## Fourth Sunday of Advent December 18, 2016

They shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." — *Matthew 1:23*

# ST. JOHN VIANNEY PARISH

**OUR MISSION**

***Devoted to Jesus Christ as disciples, we help others become disciples, and work to renew our culture.***

**OUR VISION**

***That all who experience St. John Vianney Parish in any way, find Christ irresistible.***

**NUESTRA MISIÓN**

***Como discípulos devotos de Jesucristo, ayudamos a otros a ser discípulos, y trabajamos para renovar nuestra cultura.***

***NUESTRA VISIÓN***

***Que todos los que se relacionen con nosotros encuentren la presencia de Cristo irresistible.***

**10497 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670, Parish Office 8am—3:30pm, 362-1385, closed for lunch 12:30-1:30pm**
**fax 706-1135, email-sjvc@prodigy.net, parish website – sjvparish.com**

**Parish Clergy**

**Fr. Charles Kelly, Pastor**
**Fr. Raj Derivera, Parochial Vicar**
**Fr. Martin Moroney, Pastor Emeritus**
**Rev. Mr. Walter Little, Deacon**
**Rev. Mr. David Robinson, Deacon**
**Rev. Mr. Daniel Rangel, Deacon**

***WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE: Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30 pm, Sunday 8 am, 9:45 am, 11:30 am, 1:15 pm (Sp.), 6:30 pm, (Sp.)***
**Daily Mass: M-F 8 am (English), Wed 6 pm (Spanish)**
**Confessions: 5 pm (WED) & 4 pm (SAT)**
**Adoration (Blessed Sacrament): Thur. 8:30am-9pm (Eng.)**
**Adoración al Santísimo premier viernes del mes, 9pm-12am**
**Filipino Mass: Second Sunday at 3 pm**
**Indonesian Mass: Fourth Sunday at 3 pm**
**Hour of Mercy: Every Thursday evening in the Sister Bede Prayer Chapel, 6pm - 7pm.**

***Rosary for the Military and their families: 2nd Sunday of the month after 8am Mass.***

**PARISH STAFF**

| | |
|---|---|
| Parish Office—Vange Fisher, Office Manager | 362-1385 ext 200 |
| School Office—Ada Bauman, Principal | 363-4610 |
| Spanish Rel. Ed, Quinceañeras, (Sp) baptisms, call Sr. Vicenta Lemus for information | 368-9410 |
| English CCD—Sister Josefina Peralta Fdcc | 369-8669 |
| RCIA, Eng—Tom Beigel | 635-8399 |
| Baptism—Rose Ramos | 595-0243 |
| Youth Ministry—Valerie Anda | 362-3827 |
| Hall Office —Linda Condon, Manager | 362-5068 |
| St. Vinçent de Paul Society | 362-4792 |
| Thrift Store—Karla Aguilera-Chavez, Manager | 363-1559 |
| Cordova Food Locker—Gregg B. Huestis | 364-8973 |

***Weddings: Contact parish office 6 months in advance.***
***Quinceañeras: Contact Sister Vicenta Lemus 6 months in advance.***

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." ***John 14:27New: (NIV)***

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By now, the first Christmas carols are heard in the home, but usually not yet in church. What is a "carol" anyway? Originally, a carol was any kind of communal song sung at a festival such as a harvest. By the thirteenth century or so, carols were associated with household celebrations. "Carol" comes from the Old French *carula*, meaning a circular dance. Carols weren't for church, since the language of liturgy was Latin and the carols were in the common language. Their characteristic sound comes from medieval chord patterns, and they often have strong refrains for everyone to sing. Even in the churches of the Reformation, carols didn't make it into church services until the 1870s or so, since there was a preference for psalms. Anglicans resisted popular carols; most of our beloved carols came via the Methodists, an offshoot of the Church of England. The Catholic Church generally didn't admit carols to liturgy either, but we didn't make laws against them.

We are told that the beloved carol "Silent Night" comes from Catholic Austria and a harried parish music director. Joseph Mohr, the priest of St. Nicholas in Oberndorf, had written the words in 1816, but offered them to his music director, Franz Gruber, when the church's organ broke. Mohr asked him to write a melody that could be played on guitar as a prelude to Mass. Gruber finished the tune just hours before midnight Mass in 1818. The people were shocked to hear a guitar in church, but were charmed by the sweet lullaby. The church was swept away by a flood in the 1990s and the village later relocated, but the townspeople have set up the "Silent Night Memorial Chapel" at the site. Today the carol is in print in some three hundred languages. How wonderful that the pipe organ broke on that night! —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## SUMMONED BY GOD

As Christmas draws near, Advent's scriptures lure us into a world of dreams, signs, wonders, and the miracle of the virgin birth. Too often we allow the great stories of our faith, the ones that are most familiar, simply to wash over us. Today's Gospel account of the events leading up to the birth of the Lord reads like a present-day soap opera. Yet Joseph's courage, even in the midst of what must have been an incredibly confusing time, provides a model for us. Each week, we are summoned by God to embrace the way of goodness and truth through the proclamation of God's holy word. Like Joseph, we are called to do as the Lord commands us. As we stand at the threshold of Christmas, let us have the courage to be open to whatever it is that the Lord will require of us as we celebrate the miracle of Bethlehem. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## A Time of Hope

***Fourth Sunday of Advent***

"Almighty, eternal, just and merciful God, give us miserable ones the grace to do for You alone what we know you want us to do and always to desire what pleases You. Inwardly cleansed, interiorly enlightened and inflamed by the fire of the Holy Spirit, may we be able to follow in the footsteps of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and by Your grace alone, may we make our way to You, Most High, Who live and rule in perfect Trinity and simple Unity, and are glorified God almighty, forever and ever. Amen." ~ **from Advent and Christmas**

## Advent and Christmas - Reason for the Season

Advent (from the Latin word adventus, meaning "coming") is considered to be the beginning of the Church Year for most churches in the Western tradition. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, which is the Sunday nearest November 30, and ends on Christmas Eve (Dec 24). If Christmas Eve is a Sunday, it is counted as the fourth Sunday of Advent, with Christmas Eve proper beginning at sundown.

The season is for most Christians one of anticipation and hope (if one looks beyond the commercialization!), although at its beginnings the emphasis was much more on penitence, fasting and sin. For most Christians it is not just a celebration of a moment in time when a baby was born, but also looks beyond to a time when the Bible tells us that Jesus will come again, not as a weak and vulnerable baby but in power and with authority. The traditional Scripture readings for this time emphasize both the First and Second Coming of Jesus Christ, and our accountability for faithfulness at His coming, judgment on sin and the hope of eternal life.

Advent is also a spiritual journey that Christians take, through the truths of Scripture that point to the birth of Messiah, to a reaffirmation that he has come, is present in the world today and will come again in glory. It mirrors the journey of faith that Christians make after that moment of realization and acceptance of who Jesus is, in that we take that first step of faith in commitment, continue hopefully to walk the road of faith and increasing understanding, and look forward to our destination, which is to be in his presence forever!

According to the Catholic encyclopedia the celebration of Christmas (or the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord) is not known before the end of the fourth century when, according to Duchesne it was celebrated throughout the whole Church - by some on 25 December, by others on 6 January. There are hints of a period of preparation prior to the celebration of Jesus' birth – in a ruling in 380 that no one should be allowed to absent themselves from church from the 17th December until the feast of Epiphany – but it is not until the end of the sixth century that a prescribed period of time was set aside as preparation for Christmas. This was from 11th November, being the feast day of St. Martin of Tours, (the fast became known as "St. Martin's Fast," "St. Martin's Lent" or "the forty days of St. Martin") until Christmas Day. This observance of a period of fasting was later relaxed in Anglican, Lutheran and later the Roman Catholic Church – although still kept as a season of penitence by some. Read more at: http://www.faithandworship.com/Advent_themes_and_resources.htm#ixzz4SkKdVTXA

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# *News From the Parish*

*December 24th Christmas Eve*

*5:30pm—Children's Mass, 7:30pm Spanish*
*12:00am Midnight Mass*

*December 25th Christmas Day*

*8:00am 9:45am, 11:30am English*
*1:15pm Spanish, 6:30pm Spanish*

**"Join us at the Chuck Wagon!" Annual Crab Feed, Hosted by Knights of Columbus Council # 5322.** Sat. January 28, 2017. 6:30pm-10:30pm at SJV parish hall. Terrific Food, drinks, Live music by the Proxy Band. Tickets are 45. pp until Jan 16, 2017—$50. pp from Jan 2-Jan 28, 2017. For info, reservations and tickets contact Paul Labbe—320.69.56 or Joe Galipeau—769-6549. To buy tickets go to **www.ranchoknights.com/crabfeed.**

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples." *Mother Teresa*

**Bilingual Penance Service, Mon, Dec.19, 2016 @ 7pm**

**2017 Walk for Life (WFL) - SJV Parish Bus**
Current Status: 18 tickets sold, and 8 more tickets pre-ordered for pickup before Dec. 30th. There are only 56 seats on the bus -- less 26 sold thus far. ***Cost is still $27 per ticket.***
This is our opportunity as a parish to ***Walk for Life in January*** ( Sat., Jan 21st). If you want to get involved .... Come to the church hall today (Dec. 18th) after 8AM & 9:45AM mass. Look for the red sign in front of the church after Sat / 5:30PM, or Sun /11:30AM masses. We have a parish banner (green & white) and would love to have colors green & white stand out at the WFL Walk.

**Simbang Gabi: Continues until Dec. 24th** with daily Mass at 8 am, breakfast potluck and fellowship follows in the Fr. Moroney room. All are welcome. Call Connie @ 916-635-3865 or Chito @ 916-832-5984 for more info.

**Christmas Dinner for those in Need. Hams and /or Turkeys NEEDED:** Please consider providing a turkey or ham to the Rancho Cordova Food Locker. We need your help to feed over 1000 families for Christmas, as we did just last month. Your continued generosity over the years is phenomenal and very much appreciated. Drop-off any day at the food locker. Weekends 12-4pm. **ALL THAT IS COLLECTED WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ON FRIDAY, Dec. 23**. Thank you for your generous support of this mission.

**POINSETTIAS MAY BE DROPPED OFF AT THE ALTAR THROUGH THE 24TH OF DECEMBER.**

**SAVE THE DATE!!! C.D.A. BUNCO IS COMING JAN.7,2017. ALL ARE WELCOME**

**Winter Shelter:** Winter Shelter - Monday, Dec. 26 thru New Year's Eve Dec. 31. We will provide overnight shelter and meals for the homeless. Please pray for the success of our shelter. You can participate by donating warm winter clothing—new or gently used coats, socks, jeans, tennis shoes, or sweaters. Drop your donation in the box near the entrance of the church nearest the main parking lot. ***"Whatever you do for the least of these, you do for me." Matt 25:40.***

**ADVENT PARISH PENANCE CELEBRATION**
**WHEN:** Monday-December 19th, Faith Formation classes arrive @ 6:30 p.m. Penance Service begins at 7pm.
**WHERE:** St. John Vianney Parish –Church
**REQUIRED FOR:** All CCD Faith Formation Children 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9, 10th grades, and Parents, Guardians and Sponsors of Confirmation Candidates.

**SJV Youth Group** is collecting toys for our annual **Christmas Toy Drive**, Unwrapped Gifts for girls and boys ages 1 month to 14yrs old can be dropped off in the church placed under the Giving Tree, with tags from the Giving Tree. **The Christmas toy give-away will be on the same day as the Cordova Food locker Christmas Give Away — Dec. 23, 2016 .**

Contribution Statements will be ready after January 31, 2017. Please be sure to update your parish registration. Registration forms available in the church or go online to **sjvparish.com**.

**Christmas and Sunday TV Mass for the Homebound: KSPX Channel 29 at 6:30 a.m.**

This Christmas morning and every Sunday, Heart of the Nation will televise Catholic Mass at 6:30 a.m. on KSPX (ION) channel 29. Please share the time and channel information with friends or family members who are unable to get to church because of age, illness, or other struggles.
Prayer intentions from viewers, uplifting homilies, a Prayer for Spiritual Communion during distribution of the Holy Eucharist, and closed-captioning make Heart of the Nation's Sunday Mass on TV and online a time of spiritual comfort and belonging for the homebound. To watch the Mass online, please visit **www.heartofthenation.org.**

**MANY THANKS, TO SJV PARISH:** We send our deepest gratitude to all parishioners at your parish for their generosity and support. Your support will positively impact our people in the Holy Land and will help them remain strong in the land of Christ.
By visiting your Parish, we were able to spread our message to the parish community about the plight of the Christian community in the Holy Land. Moreover we are also able to bring attention to the hardships that our people are now enduring in the land of our Savior.
Thank you again and we hope to stay in touch.

Sincerely yours in Christ

*John Qumsiyeh*

**Pay your Contributions On-Line:** Check out Bill Pay at your favorite Bank or Credit Union or go to: **www.sjvparish.com** and click on "**Give**" on top of the webpage.

***USE* E-WASTE RECYCLE:** Start recycling your old e-waste and help our school. Just log on to **www.eWaste4good.com** or call 1-800-317-3112. Make sure you let them know your beneficiary is **ST. JOHN VIANNEY SCHOOL.** They will pick-up most any electric waste working or not.

Advent fills us with anticipation and preparation. We make lists, plan special meals, search for ways to be generous to those in need. Married couples at St. John Vianney can put their relationship at the top of the list by planning to participate in the **Restore, Rekindle, Renew Enrichment (The 3RE)**. Coming in early 2017, applications for **the 3RE** begin after the Holidays. Get excited: This may be the best Christmas gift you can give each other!

**DON'T FORGET THE WOMEN'S RETREAT:** Jan. 13-15, 2017. At Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center. To register and information go to **cforrest@passionist.org** or call 916.725.4720 ext. 314

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

| | |
|---|---|
| Sunday: | Fourth Sunday of Advent |
| Tuesday: | St. Peter Canisius; Winter Solstice |
| Thursday: | St. John of Kanty |
| Friday: | The Vigil of Christmas |
| Saturday: | The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) |

## Mass Intentions Dec. 17-24, 2016

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Saturday | 5:30pm | Maria Catalina Navarro Mendez † |
| | | Theresa Nuñez † |
| Sunday | 8:00am | Terry Anuszczyk † |
| | | Sacred Heart |
| | 9:45am | Fred & Anna Kozak † |
| | | Mona Hawkins † |
| | 11:30am | Bryan Harradine † |
| | | Daniel Macias † |
| | 1:15pm | Ernesto Ayala **Healing Intention** |
| | 6:30pm | Nina Rodriguez **Special Intention** |
| Monday | 8:00am | Theresa Cabrera **Special Intention** |
| | | Daniel Masias † |
| Tuesday | 8:00am | Carol Mied † |
| | | Virginia Piano † |
| Wednesday | 8:00am | Jewel Salazar † |
| | | Mona Hawkins † |
| | 6:00pm | Maria Nuñez † |
| Thursday | 8:00pm | Mary M. Ross † |
| | | Consuelo Cartright † |
| Friday | 8:00am | Jewel Salazar † |
| | | Fr. Al Caster † |
| Christmas Eve | 5:30pm | Children's Mass |
| | 7:30pm | Spanish Mass |
| | 12:00am | Midnight Mass |

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — You will be given this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:10-14).

**Psalm** — Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory (Psalm 24).

**Second Reading** — God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

**Gospel** — The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:18-24). The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

| | |
|---|---|
| Monday: | Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25 |
| Tuesday: | Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38 |
| Wednesday: | Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; |
| | Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45 |
| Thursday: | 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56 |
| Friday: | Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66 |
| Saturday: | 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79 |
| Sunday: | Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27 29; |
| | Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] |
| | Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 |
| | Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 |
| | Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5,9-14] |

**Prayer is a wonderful way to help cut away from distractions of the season and open your heart to prepare for the joy and hope of Christ's birth. Pray for discernment of how God would like you to set your priorities and the ability to focus on them consistently to fulfill His purposes in your life.**

# Parish Ministries

**English CCD classes:** CCD classes every Monday 6:30-8:00pm.
Call Sister Josefina Peralta @ 916-369-8669 for additional information.

**English Baptism and classes, 2 classes required,** First class—Jan. 8th. 2017, Second class—Jan. 22, 2017, both in the Southwest Room/Parish Hall. Baptism is Jan. 22, 2017 at the 11:30am Mass, St John Vianney Church. **Parents and godparents must attend both classes unless they have attended a class with in the last 2 years. Paperwork must be completed before 1st class.** Contact Rose Ramos @ 916.595.0243 for additional information.

**Spanish Rel Ed:** Sr. Vicenta 368-9410, Spanish Rel Ed Office is closed every Monday. **La oficina esta cerrada cada lunes.**

**Spanish baptism Classes:** Call to register Sr. Vicenta—368-9410

**Lifeteen:** For info please call Valerie Anda @ 362-3827

**SJV School Grades TK-8:** **Now enrolling for 2016-17 school year,** call - Ada Bauman 363-4610 x100 for information. **SJV** students share in the Liturgy of the Word and choir every third Sunday at 9:45 am Mass.

**RCIA:** Monday evenings 6:30pm - 8:00pm in the hall. Call Tom Beigel @ 916.635.8399 or Debbi Cushing @ 916.806.2907 for information.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Ongoing every Sunday, 9:45am Mass, Children ages 5-10 yrs welcome—Kim Perry-Reed 916.203.5711.

**Adult Bible Study:** Contact Chris Bailey @ 916-361-1340.

**Caring Connections:** Parish Outreach Ministry to new parish members, the sick, homebound and the bereaved. Meetings are 2nd Mon-Sept thru May, 6pm at the Fr. Moroney Room. New members welcome. For info please call Linda Morales 635-2019

**Eucharistic Adoration/Home Bound Ministry:** Jean Pergande call 857-1695

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas:** Meeting 3rd Tuesday South West room of the hall at 7:00pm. For Info: Diane McDonald 916-316-5625

**PARISH ROSARY FOR MILITARY** Second Sunday of the month in the church after the 8 am Mass.

**SJV Mr. & Mrs. Club:** Come join us, become a member by calling Al or Carla Cervantes at 638-0060. Meetings-2nd Saturday of the month 7pm-hall. Socials 4th Saturday.

**YLI–Young Ladies Institute:** Immaculate Mary #238, 2nd Wed. of the Month, 7:30pm-Fireside Room, Contact: Marilyn Walter 638-7905.

**Meet Your Neighbor:** First Sunday of the Month in the Parish Hall after the 8:00 & 9:45am Masses—September thru June. Contact Traci for information @ 719.290.0163

**Knights of Columbus:** Meeting held 2nd Thurs. of the month - 7:15pm in the Fireside Rm. Contact: G. K. Steve Cushing @ 804-8875. **SJV Parish Family Breakfast** third Sunday of the month in the Hall after the 8:00 & 9:45am Masses, Sept. thru June.

**St. Vincent De Paul:** Meets the third Tuesday of the month 6 pm in the Fr. Moroney room.

**Gabriel Project:** Outreach program to pregnant mothers and their families, offering support so that all babies may be welcomed. Please contact Claudia Beigel, 635-8399. Location of meetings have been changed to the Fr. McKeon Rm in the parish office, 2nd Sundays of the month @ 10am.

**Respect for Life:** Respect life means to honor Life as sacred from the moment of conception until natural death. If you are interested in becoming part of this vital ministry in prayer or an active member for: (Family Movie Night) (Annual-40 Days for Life in Sacramento), or (Annual-Walk for Life in San Francisco).. *Please Contact Chris Bailey*, Respect Life Coordinator @ (916) 361-1340

**Loaves and Fishes:** Feeds the hungry & shelters the homeless. *Volunteers needed*. Please contact Chiyoko at 635-3928.

**Martha and Mary Ministry:** Martha and Mary Ministry meets every first Friday of the month after 8 am Mass and Sacred Heart adoration in the Father Moroney room. To volunteer call Connie- 635-3865.

**Go to** the parish website @ **sjvparish.com** for more information about parish events and parish registration.

**Adoración al Santísimo:** Premier viernes del mes, de 9pm-12am.

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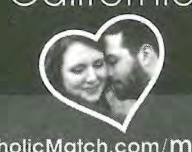
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