



The Lord is near

Third Sunday of Advent December 16, 2012

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.

— Zephaniah 3:15b

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



Sunday Collection \$10,294.15
Retirement for Religious \$4,166.78

Thank you for your generous contributions.

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...?

Pope John XXIII was named Angelo Roncalli. He was born to a farm family in northern Italy, and he always stayed connected to them.

Come celebrate our Faith with us ...

"Simbang Gabi"

A Novena of Advent Masses

Our 9th year of celebration

Continuing through Dec 23rd at 7:00 pm

Daily Confessions: 6:00 - 6:45 pm

St. Mark Church

325 Marine View Avenue, Belmont

Opening Mass on December 15th will be celebrated by Archbishop George Niederauer

Our own Fr. David Schunk

will be the celebrant on Sunday, Dec 16th

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

**Mass Intentions
For The Week**



**DECEMBER 15
TO
DECEMBER 23**

Saturday	5:00 † Alma Ottino
Sunday	7:30 † Richard Steffen
	9:00 † Donald Brozzo
	10:30 St. Gregory Parishioners
	12:00 † Virginia Vogel
	5:30 † Carmel Romanski
Monday	8:30 † Georgette Terry
Tuesday	8:30 † Deceased Members of Shayo and Lyimo Families
Wednesday	8:30 † Elsa P. Feraren
Thursday	8:30 † Corina Granero and Filippo & DaDalto Families, Living and Deceased
Friday	8:30 † Joe White
Saturday	8:30 Maura Thielen
	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



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



Followed by a **CHRISTMAS PARTY!**

in the Catacombs

Please bring an appetizer to share!



As you prepare for your own family holidays, you are invited to experience the spirit of

the Advent Season by reaching out to those in need. Every year St. Gregory parishioners have been generous in helping our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

We hope you will choose a tag (perhaps more than one) from our Giving Trees located in the vestibule of the Church. **Bring your UNWRAPPED gifts (NEW items only, please) or gift cards; and place them in the containers in front of the Mary and Joseph shrines by Sunday, DECEMBER 16th.** You may also bring your gifts to the parish office (2715 Hacienda Street) no later than Friday, December 14th.

St. Francis Center and Catholic Worker House will benefit from your generosity.



***** SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION *****

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

with Individual Confessions

Monday, December 17th at 7:00 p.m.

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS

Saturday, December 22nd

3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

***** 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



***Red Poinsettias
Needed***

Parishioners are invited to help decorate the altars for Christmas with red poinsettia plants. Please deliver them to the church **by December 21st**. Your donation will be much appreciated.

St. Gregory's Liturgy Environment Committee is looking for 10-12 people to help put up and decorate the Christmas trees on Thursday December 20th at 7pm in the church. **We really need your help!**



Please RSVP to Karen at 345-8506