



November 22, 2009 • Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

MUSIC AT ST. MARY CHURCH

It's really exciting to be a part of the Music Program here at St. Mary's! Every year seems to go by faster, but our years are marked by liturgical seasons that delineate the remarkable, extraordinary events that have shaped the lives of us as Christians today. Ordinary time is when we as musicians not only embrace the richness of everyday rituals, but also learn new music and plan for the future. We use scripture and liturgical themes to plan music in which we as designated musical leaders, and you as the assembly, can participate

together. The liturgical documents created during Vatican II confirmed that singing is your birthright and is expected and encouraged! As a private voice teacher, I am familiar with many people's reticence to sing aloud. I assure you that it's not about

whether your notes are pitch perfect, but more about "making a joyful noise". There's great power in voices raised together in song. I'm sure that sometimes it's very easy to sit in the pew and just listen to the music, but please join in. Your participation is part of the prayer that we all offer to God. Our job as cantors and musicians is to lead you in music. Remember, our motto is not "look at me", but "come with me"!

As we move toward Advent and Christmas, here are some musical highlights of the season:

On Monday, Dec. 7, at 6:00 p.m., our dedicated Adoration group, Rose Higashi and myself will lead all who want to participate in a special Rosary and Evening Prayer Service for the Vigil of the Immaculate Conception, followed

by a potluck dinner. On Tuesday, Dec. 8, we will have three services to celebrate Immaculate Conception: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (school mass), and 7:30 p.m.

On Thursday, December 17, at 7:00 we will have our Second Annual Christmas Carol Sing, hosted by our Adult Choir! This year, we're adding a second component, a Nativity Pageant with music! We'll start by singing carols, and then the assembly will enjoy a pageant enacted by the children of our parish, which is accompanied by our singing. After that, there will be cookies and fellowship in Hofmann Center.

On Christmas Eve, we will have two 4:00 services. We will be led in singing in both services by cantors and children's voices. At the 6:00 p.m. service, "The Journey" group will lead you in song. At the 10:00 p.m. mass the Adult Choir will be the featured musicians, with Bryan Drucker on violin. We will do a 20-minute prelude prior to that mass.

On Christmas morning, the 7:30 a.m. mass will be led Carol and Dave. It's a beautiful way to start Christmas day. At the 9:00 a.m. mass, the "Niners" will be there in full force, with Michelle and Brigid leading the singing. At the 11:15 a.m. mass, the Adult Choir, Pat and myself will be back, singing through the mass, with a 20-minute prelude prior to that mass as well.

We are so looking forward to these cherished seasons in our community. We can't wait to celebrate with you. And, remember, keep (or start!) singing! Make a Joyful Noise!

Corliss Greene is the Music Director at St. Mary Church. Look for her weekly article in the bulletin.



THIS WEEK...

Sunday Nov. 22	Breaking Open the Word 9 and 11:15 am Mass Playways 9:00 am RCIA Dismissal 11:15am WAV 4:30 pm Crisis Pregnancy Collection
Monday Nov. 23	Elem. Religious Ed. 4:pm Adoration 6:00 pm St.. Vincent Food Collec- tion Assembly 6:30 pm Junior High EDGE 7:00 pm
Tuesday Nov. 24	Centering Prayer 7:00 pm Finance Meeting 7:00 pm Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at the United Methodist Church
Wednesday Nov. 25	Adult Choir Practice 7:15 pm
Thursday Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Mass 9am Happy Thanksgiving!
Friday Nov. 27	Bible Study 8:00 am Christmas Giving Tree Set-up 9:00 am
Saturday Nov. 28	
Sunday Nov. 29	Christmas Giving Tree Collection

LOOKING AHEAD...

Thanksgiving Day Mass
November 26 9:00 am

The Giving Tree Begins
November 28/29

**Immaculate Conception Day
Celebration**
(see schedule inside and on the
website)

For more detailed information about what is happening now and in the future at St. Mary's go to our online calendar on our website or on the computer in the parish office.



STAFF CHANGE
BREATHES NEW LIFE

As many know, Jane Ferguson worked tirelessly to create new

approaches to pastoral ministry. She instructed parishioners for their service to the sick, elderly, and dying. She raised the consciousness of St. Mary Parishioners by presenting social concerns vis-à-vis the social justice teachings of the Church. Her work continues by virtue of the community and councils she formed.

Her departure left us with the challenge of maintaining our present progress and furthering the Diocesan Pastoral Plan of presenting the Church's Social Justice Teaching. Members of the Peace and Justice Council formed an interview team to find a successor to Jane. After interviewing three candidates and a period of discernment, I am very happy to announce that Carol Thornton will serve in this vital area of pastoral ministry. She is fully qualified to assume the duties required by this office, and I

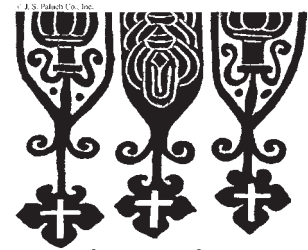
am very pleased that she has accepted this position.

Carol began her service to St. Mary Parish as an assistant to Jane over 8 years ago. After two years as an assistant, she was hired full time as youth minister. She has continued in this position until now, and she has demonstrated the pastoral ministry skills necessary to continue in Jane's footsteps.

With this change, we will need to address the position Carol vacates. As such, we are arranging to form a team made up of parishioners with experience as youth ministry "Core Team" members to interview potential candidates. This transition may take more time than one might expect, still it is important that we find the best fit for the position. Carol has assured me that she will continue to serve the youth of St. Mary in this transition period and understands the reason for the process I hope to conclude before the beginning of the year.

Realizing that it has only been a short while since I was named pastor of St. Mary, I am grateful to Carol and all the staff that continue to support us in our endeavor to bring the Good News of Jesus to light in our corner of the world.

We trust that God will continue the good work begun in us from our birth. The social justice issues of our community, state, nation, and world are our concerns. Being aware of these concerns is the first step towards a plan of understanding and action. I trust that God is with us as we venture into the new liturgical year and Advent. Please help congratulate Carol Thornton on her new position in Pastoral Care and Social Justice Ministry.



**Whoever hears
my voice
hears the truth**

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SPOTLIGHT:
MINISTRY OF HOSPITALITY

The usher has many duties: to greet you, help you find a seat, count attendance, pass the collection baskets, distribute the bulletin, offer assistance, and ensure an orderly process during the Sacrament of the Eucharist. An usher is called to be prayerful, respectful, polite, helpful, attentive and alert. The concept of an Usher is not new. Jesus' disciples also played the role of an usher in that they prepared the way for Jesus, introduced people to Jesus, and directed people.

As the "first faces" seen by those gathering for the Eucharistic Celebration, the Ministers of Hospitality welcome all who come.

In our technology-filed, hectic lives, we too often lose the "human" connection. We invite you to consider this calling, to share with your fellow parishioners your heart, smile and time. For information, contact the usher captain at any Mass or call Larry Cook, the master usher, at 408.353.2255 or

408.353.1500. Larry is responsible to the Parochial Vicar and the Pastor for all usher activities.

Michael Kane is the usher captain at the 9 o'clock Mass. He wrote "Sunday Morning" twelve years ago. It is about his calling and what being an usher means to him.

Sunday Morning (amended)

If you are still here,
a sunny Sunday morning,
in my town, in this village,
allow me to show you my church.

I do this 'usher' thing.
I wanted to serve, but...
wasn't sure why.

Big Ed (the usher Captain) remembered me
(or said he did) when I "came back to the Church."

So, he says to me,
"Okay, you be number 10. We always need ten.
You be ten. Go over there and watch me.
You'll get the hang of it."

And I'm thinking, get the hang of what?
Pass a basket? Hand a program?
These guys are all 25 years older than me,
three feet shorter, and...
They are hard to "talk to"...
They wouldn't hear it
if the organ fell from the balcony.

Three weeks later, Big Ed says to me,
"Hey, Mike, the Father says we got to go to
usher training next Saturday.
That OK with you, Mike?"

"Sure Ed. Usher Training. You bet."
So, I go to Beatitudes Hall to get the Usher Training.
And up in the front, by the Father there is this young woman...
from another parish they say...
you know... idealistic, young,
well-intended, young,
starry-eyed, you know...
Texas twirler type.

Liturgy

LITURGICAL YEAR ENDS WITH THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

The Roman Catholic Church celebrates the Solemnity of Christ the King on the last Sunday of the liturgical year, before a new year begins with the First Sunday of Advent. Christ the King is a title of Jesus based on several passages of Scripture: King Eternal (1 Timothy 1:17), King of Israel (John 1:49), King of the Jews (Mt. 27:11), King of kings (1 Tim 6:15; Rev. 19:16), King of the Ages (Book of Revelation 15:3) and Ruler of the Kings of the Earth (Rev. 1:5).

The ideological movement of Christ's Kingship was addressed in the encyclical Quas Primas of Pope Pius XI, published in 1925, which has been called "possibly one of the most misunderstood and ignored encyclicals of all time." The Pontiff's encyclical quotes with approval Cyril of Alexandria, noting that Jesus' Kingship is not obtained by violence: "Christ has dominion over all creatures, a dominion not seized by violence nor usurped, but his by essence and by nature." Pope Pius XI instituted the feast of Christ the King in 1925 to remind Christians that their allegiance was to their spiritual ruler in heaven. In 1969, Pope Paul VI gave the celebration a new title: "D. N. Iesu Christi universorum Regis" (Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe). He also gave it a new date: the last Sunday in the liturgical year.

Pope Benedict XVI has remarked that Christ's Kingship is not based on "human power" but on loving and serving others. The perfect exemplar of that acceptance, he pointed out, is the Virgin Mary. Her humble and unconditional acceptance of God's will in her life, the Pope noted, was the reason that "God exalted her over all other creatures, and Christ crowned her Queen of heaven and earth."

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O God, source and giver of all things,
You manifest your infinite majesty,
power and goodness
In the earth about us:
We give you honor and glory.
For the sun and the rain,
For the manifold fruits of our fields:
For the increase of our herds and flocks,
We thank you.
For the enrichment of our souls with divine grace,
We are grateful.

Supreme Lord of the harvest,
Graciously accept us and the fruits of our toil,
In union with Jesus, your Son,
As atonement for our sins,
For the growth of your Church,
For peace and love in our homes,
And for salvation for all.
We pray through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PARISH POTLUCK ON THE IMMACULATE CONCEIPT VIGIL CELEBRATION DECEMBER 7, 6-8:00 P.M.

After the Immaculate Conception vigil prayer, procession and benediction (6-7:00p.m.) everyone is invited to share in a Holy Spirit Potluck in Hoffman Center. (Holy Spirit Potluck means bring your favorite dish to share with 8-10 people.) Green salad, dinner rolls, and beverages will be provided. Hot entrées may be taken to the Hofmann Center kitchen before the vigil, where kitchen staff will warm the entrées according to instructions. Come celebrate with our parish community our patron, St. Mary, on this festive occasion, and enjoy the blessings of a Holy Spirit Potluck.

See you Monday, December 7th, 6:00p.m. for this joyful celebration!

Mass Intentions

Mon, Nov. 23	7:30 am	
Tues, Nov 24	7:30 am	Bud Crowley, J & MC
Wed, Nov. 25	7:30 am	Trudy Lucia, Sp.Int.
Thur Nov. 26	7:30 am	Paul Luu †
Fri, Nov. 27	7:30 am	Patrick Johnson †
Sat, Nov. 28	7:30 am	Special Intention
	5:00 pm	Celeste Pereira †
Sun, Nov. 29	7:30 am	Diane Fritsch †
	9:00 am	
	11:15am	Peter McDermott †
	6:00 pm	St. Mary's Parishioners



Let us pray for our parishioners who are sick, including Fr. Jorge da Silva, Chester Antonowicz, Kevin Ryan, Patricia Melehan

and Heidi Medina that Jesus be their source of strength and comfort.

To place a name on this list (for three weeks), contact Pastoral Care, 354-4061 Ext. 123. You also are invited to write names in St. Mary's Book of Petitions and Prayers in front of Mary's statue in church.

THANKSGIVING MASS

The traditional Thanksgiving Day Mass will be held at St. Mary Church at 9:00 a.m. There will be no other Mass offered on Thanksgiving, November 26.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Dn 2:31-45; Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Lk 21:12-19
Thursday:	Dn 6:12-28; Lk 21:20-28
Friday:	Dn 7:2-14; Lk 21:29-33
Saturday:	Dn 7:15-27; Lk 21:34-36
Sunday:	Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25; 1 Thes 3:12 -- 4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Family Faith Formation

ADVENT IS COMING....

Our students have been exploring the theme of Advent in their classes. Advent means coming. It is a time to prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas. We really celebrate a three-fold coming--the coming of Christ as an infant at Christmas, the coming of Christ in our daily lives, and the second coming of Christ. It is a time to prepare our hearts for Christmas by working on changing something that has prevented us from following the path of Christ. As we continue to wait in joyful hope may we be grateful for the many gifts in our lives.



Last week we had the students talk about what the words merciful, forgiveness, and compassion mean. We defined each word and then in each small group the students looked up passages from the Gospel of Matthew and shared how Jesus showed each of these traits in his ministry. The students were then asked how in their own lives they could use these three qualities to make a difference in their own communities and in the larger community. We concluded with a prayer service in dedication to those people in our lives who show these qualities and who use them for the good of others.

All middle school students are welcome to join us on Monday nights.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SPOTLIGHT: MINISTRY OF HOSPITALITY

Continued from Page 2

She gets up in front of the Geriatric Gang like Carroll's Alice before Tolkien's Ents.

Then... The light from her face.
I see a circled glow...
Her voice so clear... speaking to me,
through me, with me, in me.
The motionless movements.
I note she is grace...

She takes her time,
talking gently, slowly,
with love and respect,
to these aged grizzlies
who breathe like they snore.
And she says, this girl,
And they watch her, these bears...

"Ushers are also Greeters.
It is a Ministry.
When our brothers and our sisters
arrive with their children,
Remember: Yours is the first face
they see...
Yours is the Face of Christ."

I say no.
I say silently to the Father up at the table,
No... No. Not me.
Are you kidding? Not me.
He sees me.
He looks at me.
In my head I hear,
"Lord, I am not worthy
that you should come under my roof.
Speak but the Word
and my soul will be healed."

Now I go to the doors at 8:30 and I say,
"Good Morning, Ed.
Good to see you, sir.
"I'll be Ten."

And I stand in the doorway, beaming
and say to each who sees my face,
His face,
"Good Morning. Welcome."

WAV/ High School Youth Ministry

MASS APPEAL

Let's buck the trend!

National survey data collected by the Gallup Organization indicate that Catholic mass attendance has suffered a steady six-decade decline before leveling off in recent years. In 1955, 75% of Catholics said they had attended church in the last seven days. In 2008, only 42 percent said the same. In related studies, polls conducted by Georgetown's Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) also indicated that on average, 41 percent of Catholics said they attend mass every week. The above statistical trend is unfortunately borne out by numerous other reports including The Pew Forum (2009), The National Study of Youth and Religion (2005), and ongoing work by the U.S. Committee of Catholic Bishops.

So, now for some encouraging news; at two recent gatherings of teens – one at a WAV session in the parish, and the other at a diocesan wide forum held by Bishop McGrath at St. Simon – our youth shared their feelings on mass. When asked, "What do you like about mass?" at WAV, and "Why do you go to Church – what makes you keep coming back for more?" by the bishop, there were several

common threads. The number one answer from both gatherings was:

Community – the sense of community with family and friends...other members of the parish I may not know, but who are there as part of the total group...people together...welcoming people...support from the community is great...I go cause I like the community feel.

As members of the Body of Christ we need and, according to this survey, appreciate each other! It feels good to belong to a group with common beliefs, traditions and values. Our youth that responded to these questions are currently at mass. Our challenge? To bring more people of all ages to the table of the Lord. Please join us at mass – and feel free to invite a friend!



Pastoral Care and Community Ministry

CRISIS PREGNANCY COLLECTION- THIS WEEKEND

JUAN DIEGO SOCIETY TO BENEFIT

The Crisis Pregnancy Ministry will be collecting any newborn items, diapers up to 3mos and clothes up to 3T at all masses on November 21 and 22. The items collected this month will be donated to the Juan Diego Society, a Catholic, non-profit, organization which provides support, counseling, prayer, and Catholic instruction to unwed mothers, ages 14-16. The agency has been in existence for 21 years and has helped over 880 women and saved 620 babies. Please be generous in reaching out to these young girls in need. You may drop off items to Terri Trotter in the Pastoral Ministries Office or bring them to Church on Nov. 21 & 22. Any questions call

Terri @ 354-4061x122

ST. MARY'S 2009 CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE *Please Take a Heart & Fulfill a Wish*

The Christmas Giving Tree will be set up in the main vestibule of the church the weekend of November 28 and 29. Please consider taking one or more of the many brightly colored paper heart ornaments and fulfill the gift wish. All gifts are due back on Sunday, December 13. This year the parish will support eleven agencies that minister to those in need in Santa Clara County. In addition to gifts, we gratefully accept monetary donations made out to "St. Mary's", note: Giving Tree. Anyone who wishes to receive a receipt for tax purposes please call Terri Trotter @ 354-4061x122.



Adult Enrichment

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Give Thanks to God with the Entire Los Gatos Community

Tuesday, November 24, 7:30 PM

CONGREGATION SHIR HADASH, 20 CHERRY BLOSSOM LANE, LOS GATOS (CORNER OF SHANNON ROAD)

Let's make sure that St. Mary's is well represented at this year's Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Our new pastor, Fr. Rick Rodoni will give the homily. Fr. Justin will also participate in the service, and members of the St. Mary's choir will sing along with musicians from the other faith communities in Los Gatos. We will give thanks for all the many blessings we have received this year, and we are also grateful to Rabbi Melanie Aron and Congregation Shir Hadash for hosting us.

There will be a food collection for Second Harvest and a monetary collection for Sacred Heart Community Services.

The congregations participating in this year's service are:

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Congregation Shir Hadash, Faith Lutheran Church, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Los Gatos United Methodist Church, The Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos, and the Baha'i Faith of Los Gatos.

CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS IN OTHER COUNTRIES *Volunteers Needed*

Mark Your Calendars!

Friday, December 11, 7-8:30 PM

Hoffman Center

Once again, St. Mary's will host this family friendly event, which focuses on the food, music, customs and artistic traditions of Christmas around the world. We are a multicultural parish, and we need our own parishioners to volunteer to share the Christmas traditions from the countries of their ancestors. This year's Christmas Traditions event will be organized by the St. Mary's Young Adults Group, and we are hoping to feature holiday customs from Vietnam, Mexico, Ireland and China. If you or your ancestors came from one of these countries, please contact Chloe Leinwand, Leader of the Young Adults Group, at: chloe@apr.com or call her at (408) 656-9870. If your family comes from some other country and you would like to share your customs, contact us anyway, as we don't want to exclude anyone.

Christmas is a time for joyful giving. You can give a gift to your parish by sharing the food and customs of your heritage with those who worship with you.

All parishioners, including extended families and friends are invited to this free, friendly event.

THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION VIGIL: MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

6:00 pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Procession with the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary
6:30 pm - Evening Prayer & Benediction
7:00 pm - Potluck Celebration for our Patron Saint

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

7:30 am Mass
School Mass: 9:00 am
Evening Mass: 7:30 pm

FOR ADS

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please Take a Heart & Fulfill a Wish

The Christmas Giving Tree will be set up in the main vestibule of the church the weekend of November 28 and 29. Please consider taking one or more of the many brightly colored paper heart ornaments and fulfill the gift wish. All gifts are due back on Sunday, December 13. This year the parish will support eleven agencies that minister to those in need in Santa Clara County. In addition to gifts, we gratefully accept monetary donations made out to "St. Mary's", note: Giving Tree. Anyone who wishes to receive a receipt for tax purposes please call Terri Trotter @ 354-4061x122.

eNEWSLETTER

If you know would like to receive the monthly eNewsletter you can go on the website and sign up or you can send them this link: <http://www.stmaryslg.org/parish/#signup>

CALLING ALL SHOPPERS!!

Come to the Country Store's Christmas Sale to find tremendous deals on fabulous gifts for your friends, family and even yourself! Decorative items for your home and wonderful hostess gifts at the perfect price! Sunday, December 6th only, from 10:00AM (following mass) until 1:00PM. Oak Tree Courtyard.

Report on Collections

	Last Week
Goal	\$19,186.27
Actual	\$17,038.50
Variance	(\$2,147.77)
	Year to Date
Goal	\$383,725.40
Actual	\$368,026.05
Variance	(\$15,699.35)

PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION

Parish Office: 408.354.3726 Pastoral Ministries: 408.354.4061 Fax: 408.354.9302

Fr. Rick Rodoni	Pastor	rrodoni@stmaryslg.org	x139
Fr. Justin Le	Parochial Vicar/ Director of Liturgy	jle@stmaryslg.org	x138
Rose Anna Higashi	Director of Adult Education, RCIA & Young Adults	rhigashi@stmaryslg.org	x135
Terri Trotter	Director of Faith Formation	ttrotter@stmaryslg.org	x122
Carol Thornton	Director of Youth Ministry	cthorton@stmaryslg.org	x121
Carol Thornton	Director of Pastoral Care & Social Justice Ministry	cthorton@stmaryslg.org	x121
Corliss Greene	Music Coordinator	cgreene@stmaryslg.org	x129
Colleen Pacheco	Pastoral Ministries Administrative Assisitant	cpacheco@stmaryslg.org	x125
Carolee Gannon	Parish Secretary	cgannon@stmaryslg.org	x110
Teri Shepherd Tucci	Business Manager	tstucci@stmaryslg.org	x137

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

School Office: 408.354.3944 Fax: 408.395.9151

Sr. Nicki Thomas, snjm	Principal	snicki@stmaryslg.org	x119
Charlene Lemann	Assistant Principal	clemann@stmaryslg.org	x149
Karen Larson	Assistant Principal	klarson@stmaryslg.org	x162
Sheryl Becker	Office Manager	sbecker@stmaryslg.org	x132
Anna Paulsen	Secretary	apaulsen@stmaryslg.org	x118

MASS TIMES

Daily: Mon - Sat 7:30 am Saturday (Vigil): 5 pm Sunday: 7:30, 9 & 11:15 am and 6 pm
Reconciliation: 3:30 pm on Saturdays

ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS AND HOLIDAY PARADE

The Annual Children's Christmas Parade has been set for Saturday, December 5, 2009. The parade forms on Almendra Ave. at No. Santa Cruz Ave. to Main St., east on Main St. to Church St., where it will terminate. Traffic entering Los Gatos will be detoured by means of temporary barricades, cones and officers posted at strategic locations. Queries concerning street closures and alternate routes should be addressed to Sgt. J.R. Langer, at (408) 354-6851, and those pertaining to the parade itself to LGS Recreation at (408) 354-8700 x266.

St. Mary First Grade class is representing the school. Please come and enjoy the fun!

ST. MARY ART AND ENVIRONMENT

The St Mary's Arts & Environment Committee is dedicated to creating, executing and maintaining a welcoming and prayerful church environment reflective of the different liturgical seasons. For those interested in becoming a part of or volunteering for the Committee, we invite you to contact Fr Justin Le. Come make a difference!

St. Mary's parish is a community of believers in Jesus Christ that gathers together to celebrate the mysteries of God's love.

We support and strengthen one another in our commitment to the Catholic faith.

We serve those in need and share with all the Good News of God's unconditional love.