



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

We follow Christ by Living our Faith, Sharing Knowledge and Serving the Community.

First Sunday of Advent

December 1st, 2019



ONLINE NOW AND WEEKENDS OF
DECEMBER 7th/8th
DECEMBER 14th/15th
DECEMBER 21st/22nd

Reconciliation

The Holy Father stresses that forgiveness of our sins is not something that we can give ourselves. In confession, we ask forgiveness from Jesus.



"Forgiveness is not the fruit of our own efforts but rather a gift, it is a gift of the Holy Spirit who fills us with the wellspring of mercy and of grace that flows unceasingly from the open heart of the Crucified and Risen Christ."
Pope Francis

Please join us on **December 10th at 7:00 p.m.** as we celebrate Advent Reconciliation as a parish.

Holy Spirit Church is once again excited to offer our community the opportunity to **give the gift of lasting change!** This Christmas, we invite you to share joy by giving opportunity in rural Nicaragua in your name, your loved ones, or friends' names. Your generosity and support will bless a child, family, or entire community. Whether it's the health of a family, their economic development, or education, your support will have a lasting impact.



HOW IT WORKS:

1. You purchase Gifts of Opportunity on behalf of your friends and family members by either:
 - ◆ stopping by the **Gifts of Opportunity** table outside of church after any mass on the designated days listed above and meet some of our incredible volunteers that will share their stories, and tell you firsthand how your gift will **MAKE A DIFFERENCE** this Christmas!
 - ◆ Or by visiting <http://amigosforchrist.org/gohs/>
2. Your loved ones receive a beautiful card and keepsake ornament that explains the impact of their gift.
3. Families or communities in Nicaragua receive opportunities that will change their lives forever.

Christmas Mass Schedule



Christmas Eve Schedule

- 4:00 pm in the Gym
- 4:00 pm in the Church
- 6:30 pm in the Church
- 9:00 pm in the Church
- 12:00 am in the Church

Christmas Day Schedule

- 8:00 am in the Church
- 9:30 am in the Church
- 11:30 am in the Church

Corporate Matching Programs accepted • Donations are tax deductible

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Office / 408-997-5101
24 Hour Emergency

Rev. Brendan McGuire, Pastor
408-997-5105 brendan.mcguire@dsj.org

Rev. Edgar Elamparo, Parochial Vicar
408-997-5107 edgar.elamparo@dsj.org

Merry Reardon, Pastoral Associate
408-997-5112 merry.reardon@dsj.org

Penny Warne, Pastoral Associate
408-997-5108 penny.warne@dsj.org

Faith Formation 408-997-5112

Baptism 408-997-5115

Initiation 408-997-5112

Marriage 408-997-5115

Sacrament of the Sick 408-997-5110

Pastoral Care 408-997-5110

Social Ministries 408-997-5111

Youth Ministry 408-997-5106

Music Ministry 408-997-5121

Finance Office 408-997-5101

Finance Council John Beck
goya12string@yahoo.com

Pastoral Council Stephanie Kavanagh
stephaniekavanagh2@gmail.com

Holy Spirit School

1198 Redmond Avenue
San Jose, CA 95120
www.holyspirit-school.org
408-268-0794

Greg Vohs, Interim Principal
Maira Gutierrez-Folchi, Assistant Principal

NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR



This weekend we begin a new liturgical year with the first Sunday of Advent. It is a relief to move beyond the scripture passages from the last month focusing on the "end times." I am certainly ready to focus on the Advent message of joy as we anticipate the Christmas message of eternal hope. We eagerly await the celebration of Christmas itself. It is a time to put old ways behind us and embrace the freshness of the Christian message. That is the very message of Advent; to focus on the joy, peace and love of the Christ. Ultimately the message of God at Christmas is that God loves us so much that he became one of us in Jesus Christ. That message never gets old and I love to remind us all of it.

This time of Advent is then a time for us to become more attentive to how Christ is operating in our life, how he is present in our daily lives. As Catholic Christians, we believe that Christ is always with us even, and most especially, in the difficult times. These four weeks before Christmas can be a welcome opportunity to simply focus on how I can see Christ more readily in my daily life.

As we prepare for this Christmas through our Advent journey may we give back to God the gift of our active presence to him in our lives. What does that look like? When we see our child hug and kiss us, we see the presence of Christ. When we see our spouse's gentle caress after a long day of work, we see the presence of Christ. When we see our parents hold hands in love, we see the presence of Christ. When we see the hand of the poor asking for help, we see the presence of Christ. When we see the elderly person sad and begging for a smile to make their day, we see the presence of Christ. When we see the confused youth trying to make sense of their friends' mean behavior, we see the presence of Christ. When we see so many so close to us seeking our attention in love, we see the presence of Christ.

This week may we spend some time every day becoming aware of the presence of Christ as it may be the only thing we can offer, to just be aware of Christ among us.

During this month, you will receive via email the Annual Financial Report for the Parish. Please read it and see the great work we have done this past year. We hope to inspire all of you to become more engaged than ever before! We need your help to make our parish successful and inspirational for all.

Happy Advent to all!



Question of the Week

In what ways do I need to
straighten out to follow Jesus?

LIVING THE LITURGY

Advent

Advent marks the beginning of the Ecclesiastical year. During this season the faithful are encouraged to worthily prepare themselves to celebrate Jesus' coming into the world as the incarnate God of love.



Pope Francis said that to prepare the way of the Lord's coming, it is necessary to remind of ourselves of Saint John the Baptist's invitation for conversion. He said that we are called to fill the 'valleys' caused by coldness and indifference, opening ourselves to others with the same sentiments as Jesus, that is, with affection and fraternal attention which takes on the needs of our neighbors. This means that one cannot have a relationship of love, charity and fraternity with one's neighbors if there are "gaps" just as one cannot travel a road with many potholes or obstacles. This requires a change of attitude.

There is a need to curtail the indifference caused by pride and arrogance. How many people, perhaps without realizing it, are proud, are indifferent, lack that kindly relationship. It is necessary to overcome this by making concrete gestures of reconciliation with our brothers and sisters. It is not easy to reconcile with another. One always thinks: "who will take the first step?" The Lord helps us in this if we are of good will. Indeed, conversion is complete if it leads us to humbly recognize our errors, our infidelity and failings. We must not allow ourselves to succumb to the mentality of the world, because the center of our life should be Jesus and His word of light, love and solace. It is He!

Pope Francis said Saint John the Baptist invited the people of his time to conversion, with force, with vigor and with firmness. Nevertheless, he knew how to listen, he knew how to perform gestures of tenderness, gestures of forgiveness toward the multitude of men and women who went to him to confess their sins and to be baptized with the baptism of repentance. Thus, let each of us ask ourselves: how can I change something in my attitude, in order to prepare the way of the Lord?

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

M 12/2 Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

T 12/3 Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

W 12/4 Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37



TH 12/5 Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

F 12/6 Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

S 12/7 Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1

S 12/8 Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m.

Daily Mass / Communion Service

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m.

Daily Holy Hour

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m.

Daily Rosary

Monday - Friday 9:15 a.m.

Holy Days of Obligation

8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration & Reconciliation

First Friday of the month
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.
or by appointment

MASS INTENTIONS

M 12/2	8:30	Dorothy Hembree †
F 12/6	8:30	Edna DeSouza
S 12/7	5:00	Holy Spirit Parish
SU 12/8	8:00	Mary Thul †
	9:30	Kathy Moritz †
	11:30	Holy Spirit Parish

PRAYER REQUESTS

For those who are ill:

Sam Imrisek, Donna Junghaene,
Jerry Metzger, Zach Richard

For those who have died:

Andrew Alejo, Becky
McLoughlin



Nicaragua Mission Trip



Holy Spirit is planning two mission trips back to Nicaragua next summer; June 13-20 and June 20-27. While political turmoil in the country forced most missionary groups – like Holy Spirit – to cancel their trips in 2018, we had a successful trip in 2019 and are looking forward to 2020.

In June we plan to send two group of adults, and minors with their parents.

Information meetings for this trip will be held on **Saturday, December 7 and Saturday, January 25 both at 1 pm** in Holy Spirit Church. It is not necessary to attend both sessions. These meeting are especially important for those traveling to Nicaragua for the first time.

More information can be found on <http://holyspirtchurch.org/nicaragua-mission-trip>. If you have questions or would like to receive updates about this trip, please email hs.amigos@yahoo.com.

Survival Sack Opportunities



Holy Spirit parishioners continue to volunteer to distribute Survival Sacks at Sacred Heart Community Center. We gather on the **first and third Thursdays of the month** to distribute Survival Sacks, organize supplies, make hygiene kits, and fill backpacks. Sacks are provided to those who are homeless and living on the streets of San Jose, usually about 40 on each distribution day. We have the privilege of looking for the face of Christ in each of our clients.

Starbucks Coffee supports the Survival Sack Program by providing coffee for our clients. Coffee is provided by the Starbucks at Old Almaden Road and Curtner and by the Starbucks at Monterey Highway and Alma (near Sacred Heart).

Survival Sacks will be distributed on **Thursday, December 5th and Thursday, December 12th** (note this is the second Thursday as Sacred Heart is distributing food and/or toys on the third Thursday of December). The signup link can be found on the parish website ***Volunteers must be 16 or older.*** We meet at Sacred Heart at **8:45 a.m.** If you have questions, please contact Tom Burgei at tnburgei@gmail.com

Holiday Help at Sacred Heart Community Service



“As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself and the other for helping others”

Audrey Hepburn

A big thank you to those parishioners who have signed up to volunteer. Sign up now on the church website at <https://holyspirtchurch.org/sacred-heart-community-service/> for service opportunities during the Christmas Holidays.

Sacred Heart’s goal is to give out 7400 food boxes over the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays.

Many people are needed to help ensure food is packed and handed out..

Their annual Toy Program also needs the help of many hands so that 6200 children receive the joy of a gift at Christmas.

For more details on the shifts, please check out the website

For questions, contact Mary Jane Vitkovich at mjvitkovich@hotmail.com.

Los Gatos Christmas Parade

Please join Holy Spirit School as we make our debut at the 63rd Annual Los Gatos Children's Christmas Parade on **Saturday, December 7**, at 11 am.

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who worked so hard to create our float and to all the students who will represent our school.



Seussical Kids

Congratulations to the entire cast of Seussical Kids on a who-worthy performance! Our K-3rd graders offered a whimsical show enjoyed by family and friends. We'll let you know when to get your ticket for our spring performances of Grease and Bye Bye Birdie featuring our 4th- 8th graders.



Happy Thanksgiving!

Thank you to the entire parish community for all your support for youth ministry. The ministry is blessed to have such a vibrant and supportive community that makes youth ministry a priority.



3sixty High School Ministry

Please note that there will be no 3sixty after the 6pm Mass. Enjoy the evening off!



Edge Middle School Ministry

Our next Edge night will be on **Wednesday, December 11th** for an Advent and Christmas social night. All middle school youth are invited to attend this fun evening.



Confirmation Year 1

The next session for the year 1 group will be on **Wednesday, December 4th** at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall.

Confirmation Year 2

The next session for the year 2 group will be on **Wednesday, December 18th** at 6:30pm in the Church.

A Refresher why we do what we do! Part 4



What is the wafer you all are receiving, and can I get one, too?

The Source and Summit of everything we do as Catholics is the Eucharist, aka: Holy Communion. Jesus said in the Gospel of John 6:51, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

We take this very literally. At the Last Supper Jesus took bread and wine, blessed them and said, "This is my body" "This is my blood" and "Do this in memory of me." (Luke 22) We take this, with the Gospel of John very literally, too. Jesus' Sacrifice for us on the Cross is what we celebrate at Mass. He made that Sacrifice once and for all, but told us to participate in it, too. Our celebration of this Sacrifice isn't a new one; it brings the one and only Sacrifice into the present. The hosts and wine change from those elements to His True Presence—to the Body and Blood of Christ. It's not a symbol for us. It's a reality. And so, we ask that only those who are united with us in that belief through the Catholic Church participate in receiving Communion.

Prayer Partner Ministry



The Pastoral Care office receives multiple requests every day for prayers for various needs. While names can be added to the weekly Prayers of the Faithful (Intercessions) for a short time, many times prayers are needed for a longer time or require privacy.

Prayer Partners commit to praying for specific people and their needs, daily or more often, as led by the Holy Spirit. The Director of Pastoral Care and a Prayer Partner Lead allocate to each minister the *first name only* of a prayer need by email. Ministers agree to necessary confidentiality boundaries.

Prayers of petition allow us to place ourselves in a position of trust in God, without any demands for a particular outcome. Prayer does not change God and may not result in changed outcomes, but it does change us. With open hands, we become receptive to what may come and more aware of the spirit of God working in our world. One caring Prayer Partner shares, "The prayer ministry is truly rewarding for me. Somehow in praying for others, there is a loving calm and peace within me also. Thank you for allowing me to participate and, hopefully, God in his way will answer all of our prayers."

If you would like to become a Prayer Partner, or have a prayer request, please [contact Leah Harris in the Pastoral Care Office at 997-5110 or \[leah.harris@dsj.org\]\(mailto:leah.harris@dsj.org\)](#).

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Dates subject to change. View our complete calendar at: www.holyspiritchurch.org

MON 12/2	9:15 a.m. 3:15 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	Layette Ministry Children's Choir Rehearsal Faith Formation Classes Liturgy Meeting Men's Faith Group AA Meeting	Class Room 3 Church Parish Hall Parish Office Classroom 2 Classroom 3
TUE 12/3	9:00 a.m. 1:15 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Women's Faith Sharing Watercolor Workshop Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 3Sixty Core Team Meeting Women's Faith Sharing	Parish Hall Classroom 4 Church Be Still Room Parish Hall
WED 12/4	6:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 pm.	Men's Faith Group Wednesday Lunch Ministry Confirmation Year 1 Meeting GOFJ-Enrichment Prayer Series	Parish Office Parish Hall Church/Parish Hall School Library
THU 12/5	7:00 p.m.	GOFJ-Planting	School Library
FRI 12/6	9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Al-Anon Meeting Small Community of Faith	Parish Hall Offsite
SAT 12/7	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	Small Community of Faith St. James Saturday Lunch Ministry Nicaragua Mission Info. Meeting CLOW Gifts of Opportunity Weekend	Be Still Room Parish Office Church Parish Hall
SUN 12/8	9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 1:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	CLOW Nursery Faith Formation Classes Domestic Church Meeting 3Sixty Youth Night Gifts of Opportunity Weekend	Parish Hall Parish Hall Parish Hall Church Parish Hall

Sacred Heart Volunteering

Sacred Heart Community Service needs volunteers for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. No tax return preparation experience required! While previous tax return knowledge is helpful, the United Way provides free, IRS-certified training for volunteers starting soon. Training will be in early December. After you indicate your interest, you will be contacted to confirm when tax training will begin. The VITA program offers free tax help to people who make less than \$54,000 per year, persons with disabilities and others who need assistance preparing their tax returns.



Sacred Heart's VITA site will run on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 pm to 8 pm, and Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm, starting in late January 2020.

We hope you are interested in helping Sacred Heart Community Service with their VITA program. Please send your e-mail interest to Mayra Klinkhammer at mayrac@sacredheartcs.org.



“Live with good humor and just do the Lord’s work,” says Franciscan Sister de Lourdes Okoniewski (left), 87. She and Sister Florence Kruczek, 91, have been doing the Lord’s work for some 70 years each. “My batteries are still running,” says Sister Florence. “I get up each morning and say, ‘O Lord, thank you for the gift of another day.’”

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

For Sisters de Lourdes and Florence—and 30,000 other senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who benefit from the Retirement Fund for Religious—service is a way of life. Most ministered in Catholic schools, hospitals, parishes, and social services, usually for little or no pay.

Today, hundreds of religious communities lack enough savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious offers vital support for necessities, such as medications and nursing care. Please be generous.

Roughly 94 percent of donations directly aid senior religious.

Please give at your local parish.

To donate by mail:
National Religious Retirement Office
3211 4th Street NE
Washington DC 20017-1194
Make check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious.

retiredreligious.org

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