

St. Ignatius of Antioch

December 25, 2016 - Christmas Day

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

*The
Glory
of the LORD shall
be revealed.*



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 25, 2016 Christmas Day

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

— John 1:5

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 10-11

Weekend Offering.....\$11,049.00
2nd Collection –Religious Retirement.....\$2,394.00

New Building Fund

Donations This Week.....\$1,385.00
New Building Fund Balance.....\$947,734.41

Schedule of Events

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

- 8 am & 10 am Liturgies

Monday, December 26 - Offices Closed

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

Tuesday, December 27

- Divine Mercy and Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion - 8 am
- No Faith Formation

Wednesday, December 28

- Divine Mercy and Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am
- Knights of Columbus Meeting - 7:30 pm - Parish Hall
- No Faith Formation

Thursday, December 29

- 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
- Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 to 9 pm - Church
- No Faith Formation

Friday, December 30

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

Saturday, December 31 - New Year's Eve

- Vigil Liturgy - **4 pm**

Sunday, January 1 - New Year's Day

- 8 am & 10 am Liturgies

Looking Ahead



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

December 26: Office closed.

January 2, 2017: Office closed.

January 4: Join us at 9:15 a.m. for a hula class in the parish hall. Great way to keep your New Year's resolution to get more exercise.

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	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Tuesday	1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Wednesday	1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
Thursday	1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40
Friday	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
Saturday	1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
Sunday	Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Lay Ministers—Week of December 31st & January 1st 2017

Minister signup sheet on the wall adjacent to the Sacristy

Fr. Robert Presiding & Deacon Gary Preaching

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat. 4:00 pm & 10:00 pm	Our Parish Family
Sun. 8:00 am	Our Parish Family
Sun. 10:00 am	Our Parish Family
Mon. 8:00 am	All Priests & Deacons
Tues. 8:00 am	All Military Men & Women
Wed. 8:00 am	Hanny Reingold
Thur. 8:00 am	Gus Favalora †
Fri. 8:00 am	Alan E. Young †

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the souls of **Sharon Korber, Al Perez and Ret. Antioch Police Capt. Michael Thomas.** 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:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Corn - 15 oz can | Green Beans - 15 oz can |
| Canned Fruit - 15 oz can | Spaghetti - 16 oz |

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.

YLI News

The YLI thanks all those who donated shampoo and other toiletries over the past few weeks. More than 150 packages were prepared for distribution to both individuals and area shelters.

Marriage Preparation Program

A Program to Prepare Couples for the Sacrament of Marriage.” The Marriage Preparation Registration for the Winter 2017 Sessions are as follows:

Saturday, Jan. 7th - 8:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 4th.- 8:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 25th - 8:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Location: St. Vincent's Marinwood
Saint Vincents Dr., San Rafael, CA

The cost is \$325.00 per couple. For more information, call (415) 699-8348.



Thank You

Thank you to everyone who so generously donated gifts to this year's Giving Tree Project. Your gifts will brighten the Christmas

Season for some wonderful children in our community. Schools benefited this year included St. Peter Martyr, Turner, Mission and Sutter elementary.



Justice Corner

By Carolyn Krantz...Pastoral Associate

Much has happened since St. Francis created the crèche in 1223 for the midnight Mass in the town of Greccio, Italy. He wanted to bring the Christ child closer to the people in a time when Mass was said in Latin and the celebrants faced the high altar in large cathedrals. He felt that the people needed to know that God was closer to us than we could imagine. So where is this close God in our time? Although we have the Mass in our own language and our churches are in the round, where do we find God's closeness in 2016?

I would like to think about the crèche in a social justice way. Mary and Joseph were called out of their known world to make a journey into a strange town: one third of our world is in migration mode, moving from the places and families that they know into the unknown in hopes for a better future. The Holy Family was rejected when they got to Bethlehem and had to hold up in a stable with smelling animals. How many homeless do we see, rejected and holding up in smelly, chilly camps under the freeway? The animals brought warmth to their meager shelter. How many of the beautiful variety of plants and animals have become extinct because of our carelessness? How many suffer cruelly at the hands of their owners?

The shepherds come running in with the tale of angels singing and praising God. And Mary keeps all these things in her heart. We experience many shepherds, people who tell us of God's revelation and we experience angels, people who sing Gods praises. Do we recognize them when we meet them? Do we keep their faithfulness in our hearts?

Then there is the star. What crèche is complete without a star? Stars are far off twinkles in the sky that remind us of the amazing Creator whose mystery we cannot fathom. Stars call us to the deep places within. They remind us to stop and catch our breath, stop and catch the breath of the Spirit during this busy holiday season. Stop to get in touch with our deepest selves and find where God is leading us in 2017.

And the Wise Men, men of different races, trusting in that Star-Creator to lead them to find "He who is to come." Are we able to spot the wise men and women of our time who inspire us to make the world a better place? Can you name them? Can you follow their leadership to build the Kingdom of love?

At the end of the Christmas story the Holy Family must flee Herod's wrath and go into Egypt. The Holy Innocents are slaughtered. Are we willing to help organizations that are trying to stop human trafficking and child abuse? Can we help them flee their destructive situation and find solace in a safe harbor?

Everyone loves the Christmas story because it is full of hope and salvation. Most everyone has a crèche in their homes under the tree. But when the Christmas music dies down and New Year parties end, what difference will this Christmas make in the suffering lives of those around us. "We bring you glad tidings of great joy," said the angels. For a New Year's resolution, decide to make a difference in the in the lives those around you. Become the Christ Incarnate for the poor, the homeless, the aging and sick. That is the real crèche we are called to be.

Parish Perspective

By Peter Degl'Innocenti...Pastoral Associate

Spike the Punchbowl!

Merry Christmas! Have a very Merry Christmas from all the hard workers who make this column the success that it is. From the research crew who look up facts, dates, and names, the line production crew who set the font styles and size, the storyboard artists who provide the wonderful illustrations for the articles, the still photographers, gaffers, key grips, lighting technicians (Industrial Light and Magic), stunt doubles, and where would we be without our talented and **essential** Foley artists, a very Merry Christmas indeed! All these hard-working people are dedicated to putting a smile on your face, especially during the holiday season when the message of joy and peace needs to be proclaimed by the hearts warmed by the touch of humor. Humor, like gold, is where you find it. You can find it in circumstances that arise, in "gag gifts" placed under the Christmas tree, and you can find it most often in people.

One treasure-trove of humor that I've found is in the unassuming person of Erlinda Titus, one of our faithful "Gift Session" participants. Every Thursday after communion service, she is there collecting her morning refreshments and setting her papers straight for full participation in group discussions. Sometimes she has a very subtle approach. Like the best of comedians, she comments on something, setting me or the entire group up as a straight man. We answer after a fashion and then she unloads with the punch line that sends everyone rocking back in their chairs thinking "Where did that come from?" She even cracks herself up. Without doubt, Erlinda is wise, gentle, and filled with the good sense of humor that God gave her. She uses it as a spiritual gift in the sessions, and it just might be her best charisma. When we believe that we are made "in the image of God" that means we believe we have "attributes" similar to or analogous to God. Humor is one of the many attributes we have in common with God. It is what keeps the love in our hearts from leaking-out and prevents us from becoming cynical.

So, this Christmas raise your glass in good cheer with a healthy hearty smile and give it a good Santa-like "Ho- Ho-Ho." We here at *Parish Perspective* Publication Departments and Production Studios will keep you in our thoughts and prayers during our annual employee Christmas party and Ballroom dance. We might even catch the slippery guy who manages to spike the punchbowl every year (but I doubt it).



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

Something new in the New Year.

Did you ever want to learn how to Hula?

Beginning January 4th from
9:15 to 10:15 am Hula dancing lessons
will be offered by our parishioner, native
Hawaiian, Samantha Peralto.

Every movement, expression and
gesture in the hula has a specific
meaning. The hand movements are of
particular significance with a good hula
dancer watching their hands at all times,
not the audience.

Space is limited so call the Faith
Formation Office at 925.778.1631 to
guarantee you a spot on the floor.

St. Ignatius of Antioch presents
Angelic Music for the Parish and the
Community.

Join us for an Organ Concert
featuring Don Pearson, Director
of Music and Artist in Residence.

Friday, January 20, 2017
at 8:00 pm

Artist's reception follows
immediately in the Parish Hall.



Free will
offering
accepted.



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!

