1440
E-mail: office@ndvsf.org

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

In the Gospel Reading, Christ says that he has not come to do away with the law but to fulfill the law. In fact, no one will get into heaven unless his righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the law-observing scribes and the Pharisees. The scribes and Pharisees thought that murderers and adulterers are shut out of heaven. As Christ explains it, simply having hatred or lust in your heart is enough to shut you out of heaven.

So, Christ’s saying is perplexing, isn’t it? Isn’t the law of the old covenant replaced by the new covenant of grace? What does Christ mean when he says that he has come to fulfill the law? What happened to salvation by faith and not by works? It’s troubling, as well as perplexing. Isn’t the burden of guilt for us heavy enough without Christ’s telling us that we will be excluded from heaven unless our righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees? The burden of the Law was great enough, wasn’t it? What happened to Christ’s saying, “Come unto me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest” (Mt 11:28)?

But think about heaven. Those in heaven have everlasting life. What would that everlasting life be like if Christ’s saying were false? If it were false, a person who hated his brother or lusted after someone else’s wife could still have everlasting life in heaven. And now think about living forever in the psychic pain of surreptitious hatred or secret lust. How could anyone with such a psyche be in heaven? Anywhere such a person goes ceases to be heaven, just because he is there. His own unrighteousness will make him miserable. He carries the absence of heaven in his unrighteous heart.

And that is why no one can enter into heaven whose righteousness does not exceed the righteousness mandated in the law. This is a very heavy burden indeed. What could anyone do to carry it? The solution is to listen when Christ says, “Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.” The rest we want and the righteousness we need in order to get that rest comes to us only when we come to Christ.

Eleonore Stump

FRENCH CORNER

La LOI peut être une source de progrès

Que de fois Jésus a redit : « Je ne suis pas venu abolir la LOI mais pour l’accomplir ». En effet, comme il guérisait des malades le jour du Sabbat, on l’accusait de mépriser les préceptes que depuis Moïse les juifs profondément religieux respectaient dans le moindre détail.

Il est vrai que beaucoup de gens cherchent comment échapper aux lois civiles, par exemple de payer moins d’impôts, de placer leur fortune dans des paradis fiscaux ou d’obtenir du gouvernement des aides financières auxquelles normalement ils n’ont pas droit.

A l’opposé, on peut devenir esclave de la LOI si on l’accomplit par peur d’être puni ou à cause de jugements que l’on pourrait porter contre nous si on ne faisait pas ce qu’est à « obligatoire ».

Jésus nous invite à découvrir le vrai but de la LOI, à savoir trouver comment atteindre le bonheur en agissant librement tout en empruntant la voie du dépassement, celle qui permet de poser des actes qui s’enracinent dans l’amour de Dieu et le respect d’autrui.

Fr. Etienne Siffert, S.M.

FROM OUR SCHOOL

Parishioners,

This weekend families are enjoying a much needed four day weekend to celebrate President's Day and take some time to relax.

We are currently preparing for a Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA)/Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation visit in March and are counting on an excellent review. Though we expect to do well, we welcome your prayers during this time!

God Bless,

Sarah Currier, Principal

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED


WE REMEMBER OUR SICK

Elizabeth Desta, Patty Esipruti, Zachary Espiru, Benjamin Haller, Georges Handras, Lupita Herrera, Lynn Leininger, Carmen Lopez, Maria Manley, Membre Marim, Grant Melton, Mary Jo Onopa, Roberta Renzi, Vinod and Cynthia Sheth, Dimitrios Tsokus, and Rosic Zedamoi.

WE 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.
OUR STEWARDSHIP MISSION
Stewardship is the grateful response of a Christian Disciple who recognizes, receives and cultivates God's gifts and generously shares these gifts in love of God and neighbor.

PARISHIONER REGISTRATION UPDATE: Parishioners are asked to fill out a Registration Update Form. We are in the process of renewing our Parish Membership Roster. If you are interested in joining the parish or if you are presently a member, we ask that all fill out a form so that we are able to make necessary changes. Forms are located at the entrance of the church. Thanks for your cooperation.

FAMILY PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES, FRANCE: It is with great joy that we announce our first Notre Dame des Victoires Lourdes family pilgrimage. This pilgrimage will take place from Monday, July 27, 2020 to Saturday, August 1, 2020. During the week, we invite our families to experience the message left by the Holy Virgin Mary to Bernadette during the time of the apparitions in 1858. The Holy Mother of God appeared 18 times to Bernadette Soubirous in the Grotto of Massabielle in Lourdes, France, a small town located in the Pyrenees Mountains. Our days will be punctuated by daily Mass, rosary at the grotto, candlelight procession, experience at the healing springs, hikes, and visits to the different places Bernadette once lived. The cost is $775.00 per person and will include 5 nights at Hotel La Solitude with three meals per day and admission costs to the various visits/activities. This amount does not include flights or transportation from the Lourdes airport to our hotel. However, depending on the number of people in our group who will be arriving at the same time, we could organize transportation together. If you want to join this spiritual opportunity, please respond by sending your travel confirmation to Madame Picard by Wednesday, February 5th. Should you have any questions, please email her at picard@ndvsf.org.

RCIA is for those who are seeking a better relationship with God, who are looking for more information about Catholic Christianity, or who are seeking to grow in their spiritual or Sacramental life. The RCIA process welcomes the unbaptized person to the family of Jesus Christ. Sessions are informal and comfortable opportunities to explore the Catholic faith with presentations, discussions, and fellowship. Explore the faith without obligation. For more info, please contact Fr. Juan at gonzalez@ndvsf.org.

MARDI GRAS 2020: With the consent of the Parish Council, this year’s Mardi Gras Dinner will be cancelled. Due to the construction and renovation work in our parish hall the event would not be feasible to take place. This is a cancellation only for 2020. We will resume this festive event in 2021 and we will have a renovated hall to celebrate Mardi Gras. Thanks for your understanding.

ON-LINE GIVING: Our parish now offers Online Giving, a web-based electronic contribution application. We are providing this service so that you have the option to manage your contributions online or with your offering envelopes. This service is safe and secure. And it is convenient for you and for our parish staff. Sign up for Online Giving by visiting our parish website at ndvsf.org and select the Online Giving link. Click on Create New Account and follow directions to set up your account. Thank you.

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO will offer its annual Wedding Anniversary Mass on February 29 at the Cathedral. Archbishop Cordileone will be the celebrant. All couples who in 2020 will celebrate anniversaries ending in 5 or 0 (5 years, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40) and all couples married more than 40 years, are invited to celebrate with us. Register online at anniversarmass.info. For information, call 415-614-5680.

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 2020 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
February 16, 2020– February 23, 2020

| Sunday | - Sir 15:15-20 | - 1 Cor 2:6-10 | - Mt 5:17-37 |
| Monday | - Jas 1:1-11 | - Mk 8:11-13 |
| Tuesday | - Jas 1:12-18 | - Mk 8:14-21 |
| Wednesday | - Jas 1:19-27 | - Mk 8:22-26 |
| Thursday | - Jas 2:1-9 | - Mk 8:27-33 |
| Friday | - Jas 2:14-24, 26 | - Mk 8:34–9:1 |
| Saturday | - 1 Pt 5:1-4 | - Mt 16:13-19 |

SUNDAY COLLECTION: February 8 and 9, 2020
Church Basket: $1,332.97
On-Line Giving: $767.00
Total: $2,099.97

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"They did so because they had offered so willingly, for they made their offering to the Lord with a whole heart..." 1 Chronicles 29:9
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