

St. Ignatius of Antioch

December 23, 2018 – 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



Mission Statement:

United in Faith, Ignited by the Spirit, We Reflect the Light of the Living Christ

Fr. Robert K. Rien
Pastor

Fr. George Griener, S.J.
Assisting Clergy

Fr. Richard Mangini
Assisting Clergy

Deacon Gary Hack
Permanent Deacon

Don Pearson
Director of Music, Organist,
Artist in Residence

Frances Rojek
Pastoral Associate,
Formation & Administration

Peter Degl'Innocenti
Pastoral Associate, Pastoral Care

Carolyn Krantz, M.Div.
Pastoral Associate, Social Justice

Maryann Peddicord
Pastoral Secretary

Estrella Rusk
Financial Secretary

Rich Confetti
Facilities Manager

Eucharist Schedule

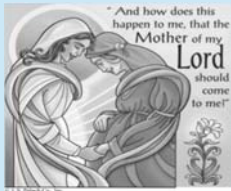
Saturday Vigil: 4 pm
Sunday: 8 am & 10 am
Mon., Wed., Fri.: 8 am Holy Eucharist
Tue., Thur.: 8 am Liturgy of the Word
and Holy Communion
Holy Days: 8 am & as announced
Reconciliation: Saturday, 2:45 to 3:30 pm

Faith Formation Office: (925) 778-1631

Sacraments: Contact Parish Office: (925) 778-0768

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

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



December 23, 2018
Fourth Sunday
of
Advent

*Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.*
— Luke 1:42

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.” —Matthew 6:21

Stewardship of Treasure

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

Weekend Offering for December 8-9

Weekend Offering.....\$ 11,075.00

Second Collection (Retirement Fund-Religious)....\$2,952.00

Looking Ahead

December 16-24: Join us for the Simbang Gabi Novena at 5 am daily beginning on December 16.

January 12-13, 2019: 40th Anniversary Celebration for all who were baptized in our parish over the past 40 years. See page 4 for more details.

January 19, 2019: Annual Knights of Columbus Crab Feed. See page 6 for more information.

Ongoing:

Tuesdays: 7:00 p.m. - Hula Class in the Parish Hall.

TBD - Contact Samantha Peralto at 726-7117 for information or questions.

Thursdays: Growing in Faith Together (G I F T) sessions - 8:45 to 10:30 am - Parish Hall. Call the Faith Formation office for more details (778-1631).

Check us out on Facebook: If you haven't viewed the parish's Facebook page recently, check it out. More pictures and events are being posted. Most Sundays homilies are also posted.

www.facebook.com/stignatiusofantiochchurch

Schedule of Events

Sunday, December 23

- Simbang Gabi - 5 am Liturgy - Church
- 8 am & 10 am Liturgies
- Second Collection for St Vincent de Paul

Monday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

- Simbang Gabi - 5 am Liturgy - Church
- *Offices Closed*
- No SPRED
- No RCIA
- 4 pm and 9 pm Liturgies

Tuesday, December 25 - Christmas Day

- 9 am and 11 am Liturgies
- *Offices Closed*

Wednesday, December 26

- Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am with Novena following - Church
- *Offices Closed*
- No Classes

Thursday, December 27

- Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion - 8 am
- Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) sessions - 8:45 to 10:30 am - Parish Hall
- Hula Class - 7 to 9 pm - Parish Hall
- Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 pm to 9 pm – Church

Friday, December 28

- Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist- 8 am

Saturday, December 29

- 4 pm Liturgy
- Second Collection for Parish Assessment

Sunday, December 30 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

- 8 am & 10 am Liturgies
- Second Collection for Parish Assessment

Pray for the Sick

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

Tom Bresciani	Linda Morrison	Diane Schlueter
Gavin Cano	Jose Palomino	FF Cole Smith
Dorothy	Jose Guillermino Ramos	Dr. Deborah Stec
FF Brandon Earhardt	FF Mark Rezac	Peter Villalpando
Willie Ilas	Marlene Rideau	David Viscay
		Guy Worth

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	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Tuesday	Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Wednesday	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Thursday	1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Friday	1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
Saturday	1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
Sunday	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17]

Lay Ministers—Week of Dec 29th & 30th

4 pm: Lectors – Joe Salvador, Carmen Garces; **Head Cup** – Sharon Simpson; **Head Host** – Melodye Costanza; **Host** – Nancy DiMaggio, Bernice Campbell; **Cup** – Pam Confetti, Beverly Iacona, Tim Cox; **Servers** - David Simpson

8 am: Lectors – Kathleen Clarke, Jack Goncalves; **Head Cup** - Vianney Mendoza; **Head Host** – Jeannine Ford; **Host**– Diane Hack, Kathleen Hayakawa, Monika Kauer, Crispina Malonosan; **Cup** - Carol Fanfa, Frank Kauer, Natalia Joyce, Jenawati Kwa, Samantha Peralto; **Servers** - Daniel Galvan, Vincent Martinez

10 am: Lectors – Cheryna Wright, Lee Oliver; **Head Cup** – Jane Sharpe; **Head Host** – Lesley Eubanks; **Host** - Helga Boardman, Ed Cissell, Mark Costanza, Cynthia Enrique; **Cup** – Shelia Fortez, Yvette Young, Sharon Cissell, Noel Fortez, Harlan Young; **Servers** – Jesus Moreno, Jose Moreno

4:00 pm - Fr. Robert Presiding and Preaching
8:00 and 10:00 am - Fr. Richard Presiding & Fr. Robert Preaching

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat. 4:00 pm	Lenore Jarin †
Sun. 8:00 am	John Fraga †
Sun. 10:00 am	Manuel Martins †
Mon. 4:00 pm 9:00 pm	Our Parish Family
Tues. 9:00 am 11:00 am	Our Parish Family
Wed. 8:00 am	All Priests & Deacons
Thur. 8:00 am	All Care Givers
Fri. 8:00 am	All Military Men & Women

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the souls of **Angela Nguyen and Fred Burton**. 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:

Canned Corn - 15 oz.
Canned Green Beans - 15 oz.
Mac & Cheese - 7 oz. box

Please bring your donations to weekend liturgies or place them in the donation barrel in the Narthex.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

If you can help or need help call (925)757-0941
Food Pantry - Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9-10 am - Parish Center *

Food Bank Fresh Food Truck - 1st & 3rd Friday of the month 1-2 pm Church Parking lot *Most Holy Rosary.

If you can just once a month visit a needy family with us to offer them help call (925)757-0941

For every type of help from the country call 211 or go to: www.211database.org

Contra Costa Interfaith Housing

Homework Club Support: We are looking for compassionate individuals to help in our after school Homework Club that goes from August through June. We are in *high need* of support at our Pittsburg site. Spanish speaking volunteers are also *highly needed* at our Concord site. Other sites we serve are in Pleasant Hill and Bay Point. You will provide academic and mentoring support to children from extremely low-income homes in grades K-12. Commitment is one afternoon per week (Monday-Thursday for the entire school year. Adults and high school sophomores through seniors are encouraged to apply at www.ccinterfaithhousing.org/volunteer.

Ruby Slippers 2019: Contra Costa Interfaith Housing's annual auction gala *Ruby Slippers - There's No Place Like Home* is February 9, 2019, and we need YOUR help in making this night the best yet! We are looking for volunteers to reach out to their friends, family and community for basket donations. Items like fine wine, sports/theater/event tickets, dining certificates, vacation home getaways are very much appreciated. Please contact Elba Morales at elba@ccinterfaithhousing.org. Also: Tickets are available; prices go up soon! Come with your friends and have a great time!

Marriage Preparation Programs

"A Program to Prepare Couples for the Sacrament of Marriage." The next Marriage Preparation Sessions takes place on:

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

Location: St. Vincent's Marinwood -

1 Saint Vincents Drive San Rafael, CA.

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

San Damiano



New Years' Eve Retreat with
Fr. Rusty Shaughnessy, OFM
December 30, 2018 -
January 1, 2019

For more information or to register, please visit www.sandamiano.org or call 925-837-9141, x315.

Thank You From Winter Nights

Dear St. Ignatius of Antioch,

Thank you for being part of our Winter Nights Interfaith Family. Your community's participation makes the Shelter a reality and gives hope to families in crisis. We are thankful for your service and generosity.

Gratefully,
Ann Lawrence
Winter Nights Volunteer

Adult Confirmation Classes

If you have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation and will be 18 years of age or older on Feb. 16th, then Adult Confirmation classes are for you! The Diocese of Oakland has set the date and opened registration for 2019. Classes will be (Tuesday evenings) Jan, 8, 15, 22, 29, and Feb. 12 from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Become a fully initiated Catholic and receive the power of the Holy Spirit, and its gifts. Contact Pastoral Associate Peter Degl'Innocenti at (925)756-6172 to receive this year's registration forms and more details. The Diocese will impose a deadline at some point in the near future. Don't delay, call now!

40th Anniversary News



40th Anniversary

*Were you or a
family member
baptized at
St. Ignatius of
Antioch?*

The **FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD** is being celebrated on January 13 and marks the end of the Christmas Season. As part of our year-long celebration of the Anniversary of St. Ignatius of Antioch, we also want to celebrate and remember all who received the Sacrament of Baptism in our parish over the past 40 years. This celebration will take place on the weekend of January 12-13 and culminate with a reception in the parish hall after the Sunday 10:00 am Liturgy.

The Anniversary Committee is collecting pictures of parish baptismal celebrations for our Baptism Celebration. If you have pictures that you would like to share, please place them in the 40th Anniversary Memory Box located in the Narthex. If you would like your pictures returned, please place them in an envelope with your name and phone number. If you have digital pictures to share, email them to Vicki at v.a.mccoy@att.net. Please use "40th Anniversary" in subject line.

Justice Corner

By Carolyn Krantz...Pastoral Associate

Christmas is near. God comes to us in new ways this year. We know that God loves us, that He comes again to renew His promise with earthlings. He Who made a covenant with the prophets and Wisdom figures of old, comes again in new ways. He is ever the Creator of beauty and love. "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled", says Elizabeth in the Gospel.

It is easy to believe that Emanuel, God-with us, is present in the good times, but can we hold to this belief in troubling times? This is the challenge that Elizabeth gives to us, she who was barren kept believing that God would bless her with a child. When Mary visits her, she utters this sentence about herself, who never gave up hope and about Mary, who is filled with the angel's promise. Blessed are you if you keep believing in hard times.

Meister Eckhart says, "This, then is the fullness of time, when the Son of God is begotten in us... We are all meant to be Mothers of God." Every time we give lovingly to others, we become "other Mary's", giving birth to the God-ness (goodness") in the world. Every time we say "yes" to suffering, we give birth to him who came to suffer for and with us. Fr. Richard Rohr says, "Whenever the material and spiritual coincide, we have Christ."

Think about that for a moment. When we pray and when we act from the inspiration of the Spirit, we bring Christ into the world. When our physical self meets our spiritual self in good deeds and words, we bring Christ into the world. The eternal birth of the divine Son takes place unceasingly in those who listen and do God's will. That is why the letter to the Hebrews says, "I come to do your will, O God." That sentence should be on our lips every morning when we rise and every evening as we examine our day and close our eyes in blessed rest.

Our world so needs the birth of goodness and truth. Christmas is like a time-out-of-time when we get a glimpse of the goodness that appears out of the starkness of ordinary life with its shootings, violence, and ill-begotten motivations of selfishness and spite. We have evergreen trees to promise that life continues. We have lights to brighten the darkness. We have presents to say we are loved by family and friends. But the ordinary world reappears after New Year's to tell us that Christ still needs to be born again in this world. We have "Harrod's" wanting to kill innocents and those who refuse to open their door for strangers seeking refuge. We must start the New Year with trust that God is with us. He continues to be born again in people of faith. He uses our poor humanity to put the divine into the world. This is our task this Christmas: To be shining stars of God's love in the world so that "people may see the good that we do and give glory to God," as the song goes. Or as Mary says, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior," God-with-us, being born again through us.

Parish Perspective

By Peter Degl'Innocenti...Pastoral Associate

The Rest is History

Having been away to Pennsylvania in September, Maryann had the job of selecting some "Best Of" articles to rerun in the bulletin. When I came back, I noticed the article *Tagged* was one of the selected encores. "A good one" I thought to myself and got on with the business at hand. A few weeks ago, time got the better of me and I didn't have a new article to submit. Maryann ran a "Best Of" and chose *Tagged* again. "Hmm" I thought, "That one must have struck a chord with her". So, next time I saw her I told her the story of the genesis of the article.

My wife and I enjoy occasionally watching the TV show *Mysteries at the Museum*. The show starts with an intriguing question about an event in history, jumps to a museum's curator who proceeds to physically describe the museum's artifact related to the historical event. Interest is peaked, and the viewer is hooked until the artifact's involvement is realized. I was stumped for an idea for the article until my eyes rested on the copper souvenir from Bisbee, Arizona. Thus, I started the article in the same manner as the TV show hoping to "hook" the reader into the mystery of the artifact and, at the same time, the mysteries of our faith.

Taking it upon myself, I decided to take the one-inch square cube downstairs to the kitchen, use the copper cleaner usually reserved for pot and pan bottoms and shine it up till it almost sparkled like gold! I showed the shiny cube to Maryann on my next trip to the office. She giggled about how "cute" it was and she was also impressed with the weight of the little cube of inspiration.

The sacraments of the Church are the mysteries of our faith, along with sacred scripture, tradition, and enlightenment by the Holy Spirit. It would almost be insulting to try to describe the mysteries of the Church in physical terms. Yet it is an inescapable part of human nature to want to see, touch, feel, and experience the artifacts of our faith, we call them "relics". Biblical archeology is constantly discovering the historical place of our faith in the landscape of time and history. Something's people used to scoff at in the Bible are now accepted as facts. But more than relics is the importance of our hearts. We can't shine-up our faith like we can a cube of copper with some polish. Letting our hearts shine with the love of Christ in them is the surest way to change and brighten our lives and the world. Putting our faith into action is the surest way to let the world see the light of Christ in us. If we let our hearts shine in that way; the rest they say, is history.



Christmas Season Liturgy Schedule

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24, 2018

- **4:00 p.m.** The Children tell the story of Christmas (Organ, Cantors; Carols; *No Incense*)
- **9:00 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, Tuesday, December 25, 2018

- **9:00 a.m.** Festive Celebration of Holy Eucharist for Christmas Morning; Procession, Cantors and Organ, Carols (No Incense).
- **11:00 a.m.** Festival Choral Eucharist for Christmas Day; The Parish Choir, Cantors, and Organ; Procession and Incense

Feast of the Holy Family, Saturday December 29, 2018

- **4:00 p.m.** Celebration of Holy Eucharist

Feast of the Holy Family, Sunday December 30, 2018

- **8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.** Celebration of Holy Eucharist

New Year's Eve, Monday, December 31, 2018

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

New Year's Day, Sunday, January 1, 2019 – The Solemnity of Mary, The World Day of Prayer for Peace, The Octave Day of Christmas.

- **8:00 & 10:00 a.m.** Festive Celebration of Holy Eucharist

Get Your Tickets to the

7th Annual Knights of Columbus

Crab Feed



Saturday, January 19, 2019

5:30 PM

St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish Hall

All You Can Eat:

Appetizers

Dungeness Crab

Salad – Bread – Pasta – Dessert

No-Host Bar

Raffles

\$50 per person

Tickets sold after Mass

December 28/29 & January 5/6 & 12/13

or

Call Steve Rojek at 925-642-2329

(No tickets sold at the door)

St. Ignatius of Antioch
SPRED

Ministry Christmas
Celebration



SPRED celebrated 22 years of ministry in the parish at their annual Christmas party. Catechists and SPRED friends gathered on Monday, December 10 for dinner and gift exchange.

If you are interested in joining our group as a catechist, please contact Vicki McCoy 925-408-7731 for more information.



Thank You!



As 2018 draws to a close, please take some time to reflect on what YOU HAVE been able to do this year.

Your kindness, generosity and commitment to the Gospel message of Love supported the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry EVERY week, the American Cancer Society Relay for Life, meals on wheels, Winter Nights emergency family shelter, Catholic Charities, the Mission Cooperative Appeal, Contra Costa Interfaith Housing, the Northern California fire relief efforts, the Mary Project, St. Peter Martyr school, the sock and coat drives, the Giving Tree, the Thanksgiving Basket outreach and so much more.

Our liturgical celebrations, the wonderful music and choir ministries and our faith formation programs exist solely with your support.

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!

