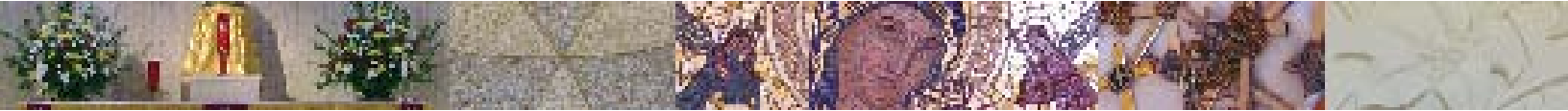


# Saint Francis de Sales Church Bulletin

November 29, 2009 ~ Sherman Oaks, California



## **REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK AND RECOVERING OF OUR COMMUNITY *especially***

David Story, Brooks Paul, Margaret Tarin Hensley, Olga D'Este, Catherine Street, Faye Schafuss, Ernest Dewsnap, Clarita Hernandez, Alicia Gomez, Susan Dalgleish, Melissa Manning Wilmot, Marilyn Bardwil, Robina Dumas, Floyd Romeck, Theresia Hubel, Rocco Carter, Peter Thompson, Calleigh Stone, Micki Kadar, Monica A. Faraldo, Steve Mccahulk, Sam Sosna, Rocco Wren, Kelly Hare, Joey Harper, Sr. Ellen Marie McGovern, Jane Faurot, Dee Gillespie, Emma Ramirez, Cynthia Kotzman, Lucy Fleming McGrath, Sr. Greta Stewart, Teresa Pina-Jiminez, Spencer Hawk, Jennifer Robin, and Eileen Breedon.

## **PRAY FOR OUR ARMED FORCES**

Michael Lucas-US Navy, Mike McCarthy-US Navy, Monica A. Faraldo-US Army

*In your prayers this week, please remember the repose of the soul of Mary Arnerich*

## **MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

SATURDAY- NOVEMBER 28

8:30 AM -In Memory of Jo Clancy

5:00 PM -In Memory of Carol Gurse

SUNDAY- NOVEMBER 29

8:00 AM -For the Intentions of the Parish

10:00 AM -In Memory of Jack & Helen Ban

12:00 PM -In Memory of Mary Arnerich

5:00 PM -For the Intentions David Story

MONDAY- NOVEMBER 30

8:30 AM -In Memory of Darren Dahlman

TUESDAY- DECEMBER 1

8:30 AM -In Memory of Joanne Forrest

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2

8:30 AM -For the Intentions of Alberto Campain Jr.

THURSDAY- DECEMBER 3

8:30 AM -In Memory of Noelle Mazza

FRIDAY- DECEMBER 4

8:30 AM -In Memory of Mary Ann Walsh

SATURDAY- DECEMBER 5

8:30 AM -In Memory of Jesus Lammatao

5:00 PM -For the Intentions of Barbara Welsh

## **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS (12/6)**

*First Reading - Stand on the heights, Jerusalem; see your children rejoicing that they are remembered by God. A merciful and just God leads Israel in joy (Baruch 5:1-9).*

*Psalm - The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).*

*Second Reading - May your love increase in knowledge to discern what is valuable that you may be blameless for the day of Christ (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11).*

*Gospel - John proclaims a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All flesh shall see the salvation of God (Luke 3:1-6).*

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**"Our mission is to help our Parish Family discover rewarding and fulfilling opportunities to grow spiritually; to form relationships; to serve Our Lord and to help others."**



## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday 11/29

Monday 11/30

No School for SFDS students, Parent Teacher conferences.

Tuesday 12/1

7PM-RCIA. Parish Center.

Wednesday 12/2

3-PM-Children's Choir practice. In Church.

7:30PM-Meditation Prayer group.

Thursday 12/3

9AM-Bible Study. Parish Center.

Friday 12/4

First Friday Adoration.

Saturday 12/5

8:30AM-Mass

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CHURCH

Week of 11/12-11/18 Collection.

Collection \$10,722.00

Parish Pay \$ 1,711.00

Total \$12,433.00

Thank you for your contributions.

## SAVE THE DATES & DEADLINES

December 2ND: Glory of Christmas at Crystal Cathedral & Knott's Chicken Dinner.

December 10th: Welk Resort Theatre: Tour includes "A Christmas Carol" at the Welk Theatre; Deluxe Bus Transportation; Buffet Lunch; Stop at Tom's Farm on the way home: 9am-8:30pm - \$99.

December 14th: Annual Member Christmas Luncheon.

sponsored by the Knights and Scholarship Committee

Make Reservations now for upcoming trips sponsored by the SFDS Knights of Columbus and the Adult Club: call Cora Kinsella for details: 818-990-5196.

## FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament will take place following the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Friday, December 4th, in the Children's Chapel. Benediction and reposition will take place at right after mass with services and adoration ending at 9:45 a.m.

## CUB SCOUT PACK 74 TOY DRIVE

Cub Scout Pack 74 invites the Saint Francis Parish to join it in an Advent celebration: The Second Annual Toy Drive for the children of the San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission and Loaves & Fishes. Last year, the Parish Center dining room saw boxes stacked to the ceiling with toys of every type. Your generosity was beyond belief. Just days before Christmas, our scouts personally distributed the collection to young children of similar ages to themselves. On that day, there wasn't a frown to be found. Please bring a smile to a young boy or girl in our community by joining in this year's drive. There will be Christmas decorated collection bins to receive your unwrapped toys located in the church vestibules during the drive, December 1-18th.





### **ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES**

- St. Joseph the Worker December 9 7 pm
  - St. John Eudes December 14 7:30pm
  - St. Bridget of Sweden December 14 7pm
  - St Catherine of Siena December 14 7:30pm
  - St. Mel December 15 7pm
  - St. Bernardine of Siena December 15 7:30pm
  - St. John Baptist De la Salle December 16\* 7:30pm
  - St. Euphrasia December 16 7:30pm
  - St. Cyril of Jerusalem December 21 7:30pm
  - Our Lady of the Valley December 21 7:30pm
  - Our Lady of Grace December 21 7pm
  - St. Francis de Sales December 22 7pm
  - Our Lady of Lourdes December 22 7:30pm
- \* Will be held at St. Euphrasia.

### **SFDS GIVING TREE**

Our Annual SFDS Christmas “Giving Tree” is coming to the Children’s Chapel and will be decorated with gift tags, each bearing the name and the age of a needy individual. You, our generous parishioners, are invited to take home a tag (or two!) and add this person to your Christmas list. We ask that you buy a new item of your choosing for the individual, wrap the gift and return the gift with the gift tag on it to the Parish Office by Sunday, December 20th.

This year our gifts will go to benefit the Good Shepherd Shelter in Los Angeles. The mission of the Good Shepherd Shelter is to provide a temporary haven for battered and abused women and their children. The shelter provides a safe and loving community where mothers can address the painful past and begin new, violence-free lives. At Good Shepherd Shelter, the mothers choose to break the cycle of abuse and take on the leadership of and responsibility for their families. The long-term care guides families through the complex social, psychological and educational issues that confront them. There are currently twelve families of battered and abused women with their children residing at the Good Shepherd Shelter in Los Angeles. Please open your hearts to these needy families, especially during this holiday season.

### **SFDS ADULT CLUB 2009 PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

- Luncheon Meetings: - Every 3rd Monday of the month. Call Maurine Backus at 818-784-0605 or Renee O’Malley at (818) 986-6369 for reservations..
- Club Membership: Join the SFDS Adult Club and its many year-long activities and projects for only \$15. Call Cora Kinsella for membership at (818) 990-5196.
- Board Meetings: Last Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Center.
- Executive Committee Meetings: Last Wednesday of each month in Parish Center at 1:30 pm.
- Free Beach Parking at County Beaches for 62+: obtain your parking passes (M-F) by sending a copy of your driver’s license and car registration to Department of Beaches and Harbors, 13837 Fiji Way, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292 or call (310) 305-9503.

### **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN**

Tuesday, December 8th, is the Immaculate Conception of our Lady, a holy day of obligation. The Blessed Virgin under the title of the Immaculate Conception is the patroness of the United States. Since it is the feast of the patroness of the country the Immaculate Conception is observed as a holy day regardless of what day the 8th may fall. Masses on the Immaculate Conception are at 8:30 am, 12:05 pm and 7:30 pm.





## HIGH SCHOOLS OPEN HOUSE

LOUISVILLE December 6 11am-2 pm

MAYFIELD December 6 1-4 pm

IMMACULATE HEART December 6 1-4 pm

LOYOLA December 13 1-4 pm

For more details about the High Schools, please call them directly.

## SIMBANG GABI AT ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

Simbang Gabi, the Novena of Masses from December 16 through December 24, is a cherished custom in the Philippines. St. Jane Frances will offer its Simbang Gabi on December 18th. St. Charles Borromeo will offer its Simbang Gabi on December 19th. St. Francis de Sales will offer its Simbang Gabi on Monday, December 21 at 7:00 pm.

## BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD...

All are welcome to join the SFDS Meditation Prayer Group. We meet every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. for one hour in the church. The group follows the teachings of Fr. John Main, a Benedictine Monk, who uses a combination of silence, stillness and prayer. Those who are drawn to silent meditation as a way of experiencing the divine presence in their lives are encouraged to attend. "God is not only out there but also within."

To learn more about the group's practice, go online to

The World Community of Christian Meditation at [www.wccm.com](http://www.wccm.com).

## 78th Annual Celebration in Honor of the Virgin of Guadalupe

Date: Sunday, December 6th

Time: 12 noon

Place: Procession begins at corner of Cesar Chavez and Ford Blvd In East Los Angeles and ends with Mass at East Los Angeles College Stadium.

Information: [www.LA-peregrinos.org](http://www.LA-peregrinos.org) or call St. Marcellinus Parish at 323-269-2733. All are invited.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP SETUP VIRTUAL ROSARY PILGRIMAGE PROJECT

Volunteers, especially catechists, youth ministers, deacons, are needed to assist with a virtual Marian "shrine" pilgrimage and Rosary exhibit. "Family Rosary Pilgrimage: Around the World with Mary" will be held December 8 - 11 in the gym at Rancho San Antonio Boys Home, Chatsworth. This project is sponsored by Holy Cross Family Ministries, founded by Servant of God Father Patrick Peyton, CSC. Volunteers will help set up the exhibits for various displays on the Rosary, greet the children and staff exhibits among other tasks. Call 1-800-299-7729, Ext. 2023 or email [FamilyRosaryPilgrimage@hcfm.org](mailto:FamilyRosaryPilgrimage@hcfm.org).

## SFDS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Support the SFDS Scholarship Fund. Simply register your Ralphs, Vons, Macys and Albertsons loyalty cards to SFDS and earn money while you shop. It is as simple as that. Last year we earned over \$2100 for the scholarship fund. If you need more information call Lisa Sanders at the Parish Center or email the scrip office at [mrebbe@stfrancisds.org](mailto:mrebbe@stfrancisds.org). Remember, you must register your cards EVERY year to continue earning money for SFDS.



## **KNIGHTS NEWS**

SFDS Knights will have its monthly clothing and non-perishable food collection for the poor and homeless in our community every First Sunday of the month.

Please bring your items to the Church and drop off before or after Masses in the bins provided.

Loaves and Fishes is in real need for the increased number of people requiring assistance.

## **EARNING 4 LEARNING**

at The Westfield Fashion Square in Sherman Oaks

Participating in Earning 4 Learning is easy! Westfield Sherman Oaks Fashion Square is donating to local schools as part of their customer appreciation program. They give SFDS 10 points for every dollar spent for most shops & food court eateries at the mall (5 points per dollar for Macy's and Bloomingdales). The more points we have, the more money SFDS School earns. There is no catch and no cost to you. Just buy the things you normally would at the Sherman Oaks Fashion Square & then show your receipts to the Concierge (located on the first floor by Pottery Barn.) Receipts are logged, stamped and returned to you. All of your regular and holiday shopping, as well as your food court purchases qualify! The program runs from November 1st to May 31st. From November to December, please collect your receipts as the turn in dates do not start until January 1st. (However, November and December receipts apply once registered in January.) For more information, you can log onto [http://www.shoppingpartnership.com/points/westfield\\_fashion\\_square.htm](http://www.shoppingpartnership.com/points/westfield_fashion_square.htm)

## **BOX TOPS 4 EDUCATION**

This is a great way to raise money for the school and is absolutely free! Just look for the pink labels on your favorite foods, shopping items, and office products. Clip & save them. When you have a bunch, bring them to the School or Scrip office and we will do the rest! Hundreds of dollars have been earned through the years, helping SFDS to buy much needed curriculum materials for the school.

Recycle Used Cell Phones and Printer Cartridges

Did you know SFDS earns money on every used printer cartridge and cell phone? Please bring to the School or Scrip office and we'll turn them in for cash back to the school.

## **FREE PRE-CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

The Schola Cantorum of the Pacific choir will present an Advent Concert "In Renaissance Style" on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, November 29th, at the San Fernando Mission. The concert will begin at 3:00 in the afternoon. The Mission is at 15151 San Fernando Mission Blvd. in Mission Hills.

## **IS THIS MOVIE SUITABLE FOR MY CHILDREN?**

Reviews and ratings of an extensive list of movies, both current and archived is available at [www.usccb.org/movies/](http://www.usccb.org/movies/). This service is provided by the U.S. Catholic Bishops' Office of Film and Broadcasting.

## **AN IRISH CHRISTMAS**

Lift your spirits this Christmas season with a joyful and "rip-roaring" Christmas night in Ireland. David Munnely, Irish button accordion wizard and sensational Celtic Fiddler, Kathleen Keane, Sirocco, three Irish sisters singing Christmas songs and The Kerry Dance Troupe. Come join the feast of Irish music, dance, song, and storytelling in a night celebrating family life, friendship, and community.

Sunday, November 29th at 2 p.m. at the Irvine Barclay Theatre, (929) 854-4646.

More dates and venues are listed on the website, please reserve tickets early before the best seats are gone. Visit [www.kerryrecords](http://www.kerryrecords) for more details or call 818 784-3805.

## **FINGERPRINTING**

If anyone works with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, they would have been fingerprinted. Aides, CYO coaches, volunteers can get fingerprinted on:

Friday, December 4th at St. Didacus in Sylmar, from 12-3:40 p.m. and 5:20-7:20 p.m. Call (818) 367-6181 for an appointment.

Friday, December 11th at Santa Rosa in San Fernando, from 12-3:40 p.m. and 5:20-7:20 p.m.. Call (818) 361-4617 ext.451 for an appointment.

## **PRAYER FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS**

Father, in every generation You provide  
Ministers of Christ and the Church.  
We come before you now, asking that You  
Call forth more men to serve our Archdiocese  
In the ministerial priesthood.  
Give us priests who will lead and guide  
Your holy people gathered by Word and Sacrament.  
Bless us with priestly vocations so that we can continue  
To be a truly Eucharistic Church,  
Strengthened in our discipleship of Jesus Christ,  
Your only son.  
Raise up, we pray, men who are generous in their service,  
Willing to offer their lives and all their gifts  
For Your greater glory and for the good of Your people.  
We make our prayer in the presence and power  
Of the Holy Spirit, through Christ, Our Lord. Amen

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

### **Monitoring Your Child's Text Messages**

Recent news reports included the story of a 35-year-old man exchanging explicit text messages with a 14-year-old girl. Being able to recognize text messaging "meeting codes" can help parents be more effective monitors of their child's safety. Meeting codes are used by strangers to gain information about people they don't know or to arrange a first meeting. They can be used between friends, but most are more commonly used in other circumstances. For example, "S2R" means "Send to receive (pictures)," and "WYRN" means "What's your real name?" A helpful tutorial for parents is located at [www.mahalo.com](http://www.mahalo.com). Type: "How to understand your kids' text messages" in the search box.

For particular help, you may call Assistance Ministry at 213- 637-7650.

### **SAINT JOHN OF DAMASCUS (c. 675-749) December 4**

From almost 1300 years ago, John's message for the church's spirituality and mission is surprisingly contemporary. Pope Benedict says that, in our modern culture of images, sacred images often speak more eloquently than words. This "incarnational theology," the concept that visible, tangible elements can give believers access to divine realities beyond, found an eloquent champion in John of Damascus. He challenged the Iconoclasts (image-breakers), whose misinterpretation of the biblical prohibition of idolatrous images (Exodus 20:4-5) led them to campaign for the destruction of all sacred art. Before this controversy, however, John bore witness to Christ in a way that provides a timely example for Christians in today's pluralistic society. Succeeding his grandfather and father, John served as chief financial officer to the Muslim Caliph, professing his Christian faith without compromise, while winning the esteem of his Islamic sovereign by his competence and integrity. No wonder John could eloquently defend icons as "windows into heaven"-he had already learned to see Christ in the living icons of people different from himself yet fashioned in the same divine image!

-Peter Scagnelli, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

