

BULLETIN NUMBER 919150

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SOFTWARE

Windows Microsoft Publisher 2007

Adobe Acrobat XI

TRANSMISSION TIME : Tuesday, 11:45 A.M.

SUNDAY PUBLICATION : DECEMBER 05, 2021

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT : 1—4

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Bulletin Quantity - 100

OLD SAINT MARY'S CATHEDRAL & CHINESE MISSION

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

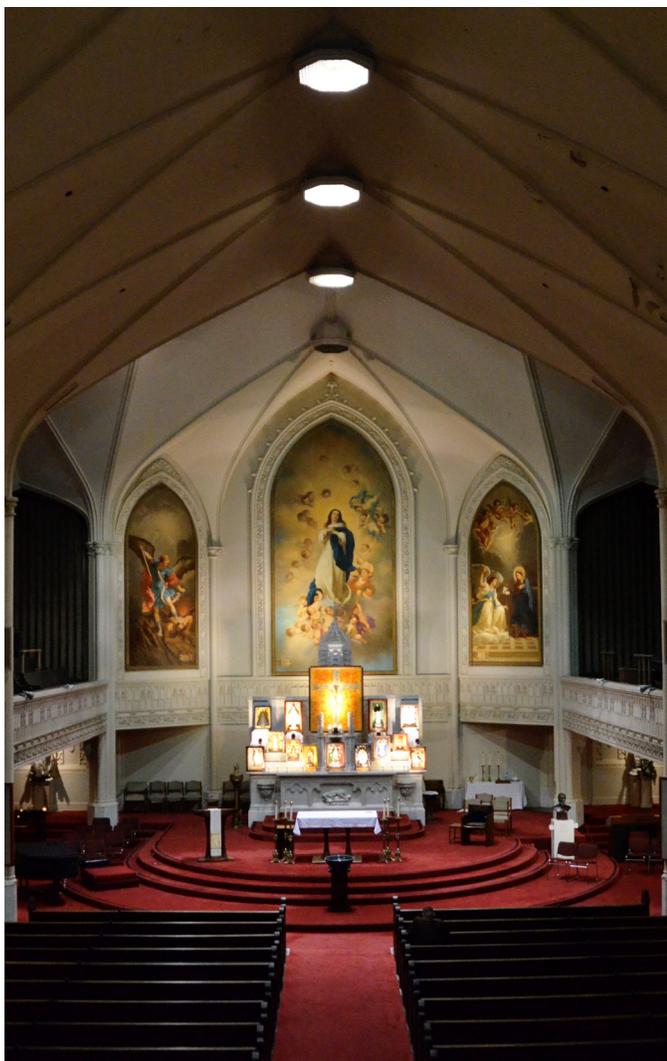
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PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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

Parochial Vicars In Residence:

Fr. Joe Scott, CSP
Fr. Tom Tavella, CSP

Parish Receptionist:

Pia Lim

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

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



All Are Welcome

Notes from the Paulist



SECRET SAINT NICHOLAS

St Nicholas, whose feast day is December 6, is at once our most famous and our least known saint. We know that he was a bishop of Myra, now in an area where few Christians live. His name appears on the list of those who attended the Council of Nicea, a major event in Christian history, but there is no record of him speaking there. The Eastern Church has icons of St. Nicholas, but if we met him on the street, there's no doubt we wouldn't recognize him.



At the same time, Nicholas is the inspiration for Santa Claus, who is known all over the world. If you visit the marketplace of Nicholas' home town today, you encounter a statue of the Santa Claus made famous first in American and then all over the world by Coca Cola.

I doubt that the true St. Nicholas would be unhappy with his present obscurity. The stories that have been passed down about indicate that he was a generous man but one who did not publicize his generosity.

The most well known story tells of a poor man who had three daughters to marry but no dowry to make these holy events possible. When the first daughter reached the proper age, a bag of gold appeared mysteriously on the poor man's windowsill. The daughter was properly married with no recognition of the anonymous donor. The same happened with the second daughter.

By the time the third daughter came of the age to marry, the poor man was ready. He wanted to thank his benefactor and, just maybe, he wanted to spread a good story. He stayed up long enough to witness his local bishop appear with the third bag of gold, and then sneak away in the darkness. Back in those days, people knew their bishop and he knew them. By the next afternoon, everyone knew the identity of the secret benefactor. They weren't surprised, for Nicholas was known for doing things like this and then keeping them quiet.

In our own time, St. Nicholas' American cousin has been the inspiration for the practice of "secret Santa." In some places of work, people draw names of a coworker to gift during the Advent season. Sometimes the gifts are completely secret and sometimes the "secret Santas" are revealed at the office Christmas party.

I prefer the completely secret kind. The mystery of not knowing reminds me that all gifts come from God. So often, people of ill will hide behind the cloak of anonymity to say or do things that are hateful or hurtful or destructive. What if we used our anonymity to say or do things that unselfishly help another or make our world a better place?

We buy lots of gifts at Christmas for those we love and those we work with and those we know.

Giving gifts gets complicated. We can lose our Christmas spirit worrying about getting exactly the right gift for someone. We worry whether we are spending too much or too little. We pay too much attention to the reaction our gift gets.

The joy of anonymous giving is that we never know who receives our gift. We don't know the recipient and he or she doesn't know the giver. This engages our imagination, which is a good thing during the Advent and Christmas seasons. We don't have to worry about whether we'll be thanked or not. We just imagine the joy and then sneak away in the shadows of our memories, just like St. Nicholas.

If you're stressed out and finding it hard to capture the Christmas spirit this year, find a way to make a meaningful gift to someone you don't know and who doesn't know you. Be a little more generous with your gift than you truly want to be.

But--if you can't think of anybody, think of the person you can't stop thinking about. The person you hate. The person who broke your heart. The person you cannot forgive. Do something truly life-giving for that person, and be absolutely sure he or she will ever know about it. If you don't want to do this, then what else is going to heal your heart?

Don't let ANYONE know. But on Christmas day, tell God about it! That will be your Christmas gift.



Fr. Joe Scott, CSP

Rejoice
Joy
Peace

**Old Saint Mary's Cathedral
& Chinese Mission**

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

- **FRIDAY, December 24th**
 4:40 - 5:00PM Mini Christmas Carols
 5:00 PM Vigil Mass
 (Traditional Christmas Music with Cantor)
- **SATURDAY, December 25th**
 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
 (11AM—Bilingual Mass)
- **SATURDAY, January 01, 2022**
 12:05 PM New Year's Day Mass

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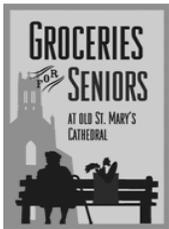


**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 05, 2021**



GROCERIES FOR SENIORS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS.

DECEMBER is a month when many of us think of giving, and volunteering is a great way to give to your community. Groceries for Seniors is looking for VOLUNTEERS to help us pack the grocery bags we deliver to over 1,100 low-income seniors each week. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 - 11AM. Groceries for Seniors' team meets in Old Saint Mary's basement to create over 200 bags of nutritious food. If you have a free morning Monday-Thursday, we hope you'll consider joining us. **For more information, please email Tim Thompson at ttgroc4sen@gmail.com**



**WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS
(December 04 - 11, 2021)**

SATURDAY, December 04

5:00PM †Dan de Jesus

SUNDAY, December 05

9:00AM †Eleanor Reiser Braband
THANKSGIVING - Rachel Telles

11:00AM **FOR THE PEOPLE**
†Mabel Chan & Peter Chan

TUESDAY, December 07

12:05PM †PRAYER - For All the Souls Departed

WEDNESDAY, December 08

12:05PM †DEATH ANNIVERSARY - Josie Macaspac

THURSDAY, December 09

12:05PM †GOOD HEALTH - James P Bautista

FRIDAY, December 10

12:05PM †INTENTIONS - Rhodora Ricardo
INTENTIONS - Milagros Aquino

SATURDAY, December 11

5:00PM ††Frances Jang
†Tessie de Dios

Prayers for our Sick Parishioners, Loved Ones, and Friends -
Xandy Alicante, Mary Nham, Frankie Chios, Catalina & Regina Bautista, John Garcia, Sorcy Apostol, Tina & Bob Panelli

BIBLE STUDY with FR. TOM TAVELLA, CSP

December 09, 2021, 5:00PM (PST)

READINGS for the THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ZEP 3:14-18A; PHIL 4: 4-7; LUKE 3: 10-18

Join ZOOM Meeting :
Meeting ID: 871 8252 1910
Passcode: 332406



**SUNDAY HAPPY HOUR
With FR. TOM TAVELLA
Sundays, 4PM (PT)**

Join ZOOM Meeting -
Meeting ID: 854 9283 6513
Passcode: 003859



We Welcome . . .

*People of All Faiths & All Races
People of Diverse Cultures
Divorced or Separated Persons
Families with Children
Gays, Lesbians, & Transgenders
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

