

St. Ignatius of Antioch

December 18, 2016 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Address: 3351 Contra Loma Boulevard, Antioch CA 94509-5468

Parish Office: (925) 778-0768 ● Fax: (925) 778-0845 ● Faith Formation: (925) 778-1631 ● Rectory: (925) 470-3253

E-mail: st.ignatius@sbcglobal.net ● Website: www.stignatiusofantioch.org

● facebook: www.facebook.com/stignatiusofantiochchurch

Fourth Sunday of Advent Candle of Love



Fr. Robert K. Rien
Pastor

Fr. George Griener, S.J.
Assisting Clergy

Deacon Gary Hack
Permanent Deacon

Don Pearson
Director of Music, Organist,
Artist-in-Residence

Frances Rojek
Director of Faith Formation

Peter Degl'Innocenti
Pastoral Associate

Carolyn Krantz, M.Div.
Pastoral Associate

Maryann Peddicord
Pastoral Secretary

Estrella Rusk
Financial Secretary

Rich Confetti
Facilities Manager

Yvette Young
Administrative Asst.

Eucharist Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4pm
Sunday: 8 am & 10 am
Mon., Wed., Fri.: 8 am Holy Eucharist
Tue., Thur.: 8 am Liturgy of the Word
and Holy Communion
Holy Days: 8 am & 7:30 pm
Reconciliation: Saturday, 2:45 to 3:30 pm

Faith Formation Office (925) 778-1631

Sacraments: Contact Parish (925) 778-0768

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30am to 12:30pm

For Ministries, Activities & Outreaches in Parish; see
Parish handbook, available in the Office.



December 18, 2016
Fourth Sunday of Advent

*They shall name him Emmanuel,
which means "God is with us."*

— Matthew 1:23

Stewardship

Thank you for the gift of your Time, your Talent and your Treasure to St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be."

Stewardship of Treasure

Our goal for weekly plate collections is: \$12,500.00

Weekend Offering for December 3rd & 4th

Weekend Offering.....\$9,774.50
2nd Collection –Parking Lot Loan.....\$3,228.00

New Building Fund

Donations This Week.....\$977.00
New Building Fund Balance.....\$946,349.41

Schedule of Events

Sunday, December 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8 am & 10 am Liturgies
- Lessons & Carols Concert - 3 pm - Church - Reception to follow - Parish Hall

Monday, December 19

- Divine Mercy and Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am
- No SPRED this month
- RCIA Meets - 7 pm - Parish Office

Tuesday, December 20

- Divine Mercy and Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion - 8 am
- Star of Bethlehem Video - 7 pm - Parish Hall
- No Faith Formation

Wednesday, December 21

- Divine Mercy and Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am
- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal - 6:30 pm - Church
- No Faith Formation

Thursday, December 22

- Divine Mercy and Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion - 8 am
- G I F T- 8:45 to 10:30 am - Parish Hall
- No Choir Rehearsal
- No Faith Formation

Friday, December 23

- Divine Mercy and Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

- Vigil Liturgy - **4 pm** - Children's Liturgy
- 10 pm - Christmas Eve Liturgy

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

- 8 am & 10 am Liturgies

Looking Ahead



Christmas Season Liturgy Schedule: See page 4 of Father's Insert this week.



December 20: Join us for a showing of "The Star of Bethlehem" this Tuesday in the parish hall at 7pm.

December 26: Office closed.

January 2, 2017: Office closed.

January 20: Mark your calendar now - first organ concert of the New Year. Details to follow..

January 21: The crab feed is back! Join us at the annual Knights of Columbus crab feed in the parish hall after the Saturday vigil liturgy. See page 6

Pray for the Sick

Remember in your prayers all those who are sick or suffering in any way, especially:

Rocco Battaglia	Terry Malonosan	Theresa Weathers
Archbishop Brunett	Linda Morrison	Guy Worth
Liza Espiritu	Peter Villalpando	

Members of our Parish Family who are in the Military, hospitals, nursing homes, shut-ins and all those who have no one to pray for them.

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-
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	Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Lay Ministers—Week of December 24th & 25th

Minister signup sheet on the wall adjacent to the Sacristy

Fr. Robert Presiding & Preaching

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat. 4:00 pm	Mike Ambrosini †
Sun. 8:00 am	Anna Tran †
Sun. 10:00 am	Joel Rusk †
Mon. 8:00 am	Willie & Linda Ilas
Tues. 8:00 am	Our Parish Family
Wed. 8:00 am	Hanny Reingold
Thur. 8:00 am	Lenore Jarin †
Fri. 8:00 am	John Fraga †

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the souls of **Rosario Perez and Al Perez**. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

St Vincent de Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is requesting the following food items:

Mac & Cheese - 7oz. box **Tuna** - 5 oz can
Sliced Peaches - 15 oz can **Pork & Beans** - 15 oz can

Please bring your donations to weekend liturgies or place them in the donation barrel in the Narthex. Please NO OPENED or EXPIRED packages.

Adult Confirmation

If you have not yet received the sacrament of Confirmation and will be 18 years of age or older on February 18, 2017, then Adult Confirmation classes are for you. Confirmation will take place on Saturday, February 18, 2017 at 10AM at The Cathedral of Christ the Light.

The Diocese of Oakland has set the date and opened registration for 2017. Classes will be held (Tuesday evenings) January 17, 24, 31 and February 7 from 7:30 to 9 pm in our parish office.

Contact Pastoral Associate Peter Degl'Innocenti at (925) 756-6172 for registration forms or more details. The Diocese will impose a registration deadline at some point in the near future. Don't delay, call now.

St. Joseph Missals

St. Joseph Missals with the readings for the new liturgical year are available from parish office. The cost is \$4.00.

2016 Christmas Season Liturgy Schedule

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24, 2016

- 4:00 p.m. The Children tell the story of Christmas (Organ, Cantors; Carols; *No Incense*)
- 10:00 p.m. Festive Celebration of Holy Eucharist for Christmas Night – The Parish Choir, Cantors, and Organ; The Blessing of the Christmas Trees and the Blessing of the Creche; Procession and Incense

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25, 2016

- 8:00 a.m. Festive Celebration of Holy Eucharist for Christmas Morning; Procession, Cantors and Organ, Carols (No Incense).
- 10:00 a.m. Festival Choral Eucharist for Christmas Day; The Parish Choir, Cantors, and Organ; Procession and Incense

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Friday December 30, 2016

- 8:00 a.m. Celebration of Holy Eucharist

New Year's Eve, Saturday, December 31, 2016

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

- **4:00 p.m.** Vigil Liturgy for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Day, Sunday, January 1, 2017 – The Solemnity of Mary, The World Day of Prayer for Peace, The Octave Day of Christmas.

- 8:00 and 10:00 am Festive Celebrations of Holy Eucharist; Birthday blessings.

Catholic Social Services

Know someone in need?

Not sure how to help?



Consider referring them to **FAITH IN ACTION**, A Catholic Social Services Directory created by Catholic Charities of the East Bay.

Web address: FAITHINACTIONOAKDIOCESE.ORG.

This online resource can be accessed on your smart-phone or your home computer and offers detailed information about social service agencies in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties, including referral contact points.

Mobile Mall News

Next Sorting - Saturday, January 7, 2017 - Holy Rosary Dominican Hall - 9 am to 12 pm.

Distribution - Saturday, January 21, 2017 - Turner Elementary, 4207 Delta Fair Blvd., Antioch 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

The donation barrel for gently used clothes, towels and sheets is located in the Narthex. For more information about this ministry, please call 757-4020.

Office Volunteers Needed

The Pastoral Office is looking to supplement the wonderful volunteers who assist in the office on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you are interested and can commit to a regular schedule, please contact the office for more information.

Successful Coat Drive - Thank You

Thank you to everyone who donated coats, hats, scarves and gloves to the Coat Drive co-sponsored by our Confirmation Class and the Knights of Columbus. The final count will certainly exceed 300 coats!

Arrangements have been made with St. Vincent de Paul to deliver the coats in time for their annual Christmas food box distribution on December 16.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

“When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.” Let us learn to accept each other and Christ in our marriages by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend.

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is July 14-16 at San Damiano Retreat Center. Early registration 4 to 6 weeks ahead is highly recommended. Contact Mike & Jeanne @ 925-672-2016 or Joe & Sue @ 925-680-7767 or go to oaklandwwme.org.

Justice Corner

By Carolyn Krantz...Pastoral Associate

Angels

At this time of year we sing, “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” and “Angels we have heard on High.” At other times we teach our children to pray to their guardian angel or we refer to angels when someone near to us does a good deed, “You’re just an angel.” We also know that some angels have names: Gabriel, Rafael and Michael. What is the real meaning of angels in the Christmas story?

What do these stories and references teach us? In the story of the shepherds, connects angel appearances with glory and light, “And the glory of the Lord shone round about them.”

Throughout tradition, angels have been announcing something or protecting something. Angels are considered messengers of God’s Word. But what are they and how do we experience them? Sometimes it is like a flutter or nudge we feel, a “thing with feathers” that barely disturbs the air around us or the well within us.

When I was in Ireland, where belief in “little people” is strong, I bought a set of prayer cards that were entitled, “Gifts for the Soul.” Each card was artistically designed with wispy figures of angels. They listed basic spiritual truths each with a title: Angel of Balance, Angel of Healing, Angel of Openness, Angel of Harmony, Angel of Strength, etc. Each card offered a spiritual principal or message to help take the souls deeper into the spiritual life. The idea was that you pull a card from the stack and meditate on it for the day or week, and see what truth was there for you, like an angel nudging you to find your truth.

This gave me the awareness of the place of angels in our lives. Like Gabriel’s announcement to Mary, angels center us in God’s message. They announce glad tidings. They surround us with the light and love of the Lord. They give us an invitation to live more fully the life of God in us. They bring comfort and understanding to the journey.

Because the idea of angels infers a suddenness in coming or going, we also know there is an “angel of death” and that Lucifer is a “fallen angel” whose pride led him to oppose the will of God. Hence the concept that the devil lies in wait like a roaring lion, waiting to snare us. When we look at artistic perceptions of angels and devils in the Middle Ages we see creatures with wings, the angels being serene and the devils being chaotic and monstrous. St. Ignatius of Loyola spoke of good and evil spirits coming and going in our prayer life.

We all experience movements in our souls that work to good or toward pride and ego. There are times of consolation when we are sure God is leading us and desolation when He appears to have abandoned us. It takes time in silence to discern which is which. God resides in all. In our busy lives, we often do not seek out the silence we need to hear the inner voices that help us to follow the way of the Lord.

Spend some time opening up your heart to your guardian angel and see what good news is there for you. Ask your angel to guard you from fear and show you the pathway to the Lord.

The angel cards are available from lorriesangels.com

Parish Perspective

By Peter Degl’Innocenti...Pastoral Associate

Lucky St. Nicholas

This year’s St. Nicholas Dinner was a huge success. From a personal standpoint, it had some unique changes. First of all, this year my wife and I didn’t host decorating a table. To me that meant I wouldn’t have to lug eight full-place settings to and from the hall (my back isn’t what it used to be). This year we were the guests of Frank and Monika Kauer who did a fascinating job decorating their table. The centerpiece was a ceramic snow-capped Christmas tree resembling a mountain with three miniature trains traveling in counter-rotating directions at different levels up the tree. At the very top, supported by a stiff wire, was Santa, his sleigh, and the reindeer flying around the entire structure. Simply delightful! Maybe Santa was delivering luck on that sleigh ride because our table was truly lucky that night.

One of the first fund-raising games was the purchase of an “ornament bag.” For \$20 a shiny little bag was purchased wherein was an ornament for the tree plus, if you were lucky, a cash reward ranging from \$5 to \$100. On cue, we all opened our bags. Jan found only the ornament, but Molly Kennedy reached into the recesses of her bag to pull out the prized \$100 bill!!! Atta way to go Molly! When St. Nick made his appearance, he gave us a brief history of his life and held up high the purse of gold coins he used to pay the dowry of poor young ladies so they could get married. Then Fr. Robert, errrr...I mean St. Nick, began to toss the coins into the crowd seated at their tables. I was impressed as some very athletic catches were being made. Frank and Mike both scored great catches of the gold foil-wrapped chocolate treats. As the evening wore on and silent auction prize winners were announced each table would erupt in cheers of joy for their winner.

For the live auction prizes, the bidding was sharp and competitive. The live auction prizes are understandably, the best. The last item to be auctioned was a complete service for eight Christmas-themed place settings, including two centerpieces, suitable for next year’s St. Nicholas Dinner. Bidding seemed unusually low, so a glace from Jan and a raised eyebrow from me signaled the all-clear for me to place a higher bid that hammered down our success.

With a final blessing for a good night, St. Nick and the revelers began to disperse. As I was about a third of the way to the car, lugging a full eight-place formal dinner-ware setting, a strange sense of Déjà-vu came over me. “Hey, wasn’t I supposed to **Not** be doing this, this year?” I asked my wife. “You placed the winning bid, sweetheart; you’re just so lucky” she said. All of us who attended that wonderful feast were very lucky. God has blessed us with a winning spiritual community.



Get Your Tickets to the 5th Annual Knights of Columbus Crab Feed

Saturday, January 21, 2017 - 6:30 PM St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish Hall

Tickets available after Masses
on
January 1, January 7 & 8 and
January 14 & 15
or
Call Steve Rojek at
925-642-2329

All You Can Eat:
Appetizers
Dungeness Crab
Salad – Bread – Pasta – Dessert
No-Host Bar
Raffles

\$50 per person

**Buy your tickets
early. No Tickets
Sold at the
Door**



Join us for a video
presentation of

*Note date and time
correction*

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM

**Tuesday, December 20 at
7:00 pm in the Parish Hall**



A Christmas Message from the Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus of
St. Ignatius of Antioch would
like to take this opportunity to
wish our parish community a very MERRY
CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

This wish comes with a very big thank you for
your generous support of our activities
throughout the year. Your support enables us
to meet one of our primary founding principles,
CHARITY. We are proud to be an active part of
this wonderful community.

*Your St. Ignatius of
Antioch Knights of
Columbus*





Giving Thanks!

As 2016 draws to a close, St. Ignatius of Antioch parish is taking time to reflect upon what we've accomplished this year and all that we have to look forward to in 2017.

Undoubtedly, we are a parish blessed with the love, prayers, and support of so many generous individuals.

Without the kindness and generosity of our parishioners, so much of what we accomplish in ministry and outreach would not be possible.

As you count your blessings this Christmas season, we ask that you prayerfully consider a special year-end gift to St. Ignatius of Antioch.

Please know that every gift, no matter the amount, is both celebrated and appreciated!

