

Saint Francis de Sales Church Bulletin

December 6, 2009 ~ Sherman Oaks, California



In your prayers, please remember the repose of the soul of our dearly departed

Remember to pray for the sick & recovering of our community *especially*

Moe Rush-Bryant, David Story, Brooks Paul, Margaret Tarin Hensley, Olga D'Este, Catherine Street, Faye Schafuss, Ernest Dewsnap, Clarita Hernandez, Alicia Gomez, Susan Dalglish, 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. Jane Faurot, Dee Gillespie, Emma Ramirez, Cynthia Kotzman, Lucy Fleming McGrath, Sr. Greta Stewart, Teresa Pina-Jiminez, Spencer Hawk, Jennifer Robin, and Eileen Breeden.

Pray for our Armed Forces *especially*

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

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY- DECEMBER 5

8:30 AM -In Memory of Jesus Lammatao

5:00 PM -For the Intentions of Barbara Welsh

SUNDAY- DECEMBER 6

8:00 AM -For the Intentions of Moe Bryant

10:00 AM -In Memory of Charles M. Naegle

12:00 PM -In Memory of Elizabeth Dinwiddie

5:00 PM -For the Intentions of the Parish

MONDAY- DECEMBER 7

8:30 AM -For the Intentions of Paul & Joanne Green

TUESDAY- DECEMBER 8

8:30 AM -In Memory of Luz Villareal

12:05 PM -For the Intentions of Irma J. Lepo

7:30 PM -For the U. S. Military Service

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9

8:30 AM -For the Intentions of John & Suzanne Sonne

THURSDAY- DECEMBER 10

8:30 AM -In Memory of Harry O'Mara

FRIDAY- DECEMBER 11

8:30 AM -For the Intentions of Donna Carino

SATURDAY- DECEMBER 12

8:30 AM -In Memory of Bob De Chellis

5:00 PM -For the Intentions of the Parish

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.”



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS (12/13)

First Reading - Shout for joy! Sing joyfully! Be glad and exult! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior (Zephaniah 3:14-18a).

Psalm - Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12).

Second Reading - Rejoice! The Lord is near. Make your requests known to God (Philippians 4:4-7).

Gospel - John tells his hearers to share their possessions with the needy; be honest; do not threaten or accuse others falsely (Luke 3:10-18).

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday 12/6

8:45 a.m. – Teen Confirmation. Parish Center.

9:00 a.m. – Cre Classes.

10:00 a.m. – Little Church.

11am-Donuts After Mass.

Monday 12/7

6:00 p.m. – Soup & Cinema.

Tuesday 12/8 The Immaculate Conception

A Holy Day Of Obligation.

Masses At 8:30 a.m., 12:05 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m. – Rcia. Parish Center.

Wednesday 12/9

3:00 p.m. – Children's Choir Practice. In Church.

7:30 pm-Meditation Prayer Group.

Thursday 12/10

9:00 a.m. – Bible Study. Parish Center.

Sunday 12/13 Holy Land Articles For Sale. See Below.

9:00 a.m. – Cre Classes.

10:00 a.m. – Little Church.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CHURCH

Week of 11/19-11/25 Collection.

Collection \$ 9,881.00

Parish Pay \$ 1,711.00

Total \$11,592.00

Thank you for your contributions.





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 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.

SFDS Knight Awarded "Knight of the Year"

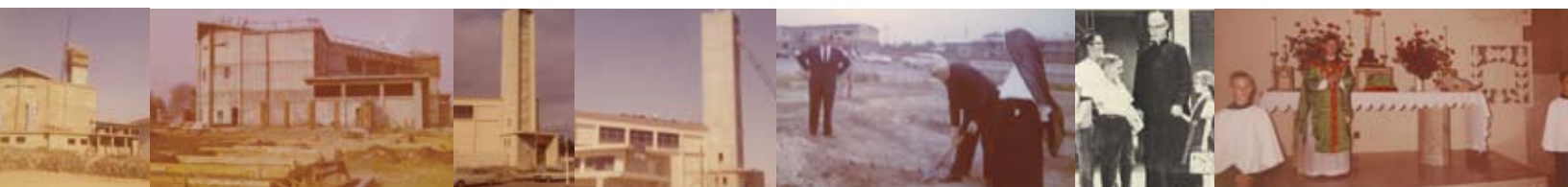
Keith Ward was presented with the "Knight of the Year" Award at the Knights of Columbus Annual Past Grand Knights Dinner Gala on November 21st. In presenting the award, Past Grand Knight, Joe Galbraith, noted the many community projects that SFDS Knight, Keith Ward, had been involved with including the Movies on the Green scholarship fundraisers, the SFDS School's spirited food & clothing drive for Loaves & Fishes and the outstanding SFDS School "Thanksgiving Day Dinner" for the poor and homeless at the Council's Hall. The Award is presented every year to one Knight from Council 3148's membership of over 350 incorporating the Roundtables of eleven Valley parishes.

Gift to our parish

A lovely and very generous parishioner of Veritas Polska donated the beautiful processional cross to St. Francis de Sales which now enhances the beauty of our Sunday Mass. Thank you very much for this wonderful gift to your parish!

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Thank you for your generous response of \$1,813.00 to the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. This will assist lifting poor American communities from the cycle of poverty.





SFDS GIVING TREES

Our Annual SFDS Christmas “Giving Trees”, this year 3, are in the church, 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.

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 or call St. Marcellinus Parish at 323-269-2733. All are invited.

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.

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.



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. Remember, you must register your cards EVERY year to continue earning money for SFDS.

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.

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

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Tuesday of this week, 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. Whatever day the Immaculate Conception falls is observed as a holy day of obligation. Masses on the Immaculate Conception are at 8:30 am, 12:00 p.m. and 7:30 pm.

THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR THE HOMELESS

The St. Francis de Sales Knights of Columbus and the 7th grade of St. Francis de Sales School provided Thanksgiving Dinner to the homeless assisted by Loaves and Fishes and the San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission. The parishioners of St. Francis de Sales were very generous in donating turkeys and the food items for Thanksgiving. A few numbers tell the story of your generosity in donations and the generosity of the Knights who cooked and the 7th grade who served: 53 turkeys were donated. 33 were distributed by Loaves and Fishes to poor families, 10 turkeys went to Mary Immaculate in Pacoima and 10 were cooked for the Thanksgiving Dinner. Those 10 turkeys translated into 160 lbs of turkey served. Also served were 75 lbs of mashed potatoes, 30 lbs of sweet potatoes, 5 large trays of stuffing, 2 large trays of cranberry sauce, 2 large trays of corn and green beans, 40 pies, 150 dinner rolls 7 cases of soda and 12 cases of water. My thanks to our St. Francis de Sales Knights of Columbus and to Mr. Napier and his 7th grade of St. Francis de Sales School. A special thanks to Keith Ward for coordinating and orchestrating the many components which went into the Dinner.

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.

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/. This service is provided by the U.S. Catholic Bishops' Office of Film and Broadcasting.

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES FROM THE HOLY LAND

Mr. Hanna Mussallam will be here after the morning Masses on Sunday, December 13th with a wide variety of religious articles from the Holy Land for sale. The land of Our Savior's birth, life and death knows nothing but conflict and hardship. The security wall has reduced terrorist attacks but has also choked off tourism to Bethlehem, Beit Jala and Beit Sahour. The dwindling Christian communities in the Holy Land depend so much on tourism for livelihood. Job loss, low wages, illness and malnutrition are widespread among the small Christian communities.

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 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.

SAVE THE DATES & DEADLINES

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.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Masses

8:30 AM

12:05 PM

7:30 PM

SOUP & CINEMA

Join our Fr. Tony Scannell, Spiritual Director of Catholics In Media, or the final evening of Soup & Cinema this Advent. A simple Crock-Potluck Soup dinner will begin at 6 p.m. on the dates below, followed by an abridged viewing of the film at 7 p.m. The evening closes around 8:30 p.m., admission is free. For further information or to volunteer time and food, please contact Jane Abbott at (818)990-1037.

The theme for this Advent and Lent is: "From Darkness to Light." "This is the judgment: the light has come into the world, but people preferred darkness to light." (John 3:19) But not everyone! And that's what Soup and Cinema will be about: films that show people preferring the light to darkness, as our earth itself moves into darkness in Advent, and into light in Lent.

Monday's film goes from bare and utter reality in "Frozen River" to another frozen landscape, but in utter fantasy: "The Polar Express," the mythical train that takes children to the North Pole and the wondrous, magical city of Santa and his elves, on Christmas Eve, over another frozen river and a wild, hazardous journey. But can we believe? Come and see on this Family Night.

Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious

December 12-13

"As expenses continue to increase and economic difficulties tighten our income, we appreciate more and more the help of the Retirement Fund," notes a woman religious. Your tax-deductible donation supports the care of elderly and frail religious and helps to provide such basic necessities as prescription drugs and medical services. Please give generously to next week's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Year-End Financial Planning & Charitable Gifts

As you consider how best to make your charitable gifts this fall, you may want to pay special attention to what to give and the timing of your gifts. Cash and checks are the most popular ways to make charitable gifts. When such gifts are deducted on your federal tax return, it can be possible to eliminate tax of up to half of your adjusted gross income (AGI). Larger gifts may be used to reduce taxes in up to five additional years. Also, unlike certain other deductions, charitable gifts are deductible from both regular and alternative minimum taxes. To make a gift to St. Francis de Sales Church or School, the correct designation is: "The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles, a corporation sole for the benefit of St. Francis de Sales Church (or School)."

DID YOU KNOW?

What's Your Plan in the Event of an Emergency?

Did you know that every Catholic school in the Los Angeles Archdiocese is required to have a written plan for emergency procedures? The plan must include provisions for fire, earthquake, disaster and evacuation drills and lockdown procedures that conform to local, state and county requirements. Each school's plan must be updated annually, and made available to parents. Does your own family have a similar plan for what to do and where to gather in the event of an emergency? City and County disaster preparedness agencies are a good resource to use for making your own emergency plan.

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

Annual Respect Life Mass

Each January, to mark the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision, there is a special Mass to sing God's praises and affirm the sanctity of all human life. This Mass will be on Saturday, January 23, 2010 at 6:00 pm at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels at 555 W. Temple St. in Los Angeles.