St. Paul Catholic Church Parroquia de San Pablo

Mass Schedule
Saturday 4:30 pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 8:00 am, 9:15 am, 11:00 am, and 5:00 pm
Sunday en Español 12:15 pm
Coffee & Donuts following 9:15 Mass + Pan Dulce following 12:15 Mass

Children’s Liturgy of the Word
Celebrated at 9:15 am Family Mass
welcoming all children age Kindergarten to Third grade
no registration required

Holy Day 8:30 am + 6:00 pm

Daily Mass and Devotions
Monday through Saturday, 8:30 am in the Chapel
Rosary in English daily after 8:30 am Mass
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Tuesday after 8:30 am Mass

The Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 3:30 - 4:15 pm or by appointment

BAPTISM PREPARATION + first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm
RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) + September to May, please call the Rectory for information
MARRIAGE PREPARATION + contact Rev. Mario Farana at least eight (8) months prior to your desired ceremony date

PARISH RECTORY and OFFICES
221 Valley Street, San Francisco CA 94131
telephone 415.648.7538 www.stpaulsf.org

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE & BULLETIN EDITOR Joan Strachan
RCIA PROGRAM Terri Brady and Deacon Bill McLoughlin
PARISH OFFICE Jamie Tracy, Jill Alcantar, and Annette Schubert

MUSIC MINISTRY Joseph Duggan, Director & Cantor
Saturday Vigil David Simi; Sunday Diane Costa

Rev. Mario P. Farana, Pastor
Rev. Shouraiah Pudota, Ministerio en Español
Deacon Bill McLoughlin
Rev. Joseph Bradley, In Residence

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Dorothy Vigna, Director
School of Religion, CCD
Saturdays 9:30 am - 11:00 am, September through May

Confirmation Preparation for Teenagers
Tuesdays 7:00 pm, September through May

ST. PAUL’S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Kindergarten through Eighth-Grade
Mrs. Katie Kiss, Principal
415.648.2055 -or- kkiss@stpaulsf.net
www.stpaulsf schools.org

serving in Noe Valley for over 140 years

St. Paul’s: yesterday, today, and tomorrow
Monday: Dec 2nd, Men of St. Paul’s Meeting 8pm
Tuesday: Dec 3rd, Spiritual Journey 9:30am in the Rectory
Auction Dinner Dance Meeting Wrap-Up 6pm
Wednesday: Dec 4th, Altar Society Luncheon 11:30am
Baptism Class 7pm
Thursday: Dec 5th, Alumnae Candlelighting = Noon
Friday: Dec 6th,
Saturday: Dec 7th,
Sunday: Dec 8th, Donuts and Coffee following 9:15am Mass

ST. PAUL'S THANKSGIVING RESPONSE TO GOD THIS PAST WEEK
Weekly Collection Nov 10, 2019 $ 4,428.78
On-line giving October, 2019 $ 9,488.00
2019 Annual Appeal Goal $ 82,090.60
Collected as of November 20, 2019 $ 80,557.00
Remaining Balance on the Annual Appeal $ 1,534.00

The St. Paul’s Community Outreach Program Annual Giving Tree
will begin the weekend of Nov 30th/Dec 1st. Please take an ornament for a Child or Senior and return it with your gift. Gifts for teens/pre-teen are most needed. As always, your generosity and prayers are always appreciated.

SECOND COLLECTION
Next weekend the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious will be taken. Your gift will help defray some of the costs needed to care for our elderly religious and relieve the genuine financial crisis in many religious congregations. Whatever you give will be greatly appreciated. Please be generous. Most importantly, please remember in your prayers the more than 500 women and men religious living and serving in the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

WOMEN OF ST. PAUL’S
Join us at the Rectory for our long-cherished Annual Christmas Mass and Potluck on Thursday 12/12 at 6:00 PM. Mass begins at 6:30 PM with Fr. Mario officiating. Please bring a favorite dish to share.

Please pray for those in our book of the sick and especially for the following: Hannah Nakagome, Iulia Taale, Bill Edmundson, David Morales, Lois Gin, Milan Odenhal, Eileen Mendonca, Patricia Mostert, Bob Mostert, Lupe Chavez, John Galvin, Delfina Torres, Alan Winship, Dennis Brooks, Antoinette Melillo
For those who have died: Evelyn Mitra, Louisa Shafer, LuAnn Lynch, Baby Lavitoria, Joe Powers

Breaking Bread Books are at the entrances to the Church. They are no longer in the pews. Please pick one up on your way into Mass and return it to the shelves when Mass is over. Thank you
HOPEFUL EXPECTATION

Our liturgical year begins with the season of Advent—a time of hopeful expectation of the coming of the Lord. On the First Sunday of Advent we look forward to the end of time when we will awaken to the dawn of Christ's new day.

Today we hear Isaiah speak of a day when God's power will have brought universal peace and God's Word will have instructed all people, radiating God's "light" (teachings) into all of human society. Only when humanity walks "in the light of the LORD" (Isaiah 2:5), when all people desire to be instructed "in [God's] ways" (Isaiah 2:3), will the world be set aright and our deepest longings fulfilled. The reading from Romans calls us to "awake from sleep" for this final "day is at hand" (Romans 13:11, 12). Together this Sunday's scriptures proclaim our Christian faith that Jesus is the One who will finally come to fulfill God's plan of salvation.

SAINT JOHN OF DAMASCUS (c. 675-749)

December 4

From almost 1300 years ago, John's message for the church's spirituality and mission is surprisingly contemporary. Pope Benedict said that in our modern culture of images, sacred images often speak more eloquently than words. This "incarnational theology," the concept that visible, tangible elements can give believers access to divine realities beyond, found an eloquent champion in John of Damascus. He challenged the Iconoclasts (image-breakers), whose misinterpretation of the biblical prohibition of idolatrous images (Exodus 20:4-5) led them to campaign for the destruction of all sacred art. Before this controversy, however, John bore witness to Christ in a way that provides a timely example for Christians in today's pluralistic society. Succeeding his grandfather and father, John served as chief financial officer to the Muslim caliph, professing his Christian faith without compromise, while winning the esteem of his Islamic sovereign by his competence and integrity. No wonder John could eloquently defend icons as "windows into heaven"—he had already learned to see Christ in the living icons of people different from himself yet fashioned in the same divine image.

December 1st First Sunday of Advent
For all the faithful:
May the Lord help us build a culture of life in vigilant expectation of His return;
We pray to the Lord:

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;
Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a;
Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6;
Mt 9:35 — 10:1
Sunday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;
Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Matthew 24:44

You must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.

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ESPERAR CON GOZO

Nuestro año litúrgico comienza con el tiempo de Adviento, una temporada de expectativa por la venida del Señor. En el Primer Domingo de Adviento anticipamos el fin de los tiempos cuando despertaremos al amanecer del nuevo día de Cristo.

Hoy escuchamos a Isaías hablar del día en que el poder de Dios habrá traido paz universal y la Palabra de Dios habrá sido traída a todos los pueblos, irradiando la "luz" (enseñanzas) de Dios a toda la raza humana. Sólo cuando la humanidad camina "a la luz del Señor" (Isaías 2:5), cuando todos los pueblos deseen marchar “por sus sendas” (Isaías 2:3), el mundo se enderezará y nuestros más profundos anhelos serán cumplidos. La lectura de Romanos nos llama a despertar “del sueño” porque la salvación “está más cerca” (Romanos 13:11, 12). Las lecturas de este domingo proclaman nuestra fe cristiana en que Jesús es Aquél que al final vendrá a dar cumplimiento al plan de salvación de Dios.

SAN FRANCISCO JAVIER (1506-1552)
3 de diciembre

Este joven de origen vasco emigró a París para cursar estudios profesionales durante once años. Ahí destacó por su inteligencia y dotes deportivas. No obstante, conoció a otro joven vasco de nombre Ignacio, del castillo de Loyola, quien lo desafió a 'cosas mayores'. Vivíó así sus ejercicios espirituales, logrando una conversión interior y entrega a la voluntad de Dios. Junto con otros seis jóvenes, incluyendo Ignacio, se convirtió en uno de los primeros miembros de la Compañía de Jesús (Jesuitas).

En 1541 se embarcó como misionero y nuncio papal a Goa, al Sur de la India. Ocho años más tarde, extendió su viaje a Japón, civilización que le impactó mucho por su sistema de valores y nivel educativo. Aprendió de ellos su cultura e idioma, les enseñó ciencia y Evangelio, llegando a entender que, a fin de lograr la conversión de Japón, sería necesario evangelizar también a China. Aunque planeó el viaje a China para continuar su obra, la muerte le sorprendió y su viaje quedó pendiente. El Papa Pío XI lo declaró patrono de las misiones en 1927.

1º de diciembre 1º de diciembre

Por todos los fieles: que Dios nos ayude a construir una cultura de la vida esperando vigilantes Su regreso; rogamos al Señor

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Is 4:2-6; Sal 122 (121):1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Martes: Is 11:1-10; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lc 10:21-24
Miércoles: Is 25:6-10a; Sal 23 (22):1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Jueves: Is 26:1-6; Sal 118 (117):1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Viernes: Is 29:17-24; Sal 27 (26):1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Sábado: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Sal 147 (146):1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1
Domingo: Is 11:1-10; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

PRIMER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Ustedes estén preparados, porque a la hora que menos lo piensen, vendrá el Hijo del hombre.
Mateo 24:44
LA SOCIEDAD DEL ALTAR INVITA a su almuerzo anual el Miercoles 4 de Diciembre de 2019. Reservaciones para el almuerzo hasta el 22 de nov de 2019. VAL’S RESTAURANT 2468 Junipero Serra Blvd, Daly City el almuerzo comienza a las 12:00 del medio día y cuesta $35.00. Cheques a Nombre de St. Paul’s Altar Society para información o reservaciones llamar a Sandy Driscoll al teléfono 415-586-6207.

Guarden estos días Diciembre 14 y Diciembre 21. Se necesitan voluntarios para la limpieza del templo y decoración de la parroquia para la celebración de Navidad, pronto se dará completa información.

La celebración de la Cena-Baile y Subasta fue un gran éxito, gracias a todos los que hicieron posible esta gran ayuda para la Parroquia y Escuela.

ULTIMAS CELEBRACIONES DEL CLUB LATINO PARA EL ANO 2019: 8 DE DIC. GRAN CELEBRACIÓN DE LA INMACULADA CONCEPCION DE MARIA, MISA 12:15, PROCESION Y CELEBRACION EN EL CENTRO DE LA PARROQUIA. DICIEMBRE 15 CELEBRACIÓN DE LA SANTISIMA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE, MISA A LAS 12:15, PROCESION Y CELEBRACION EN EL CENTRO DE LA PARROQUIA. FINALMENTE LAS POSADAS 22 DE DICIEMBRE DE 5:00 PM A 10:00 DEBAJO DE LA PARROQUIA. ESTA ES UNA TRADICIONAL CELEBRACION, POSADAS, SANTA CLAUS Y PINATAS.

SACRAMENTO DEL BAUTISMO: Bautismos y clases son realizados por citas solamente. Las clases son el primer Miércoles del mes a las 7:00 p.m. en la Rectoría, los Bautizos a la 1:30 p.m. en la Parroquia.

R.C.I.A. Rito Católico Cristiano de Iniciación para Adultos, es un proceso por el cual adultos se preparan para recibir el Bautismo, Eucaristía y Confirmación. Comienza en Septiembre y termina en Mayo. Para información llamar a Terri Brady o Diacono Bill McLoughlin a la Rectoría.

SACRAMENTO DEL MATRIMONIO: Arreglos deben hacerse con el Sacerdote o Diacono al menos con seis meses de anticipación, para mayor información llamar a la Rectoría 415-648-7538.

SACRAMENTO DE CONFIRMACION: Para estudiantes de Escuela Secundaria que no hayan recibido el Sacramento de Confirmacion, es un largo programa de un año, clases comienzan a fines de Septiembre y concluyen a finales de Mayo del siguiente año con la confirmación en Junio. Para mayor información llamar a Dorothy Vigna a la rectoría 415-648-7538.
Club Latino de la Parroquia de San Pablo
les invita a la Novena y Celebración
e Inmaculada Concepción de la Santísima Virgen María

NOVENA
SÁBADO, 30 DE NOVIEMBRE hasta el
SÁBADO 7 DE DICIEMBRE
6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM
CAPILLA BAJO LA IGLESIA

SANTA MISA
DOMINGO 8 de DICIEMBRE 2019, 12:15 MASS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019, 12:15 Mass

RECEPCIÓN
SALÓN de la PARROQUIA
RECEPTION
THE PARISH CENTER
FIRST SUNDAY OF Advent

DECEMBER 1, 2019

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 2: 1 – 5

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PSALM 122: 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

SECOND READING: ROMANS 13: 11 – 14

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 24:37-44

ADULTS:

What will you do during Advent so that others can see that you have put on the light of Jesus Christ?

CHILDREN:

What will you do during Advent so that others can see the light of Jesus in you?
WHAT IS ADVENT? HISTORY & MEANING

For many Christians unfamiliar with the liturgical year, there may be some confusion surrounding the meaning of the Advent season. Some people may know that the Advent season focuses on expectation and think that it serves as an anticipation of Christ’s birth in the season leading up to Christmas. This is part of the story, but there’s more to Advent.

The word “Advent” is derived from the Latin word adventus, meaning “coming,” which is a translation of the Greek word parousia. Scholars believe that during the 4th and 5th centuries in Spain and Gaul, Advent was a season of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany, the celebration of God’s incarnation represented by the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:1), his baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist (John 1:29), and his first miracle at Cana (John 2:1). During this season of preparation, Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer, and fasting to prepare for this celebration; originally, there was little connection between Advent and Christmas.
St. Paul's Christmas Eve Family Mass
Tuesday, December 24 @ 4:30p.m.
Children are invited to take part in the NATIVITY PAGEANT at this Mass!

Needed are: Preschool age to 3rd Grade children from the Parish Community, Littlest Angel Preparatory Preschool, St. Paul School of Religion, and Kindergarten through 3rd Grade at St. Paul’s School. Costumes are provided and these are non-speaking roles!

Mary (3rd)  Joseph (3rd)  Angel Gabriel (3rd)
Innkeepers (1st-3rd)  Wise Kids (1st-3rd)  Shepherds (Kinder - 3rd)
Angels (Preschool - 3rd)  Sheep (Preschool - 3rd)  and a Star (Kinder - 1st)

Where: St. Paul’s Church (Parents must attend the practices with their children)
When: Saturday, December 14th - 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Casting/First Practice
*Angels do not need to attend casting/first practice on 12/14
Saturday, December 21st from 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Second Practice
All children, including Angels, must attend Second Practice on 12/21.
Tuesday, December 24th - all must arrive by 4:00 p.m.
CHRISTMAS DECORATING 2019

This year we will be decorating on two Saturday's:

Saturday December 14th  9:00am
& December 21nd  AT 11am

This year we will be decorating on two Saturday's:

On the First Saturday, December 14th we will be doing Cleaning and Tree Fluffing!!

On the Second Saturday, December 21nd we will be placing all the flowers around the Altar and putting the finishing touches on our Christmas decorating.

We know this is a busy time for all of you but we hope you can take a little time out of your schedule and join us for one or both of these days to decorate for the Christmas Season...

Lunch will be provided

PLANTS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Donations of Poinsettia's for the Christmas Season would be appreciated. Please bring your donations to the Rectory beginning Wednesday, December 18th.
Have a peaceful Advent

Do you wish for an idyllic family Christmas complete with joyful music, grateful children, and tinsel-covered tree? For many parents, the weeks of Advent before Christmas mean weeks spent shopping, wrapping, and spending, and are wrought with family tensions, obligations, and overly excited children. Try these steps to keep your sanity and your Savior in your family's observance of Advent and Christmas:

Be realistic. It isn't the goal of the season to make everyone happy. If you don't overspend and overextend before Christmas, you'll be in a better frame of mind when it arrives.

Tie gifts with heartstrings. It's okay to give fewer gifts and to keep what you give simple, meaningful, and from the heart. For example, give a coupon for a household chore to someone who would appreciate an extra hand. Handmade ornaments make meaningful gifts that last.

Soothe the beast. Beautiful music can set a soothing tone for the season. Play your favorite hymns and carols to keep a peaceful tone in your home.

Reach out. Want to help children focus on something other than their gift lists? Do at least one good deed for someone needy.

Seek the eternal. Jesus gives us peace, purpose, and perspective. Spend time with Jesus each day of Advent and Christmas to remember what is most important about Christmas.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics display poinsettias at Christmas?

Originally from Central America, poinsettias were used by early Christians to teach the faith. The bright red leaves recalled Christ's blood which was shed for us, while their arrangement evoked the Star of Bethlehem. In one legend, a poor Mexican girl wanted to give something to the Christ child. Having nothing, she arranged weeds into a bouquet and left them before the manger. They grew beautiful red flowers, showing that she had given the best gift of all: genuine love.
Celebrate a warm and wonderful Christmas

Telling stories, making music, demonstrating gratitude, and sharing our love and faith with one another, are warm and wonderful ways to celebrate the joy of bringing God into the human world each Christmas season. Consider these ideas:

Tell stories. The first and second chapter in Luke’s Gospel tell the most remarkable true story of God coming to live among us. Read a little each night together, and try to imagine you were there.

Make music. The word “carol” means an old round dance with singing. Sing your favorite carols or hymns and create dances to go along with them.

Count blessings. Each day during Advent, find a picture of something for which each person is grateful and put it up in a prominent place in your home. These are visible reminders of God’s love.

Make it last. The Catholic Christmas season lasts from the vigil Mass on Christmas Eve until the Baptism of Our Lord on January 12. Leave your tree up the entire time and celebrate with gusto!

Scripture Lesson


Nativity scenes usually show Mary and Joseph calmly kneeling at Jesus’ crib surrounded by adoring shepherds and wise men. It’s a peaceful scene and probably pretty far from reality.

Mary and Joseph traveled in the last stages of her pregnancy from Nazareth to Bethlehem. On foot or donkey, it was a dirty, exhausting journey. Once there, there was nowhere to stay except a stable with animals because all the good inns were full. After a short time, they had to flee to Egypt with a newborn to escape danger, and stayed there for several years without family or friends.

The Holy Family had a share of pain and difficulties much like our own experience. Yet Scripture tells us that Mary and Joseph found strength from their faith in God and were guided by his Word. We can do the same.

What can a parent do? Tell your children that Jesus’ birth and the Holy Family’s escape to Egypt is further proof that God always keeps his promises. When we lean on him, God will always lead us to safety.

Parent Talk

When she was nine years old, Kara asked the question many parents dread. “Is there really a Santa Claus?” Without hesitation, I told her, “Yes.” I grew up in a large family and my parents often lacked money for gifts at Christmas. Yet, thanks to “Santa Claus,” we never went a Christmas without a stocking to open or a gift under the tree.

I admitted that I have never met Santa Claus and I don’t know if our gifts were really delivered by a chubby man in a red suit.

Still, I believe he exists in the generosity and kindness of others. Santa provides an opportunity for people to humbly reach out to others in his name. So whether we call this spirit, “Santa” or “St. Nicholas,” at the core, it is a love for Christ and the joy of celebrating his birth that brings out the best in people.

Feasts & Celebrations

Dec. 1 – First Sunday in Advent. During this season, we anticipate Christ’s birth and his coming on the last day. Catholics everywhere light candles in an Advent wreath to signal the coming of the Light of Christ.

Dec. 1 – St. Edmund Campion (1581). As a young man, St. Edmund studied theology in France then became a Jesuit missionary. He returned to England to preach but was betrayed and arrested. He was martyred at Tyburn.

Dec. 7 – St. Ambrose (397). St. Ambrose was an effective pastor, bishop and teacher, and was devoted to care of the poor in Milan. He guarded the Church against the Arians, who denied Jesus’ divinity.

Dec. 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe (1531). The Blessed Mother appeared as a Native American maiden to St. Juan Diego. She asked that the bishop of Mexico build a chapel for her, and had him carry roses as a sign. When the roses were emptied from his tilma it retained the image of the Blessed Mother.

Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
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(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
http://www.parersinfaith.com
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

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Report abuse or inappropriate behavior with a minor IMMEDIATELY!

For any abuse of a minor, contact:
San Francisco County hotline for Child Protective Services at:

(415) 557-5000

If the abuser is a church minister or employee of the Archdiocese, also contact:
Archdiocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator,

Rocio Rodriguez
(415) 614-5506

(Reporting situations to the Archdiocese include, but are not limited to, incidences involving priests, deacons, volunteers, youth, chaperones, and employees of a parish, school or the Archdiocese.)