



St. Anne's Catholic Church

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Walnut Creek, CA 94595

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www.stanneswc.org

SECOND SUNDAY

OF

Advent

December 10, 2023

A voice cries out:
In the desert prepare the way of the Lord!
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!
Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill shall be made low.

Isaiah 40:3-4

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am – 4:30 pm

Friday 9 am – 1:00 pm

Masses in Church

Monday - Friday 8:15 am

Saturday 8:15 am & 5 pm (Vigil)

Sunday 9 am & 11 am

Sacrament of Confession:

Tuesday 9 am - 9:30 am

Saturday 3:30 pm- 4:00 pm

Library Hours:

Wednesday & Thursday - 9 am - 12 pm

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Leonard L. Marrujo

Priest in Residence: Rev. George DaRoza

Off./Min. Coordinator : Janet Money

Bookkeeper: Aileen Baker

Housekeeper: Martha Sanchez

Organist: Sheila Wilkins

Cantor: Gina Dowen

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Last week our parish celebrated the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and this week we will celebrate *the Solemnity of Our Lady of Guadalupe*. The story is that the Virgin Mary appeared before St. Juan Diego in 1531 providing a rich and beautiful tribute to her and the miracle before the Mexican people and most importantly to the New World.

Our Lady of Guadalupe holds a special place in the religious life of Mexico and is one of the most popular religious devotions. Her image has played an important role as a national symbol of Mexico.

According to tradition, *Mary appeared to Juan Diego, who was an Aztec convert to Christianity*, on December 9 and again on December 12, 1531. During her first apparition she requested that a shrine to her be built on the spot where she appeared, Tepeyac Hill (now in a suburb of Mexico City). The bishop demanded a sign before he would approve the construction of a church. Mary then appeared a second time to Juan Diego and ordered him to collect roses. In a second audience with the bishop, Juan Diego opened his cloak, letting dozens of roses fall to the floor and revealing the image of Mary imprinted on the inside of the cloak—the image that is now venerated in the Basilica of Guadalupe. The traditional view has been questioned by various scholars and ecclesiastics, including the former abbot of the Basilica of Guadalupe.

The primary objection is that there is no documentary evidence for the apparition until 1648; critics claim that documents purporting to be from the 16th century are actually from the 17th. Critics have also noted that the bishop approached by Juan Diego was not consecrated until 1534, and he makes no mention of Juan Diego or of Our Lady of Guadalupe in his writings. Defenders of the Virgin of Guadalupe—including Pope John Paul II, who canonized Juan Diego and declared Our Lady of Guadalupe the patroness of the Americas—accept the authenticity of the early documents and point also to various oral accounts of the apparition.

St. John Paul's actions were only the latest in a series of developments affirming the importance of Our Lady of Guadalupe. A shrine to the Virgin has existed on the site since at least 1556 when the archbishop of New Spain promoted devotion to the image of Mary at a chapel in Tepeyac.

The story of Mary's appearance to Juan Diego was codified in the work of Miquel Sánchez in 1648, and an account in the indigenous language was published in 1649 and widely accepted as accurate. In 1737 she was proclaimed patroness of Mexico City, and in 1746 her patronage was accepted by all the territories of New Spain, which included part of present-day California as well as Mexico and regions as far south as Guatemala and El Salvador. In 1754 Pope Benedict XIV approved her patronage and granted her a **proper feast and mass on December 12**. Pope Pius X proclaimed her patroness of Latin America in 1910, and in 1935 Pius XI approved her patronage over the Philippines. Veneration of Our Lady of Guadalupe has been particularly strong among women, especially in Mexico, and since at least the early 18th century the devotion was spread throughout the world by the Jesuits and other religious.*

Please come join us for a solemn mass at 9:00, on December 12th, followed with Mexican chocolate, pan dulce, and tamales. And let us pray for her intercession especially now as we see the church being persecuted in parts of the world. God bless. *(Some parts of this article come from Encyclopedia Britannica online). *God bless,*

Fr. Leonard L. Marrujo

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday, December 11th - Coffee Chat

11 AM - Parish Center
Rev. Michael Castori S.J.

Tuesday, December 12th

9 AM Mass- Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Please join us in the Hall for refreshment after mass.

Wednesday, December 13th - Bible Study

10:30 AM – St. Anne's Parish Hall



Sunday, December 17th @ 3PM

Please join us for our 2nd annual
Christmas Concert

There's no better way to take some time out of this busy season than to spend an afternoon enjoying the concert, singing familiar Christmas carols, and visit with each other.

This year Sheila has planned a wonderful program with additional musicians.

Invite your friends. There will be refreshments in the Parish Hall after the concert.

Bulletin: If you would like to receive the weekly bulletin and highlights by email contact the parish office at info@stanneswc.org. Bulletin is also available on our website www.stanneswc.org

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday 12/09	5:00 PM	† Carole Zimmerman
Sunday 12/10	9:00 AM	† Rita DaRoza † Dennis Quinn † Rachel & Peter Chan
	11:00 AM	Sp. Int. Parishioners & Benefactors
Monday 12/11	8:15 AM	† Cassio Almeida Sp. Int. Robert Remedios
Tuesday 12/12	8:15 AM	† Carm DaSilva
Wednesday 12/13	8:15 AM	† Arthur Almeida
Thursday 12/14	8:15 AM	† Richard Williams
Friday 12/15	8:15 AM	† Patricia Guterres
Saturday 12/16	8:15 AM	† Virginia Xavier

ADVENT SEASON CONFESSION

There will be extended hours of reconciliation from 9 am to 10 am in the church.

Thursday: December 14th

Tuesdays: December 19th

Reminder : December 10 donation envelopes for Retirement Fund for Religious

Please turn in your donation envelope to help thousands of elderly religious individuals retire with dignity. Your donation will provide essential care, medicine and other necessities for nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests who have served for decades—usually for little or no pay. Let us show our appreciation by generously supporting those who have given so much. Additional envelopes are located in church.





The following non-perishable items are needed at St Mary's St Vincent de Paul Food Pantry on a regular basis and are usually in short supply and not provided through the food bank.

Toilet Paper	Oatmeal—small packets	Ketchup
Shaving Items	Chicken Broth	Coffee
Toothbrushes	Top Ramen	Water
Paper Towels	Cleansing Wipes	Tea
Mustard	Pasta / Pasta Sauce	Mayo
Body wash	Soup / Broth	Box Fruit Juice
Peanut Butter	Jam / Jelly	Cereal

Canned foods are provided through the Food Bank.

St Mary's St. Vincent de Paul Gift Card Drive

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, we are helping our neighbors prepare for their celebrations with gift cards!

Ways to support by Dec 18 include:

Leave a \$25 Target gift card in the box under the Giving Tree,

Drop off a check made out to SVdP with giving tree on the memo line, or
Bring cash donation to the office.

Thank you for your generosity!



MINISTRIES

Altar Servers	Charles Cobb	925-705-7143
Eucharistic Ministers	Charles Cobb	925-705-7143
Greeters Weekend	Mary Beth Hodge Lupe Roberts	925-954-1158 925-322-8798
Homebound	Evelyn Noriega	510-386-1573
Library	Odile Crandall	925-937-2643
Facility Maintenance	Keith Crandall Bob Martini	925-932-2324 Parish Office
Men's Ministry	Martin Bailey	925-932-2324
Parish Council	Paul Molloy	925-323-0730
Parish Finance Council	Peter Newell	925-891-4479
St. Anne's Society	Joe Cellucci	843-870-6683
Ushers	Fran Long	925-939-5151



December 11th, Monday at 11am.

Our speaker Fr. Michael Castori, S.J. will share with us the Ignatian Spirituality and how to apply that to our everyday lives.

JAPAN CRUISE aboard the beautiful Westerdam of Holland America Line, is being sponsored by St Anne's Society.



April 13 - 27, 2024

For more information please call Gale Lydecker at 925-937-7748. Space is already going quickly.

A donation from each reservation will benefit St. Anne's Society.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Andrea Puccini	Debbie Campbell	Jannet Tuvilla	Kathleen Clemons	Patricia Carey
Bob Pape	Don Corempas	Jeanette Martini	Linda Podesta	Richard Daniels
Caroline George	Edward Regan	Jeff Westerfield	Lois Belmessieri	Robert DeGraca
Carter Whitlatch	Elaine Chiou	Joe Cellucci	Mark Suprachauna	Robin Duggan
Cass Candell	Ellen Stevens	John Statz	Martin Keegan	Robert Kraftschik
Cathy Grimesey	Ev Eaton	Josay Hayes	Megan Smith	Ron Barajas
Cheryl Spitz	Felice Santos	Kathleen Rose	Michael Dunn	Tom & Vicki Hughes
Chris Ramirez	Fr. Anthony Chang	Karen Salchett	Mike Abell	Wayne & Maria Sylvia
Cathy Bridges	George Slinsen	Karl Kropp	Pamela Maria	

If you wish to be included or removed from our prayer list, please contact Fran Long at 925-939-5151