

Fourth
SUNDAY
of
Advent

ST. MARY'S BY THE SEA

R O M A N C A T H O L I C C H U R C H



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*(Notice: The Office has re-opened from Monday through Thursday, 9am-12pm & 1-5pm.
Please note that we will be closed on Fridays until further notice.)*

LEGACY PROJECT

<u># of Pledges</u>	<u>Total Pledged</u>	<u>Total Paid</u>
(130)	\$570,684	\$555,815

2020 PSA

<u># of Pledges</u>	<u>Total Pledged</u>	<u>Total Paid</u>
(70)	\$58,431	\$54,580

THANK YOU for the support you have shown during this trying time of the pandemic. Your donations can be given electronically via our website at www.stmarysbythesea.net by clicking the large red button on the right which says "DONATE NOW." You can also send your check directly to our Parish. Thank you, and may God bless you during this time of trials.

ALL Masses will be held outside in the Courtyard.

TEMPORARY SCHEDULE

DAILY MASS (Monday-Saturday): 8:00 am

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS
5:00 pm

SUNDAY MASSES

7:30 am

9:00 am

10:30 am Mass

12:00 pm Latin Low Mass

4:30 pm Mass

ADORATION & BENEDICTION:

Thursday 9:00 am—3:00 pm &
Every 1st Friday 9:00 am—3:00 pm

VISION & MISSION STATEMENT

Our Vision: Be my Disciples. If not you, then who...

Our Mission: St. Mary's by the Sea, a Catholic community of faith, hope, and love, journeying together in the spirit of stewardship, unity, and charity, embracing all in Christ under the mantle of "Our Lady."

Reflections of the Week

Pray Before You Speak

Have you ever been told to "think before you speak"? Nathan seems to have spoken too soon when he told David to do whatever he wanted about building a house for the LORD. He was being respectful to his king, and it sounded like a good idea. But later that night the Lord gave him a message for David: the LORD did not need anyone to build him a house; God would make David's house (in the sense of family or descendants) last forever.

As a prophet Nathan was expected to speak for the LORD. When he finally listened to the LORD, he got the message right. And that can be a lesson to us. Instead of just thinking before we speak, it could be a good idea to pray before we speak.

How many times have we said something in anger--or selfishness, fear, any strong feeling--that we wished we could take back? If we just think before we speak, we might just rationalize what we wanted to say in the first place. But if we take a little more time to bring our feelings to God, ask for guidance and listen for what God would have us say, things might turn out a lot better.

God can also surprise us if given the chance. The kingdom ("house") God was promising was not a political one, but a universal one. Jesus fulfills this promise as the Son of God who came to proclaim the Kingdom of God. Jesus himself prayed to the Father often in his life.

We can do the same. We pray before meals; why not pray before going to work? We can pray before making decisions about our family, getting engaged, taking a new job, buying a new house/car/HD-TV, etc. When a friend or relative needs someone to talk to, we can pray that we listen well and say what God wants our friend to hear. When we are sorry for hurting someone, we can pray for forgiveness and even listen to God to learn what we might do to make it up to them. If we have enough faith to let God guide our lives, let's take the time in prayer to listen for that guidance.

(c) J. S. Paluch Co.

Large Universe, Small World

The sun is so large that, if it were hollow, it would contain more than one million worlds the size of our earth.

There are stars in space so large that they could easily hold 500 million suns, the size of ours.

There are about 100,000 million stars in the average galaxy—and at least 100 million galaxies in known space.

So why do we pridefully think we are so important, when we are so insignificant; compared to the immense grandeur of the UNIVERSE?

-Catholic Quote. Vol. 66, No. 12

Weekly Donations

The collection for the week of December 13, 2020 will be posted in next week's bulletin. Thank you.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Bestir, O Lord, Thy might, we beseech Thee, and come; and with great power come to our aid, that, by the help of Thy grace, that which is hindered by our sins may be hastened by Thy merciful forgiveness. Who livest and reignest, with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.



Welcome!

We wish to welcome all of our guests who will be visiting with us on Christmas and also extend loving wishes to our loyal and faithful parishioners. As we gather at His table, knowing that He lives among and within us, we have every reason to be full of joy. As we share the same faith, so we share that special happiness today, and with each other - old and young, married, single, living alone or in company, healthy or confined to bed - to all, the deep blessing of a **Merry Christmas!**

*Yours in Christ,
Fr. Quang Chu - Pastor*



Flowers for Decorating

Since the pandemic has recently forced us to have Mass outdoors, we sadly won't have our beautiful Church to decorate this Christmas. In addition, the Knights of Columbus will not be having their yearly sale of poinsettias.

However, regardless of where we celebrate Mass, indoors or outdoors, we plan to make the most of it. We will still be decorating the areas around the courtyard and would appreciate your donations of poinsettias. Please bring them to the Church after today (the 4th Sunday of Advent). *Thank you!*



Saints & Special Observances for the Week

Monday: St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church; Winter begins

Wednesday: St. John of Kanty, Priest

Thursday: The Vigil of Christmas

Friday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Saturday: St. Stephen, the First Martyr

Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (12/27/20)

Office of Faith Formation Corner

Today's responsorial psalm reminds us of the Magnificat, "Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord." What goodness can I identify with as we look back to our past year in Faith Formation? Here are four of the many moments when goodness was captured over the first segment of our program.

- ❶ Catechist Dan and his two assistants, Chloe and Nicollete, stayed back after class to break open the Word of God for the upcoming Sunday. They were not only offering their time for evangelization, but invested also on ways to enrich themselves with the living word of God.
- ❷ Catechists of First Communion class, as usual, full of energy, well built for mission, as immeasurable goodness is poured forth from their living faith.
- ❸ Confirmation Class is exploring how God's Word and the Church's teachings shed light on various contemporary moral issues.
- ❹ Catechist kneeling in prayer despite the pain on her ankle.



*How beautiful
are the feet
of those who
bring good news.
- Romans 10:15*

Our Faith Formation Program wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!

Students will have two weeks off.
Classes will resume the first week of January 2021.

**Christmas
Schedule...**

**ST. MARY'S BY
THE SEA
2020**

Christmas Vigil - December 24th

Family Vigil Masses: 4:00 & 6:00 pm
*(Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9am-3pm)

Christmas - December 25th

Midnight Mass: 12:00 am
8:00 am & 10:00 am - English
12:00 noon - Latin Tridentine Mass

The Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God

(This is not a Holy Day of Obligation in 2021.)

Jan. 1, 2021: 8:00 am & 12:00 pm - English
10:00 am - Latin Tridentine Mass
*(NO 1st Friday Adoration)

**(There will be NO Confessions on Saturday,
Dec. 26th or Saturday, January 2, 2021.)*

The Year of St. Joseph

On Dec. 8th, Pope Francis issued a decree launching a special year dedicated to St. Joseph which coincided with the 150th anniversary of his declaration as Patron of the Catholic Church. The decree formally instituted a year for St. Joseph and will run until Dec. 8, 2021. The year will be an opportunity for the faithful to follow St. Joseph's example and daily strengthen their life of faith in full fulfillment of God's will.

A decree was also issued stating that plenary indulgences will be granted to Catholics not only through prayer and penance, but also through acts of justice, charity and piety dedicated to the foster father of Jesus. A plenary indulgence will be granted to Catholics who recite any approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, especially on March 19, the saint's solemnity, and May 1, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. The decree also said the gift of the plenary indulgence is particularly extended to the elderly, the sick, the dying and all those who for legitimate reasons are unable to leave the house, who, with a soul detached from any sin and with the intention of fulfilling, as soon as possible, the three usual conditions, in their own home or where the impediment keeps them, recite an act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, comfort of the sick and patron of a happy death, offering with trust in God the pains and discomforts of their life.

Let Us Pray for the Sick...

Pay Asjar	Al Griego	Rose Palmer
Sarah Asjar	Chin Ha	Mary Peduzi
Bette Barilla	Nathan Hamby	Diane Pham
Bonnie Barilla	David Harris	Derek Pham
Angela Bennett	Paul Hayes	Ray Quinn
Teresa Braga	Larry B. Henry	Debbie Ransom
Hugh Cahill	Diane Hoxsie	Irene Rinehimer
Colleen Campbell	Paula Keating	Susan Rocio
Earline Campbell	Marilyn Kefalas	Mark Scally
Peggy Carrasco	Roger Kunsaitis	Janene Shepherd
George Christa	Ernest Landell	Hilda Shipman
Rosemarie Clouse	Nam Le	Barry Robert Snyder
Ann Costello	Larry Lewis	Bob Spellmire
Johnny Costello	Garret Loeffler	Dan Stenglein
Dan Derieg	Fr. Eamon Mackin	Mary Teaze
Vicky Derieg	Doris McDonald	Bernadette Vanderhorst
Bryan Donnelly	Nina Merlino	Andrea Wall
Helen Donnelly	Rosalie Ocanas	Maria Zelaya

for the Deceased & those in the Armed Forces

★ *The child to be born will be called
Holy, the Son of God.*

-Luke 1:35



Stewardship Corner

THIS IS CRUNCH TIME STEWARDS...

with our final preparations for Christmas, right? A very different, but still sacred and magical time of year with the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

➤ Here is an actual volunteering opportunity for you Loyal Stewards:

We need your help on **Dec. 23rd** after **8 am Mass** to decorate the patio area for our Christmas Masses. Of course we must follow social distancing guidelines and wear masks to do so making it an even greater challenge, but a rewarding one and an opportunity to see and wish each other a Merry Christmas.

➤ SMBTS's own **PRAYER WARRIORS** are still doing a wonderful job with their prayers for those who requested them. *God bless you for this beautiful contribution....* Thank you Angels and keep up the good work! This is a true Stewardship example of giving to others by your own deeds, or actions. And please, continue praying for our Priests to remain healthy and continue our Masses here.

Stay well and God Bless us Everyo 🙏
MERRY CHRISTMAS 🎄 Amen.

What is a Christian Steward?

"One who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord."

(American Bishops Pastoral Letter).

December 20, 2020

This Week at St. Mary's by the Sea

5:00 pm Mass for the soul of Silvia J. Villarreal (RIP)

4th Sunday of Advent, December 20

7:30 am Mass for the People of the Parish - Living and Deceased

9:00 am Mass for Mary Keane (L)

10:30 am Mass for Tim Ransom (L)

12:00 pm Latin Mass for Judith Clark (L)

1:30 pm **Baptism**

4:30 pm Mass for Danny Santucci (L)

Monday, December 21

8:00 am Mass for Catherine Clark (L)

Tuesday, December 22

8:00 am Mass for Patrick Clark (L)

Wednesday, December 23

8:00 am Mass for Sean & Ryan Foss (L)

Thursday, December 24

8:00 am Mass for the souls of the Schubert Family (RIP)

9am-3pm **Adoration & Benediction**

4:00 pm **Family Vigil Mass for the People of the Parish**

6:00 pm **Family Vigil Mass for the People of the Parish**

Friday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

12:00 am **Midnight Mass for the People of the Parish**

8:00 am Mass for the People of the Parish

10:00 am Mass for the People of the Parish

12:00 pm **Latin Mass for the People of the Parish**

Saturday, December 26

8:00 am Mass for Barry Clark (L)

5:00 pm Mass for Margaret Ponce (L)

Sunday, December 27

7:30 am Mass for the souls of Maria Lieu & Peter Truong Tran (RIP)

9:00 am Mass for the People of the Parish - Living and Deceased

10:30 am Mass for Althea Santucci (L)

12:00 pm Latin Mass for the soul of Alyce Clark (RIP)

4:30 pm Mass for Danielle Santucci (L)