



ST. MARY'S BY THE SEA

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

2020 PSA		
<u># of Pledges</u> (70)	<u>Total Pledged</u> \$58,431	<u>Total Paid</u> \$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.

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PASTOR: Rev. Quang Vinh Chu

WEBSITE: www.StMarysByTheSea.net

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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.)

ALL Masses will be held outside in the Courtyard.

TEMPORARY SCHEDULE

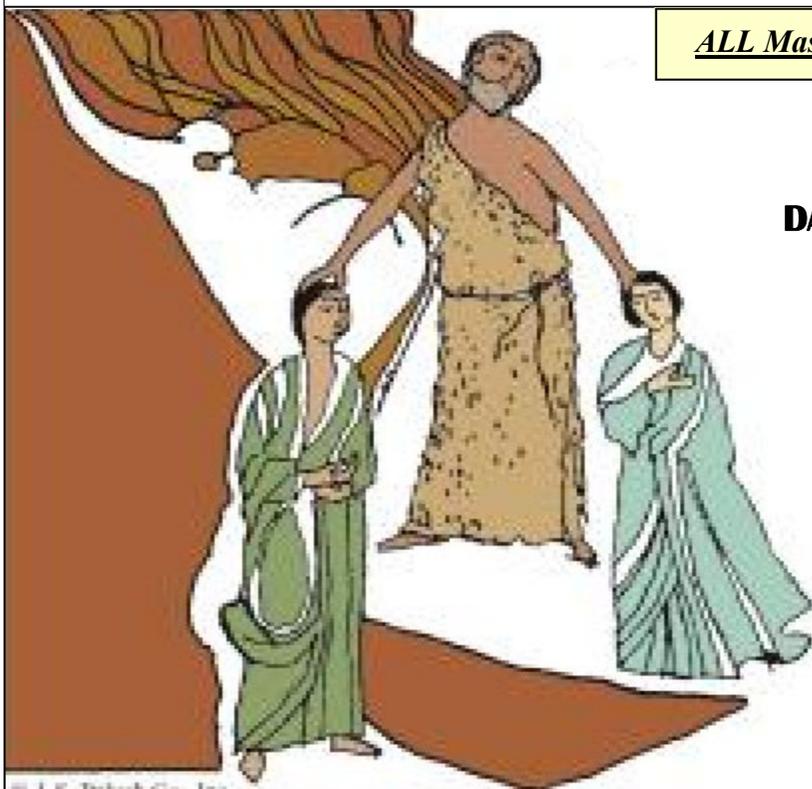
DAILY MASS (Monday-Saturday): 8:00 am

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



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The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday, December 8th - (Holy Day of Obligation)

MASS SCHEDULE - Monday, 12/7: 5:30 pm Vigil Mass & Tuesday, 12/8: 8:00 am, 12:10 pm, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm Latin Mass

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Reflections of the Week

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Saint Peter shows us a characteristic of God that we normally do not think about. He tells us that for God, "a day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day" (1 Peter 3:8). Somehow, God is not restricted by time as we are. Taken literally, that seems to violate the laws of physics. Of course, God made those laws, so if anyone can ignore them, God certainly could. More likely, because early Christians sometimes complained that Jesus' second coming had been delayed, Peter is trying to tell us that what seems like a long time to us is nothing to God.

Like the early Christians, we may wonder how long it will take for God to answer our prayers. We may be praying for someone who is looking for a job, a sick relative, an end to abortion, or world peace. Some prayers just take time to be answered, especially if a large number of people need to change their hearts to make it happen. Some prayers require us to change, and we may not be ready.

What Peter means is that a thousand years is not too long for God if someone needs that long to repent. God is far more patient than we are. If someone had been fighting me for months or years, I would probably give up on them. But God can wait till we are mature enough to face our sins and be sorry for them. In the same way, God has been "waiting" over two thousand years for us to preach the Gospel to all nations. God has been waiting for millennia for people to give up war as a means for solving our problems. God has been waiting since the beginning of the human race for us to learn how to love our neighbor.

We might not be as patient as God but we can help. Saint Peter says that we are not just waiting for the Lord's return, we are hastening it. When we make a choice that is based on faith rather than selfishness, we make it a little easier for people to believe in God. Jesus is the light of the world; he asks us to let our light shine, so that people can see Jesus in us. May our light "prepare the way of the Lord" (Mark 1:3).

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the ways of Thine only-begotten Son, that through His coming we may be worthy to serve Thee with purified minds. Who livest and reignest, with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.

Retirement Fund for Religious

There will be a **2nd collection** next weekend, **12/12 & 12/13**, for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**. Thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies - often for little or no pay. Now, some of the religious communities to which they belong do not have enough savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious will help provide medications, nursing care, and more to religious in need, with just shy of 94% of what is collected earmarked to aid senior religious. ***Please give generously to those who have given a lifetime.***

Speaker - Fr. Quan Tran

St. Bonaventure Parochial Vicar Fr. Quan Tran will be speaking here at St. Mary's by the Sea Parish on **December 12th** from **10:30am-12pm** about **"The Imitation of Mary: Keys to Growth in Virtue and Grace,"** which is from his newly published book.

Books will be made available for a donation or at **sophiainstitute.com**. After his talk, Fr. Tran will have a book signing.

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

Office of Faith Formation Corner



HAPPY FEAST DAY TO ALL FAMILIES AND FRIENDS AT ST. MARY'S BY THE SEA!

People often times get confused about the Feast of the Immaculate Conception; they thought Jesus was conceived miraculously in Mary's womb. That's true, but that feast takes place on March 25, the Annunciation. The Universal Church celebrates December 8 in honor of God who made it possible for Mary to be conceived without sin. Our eternal God kept our Mother free from original sin in preparation for His Son's arrival as human on this finite earth. On our parish's feast day, we wish to keep the sweet presence of our Mother close to our hearts as we utter her praises to God for all the marvelous things He has done.

PREPARING A MANGER FOR JESUS

Jesus' cousin, John the Baptist, has lots to proclaim. In today's reading he proclaims a renewal of heart and mind by a tangible sign of repentance: baptism. We are all invited to begin the journey of renewal as well. All students in our program will take on the challenge of collecting deeds of charity to build a warm crib for Jesus to dwell in this Christmas. This requires a little more time for God, more attention for others, and more intention for heavenly things... especially the intent on loving Jesus for God has FIRST loved us.



Looking Forward

So many events or traditions have been cancelled this year. We look forward to celebrating them next year.

- + Even though we cannot have our annual St. Nicholas Breakfast, we can remember his great works and read about his life. The real story of Santa Claus.
- + Our annual Christmas Concert, remember the beautiful Christ centered music? (You can play some Christmas music in your home.)
- + Feast of our Patron Saint—Mary, Mother of God—special prayers to Mary for Covid protection on the Feast day of the Immaculate Conception and for St. Mary's by the Sea Church on December 8th.
- + Annual Christmas Crib—We collected baby items for the local clinics to give to their clients that choose life. (You can still donate these directly to Horizon Pregnancy Center.)

We all look forward to these events each year, and we can pray that God knowing our disappointments, will comfort us.

The Blessed Mother

The Blessed Mother: her image cannot be captured in a single statue, a single icon, a single picture, or a single holy card. Our images are formed as we read God's Word, connect to Mary through prayer and devotion, and reflect on our shared experiences with her as parents, spouses, children, friends, and faith-filled disciples. We follow in Mary's footsteps by paying attention to what is happening around us. We continue her work in the world as we keep our homes, teach our children, honor our parents, and love our spouses. And we learn from Mary to keep faith when we don't have all the answers and when we find it hard to understand what is being asked of us and what is taking place in our lives.

During the season of Advent, the Church celebrates two feasts that provide us with different images of Mary and with different parts of her story. On December 8, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holy day on which we remember that Mary was free from sin from the moment she was conceived. This was a unique grace given to Mary, who was to become the Vessel of selfless devotion.

On December 12, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. When Juan Diego saw a vision of Mary, she appeared to him as an Aztec princess, with olive skin and black hair. This is also how she appeared in the image on the tilma, the cloak worn by Juan Diego. Mary's appearance as an Aztec princess brought hope and a sense of dignity to the Aztec people, especially to the Aztec women.

As we prepare to celebrate the Advent Marian feasts, set aside time to think about and to draw your image of Mary. Place your image on your prayer table or tuck it into your Bible. Think about who you most need for Mary to be in your life right now, today— mother, sister, friend, model, cause of joy, comfort. Invite her to walk with you through Advent days to come.

-(adapted) Mary Sellars Malloy - www.rclbenziger.com/images-mary



Weekly Collections
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Operating Expenses are \$5,500 - \$6,500 per week

November 22, 2020

St. Vincent de Paul.....	\$5,200.00
Specials	\$6,507.00
Regular	\$6,602.00

November 29, 2020

St. Vincent de Paul.....	\$639.00
Specials	\$1,052.00
Thanksgiving	\$639.00
Regular	\$3,962.00

Thank you so very much for supporting your Church during these difficult times. God Bless you all!

Saints & Special Observances for the Week

- Monday:** St. Ambrose; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- Tuesday:** The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Wednesday:** St. Juan Diego
- Thursday:** International Human Rights Day; Hanukkah begins at sunset
- Friday:** St. Damasus I
- Saturday:** Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Sunday:** Third Sunday of Advent (12/13/20)



Thank You!

The parish Knights of Columbus would like to thank our parishioners for their generosity during their “*Wheelchairs for Veterans*” campaign. Your caring donations will provide 71 wheelchairs to deserving Veterans in southern California. A wheelchair gives a disabled veteran the gift of mobility freedom, dignity and independence. Thank you, again!



LOYAL STEWARDS...

FATHER’S GREAT IDEA.....

What is it that most of us have a lot of now?..... **TIME!**

Every Thursday, Father Chu has arranged for us to have **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** from **9am-3pm**. If you feel like you need a break from all the chaos in our world, this may be just the thing for you. Or some quiet time. It doesn’t cost anything, you don’t have to remember to bring anything, and there is no need for an appointment. Just show up anytime on any **Thursday** between the hours of **9am-3pm**. Sit with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and let Him know what is in your heart, what is bothering you, what you are grateful for, ask for help you may need from Him, or just listen to what He has to tell you. I’m sure the first thing He will tell you, His beloved son or daughter, is that He loves you and is very happy you are there.

We are asked as Stewards to share our Time, Talent and Treasure that Our Lord has blessed each of us with. What a great opportunity! 🙏

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).

Stewardship Corner

This Week at St. Mary's by the Sea

5:00 pm Mass for the soul of Brigit Benjamin (RIP)

2nd Sunday of Advent, December 6

7:30 am Mass for the People of the Parish - Living and Deceased
9:00 am Mass for the soul of John the Baptist Tao Chu (RIP)
10:30 am Mass for the soul of Rhonda Lyn Hodges (RIP)
12:00 pm Latin Mass for the soul of Modesta Guterres Aguilar (RIP)
4:30 pm Mass for the soul of Fred Neely (RIP)

Monday, December 7

8:00 am Mass for Dan & Diane Ponce (L)
5:30 pm Vigil Mass for the soul of Peter Minh (RIP)

Tuesday, December 8

The Immaculate Conception

8:00 am Mass for Elaine Hirayama (L)
12:10 pm Mass for the People of the Parish—living & deceased
5:30 pm Mass for the soul of Joseph Quy Tran (RIP)
7:00 pm Latin Mass for All Souls

Wednesday, December 9

8:00 am Mass for Gwenn Russell (L)

Thursday, December 10

8:00 am Mass for David Nester (L)
9am-3pm Adoration & Benediction

Friday, December 11

8:00 am Mass for the soul of Fr. Francis J. Babbish (RIP)
9:00 am Cenacles of Life

Saturday, December 12

8:00 am Mass for the soul of Joseph Lee (RIP)
10:30 am Fr. Quan Tran speaking here (til 12pm)
3:00 pm Confessions (only until 4:00 pm)
5:00 pm Mass for the People of the Parish - Living and Deceased

3rd Sunday of Advent, December 13

7:30 am Mass for the souls of Maria Lieu & Peter Truong Tran (RIP)
9:00 am Mass for Irene Claypool (L)
10:30 am Mass for All Souls
12:00 pm Latin Mass for Debbie Clark (L)
4:30 pm Mass for the soul of Joseph Bich Nguyen (RIP)