

St. Ignatius of Antioch

December 10, 2017– Second Sunday of Advent

Address: 3351 Contra Loma Boulevard, Antioch CA 94509-5468

Parish Office: (925) 778-0768 ● Fax: (925) 778-0845 ● Faith Formation: (925) 778-1631 ● Rectory: (925) 470-3253

E-mail: st.ignatius@sbcglobal.net ● Website: www.stignatiusofantioch.org

● facebook: www.facebook.com/stignatiusofantiochchurch

Second Sunday of Advent Candle of **HOPE**



Mission Statement:

United in Faith, Ignited by the Spirit, We Reflect the Light of the Living Christ

Fr. Robert K. Rien
Pastor

Fr. George Griener, S.J.
Assisting Clergy

Fr. Richard Mangini
Assisting Clergy

Deacon Gary Hack
Permanent Deacon

Don Pearson
Director of Music, Organist,
Artist in Residence

Frances Rojek
Pastoral Associate,
Formation & Administration

Peter Degl'Innocenti
Pastoral Associate, Pastoral Care

Carolyn Krantz, M.Div.
Pastoral Associate, Social Justice

Maryann Peddicord
Pastoral Secretary

Estrella Rusk
Financial Secretary

Rich Confetti
Facilities Manager

Eucharist Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4 pm (New Time)
Sunday: 8 am & 10 am
Mon., Wed., Fri.: 8 am Holy Eucharist
Tue., Thur.: 8 am Liturgy of the Word
and Holy Communion

Holy Days: 8 am & 7:30 pm
Reconciliation: Saturday, 2:45 to 3:30 pm

Faith Formation Office: (925) 778-1631

Sacraments: Contact Parish Office: (925) 778-0768

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

For Ministries, Activities & Outreaches in Parish: see Parish handbook, available in the Office.



**December 10, 2017
Second Sunday
of Advent**

*Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.*

— Mark 1:3

Stewardship

Thank you for the gift of your Time, your Talent and your Treasure to St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish.

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be.” —Matthew 6:21

Stewardship of Treasure

Our goal for weekly plate collections is: \$12,500.00

Weekend Offering for November 25-26

Weekend Offering.....\$9,506.18

Looking Ahead

December 13: “Los Posadas, Journey to the Inn” beginning at 6:15 pm. Join our Faith Formation Classes for the traditional Journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. See page 7 for details.

December 15: Brentwood Community Chorus & The Celebration Ringers Handbell Choir Christmas Concert at 7:30 p.m. with a reception following in the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

December 16: Simbang Gabi begins at 5 am.

Ongoing:

Tuesdays: 9:15 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. - Hula Class in the Parish Hall. Contact Samantha Peralto at 726-7117 for information or questions.

Thursday: Growing in Faith Together (G I F T) sessions - 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. - Parish Hall. Call the Faith Formation office for more details (778-1631).

Schedule of Events

Sunday, December 10

- 8 am & 10 am Liturgies
- Second Collection for Religious Retirement
- Confirmation I & II Meet - 12 noon to 1:15 pm - Parish Hall

Monday, December 11

- Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am
- No SPRED this month
- RCIA meets - 7 to 8:30 pm - Parish Office

Tuesday, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

- Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion - 8 am
- Adult Confirmation Class Meets - 7:30 to 9 pm - Parish Office

Wednesday, December 13

- Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am with Novena following - Church
- “Los Posadas, Journey to the Inn” with the Faith Formation Classes - 6:15 to 7:30 pm - Church & Parish Hall (Sponsored by the Confirmation Class and Knights of Columbus)

Thursday, December 14

- Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am
- Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 pm to 9 pm – Church

Friday, December 15

- Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am
- Brentwood Community Chorus & The Celebration Ringers Handbell Choir Christmas Concert - 7:30 pm - Reception to follow - Church and Parish Hall

Saturday, December 16

- Simbang Gabi - 5 am Liturgy - Church
- 4 pm Liturgy

Sunday, December 17

- Simbang Gabi - 5 am Liturgy - Church
- 8 am & 10 am Liturgies
- Confirmation I & II Meet - 12 noon to 1:15 pm - Parish Hall

Pray for the Sick

Remember in your prayers all those who are sick or suffering in any way, especially:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Angelina Alphonso | Robin Goncalves | Tylor Rideau |
| Rocco Battaglia | Avelina Gordovez | Kim Tank |
| Rosita Bonayon | Linda Morrison | Peter Villalpando |
| Tom Bresciani | Jose Guillermino | Theresa Weathers |
| Todd Campbell | Ramos | Guy Worth |
| Dorothy | | |

Members of our Parish Family who are in the Military, hospitals, nursing homes, shut-ins and all those who have no one to pray for them.

Readings for the Week

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Monday | Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26 |
| Tuesday | Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47 |
| Wednesday | Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30 |
| Thursday | Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15 |
| Friday | Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19 |
| Saturday | Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13 |
| Sunday | Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28 |

Lay Ministers—Week of Dec 16th & Dec 17th

4 pm: Lectors – Melodye Costanza, Therese Kain; **Head Cup** – Pam Confetti; **Head Host** – Marla Plurkowski; **Host** – Nancy DiMaggio, Kathy Augusta; **Cup** – Rhoda Herrera, Christoph Holl, Jessie Okon

8 am: Lectors – Timothy Cox, Kathleen Hayakawa; **Head Cup** - Crispina Malonosan; **Head Host** – Nick Suarez; **Host** – Jenawati Kwa, Vianney Mendoza, Jeanne Reilly, Jeannine Ford; **Cup** - Edith Quiambao, Romero Quiambao, Natalia Joyce, Frank Kauer, Monika Kauer; **Server** - Chauncey Lewis, Aizaiah Laxamana

10 am: Lectors – William Necor, Corrine Bielejeski; **Head Cup** – Amante Asuncion; **Head Host** – Jane Sharpe; **Host** – Gloria Asuncion, Helga Boardman, Cynthia Enrique, Angelina Guieb-Alphonso; **Cup** – Steven Andreatta, Mark Costanza, Lee Oliver, Samantha Peralto, Estrella Rusk; **Servers** – Jacob Mirano, Noah Mirano

Fr. George Presiding and Preaching at 4 pm

Fr. Robert Presiding and Preaching at 8 am

Fr. Mangini Presiding and Fr. George Preaching at 10 am

Mass Intentions for the Week

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Sat. 4:00 pm | Albert Perez † |
| Sun. 8:00 am | Lola Sorenson † |
| Sun. 10:00 am | Sheryl Young Benson † |
| Mon. 8:00 am | Our Parish Family |
| Tues. 8:00 am | All Priests & Deacons |
| Wed. 8:00 am | Magdalena Dizon † |
| Thur. 8:00 am | All First Responders |
| Fri. 8:00 am | All Military Men & Women |

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the souls of **Mildred Arnold and Lim Lau Wong**. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

St. Vincent De Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is requesting the following food items:

2 lb. bag White Rice

Canned Tuna - 5 oz.

Chicken Noodle Soup - 10. 5 oz.

Please bring your donations to weekend liturgies or place them in the donation barrel in the Narthex.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

If you can help or need help call (925)757-0941
Food Pantry - Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9-10 am - Parish Center *

Food Bank Fresh Food Truck - 1st & 3rd Friday of the month 1-2 pm Church Parking lot *Most Holy Rosary.

If you can just once a month visit a needy family with us to offer them help call (925)757-0941

For every type of help from the country call 211 or go to: www.211database.org

Marriage Preparation Programs

“A Program to Prepare Couples for the Sacrament of Marriage.” The last Marriage Preparation Registration for the Summer Sessions is as follows:

Saturday, January 13th - 8:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.³

Location: St. Vincent’s Marinwood -
1 Saint Vincents Drive San Rafael, CA

The cost is \$325.00 per couple. For more information, call (415) 699-8348.

Most Holy Rosary School

Holy Rosary School is now Accepting Applications for grades Pre-K through 8th grade for the School Year 2018-2019.

Holy Rosary also offers Pre-School Learning Center for 2 & 3 year olds.

Application packets are available for pick up at the school office, or visit the website at www.holyrosarycatholicschool.org. For questions or to schedule a tour: Call 925-757-1270.

St. Joseph Missals Have Arrived

If you would like to purchase a St. Joseph Missal for the new liturgical year through the parish, please contact the parish office at (925) 778-0768. The cost is \$4.00.

Shelter Inc.—Contra Costa

Help needed to provide, cook and serve dinner at Mountain View Emergency Family Shelter.

Volunteers are needed to provide and serve dinner for homeless families living at this emergency shelter in Martinez. By providing a meal, you’re providing a family dining experience while ensuring no one goes hungry. Your participation and support is greatly appreciated.

Location: 1391 Shell Avenue, Martinez, CA
(entrance is on Orchard Avenue).

For more information or questions about volunteering, please contact Stephanie Harrison at (925) 228-6920 or at StephanieH@shelterinc.org.

Adult Confirmation Classes

All those seeking the benefits of the sacrament of Confirmation who are already baptized and will be 18 years of age or older on January 13th, are urged to call Pastoral Associate, Peter Degl’Innocenti, immediately at (925) 756-6172. Four classes will be given on Tuesday nights starting December 19th at 7:30 pm in the Parish Office. Confirmation will be held on January 13th at the Cathedral of Christ the Light at 10:00 am. Registration deadline is December 22nd. Call now!

Christmas Cocktail Party



Hosted by Joe and Theresa Nelms’ from 4:00 to 8:00 pm at their lovely home in Clayton on Sunday, December 10th. This was one of the fundraising items at the Gala Dinner, and the Nelms’ wanted to open it up to everyone. Come and tour

their beautifully decorated home in the Christmas spirit and see how each room has its own theme and tree! The cost is \$50.00 per person or \$100 per couple. The proceeds benefit our Parish Operating Account. Space is limited, so please call the Parish Office for reservations and directions. You won’t want to miss this holiday extravaganza!

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

“Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God.” Let us learn to comfort each other better by attending a World Wide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend with our spouse.

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are held at **San Damiano Retreat Center**, Danville on January 12-14th or May 18th-20th. Space is VERY limited! Early registration is highly recommended. For more information contact Greg & Mary @ 925-754-1284 or Joe & Sue @ 925-680-7767 now or go to oaklandwwme.org.

Justice Corner

By Carolyn Krantz...Pastoral Associate

There are many appearances of and devotions to the Blessed Mother. She seems to have come to different cultures at varying times to encourage us to honor her Son and to exhort us to live good lives. Each different appearance has a specific character. She has spoken to children, peasants, and other poor and disenfranchised folks and is honored in most countries. She is truly a "world famous" person.

The feast that most appeals to me is Our Lady of Guadalupe, honored by Mexicans and many other South American cultures. She first appeared to Juan Diego, an Indian laborer in December of 1531. As he neared the hill of Tepeyac he heard birds singing. Later he was told to gather beautiful flowers at her feet, take them to the bishop and tell him she wanted a church built there in her honor. The text of what happened was written down by Antonio Valeriano and is known as the Nican Mopohua (Here is told).

She appeared as a pregnant Indian woman with a traditional sash around her waist. There were rays coming from her body. This was ten years after the Spanish had viciously conquered the Indian tribes. 85% of them were wiped out by war or disease. She came to assure them that they would continue as a race of peoples as long as they followed the words of her Son. She stands for justice in the midst of the abuse of power that conquering people inflicted on the indigenous people of the Americas. She says to us today that justice will overcome greed and power.

There are parts of the story that are charming and interesting: The bishop did not believe that the Lady appeared to an Indian. The class system was a part of the conquerors mindset and indigenous folks were thought to be "less than" others. It was only when he unfolded his tilma (cloak) and revealed her image that the "Governing priest" believed. The image imprinted on the cloak is still with us in the Mexico City Cathedral. It is the image that we see reproduced in most of our churches.

There is unique language used between the Lady and Juan. She says, "I am the Mother of the one great God of truth who gives us life, the inventor and creator of people, the Owner and Lord of what is around us and what is touching us or very close to us... I will give Him to the people in all my personal love, in my compassionate gaze, in my help, in my salvation because I am truly your compassionate Mother." When Juan did not succeed the first time, he begged her to send someone more important so the "Governing Bishop" would believe him, but she said, "It is very necessary that you, personally go and plead my wish." She wanted to give credibility to the indigenous people. She stands with the poor and disinherited of this world.

When Juan is worried about his sick uncle the Lady says, "The thing that afflicted you is nothing. Do not let it disturb you. Do not fear... any sharp or hurtful thing. Am I not here, I who am your Mother?...Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms?...Let nothing else worry you." Such beautiful imagery is helpful to us in dealing with the trials of this day.

Pride, worry and doubt have no place when we are united to the Lord and His Mother. There is no classism, no prejudice in the reign of God. An attitude of respect for all creation is present in the words, the flowers and the singing of birds in this event. Long before Pope Francis wrote "Our Common Home," there was respect and care taught through this appearance of the Lady. People have marveled at this event ever since.

Parish Perspective

By Peter Degl'Innocenti...Pastoral Associate

Channeling Advent

We are now full-blown into the season of Advent, the beginning of the new liturgical year. Our church, once crowded with pumpkins, autumn trees, and massive cornucopia, is now sparse but smartly decorated in the sarum blue of Mary. "It looks so empty" one parishioner was heard to say. Well, that's the point! The church is supposed to look like something is needed; that something that belongs here, is missing. What is missing is the master of the house, Jesus Christ.

The season and environment of Advent are designed to move our hearts to recognize the one we miss most, Jesus. Only during Lent is the church environment changed to reflect a more profound emptiness and longing for Christ. Advent is our season for diligently looking for the return of Christ. It is a time for hope beyond what we deserve; to be a part and witness of Jesus' return. It is also a time of looking inward to evaluate our readiness and preparedness to return to him by our own mortality. This is a time of union with Jesus through either promise or grace.

As we look at the world around us we can't help but feel the excitement of Christmas approaching. Another sold-out St. Nicholas Dinner event would have passed. Even we succumb to the pressures of time; to get everything done by Dec. 25th. The *Hallmark Channel* has been playing Christmas movies since before Thanksgiving. I guess they want to show every production they ever recorded at least ten times before Christmas rolls around. I told my wife that she was going to wear that channel out if she kept watching it over and over. You know it's getting to be a bit much when you can recognize "extras" from one movie to the next.

With a new year and season there are always new phases in life to which we must adjust. For some of us, it will be the first Christmas with a newborn. Others may face the first Christmas without someone they have loved and lived with through their entire lives. Yet others may at long last find their own place as their true selves among family, friends, and the community of the Church. Whatever the situation may be, we can rest assured in the fact that though we wait for Christ's physical return, He is always here with us in word and sacrament. No matter what may separate us from our loved ones, our communion with Christ reunites us all in his eternal life.

Just a funny thought; Psalm 23 states "...He leads me into verdant (green) pastures" a symbol of God's providence. You can't turn good actors out to pasture like you can a cow or a horse. Seems they just get shuffled-off to the *Hallmark Channel*. I told you it was on too much!



St. Ignatius of Antioch Knights of Columbus honor Firefighter of the year.

Our Knights of Columbus honored the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Firefighter of the year on Monday, November 27, 2017. Father Robert, along with several brother Knights, travelled to Station 84 in Pittsburg to honor Captain-Paramedic Don McClellan.



YLI Annual Comfort Bag Drive

YLI is currently accepting donations toward their annual Comfort Bags drive. Any unopened, unused personal hygiene items, especially the travel sized ones you may have collected from your hotel stays, are great. Please make sure that any donated products are alcohol free. (Be weary of dental products, perfumes, and hand sanitizers).

We are also accepting donations of new women's, men's and children's socks. Donations can be delivered to our church in the box in the Narthex as labeled.

(Do not place items in the barrel)

For questions please contact Tina Gutilla at 925-642-1465 or Jeannine Ford at 925-757-9650.


**THE BRENTWOOD
COMMUNITY CHORUS**
 With
The Celebration Ringers Handbell Choir
 Presents
THE SEASON OF SONG
 Friday, December 15, 2017
 7:30 p.m.
**ST. IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
 Free Will offering
 Reception to follow

Las Posadas "Journey to the Inn"



Join our Faith Formation Classes
On Wednesday December 13
for the traditional
Journey of Mary and Joseph
to Bethlehem
Prayer service begins at 6:15 PM
Celebration follows in Parish Hall
Until 7:30 PM

Sponsored by our Confirmation Class
And the Knights of Columbus



*SIMBANG GABI
2017*

You are invited to join our Filipino Community for the traditional nine-day novena of liturgies up to Christmas, beginning December 16th through the 24th at 5:00 a.m. each morning at St. Ignatius of Antioch Church, 3351 Contra Loma Blvd., Antioch. It will be followed by a traditional Filipino Breakfast in our parish hall.

Thank you & Mabuhay!

