



**First Sunday
of Advent**

November 28, 2010



✦ **Mass Intentions ~ St. John the Baptist** ✦

Sat 27	7:30a	John Bentley (living/b'day) by Mom & Dad
	5:30p	Our Parish Priests
Sun 28		FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
	7:30a	Don Stoner (living) & family by Barbara Santos
	9:00a	People of the Parish
Spanish	11:00a	✦ Alfredo Zarate
Latin	1:00p	Maia & Ruby Family (living) by Aisha Ruby
	5:00p	✦ Dr. Al & Dolores Currlin by Jim & Genie
Mon 29	7:30a	Bertoli Family (living & deceased) by Juanita
Tues 30		ST. ANDREW, APOSTLE
	7:30a	✦ Linda Margado Spring by Marlene M. Shanks
Wed 1	7:30a	✦ Charles Shea by John & Linda Shea
	6:45p	no intention
Thur 2	7:30a	Jane Rabo (living) by Barbara Santos
Fri 3		ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
	7:30a	✦ Sr. Scholastica Ndura by Karen Monroe
	8:45a	Notre Dame School Families
Sat 4		ST. JOHN OF DAMASCUS
	7:30a	DJM intentions
	5:30p	✦ Manuel Bettencourt by Diana Bettencourt
		✦ Mass Intentions ~ St. James ✦
Sun 28	9:00a	✦ Joan Cabral by Nock Family
		<i>Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mark Kelly and for his family and friends.</i>

3rd week of November

Collection	Actual	Budget
Nov 21	\$6,494	\$8,375
Year to date	\$153,052	\$170,354

St. James total for Nov 21: (\$789)

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



By signing up to give your weekly offertory and special collections online, you will help the parish more accurately forecast our finances and plan more strategically.

Go to
www.stjohnthebaptistchico.org
to sign up today!
Questions call: 343-8741

From the Pastor's Desk

"Increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming." We make this prayer at the beginning of Mass on this First Sunday of Advent. As we prepare for the Advent of Jesus at Christmas, we are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunities of grace that are available to us. Here are a few suggestions: 1) Set aside 5 to 20 minutes each day to pray over the Scriptures 2) Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Our Parish Penance Service is on Monday, Dec 20, at 7 pm 3) Attend daily Mass 4) Pray the Rosary 5) Make an effort to reach out to the homeless and the needy 6) Attend the Mass of our Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrated by Bishop Soto on Friday, Dec 10, at 7 pm 7) Attend the Advent Reflection on Tues, Dec 14 at 7 pm 8) Come to Lessons and Carols on Sunday, Dec 12 at 2:30 pm

As we prepare for the birth of Jesus, we pray that "Christ may find an eager welcome" in our hearts and lives just as he found a home in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Christ's peace,
Father Berg

Advent Penance Services:

St. Thomas Paradise – Wed Dec 1st at 3:30 & 7pm

Newman Center – Tues Dec 7th at 7:15pm

St. Thomas Oroville – Mon Dec 15th at 7:00pm

Our Divine Savior – Thurs Dec 16th at noon

St. John's – Mon Dec 20th at 7:00pm



Hospitality Today: "Come by the Library after 9am Sunday Mass for coffee, tea, juice and a snack. Meet new people and visit with old friends".



Caring Tree: Once again it's that time of year for our annual St. John's/St. James Christmas Caring Tree for the elderly. Tags will be available after Masses this weekend. Contact Jean Rabo if you have any questions 345-3388. Drop off gifts by Dec 15 at the parish office.

Angel Tree helps children of prisoners. Angel Tree tags will be available after every Mass this weekend, Nov 27-28. Please drop off wrapped gifts with tag by Tues, Dec 15th at the parish office. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Knights of Columbus will be selling See's Candy after all Masses now until December 19th.

Knights of Columbus Crab Feed: Coming February 5th 2011! This is their biggest fundraiser of the year. Tickets are available in the parish office for \$35. More details to come.

Christmas Party for the Homeless: On Monday, Dec 20th the Catholic communities of Chico will hold the Sixth Annual Christmas Party for the Homeless at Our Divine Savior Parish Hall from 4:30-6:30pm. We are looking for donations of: turkeys, 2 hams, side dishes of vegetables and desserts, money for gift certificates and volunteers to help with decorating, greeting and clean up. Please call Jerry Converse if you can help with money for the gift cards, 342-2134. Call Kate McCarthy if you can help with food, 891-0513. Thank you.



**Adoration Chapel
In Eucharistic Adoration,
we are not just thinking
about God,
we are with God!**

God is made present in the Holy Eucharist at Holy Mass for us to receive as our Spiritual Food. He dwells in our tabernacle and is enshrined in the monstrance for us to adore. He will be with us until the end of time.

For more information contact: Javier (566-0358) or Erika (330-2594).

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, December 5th, **DELICIOUS HOME BAKED ITEMS** created by The Catholic Daughters will be sold after each Mass at Our Divine Savior Church on East Lassen. This event will be held in conjunction with The Knights of Columbus breakfast. Any questions, please call Helen Soares at 342-4845.



Choir News: The choir will be singing compline (the office in the liturgy of the hours that is said just before bedtime) every **Tuesday night at 7:45pm** until further notice. Anyone is welcome to join!

Diocese of Sacramento Lay Formation Institute Year II presents Ethical Challenges & Contemporary Culture. Saturday, December 4, 8:30am-4:30pm at Sacred Heart Parish in Red Bluff. Join Prof. Stan Dundon, PH.D. as he looks at current ethical challenges in the face of modern culture and how we can respond to those challenges. He will be exploring the ethics of biotechnology, assisted human reproduction, healthcare and end of life issues. Please call 916-733-0123 for all the details and to register.

Central California Marian Eucharistic Conference: Mark your calendar for the 14th Annual Central Coast Marian Eucharistic Conference to be held on January 14-16 2011 in Paso Robles, CA. The theme this year "Sanctity of Marriage – Sanctity of Life" Visit our website at ccmec.org or call Pat at 805-461-5358 for further information.



Youth Director Jeff Weinrich
343-8741

No Lifeteen tonight. Hope you had a blessed Thanksgiving with your family and friends. See you next Sunday.

Religious Education Questions - Call 343-8741

Youth Sacrament Program is intended for students in eighth grade through senior year in high school. Any students in this age range who need the sacrament of Confirmation, First Communion, First Penance or Baptism should enroll. The class runs from 4pm-5:30pm every Monday. Baptism and First Communion will be given on Easter Vigil, April 23. Confirmation will be administered when the bishop visits St. John's in early May. Please call Raquel Ruiz at 343-8741 to enroll.

✧ ADULT FAITH FORMATION ✧

Catholics Returning Home: Many believers have let their suffering separate them from God's love and they feel alienated by the church. Catholics Returning Home can help them put aside years of anxieties and dejection, help them fix their hearts to be in relationship with God and recognize His goodness in their lives again. Although they will still have challenges in life they can know the comfort of God through the people around them. Sessions will begin on Monday Nov 29 from 7-8:30pm in the Prayer Room at ODS. This is a collaborative ministry of the Chico Parishes. For more information contact Sharon Haselton 891-5334 or Deacon Burkett 893-2348.



Scripture Study/Radio: Joe Hollcraft is live on AM 930 and FM 107.5 at 11:00a-12:00p each Saturday and Sunday (re-aired). Each week Joe will offer a teaching and reflection on the readings from the Mass. In addition, he will look at all the important questions that people are asking about the faith today. **This week, November 27th and 28th, Joe will reflect upon the significance of a new liturgical year by highlighting the call to be vigilant and watchful for the coming of Christ.** The following week, Joe will offer a teaching on the biblical vision to the Kingdom of God. Among other things, Joe will look at why many are misinterpreting Christ's use of kingdom and ultimately the problems this is causing in many Christian circles. Send Joe questions to jholljmi@yahoo.com

Rosary Prayer Group meets on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the church. For more information, call 898-1183 or 342-2323.

"Praise & Prayer" Group meets the 4th Wed of each month at the Newman Center from 7-8:15pm. For more details call Sharon, 891-5334 or Deacon James, 893-2348.

Women's Ministry Group has completed the book of Revelations. Our next venture will be to study the Gospel of Matthew. Our next meeting will be Dec 9th. If you would like fellowship in prayer and scripture with other women please come join our group. We meet at 6:45 pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays each month at the Social Hall of ODS, in the Knights of Columbus room. If you have any questions feel free to call Mary Waldorf at 345-8638.



Respect for Life: The evangelization of culture is all the more important in our times, when a “dictatorship of relativism” threatens to obscure the unchanging truth about man’s nature, his destiny and his ultimate good. There are some who now seek to exclude religious belief from public discourse, to privatize it or even to paint it as a threat to equality and liberty. Yet religion is in fact a guarantee of authentic liberty and respect, leading us to look upon every person as a brother or sister...Society today needs clear voices which propose our right to live, not in a jungle of self-destructive and arbitrary freedoms, but in a society which works for the true welfare of its citizens and offers them guidance and protection in the face of their weakness and fragility.

-- Pope Benedict XVI

Everyone is welcome to pray in front of Planned Parenthood on Wednesdays, which is now located at 3100 Cohasset Road, between Lupin and Lassen and/or the Women's Feminist Abortion Center on Humboldt on Fridays. Please pray for the mothers, fathers, and the safety of the unborn babies. Come any time from 9am to 12 noon.

Walk for Life San Francisco 2011? Join thousands of women, men and children of goodwill on Saturday, January 22, 2011 in San Francisco to proclaim to the world that **Abortion Hurts Women!** Will you stand with us as we walk this journey together? We leave at 4:00 am from the St. John’s parking lot. The walk is about 2.5 miles. The cost is around \$35 – \$40 per person depending on how many people go. For more info and to let me know if you are interested call Mary Waldorf at 345-8638.



Marriage Encounter: As a new Church year begins, it is time to take a fresh look at your marriage and enrich your relationship to what God intended for you. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is February 11-13 in Sacramento. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information call Stephanie and Deacon James Burkett at 893-2348 if we are able to get forty or more registration by January we will have a weekend in the North Valley Area.

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 Jenni Schaeffer (893-5474) or Jackie Hollcraft M.S.; P.A.C. 519-5081).

Retrouaille: This is a program to give hope and help for marriages that are experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment, betrayal and deep misery. For additional information call 1-800-283-5952.

“Mommy & Me” Group: Meetings will be held in the Mother Teresa Room in the Parish Office on Thursdays from 11am-12:30pm. All mothers are welcome to attend. Our group will present informal discussion topics on the role of motherhood and faith formation for our children in a warm and supportive atmosphere. Please join us! Call Elizabeth Nice for more details: 828-9069. **December 2nd meeting topic: Immaculate Conception**



Stewardship
A way of living

Over the past several weeks, our parish community has been hearing about Stewardship. Through your generosity, we are able to share in the love that Jesus gives us. By giving generously of your time in prayer, talent and treasure, you enable our parish to continue to grow and provide essential services. Thank you for the good response on the stewardship commitment form last weekend!

Library News & Hours:

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



Check out the Parish Library for your advent reading. We have several books that can enhance the season by giving examples of how to celebrate the feasts of St. Nicholas, St. Lucy, Our Lady of Guadalupe or how to make and pray around an Advent wreath, etc. It is also a great time to delve into some serious spiritual reading and the library has many works that you might wish to choose from. Be sure to join us each Sunday after Mass during this beautiful season for coffee and refreshments and perhaps a carol or three.

During the month of December the parish library staff will be taking an inventory of our collection. Please check to see if you have any overdue books or media items at home, in your car, boat, camper, etc. and bring them in to the Parish Library or Office. Thank you.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 4:2-6; Mt 8:5-11
 Tuesday: Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22
 Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
 Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
 Friday: Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
 Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
 Sunday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12
 Liturgy of the Hours Week I

