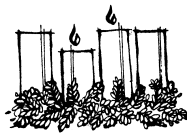




The Lord has done great things.

Second Sunday of Advent December 6, 2009



✦ Mass Intentions ~ St. John the Baptist ✦

Sat 5	7:30a	✦Richard Vercreuysen by Rene Vercreuysen
	5:30p	✦DJM intentions
Sun 6	7:30a	✦Merv Mayer by Jean Mayer
	9:00a	✦People of God
	10:30a	no intention
	12:30p	no intention
	5:30p	✦For all Priests
Mon 7	7:30a	✦Mary Van Buskirk by Lona Stalker
Tues 8	7:30a	✦Rose Giannotti by Sal Giannotti
Wed 9	7:30a	✦Helen Cabral by Norma Rodrigues
	7:00p	no intention
Thur 10	7:30a	✦Tom Durant by Linda Givens
Fri 11	7:30a	✦George Santos by Barbara Santos
Sat 12	7:30a	✦Louis & Arline Borges by Borges Family
	5:30p	no intention
		✦ Mass Intentions ~ St. James ✦
Sun 6	9:00a	no intention
	10:30a	no intention

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Miguel Rangel, Visenta Tadeo, Joanne Bowman, William Zimmerman, Vvivan, and for their family and friends.

5th week of November

<u>Collection</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
November 29	\$8,386	\$5,227
Year to date	\$185,904	\$206,272

(St. James total for Nov 29: (\$509)

May your faithful generosity bring you blessings of joy, for the Bible says, "God loves a cheerful giver!"

Today is Life & Dignity Sunday in the Diocese of Sacramento. It is a day that Bishop Soto has designated for us to focus on the Catholic responsibility to be good and engaged citizens. You have been invited and had the opportunity to register for a state-wide Catholic Legislative Network, which is to be a strong, clear, moral voice for life and justice in our state. We thank you for registering, if you did; and for your patience and forbearance if you did not. If you did register, we hope that you will be faithful in responding to the Action Alerts that will come asking for your assistance on important issues.

Calling all Adorers: Reminder: Monday, December 7th, is our next 24 hour Adoration. Please come and be sure to sign in. Adoration

will be from Mon Dec 7, 8am through Tues Dec 8 at 7:30am. For more information contact Erika Sajben at 330-2594, Javier Lopez at 566-0358, or the parish office at 343-8741.



Holy Day of Obligation: Monday December 8th we celebrate the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mass times are as follows: 7:30am, 8:30am, 12noon (Latin Mass), 5:30pm, and 7pm (Spanish).

Advent Penance Services:

Newman Center – Tues Dec 8th at 7:15pm
Our Divine Savior – Thurs Dec 9th at noon
St. Thomas Oroville – Mon Dec 16th at 7:00pm
St. John's – Mon Dec 21st at 7:00pm



Caring Tree: Once again it's that time of year for our annual St. John's/St. James Christmas Caring Tree. Your gift helps accomplish two things – The recipient will be pleased to be remembered and second God will bless your generosity. Thank you for your past donations and gifts as well as those to come! Contact Jean Rabo if you have any questions 345-3388. **Caring Tree tags will be available before and after every Mass this Sunday Dec 5 & 6.**

Angel Tree Please drop off wrapped gifts with tag by Tues, Dec 15th at the parish office. Thank you for your generosity.



Christmas Flowers: This year, as in years past, the Art and Environment Committee will be accepting donations for Christmas flowers and decorations. Your donation may be in the name of your family, in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving. Please return donation envelopes to the office or put into the collection basket.



Vespers— Evening Prayer: Join the choir to pray the Liturgy of the Hours Evening Prayer on Tuesday Dec 15th and 22nd from 6-6:30pm in the Church.

Struggling to find a great new Christmas gift idea?

We are excited to have available for you and your family CD's from Lighthouse Catholic Media. Many titles such as *Life-changing Stories of the Eucharist; The Healing Power of Confession; and Mary Handmaid of the Lord* are on display in the vestibule. For a donation of just \$3 each these CDs will inspire you to fall in love more and more with Jesus Christ and His Church.

Or you can have these inspirational CDs mailed directly to your home. Consider joining the **Catholic CD Club**. The cost for your inspirational CD each month is only \$5 (includes shipping). A portion of that money will come back to our parish. There is no risk because you may cancel your subscription at any time. **Register online at www.lighthousecatholicmedia/p/cdclub.** Please use **Promo Code 49737** to ensure that our parish receives credit.

Catholic Daughters Christmas Potluck will be at 12:30pm on Thurs, Dec 10. Hot dishes and salads are needed. A short meeting will follow. Remember your unsigned Christmas card for the Spiritual Bouquet Exchange.

ST. JOHN'S WEBSITE

stjohnthebaptistchico.org

Fr. Berg's email: fatherbrberg@yahoo.com

St. John's Office email address: stjohn33@sbcglobal.net

ADULT FAITH FORMATION



Scripture Study/Radio: Joe Hollcraft is live on AM 930 at 11:00am-12:00 each Saturday and Sunday (re-aired). Tune in to the Catholic Hour, where each week Joe will offer a teaching and reflection on the readings from the Mass. In addition to his teachings, Joe's programming will look at all the important questions that people are asking about the faith today. **This week, Dec.4th and 5th (re-air), Joe will look at the mysterious figure of St. John the Baptist. Included in his teaching will be an examination into understanding the great prophet as the key link to understand our Catholic Faith. The following week, Joe will continue to explore the richness of the Advent season with a look at the crib scene and its tie to Saint Francis.** Please do not hesitate to send Joe any of your questions. You can e-mail Joe at jholljmi@yahoo.com if you have any questions about the radio program and/or the Catholic faith or go to the parish website and click on Joe Hollcraft's blog.

Taize: Take a break from Christmas shopping and the hullabaloo and join us for a quiet Taize prayer service at the Newman Center on Thursday, December 17th at 7pm.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S MINISTRY: If you are a woman in search of fellowship we are starting another segment of our study of the bible. We will be studying the book of Revelation with "the First, Second, and Third Letters of St. John and the Revelation to St. John" using the Ignatius Catholic Study Bible. We will also be viewing the tapes from Scott Hahn regarding the Lamb's Supper - The Mass as Heaven on Earth. We meet in the Knights of Columbus room in the social center at ODS from 6:45pm to 9 pm. Come and join us on December 17th for our next meeting. If you have any questions or you would like a book ordered call Mary Waldorf at 345-8638.

Rosary Prayer Group: meets on Wed evenings at 7pm, at individual homes. The current Medjugorje message from Our Lady and the commentary are read. If you would like to participate, call 342-2323 or 898-1183.

Holy Spirit Prayer Group: They meet at 7pm on the 4th Wed of each month at the Newman Center. For more information call Sharon, 891-5334 or James, 893-2348.

CFF: CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

Religious Education Questions - Call 343-8741

Catch-up Sacrament Class: This Sunday, Dec 6th is a class for parents who's children are catching up on Sacraments. Please meet in Room 6 from 10:30am-12:30pm.

Next Sunday, Dec 13th is the Raising Children with Christian Virtues class from 10:30am-12noon in the Upper Meeting Room of Notre Dame School. All parents are welcome. Don't miss it. The first two were great!

Parent Sacrament Class: The next class is January 17th. The topic will be the Mass. This is one of the mandatory meetings for all parents who have a child making their First Communion or Confirmation.



Coordinator of Youth Ministries, Andrea Florez
chicolifeteen@gmail.com 530-961-2050

Asst. Coordinator/LIFE TEEN Music Minister, Jeremy Bermender
senorjeremy@yahoo.com 530-864-8187
chicolband@gmail.com (band e-mail)

We can't wait to see all you high school teens these last few times before Christmas break so join us on Sunday night from 7-8:30pm in the gym.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY



Respect for Life: Respect for Life Committee: Help Wanted. People who respect life, abhor violence, and are willing to peacefully pray at one or both of the two abortion establishments in Chico. We need you! Simply go to Planned Parenthood on Vallombrosa on Wednesdays or the Women's Feminist Abortion Center on Humboldt on Fridays, and pray for the mothers, fathers, and the safety of the unborn babies. Also pray for the conversion of those committing gruesome violence to the babies and mothers. Come anytime from 9 am to 12 noon.

Natural Family Planning (Creighton model) Classes: Are you ready to do a great thing for yourself and your marriage? Classes are available right here in Chico. Contact Jackie Hollcraft M.S.; P.A.C. (519-5081)
In today's reading, St. Paul prays for increasing love, knowledge and perception, that we may discern what is of value, and stand one day pure and blameless before our Lord. Do we turn to the Church for knowledge, and guidance to help us shape our moral values? A stumbling block for some is the Church teaching on married love--- check out www.canfp.org to increase your knowledge in this area.



Marriage Encounter: "May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another...." Worldwide Marriage Encounter can energize your sacrament. The next local Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be Feb 12-14 in Sacramento. Early registration is highly recommended. Contact Stephanie and Deacon James Burkett at 893-2348 or email burkett7@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Retrouvaille: This is a program to give hope and help for marriages that are experiencing trouble. For additional information call 1-800-283-5952.



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Newman Center Confirmation Classes: If you are a college student or an adult who needs to be Confirmed please call the Newman Center at 342-5180 for information.

Respect Life Coordinator: The Diocese of Sacramento has an immediate opening for a Respect Life Coordinator. This full-time position provides leadership in all aspects of the Catholic Church's pro-life please visit www.diocese-sacramento.org under Employment: Job Announcements. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

St. Patrick's Seminary & University: "Have You Ever Thought About Becoming a Catholic Priest?" Interested? Attend a Discernment Retreat, Jan 15-17 2010 at St. Patrick's Seminary & University to better understand if a vocation to the ministry of God's priesthood is for you. For more information, please contact Fr. Chris Frazer at 343-8741.

World Day of the Sick: A celebration held in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes, Feb 20, 12pm at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Please join Bishop Jaime Soto for a special Mass which will include: Anointing of the Sick, Blessing of the Caregivers, and Blessing with Lourdes Water. For those receiving the anointing, please arrive by 11:30am for seating.

Pilgrimage: Join Catholics for a Pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes & Shrines on Spain in a Holy Year June 1 to June 14, 2010. Trip includes: Daily Mass, breakfast and dinner, 12 nights accommodations, entrance fee to places included on the itinerary, round trip form San Francisco Airport, transfers on an air conditioned private coach and English speaking local Catholic guides. Cost is \$3,340 per person, double occupancy. Contact Karen Chappelle at 916-652-7560 for more details. Deadline to register is April 15, 2010.

Christmas Party '09 for the Homeless

The Christmas party for the homeless in Chico is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec 23rd at the Torres Shelter starting at 6pm. To make a contribution for one of the following please call the person in charge:

- 20lbs of smoked turkey breast, gifts for the children, or gift certificates to a fast food restaurant: Jerry, 342-2134
- Green or Fruit Salads: Tina Lando, 342-2084
- Vegetable, potatos, or rice holiday dishes: Barbara Francis, 893- 2355
- Non-alcoholic holiday drinks: Paula Selvester, 345-1015
- Desserts: Kelly Gomez, 680-79808

Gifts and gift certificates can be dropped off at the parish office. The staff and guests at the Torres Shelter appreciate the efforts and contributions of the Catholic communities of Chico. I wish each of us could see the surprise and joy on their faces as we share our blessings this Holiday Season.

Sun	6	2 nd Sunday of Advent 10:30am-12pm CFF 7pm Life Teen
Mon	7	St Ambrose 24 Hour Adoration 6-8pm English AA
Tues	8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation
Wed	9	San Juan Diego 6-9pm Spanish AA 7-9pm Boy Scouts Troop #2
Thu	10	
Fri	11	St. Damasus I 3:30-4:30pm ADORATION 6-9pm Spanish AA
Sat	12	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe 10am Confessions

Library Hours & News:

Sunday 8:15-12:30pm & Thursday 9-11am



An excellent conversion story has been donated to the library titled *How Firm the Foundation*; the first novel of Marcus Grodi of EWTN's The Journey Home. This thriller is also a gem of catechesis citing scripture and the early Fathers as the basis to help not only those coming into the Church but those already there.

A recently released documentary is in about the spiritual quest of Thomas Merton titled, *Soul Searching*. This DVD uses available photos of Fr. Louis accompanied with interviews of those that knew him or have become authorities of his life which is unfolded in an honest light.

The *Maldonado Miracle* is a joyous movie starring Peter Fonda, Mare Winningham and Ruben Blades. Set in the southwest, a town finds itself the center of media attention when a miracle takes place in the Catholic Church, or does it?

EMHC AND LECTOR SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

TIME	EMHC	LECTOR
5:30pm Sat	Karen Neadly Arlie Hixson Tom Hixson	Karen Monroe Bruce Neadly
7:30am Sun	Jean Mayer Ona Mertens	Yolanda Holt Lyle Anderson
9:00am Sun	Cathy Boutwell Dan Boutwell Barbara Bertapelle Bill Mutch Diane Smith Donna Houston	Claire Johnson Stephanie Burkett

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
- Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
- Friday: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 Lk 1:26-38
- Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

Liturgy of the Hours Week II

