



St. Felicitas Catholic Church

1662 Manor Blvd. San Leandro • Email: stfelicitaschurch@comcast.net
Tel.No. (510) 351-5244 • Fax (510) 351-5730

December 18, 2011 Fourth Sunday of Advent



Parish Staff

Rev. Augustine Joseph	286
Parochial Administrator	
Rev. Jayson Landeza	297
Parochial Vicar	
Rev Tran T Dinh , (In Residence)	
Vietnamese Ministry	288
Jose Prado Deacon (Retired)	
Mercey Zamora, Pastoral Assoc.	
(Spanish Ministry)	347-1293
Sr. Magdalena Duong,	287
Ministry (Vietnamese Community)	
Sr. Ancilla Marie	282
Pastoral Care	
Ida Valenzuela, RCIA	283
Sister Cecilia Chuong-Phan,	
Altar Servers	
Rosario Rivera, Secretary	281
Clare Zipp, Bulletin	284

Religious Education Office

Sandi Walton	DRE	296
Mary Segismundo		285
Youth Services		
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Convent 351-5577

St Vincent de Paul 706-1972

Mass Schedule:

Sunday 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am
 12:15(Spanish) 4:30pm(Vietnamese)
 Saturday 8:15am, 4:30pm (Vigil)
 Daily (Mon-Fri) 7:00am, 8:15am
 Holy Days 7:00am, 8:15am, 7:00pm
 1st Friday Exposition 12:30 - 4:45pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 3:15 to 4:00pm or by appointment

Baptism

4th Sunday of every month 2:00pm
Contact Parish Office for information.

Marriage

Arrangements to be made 6 months prior to the wedding

Parish Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 8:45am-4:30 pm Fri 8:30am - 12:30pm

Parish School

Meghan Anne Jorgensen
Principal
1650 Manor Blvd.
Ph. 357-2530 Fax: 357-5358

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18, 2011

*The child to be born
will be called holy,
The Son of God.*

*Hail,
full of grace!
The Lord is
with you.*



Our advent wreath

Our advent wreath hanging over the baptismal font looks pretty. But few people might know the patient design and work that made it possible. As many of us remember, the wreath used to be in the middle of the Church above the credence table. Since it was a real hassle to light it, the various committees' suggested a new design and location.

Bob Smyth, of happy memory, took up the challenge and began designing a new technique for lowering it for lighting the candles and then raising it up. It was not all that easy. It went through different designs and changes, trials and errors. Many times I thought of bringing in an expert to do it. It would be a lot easier and quicker. However, Bob was not interested. He kept going, changing and redesigning until it worked. Not only did he save us money, but he taught me a lesson in patience and perseverance.

Whenever I look at our advent wreath, I find myself thinking about Bob and the way he went about doing work in the parish. The meaning of the season of Advent gradually unfolds before me. So many people rush the season, acting as if Christmas is already here in its fullness. But what value is there and what joy there can be in letting Advent unfold slowly – with our active cooperation, of course.

In our home we can light the wreaths and pray to become more aware of God, who is always with us. Lighting the Advent wreath before dinner is a great way to train our children, spiritually, for Christmas. When we buy gifts, with love and prayer, we are placing others ahead of ourselves. It helps to participate in a small measure in the life of the greatest gift giver of all, GOD. Advent is also a beautiful time for us to reach out to the poor and work for justice and peace. It is also an invitation to us to get more involved in the different Ministries of the Church. A big Church like ours has many wonderful opportunities for Ministry; our Ministry Handbook (available in the parish office) lists them all. It is in giving that we receive.

We can let all this unfold in its own time, and in God's time. Most of all, we can take the risk of moving beyond talking to actually doing, actively working and waiting in joyful expectation for God to change all our "doings" for His greater glory.

Father Augustine

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18, 2011

Second Collection: Catholic Voice

9:00 & 10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

- 5:00 pm Children's Mass — (Children's Pageant)
- 7:00 pm Vigil Mass
- 9:00 pm Vietnamese Mass
- 11:30 pm Christmas Carols
- 12:00 am Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

- 7:30 am
- 9:00 am
- 10:30 am
- 12:15 pm Spanish Mass
- 4:30 pm Vietnamese Mass



NEW YEAR'S DAY
 (Mary, Mother of God)
 Regular Sunday Mass Schedule
 Including Vigil Mass on Sat. 12/31
 at 4:30 pm



Fr. DINH
50th JUBILEE

Parishioners are invited to come to the gym after the 10:30 Mass today for refreshments in celebration of Fr.Dinh's 50th Anniversary in the Priesthood..

Events of the Week Dec. 19 thru Dec. 24			
MON 12/19	8:30 am 12:00 pm 3:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	School Bell Choir School Advent Practice School Choir Practice SCHOOL ADVENT PROGRAM Catholic Daughters	AE Rm Church AE Rm Church Hall
TUE/ 12/20	8:30 am 3:30 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	School Bell Choir CCD Parent Faith Share Adult Confirmation Christmas Pageant Practice Spanish Catechist mtg.	AE Rm SMC SMC Church AE Rm
WED 12/21	7:00 pm	Spanish Prayer Group	AE Rm
THU 12/22	9:00 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Christmas Decorating Christmas Pageant Practice Spanish Youth Group	Church Church Hall
FRI 12/23	8:30 am 7:00 pm 8:00 pm	School Bell Choir Spanish Children's Choir Vietnamese Choir	AE Rm Hall AE Rm
SAT 12/24	5:00 pm 7:00 pm 11:30 pm 12:00 am	CHRISTMAS EVE Christmas Eve Mass with/ Children's Pageant Christmas Vigil Mass Christmas Carols Midnight Mass	C H U R C H

COLLECTIONS	Our Weekly Need: \$11,500.00
	Dec. 11, 2011
Sunday Collection:	\$11,026.00
Children:	\$ 18.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 2,190.00
Thank you for your generous donations.	

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship of \$551.30 went to SPRED.

This week's Stewardship will go to the George Mark Children's Home in San Leandro (Pediatric palliative care facility, providing transitional & respite care for children & their families.)

SCHOOL ADVENT PROGRAM



All parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend the St. Felicitas School Advent Program on **Monday, December 19, at 7:00pm** **In the Church.**

The Advent Program is a wonderful prayer, filled with praise & song in celebration for the coming of Jesus. The children do a beautiful job, with each class singing a joyful and prayerful Advent song and concluding with a finale by all the students..

St. Felicitas Parish Christmas Pageant December 24, 2011 5:00 p.m. Mass

Children attending St. Felicitas School or Faith Formation Classes, from Kindergarten through sixth grade, are invited to participate in the Children's Christmas Pageant at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve.

There are limited parts of the Nativity, which will be assigned randomly to the children. Practices will be held in the church on:

Tuesday, Dec. 20—7:00 to 8:15 pm
Thursday, Dec. 22—7:00 to 8:15 pm

If your child/children is interested in participating in the Pageant, please contact Sandi Walton in the Religious Education Office @ 483-4880

Any of you who enjoy sewing, we would like to ask you to help in making angel costumes for the Pageant. Each Christmas Eve, the children re-enact the Birth of Jesus. If you would like to help, please contact Sandi @ 483-4880.

Thank you for your help!



Each Christian needs half an hour of prayer each day, except when we are busy; then we need an hour.

Pray for The Sick & Homebound:

Peggy Miller, Daniel and Raymond Bautista, Josie Herrera, Evelyn Lake, Shirley King, Julie Chin, Oscar Bickerton, Jose Julian Garcia, Bailey Gendreau, Jim Lachemeyer, Barbara Houston, Jack Bollinger, John Cooke, Cesar DeLeon, David Silva Jr, Audris Woo, Amanda Jean, Theresa & Mario Pellini, Roseta Laguana, Elaine Desa, Gerard Poyatos, Dolores Smith, Lisa Bigman, Lisa Dmoski, Rhodera Posa, Joseph Andrade, Viola Litvinchuk, Mae Zeffaro, Hortense Prado, Mia Lara, Elizabeth LeFargo, Paul DeFue, Sara Melin, Ladale Rohles, Rosalie Keller, Juanita Estrella, Alejandra Reyes, Madeline Oberti, Antonie Catubig, Mick Carson, Mary Giannelli,

PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED.....

Joel Deleon, Joseph Mapayag, Ivan Diamond and Judith Motta,

Mass Intentions Dec. 18 thru Dec. 25

Sun. 12/18	7:30 am	St. Felicitas Parishioners
	9:00 am	Edgar Walters (Living)
	10:30 am	Gale DeVetter †
	12:15 pm	Francisco & Santiago Higareda †
Mon. 12/19	7:00 am	Francisco Sousa †
	8:15 am	Maria Monsor (Birthday)
Tue. 12/20	7:00 am	Lucy Valenzuela †
	8:15 am	Anne Heeny & Edna Piercet
Wed. 12/21	7:00 am	Peter Maria Tien Tran †
	8:15 am	Colin Suarez (Birthday)
Thurs 12/22	7:00 am	Marshall Morris †
	8:15 am	Earl Granahan †
Fri. 12/23	7:00 am	Arinea Mangahas †
	8:15 am	Penny Barnes †
Sat. 12/24		CHRISTMAS EVE
Sun. 12/25		CHRISTMAS DAY

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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

**SCHOOL FUND RAISER
PORKEY'S PIZZA PARLOR
Tuesday, Dec. 20
4:00 to 9:00 pm**

Help support St. Felicitas School with
Porky's Fundraiser Night.

The school will receive 20% of all dine-in sales. You must present fundraiser flyer to Porky's when placing your order.

Please pick up a copy of the flyer from the parish or school office.



Contribution Envelopes for 2012 are now in the Vestibule for all to pick up. A big "thank you" to all who helped in getting them set up, especially to Mel Abero, Olivia CamCam and Girlie Mamuyac.

We ask that all parishioners pick up the envelopes as soon as possible, as we will have to clear the Vestibule before Christmas Thank You !!



**PRAYERS FOR THOSE
IN MILITARY SERVICE**

We pray especially at this time for all our men and women who are serving their country far away from home at Christmas Time !

*We would like to keep all who serve in the Military in our prayers and in our hearts. If you know of any of our parishioners who are in the Military Services, or have a son or daughter in the Service, please contact us at the Parish. We pray especially for **Angelo Lisondra, Army; Nelson Pena, Army; Benjamin Sacramento, Jr., Navy; Aurelio Sandoval Jr., Army; Shiloh Morrison, Marine Corps; Steven Accardo, Marine Corps. Michael Saragosa, Green Beret; Bruce Holmes, Army; Brian Pontes, Air Force; Denis Charles Gafke,; Jason Buscovich, Army; Victor Avilla, National Guard; Omar Tejeda, National Guard; Michael Roe, Army; Kevin I. Ontai, Army National Guard; Marvin Terlaje, Army, Kyle Swatman, Marine Corp.; Megan McClain, Army Nat'l Guard; Patrick Gilmore, Army Reserve; Nicholas Goyeneche, Navy***

God is preparing the world to become one nation, when armies and navies will be no longer required.

YES, LORD!

Of all the kings, prophets, and holy men and women of ancient Israel who had waited in faithful hope for the coming of the promised Savior, God chose to announce his coming to a young woman. The message was not proclaimed in a palace or even the temple in Jerusalem, but in a backwater village called Nazareth. Artists typically show a startled or shy Mary, usually seated and partly turning away from the heavenly messenger in confusion. In a small brightly colored painting created over a thousand years ago, the artist shows something entirely different. The angel is holding up one hand in greeting. Mary is standing up and facing him directly with both her hands extended toward him, as if to welcome him. In this encounter between the human and the divine, we see again God's capacity to confound human expectations. The words of the *angelos* (Greek for messenger) are rich in power and promise: "you have found favor with God . . . [your child] will be called Son of the Most High . . . he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end . . . The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you" (Luke 1:30, 32, 33, 35). Mary was no shrinking violet. Because she was pure of heart and trusted completely, she responded to God with a wholehearted "yes." At this point, God broke into our world. Through the cooperation of a simple village girl, God breathed the air we breathe, walked the earth we walk, and experienced our sorrows and joys as a human like the rest of us. Everything on earth became sanctified because God became human. God became flesh in the Son, Jesus Christ, born of Mary. The world would never be the same again. The time is here to let him into our hearts and change us completely.

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HELP WHILE YOU SHOP

Help Saint Felicitas church/school or a charity while shopping . Why not make a difference while purchasing your Christmas presents this year? The online shopping mall **GoodShop.com** donates up to 30% of each purchase to your favorite cause, while working with thousands of retailers and non-profits. Similarly, with every search conducted on the yahoo-powered **GoodSearch.com**, approximately one penny is donated to your favorite charity. For more information, visit **GoodSearch.com**

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

De las muchas tradiciones latinoamericanas para celebrar el Adviento y la Navidad, las Posadas parecen ser lo mejor conocido en EE.UU. Tienen su origen en la última mitad del siglo XVIII cuando las estrepitosas Misas de Aguinaldo dejaron de ser celebradas en México. Para remplazar la festividad de esas Misas, los laicos decidieron celebrar en sus casas tomando lo que habían visto dramatizado en los templos, esto es, el recorrido de José y María mientras buscaban posada en Belén. Como las “Antífonas de la O” de la liturgia oficial cristiana, estas Posadas llegaron a ser celebradas nueve noches consecutivas.

200 años después, muchos latinos continúan celebrando las Posadas en EE.UU. Recuerdo como de niño cantábamos “En el nombre del cielo” recorriendo las calles del barrio hasta llegar a la casa donde nos abrirían con cantos, tamales, galletitas y chocolate. Ese recorrido de José y María lamentablemente sigue todos los días en los pasos temerosos y cansados de tantos inmigrantes en este país. Como la Sagrada Familia, otras familias latinoamericanas continúan buscando hospedaje con la esperanza de dar a luz una nueva vida para sus hijos e hijas.

—Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glez, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



DIGNO DE CELEBRARSE

Imagínate este día sin el Niño en el pesebre. Sin árbol de Navidad, sin regalos ni comida de Noche Buena. ¿Cómo pudieras *tú* celebrar? Durante los trescientos años siguientes a la época de Jesús los cristianos pasaban por alto el nacimiento de Jesús. Por fin la Iglesia determinó el 25 de diciembre como el día de Navidad y llegó a ser una gran fiesta en la Edad Media. Más tarde los puritanos suprimieron la fiesta por considerarla pagana y papista. A mediados del siglo diecinueve la historia de Charles Dickens *A Christmas Carol* (Un cuento de Navidad, 1843) revivió la Navidad en los Estados Unidos con un énfasis familiar y no religioso. En una de las lecturas de hoy san Pablo expresa el punto principal de este día: “Al manifestarse la bondad de Dios, nuestro Salvador, y su amor a los hombres, él nos salvó, no porque nosotros hubiéramos hecho algo digno de merecerlo, sino por su misericordia. Lo hizo mediante el bautismo, que nos regenera y nos renueva, por la acción del Espíritu Santo, a quien Dios derramó abundantemente sobre nosotros, por Cristo, nuestro Salvador. Así, justificados por su gracia, nos convertiremos en herederos, cuando se realice la esperanza de la vida eterna” (Tito 3:4–7). ¡Eso sí que es algo digno de celebrarse!



El Comité pro “Festividad de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe”, AGRADECE a todas las personas que generosamente contribuyeron con gran generosidad para que nuestra Madre Santísima fuera honrada y venerada en el día de su celebración.

Que inmenso regocijo el habernos congregado con un mismo sentir mariano.

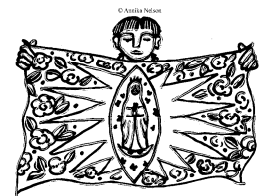
Que alegría en los rostros de nuestros niños, niñas, jóvenes, adultos y personas mayores, al contemplar el rostro de nuestra linda Morenita, nuestra Madre Lupita.

Cuan agradecidos estan nuestros corazones con nuestro Padre Dios, por proporcionarnos la felicidad de compartir y celebrar nuestra Eucaristía que subió a Dios como una alabanza. Las Mañanitas que honraron a nuestra Madre Santísima. Alegres cantos del Mariachi Teatolcoman, de la Rondalla Guadalupeña, Grupo Juvenil “Trigo Nuevo” las señoras de la danza folklórica, “Huareles” que con sus voces y danzas demostraron gran amor a la Reina de America.

Efusivo agradecimiento para nuestras hermanas y hermanos del Comité. Ellos y ellas en gran armonía y unidad, aportaron sus ideas, su talento, tiempo, dinero y alegría para coordinar la fiesta; los que cocinaron, limpiaron y prepararon tantas cosas que disfrutamos. Gracias también a los Niños y Niñas del Altar, al grupo de danza Juvenil y a la Danza “Azteca”. Todo ha sido expresión de júbilo y culto.

Sobre todo, nuestro agradecimiento por nuestra Eucaristía que nos unio en comunión con Cristo. Nuestro agradecimiento también para los Ministros y a los Sacerdotes Jayson Landeza,

Augustine Joseph, Fernando Cortez, Nicanor Sarmiento y el diacono Hi Ho, que nos acompañaron en esta hermosa celebración. Gracias a toda la comunidad por su entusiasmo y generosidad. Gracias a toda la comunidad por su presencia y colaboración. Gloria a nuestro Dios y honor a nuestra Madrecita de Guadalupe.



Merezzy Zamora.

ST. JUAN DIEGO