

OLD SAINT MARY'S CATHEDRAL & CHINESE MISSION

THE OLD CATHEDRAL OF SAINT MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (1854)

660 California Street • San Francisco, California 94108-2566

Tel: (415)-288-3800 | Fax: (415)-288-3838 |

Website: www.oldsaintmarys.org | Email: receptionistatosm@gmail.com

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Old Saint Mary's Cathedral & Chinese Mission is a culturally diverse Catholic community which seeks to evangelize in the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



A MINISTRY OF THE PAULIST FATHERS



OLD SAINT MARY'S, built in 1854 as California's first Cathedral,

was the first Cathedral to be named in honor of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. The Paulist Fathers were given Pastoral responsibilities of Old St. Mary's in 1894 and have faithfully ministered to the people of Chinatown, Nob Hill and the Financial District ever since. A Survivor of the 1906 earthquake and fire, this major historical landmark has been retrofitted to meet new seismic codes; however, we must now comply with the American Disability Act and refurbish the interior of this beautiful old cathedral. Your prayer and financial support today will help save this beautiful landmark, preserve its rich history, and continue the welcoming presence of Old Saint Mary's Cathedral and Chinese Mission.



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Tuesday - Friday : 12:05PM

Saturday : 5:00PM Vigil Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation : by appointment only

Sunday : 9:00AM

11:00AM - Bilingual Mass*

(*Cantonese & English)

Livestreamed on YouTube*

PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor: Fr. John Ardis, CSP
Deacon Simon Tsui

Senior Priests In Residence:

Fr. Joe Scott, CSP | Fr. Richard Chilson, CSP
Fr. Tom Tavella, CSP | Fr. Michael Evernden, CSP
Fr. Steve Bossi, CSP

Parish Receptionist: Earl Fong

Admin. & Adult Faith Formation: Rachael Smit

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

For more information on the sacraments call the parish office at 415-288-3800.



WELCOME TO OLD SAINT MARY'S CATHEDRAL

A GIFT FROM THE EAST: OUR ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY A REFLECTION BY PAULIST FR. JOE SCOTT



I am so grateful to live in an Asian American community!

To those of us who worship at Old St. Mary's Cathedral and live in Chinatown, Asian Americans are NOT the other. They are our neighbors, parishioners, colleagues in ministry, friends and extended family members. They enrich our lives.

Long before the Paulist Fathers came, Old St. Mary's Cathedral was a home for Chinese families. When the Cathedral was dedicated in 1854, the Chinese were already our neighbors. They came in 1849, as the village of Yerba Buena was transforming into an explosion of urban energy named for the saint who called all creation his brothers and sisters. Chinese parents served as principals and teachers and athletic coaches to make St. Mary's School thrive for so many years.

America has not always treated its Chinese residents justly. In 1882 the Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act. Those whose blood and sweat had helped to build our national railroad system were suddenly unwelcome. This was the first time in our history we had excluded a people from our shores not due to the threat of war, but simply because they were not white. This law was renewed in 1892 and 1902, but quietly repealed in 1943, when China had become a needed ally in World War II.

In 1924, the Congress passed an Immigration Act which strongly limited any immigration except that from northern Europe. Growing up in the 1950's in New Hampshire, the only immigrants I ever met were French Canadian (not counting my Irish and Italian relatives in Boston!)

I grew up comfortable in a white American middle-class world. I didn't go to school or church with any Asian Americans. The Asian characters I saw in movies were always portrayed as sinister or clownish. I learned to be afraid of the former and laugh at the latter. Much later, I learned that the Asian parts in movies were played only by white Americans because some wonderful Asian actors were prohibited from exercising their talents. How many Chinese or Japanese Oscar winners can you recall? It's not from a want of talent!

Bigotry and violence inflicted upon innocent people are the actions most hateful to the gospel. Jesus ministers equally to Jews and Samaritans, women and men, rich and poor. In his letter to the Galatians (3:28) St. Paul says: "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free person, there is not male or female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Paul does not mean that in Jesus all people are exactly alike, he means that in Jesus all people are equal in their human dignity and their capacity for love.

In 1965 Congress passed a much different Immigration Act, which made possible the multi-ethnic nation we know today. This has been the cause of fear and anger among some, but for me it has been a blessing to get to know people whose ancestors and experiences are so different from my own.

After years of nearsightedness, I'm able to see long distance, and in much brighter colors, thanks to the skill of a Chinese doctor who removed my cataracts. I marvel at the efficiency of our Chinatown post office, after experiencing regular long lines in another city I will not mention. On Sunday at Old St. Mary's, we have a Chinese American choir in English at the 9 am Mass, a Chinese choir singing in Cantonese at 11 and a music director and pianist who hail from Japan. The music is different at each, sometimes unfamiliar, but always beautiful and prayerful. On Sundays we also have birthday parties in our parish hall, with delicious food catered from the Far East Cafe. I've learned to enjoy and celebrate the Chinese New Year and the Autumn Moon festival, and now look forward to their coming each year. At Old St. Mary's I've met Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese and Filipino parishioners who each and all enrich our community of faith and friendship.

Perhaps one of the most beautiful Chinese customs is the veneration of ancestors. We observed this at Old St. Mary's on the Sunday of the new year of the dragon. Respect for the elders. It angers me that our elderly Chinese parishioners and neighbors cannot take a walk in the fresh air, so important to survive sheltering in place, without feeling nervous or afraid. Let's not be comfortable with this. Let's not tolerate this in San Francisco or Oakland or anywhere else. Let's let our elders know they are not alone. For God's sake, let's be good Samaritans for one another!



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
April 21, 2024

EASTER NOVENA CARDS

Cards are available in the back of the church and in the church office for a Novena of Masses to be offered after Easter for the Living and Deceased. Please fill out the enclosed paper with the name of those to be remembered.

**ST MARY'S ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND
ST MARY'S CHINESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL
FRIENDS & ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**Cordially invite you to join us on
Sunday, June 2, 2024**

9:00am Mass

Honoring Fr. John Ardis and St Mary's Anniversary Classes. Hospitality to follow in the Auditorium.

11:30 - 2:30 Farewell & Reunion Luncheon

Far East Café

631 Grant Avenue
San Francisco CA 94108

Honoring anniversary classes of St. Mary's Day School and Chinese Language School

70th - Classes of 1950 to 1954
60th - Classes of 1960 to 1964
50th - Classes of 1970 to 1974

To RSVP or for any questions, contact
stmarysalumassn@gmail.com

Please RSVP by May 6, 2024

SATURDAY for ENGAGED COUPLES (SFEC)

Thinking of getting married in 2024? Take your Pre-Cana class with us. One Saturday from 8:30AM - 4:30PM.

DATES: JUNE 15 | AUG. 10 | OCT. 19 | DEC. 14

www.oldsaintmarys.org/marriage-prep

Email: tomtavella@paulist.org

WEEKLY NOONTIME CONCERTS - LIVE!

San Francisco's Musical Lunch Break

Weekly Noontime Concerts happen every Tuesday at 12:30pm at Old Saint Mary's church. For concert schedules visit www.noontimeconcerts.org, or call Robin Wirthlin at (415) 777-3211, or (415) 637-6409.

**CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL
Special Collection, April 28**

Support essential pastoral programs in financially challenged dioceses and eparchies in the U.S.

www.usccb.org/home-missions



**SPIRIT OF HECKER AWARDS
Save the date! April 27, 2024 at 5:30pm**

The Paulist Fathers' 4th Spirit of Hecker Awards will be broadcast on Facebook and YouTube. This program will honor exemplary leaders and volunteers from parishes, centers, and ministries served by Paulists, including Old Saint Mary's, in the spirit of our founder, Servant of God Isaac Hecker.

**BIBLE STUDY with Fr. Tom Tavella
Thursdays, 5PM**

Join ZOOM Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81936410610?pwd=SUpxZHVCOUU4dnZLV3dnVDh4C1J5QT09>

Meeting ID: 819 3641 0610
Passcode: 016304
ALL ARE WELCOME!

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS
Sunday, April 21**

Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the 61st World Day of Prayer for Vocations:

"Each year, the World Day of Prayer for Vocations invites us to reflect on the precious gift of the Lord's call to each of us, as members of his faithful pilgrim people, to participate in his loving plan and to embody the beauty of the Gospel in different states of life. Hearing that divine call, which is far from being an imposed duty – even in the name of a religious ideal – is the surest way for us to fulfil our deepest desire for happiness. Our life finds fulfilment when we discover who we are, . . . "

www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/vocations/documents/20240421-messaggio-61-gm-vocazioni.html

MASS INTENTIONS For The WEEK
APRIL 20 - 27, 2024

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

5:00PM +Lily Belia
HEALING - Victor Tang

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

9:00AM INTENTION - Cristina P. Receno
HEALING - Viechel Hunter

11:00AM FOR THE PEOPLE

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

12:05PM INTENTION - Paul Bui Van Na

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

12:05PM +Bernadette Mcnish
HEALING - Viechel Hunter

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

12:05PM +Emma Angbengco Marquez
+José Vázquez Díaz

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

12:05PM BIRTHDAY - Marie Joyce Silva
INTENTION - Sharon, Alex, and Family

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

5:00PM +Tim Quigley
INTENTION - Jerome Maneja

Prayers for our Sick Parishioners, Loved Ones & Friends :

Fr. Thomas Foley, CSP, Fr. Daniel McCotter, CSP,
Ida & Carolyn Hom, Johnson & Nina Leu, Stella Bielat,
Mary Nham, Arnold Low, Oscar Mendoza, Maria Tan,
Frankie Chios, Erlinda Cheng, Trish Bui



The parishioners and staff of Old Saint Mary's Cathedral and the Paulist Fathers wish you and yours all the Blessings of the Risen Lord.

We Welcome ...

People of All Faiths & All Races
People of Diverse Cultures
Divorced or Separated Persons
Families with Children
Gays & Lesbians
Homeless Persons
Loving Relationships
Married Couples
Single Persons
Those in Recovery
Travelers: Far and Near
Widows & Widowers
Visitors

We Seek ...

To Live the Gospel of Jesus Christ
To Gather the Community and tell the Story
To Break the Bread and Share the Cup

We Celebrate ...

Diversity
A Spirit of Hospitality
The Unity that God Wills
Enlightening Those who Seek God
Forming Small Faith Communities
Reaching Out to Alienated Catholics
Reverencing the Dignity of Each Person
Caring for the Needs of the Less Fortunate
Empowering Christians to Realize their Call
Providing an Oasis in the Financial District
Honoring Understanding among All Faiths
Nurturing our Gifts and Sharing Them
Supporting the Arts through Concerts
Pursuing New Ways to Serve
Being a Good Neighbor

We Treasure our Past

We Hope in the Future