



**Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 23, 2012**

Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

— Luke 1:42

Pastor's Announcement of Sabbatical 2013

This notice is to let you know that I will be going on a Clergy Sabbatical from early January through the end of June, 2013. What does that mean and what does a priest do on sabbatical? A Clergy Sabbatical is an approved program for renewal and continuing education for those involved in full-time ministry. This opportunity is available to incardinated priests of the Archdiocese who have been ordained for at least ten years. In my case, I plan to live/pray/work at a Trappist Monastery in Oregon during January and February. In March, I will be attending an 11-week Redemptorist Sabbatical Program in Arizona, and conclude my time away ministering part-time in a different diocese.

It was only last week that I was informed by the Archdiocese that adequate coverage had been arranged during my absence from St. Gregory's - thus the very late notice regarding all this.

I will remain the pastor of Saint Gregory Parish, but during my absence (January- June 2013), Fr. David Schunk, our parochial vicar, has been designated Administrator of the Parish. In my absence, Fr. Schunk will carry on the administrative duties and attend to the pastoral and ministerial needs of the overall parish - all with the continued support of our dedicated resident priests, deacons and parish staff. During these months, we welcome the temporary assistance of Fr. Joseph Previtali who is currently at Mater Dolorosa Parish in South San Francisco. I am very grateful that Fr. Previtali will be available to offer us additional help with weekend masses and funerals as needed in my absence.

I consider it an honor to serve as your pastor and this sabbatical opportunity is indeed a privilege for which I am grateful. Please know that, although I will be away from the parish for a while, you will all be very much in my prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Paul

There will be a special collection
next weekend for our
Parish St. Vincent de Paul Society

NEW PARISH DIRECTORY

It's been more than 10 years, so we're publishing an updated parish directory and invite all parish families to participate. Photographers will be in the Catcombs for 9 days between January 2 and January 12 for individual and family portrait sessions.

Parishioners who participate will receive at no cost:

- * A professional portrait sitting
- * A hardcover parish directory
- * A FREE 8 x 10 print of your directory portrait
- * Access to the online directory

There's no obligation, but if you purchase prints, you can also take advantage of:

- * a 20% Senior Discount certificate (60 years +)
- * 10% discount if you make your appointment online
- * a \$5.00 off coupon if you bring a food item for the Feed the Need program

Make an appointment online today
on the parish website
<http://www.saintgregorychurch.org>

If you're unable to make your appointment online, volunteers will be available in the church vestibule to assist **after all Masses on December 15 and 16.**

For questions, contact
Barb Cordery @ 650-508-0601
or Lisa Souther @ 650-345-0762



Peninsula Catholic Young Adults

Are you a young adult (22-40) who is looking to enrich your faith in a social setting? The PCYA is a ministry based at St. Gregory's in San Mateo for those young adults in the mid-peninsula who are seeking something new from church. Check us out on Facebook or our website!

FB: facebook.com/peninsulacya
Email: peninsulacya@gmail.com
<https://sites.google.com/site/peninsulacya>



DID YOU KNOW about Vatican II...?

Nearly all the bishops in the world were present at Vatican II. Only the sick and old were excused. Average daily attendance was 2250.

MEMORIES AND DREAMS

Throughout our lives, we retain the language and habits of our native region and family of origin. Should we return to our home after a long absence, we quickly revert to its familiar speech and practices. Our deep memory is reflected in old stories and words and speech patterns. This familiarity runs like an underground river and accompanies us wherever we go.

Not only do we remember, we are incorporated into and made part of a greater memory. In remembering and recollecting, we are in turn gathered up and re-collected.

Today we remember Mary, a small figure traveling the country roads to visit Elizabeth. All the great pronouncements and dreams of the prophets point to this time when the Lord's words to Mary would be gathered and fulfilled. The memories of her people are alive in her, and memories of her nourish our own living faith.

Lisa Souther is the **Parish Council** contact member for the month of December. Call her at 345-0762 with questions or suggestions.



All parish high school students and their friends are invited to
Our Youth Mass at 5:30 pm
This Sunday Dec 23rd



Followed by a
CHRISTMAS PARTY!
in the Catacombs
Please bring an appetizer to share!

Mass Intentions For The Week



**DECEMBER 22
TO
DECEMBER 30**

Saturday	5:00 † Paula and Al Zubick
Sunday	7:30 † Eleonore Bader
	9:00 † Paula Marcheschi
	10:30 St. Gregory Parishioners
	12:00 † Deceased Members of Moresco & Bellante Families
	5:30 † Nicholas Saucedo
Monday	8:30 † Lewis Mezirka
Tuesday	Merry Christmas
Wednesday	8:30 † Juan Montelibano
Thursday	8:30 † Angelo Schenone
Friday	8:30 † Alcibiades Pezo
Saturday	8:30 † Maria Lina Bortolotti
	5:00 Carmen Calderon
Sunday	7:30 † McCarthy Family, Living and Deceased
	9:00 † Edward Schulte and Ralph Cozad, Sr. Families, Living and Deceased
	10:30 St. Gregory Parishioners
	12:00 † Victor Miranda
	5:30 † Julia Valdez



Come celebrate our Faith with us ...

"Simbang Gabi"

A Novena of Advent Masses

Our 9th year of celebration

Ending this Sunday Dec 23rd at 7:00 pm

Daily Confessions: 6:00 - 6:45 pm

St. Mark Church

325 Marine View Avenue, Belmont

Sponsored by the Filipino-American communities
of Deanery 10

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Our Lady of Angels,
St. Bartholomew, St. Catherine, St. Gregory,
St. Luke and St. Mark

For more information, call St. Mark Church at
(650) 591-5937



******* CHRISTMAS MASSES *******

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASSES

Monday, December 24th

4:00 p.m.

Children's Choir Concert

4:30 p.m.

FAMILY MASS

with Christmas Pageant

6:30 p.m.

EVENING MASS

with Christmas Carols

9:30 p.m.

A PRELUDE OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC

10:00 p.m.

VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS

MASSES ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Tuesday, December 25th

8:00 a.m. with Christmas Carols

10:00 a.m. with Parish Choir

Noon with Christmas Carols

No Evening Mass on Christmas Day

KINDERGARTEN APPLICATIONS

St. Gregory School is now accepting applications for Kindergarten students for the 2013-2014 school year. Students must be 5 years old by September 1, 2013 and the family must be registered parishioners of St. Gregory's Parish. Applications are on-line at

stgregs-sanmateo.org

The deadline for applications is January 29th.

**RACIAL NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY
AS TO STUDENTS**

St. Gregory, mindful of its mission to be witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color and national and/or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded to or made available to students at this school. St. Gregory does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color and national and/or ethnic origin, age, gender or disability in administration of educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other school-administered programs.