

Pastor's updates

December 11, 2020



Things you may want to know this week

1. Anticipating the needed rain, all the **masses this weekend** will be **LIVESTREAM/ONLINE only**. So, there will be **NO OUTDOOR masses** this Sunday. After the 11:30AM mass, we will have the **Zoom Rite of Welcome for our RCIA candidates**. Welcome to the Catholic journey: **Anthony Alcaraz, Omar Ahumada, James Crane and Mitch Takeda**.
2. This weekend the annual collection for the **Retirement Fund for Religious** is being taken. The women and men Religious of the Archdiocese are appreciative of any help you can give and count on your assistance as they face retirement with limited resources. More importantly, though, please remember in your prayers the more than 500 women and men religious living and serving in the Archdiocese of San Francisco.
3. This Sunday our Confirmation candidates will be having their **Sacrament of Reconciliation**. Adhering safety protocols, there will be 8 students every 15 minutes. The Archbishop recently sent another decree extending the faculty (right to perform) for pastors and parochial vicars to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation, up to and including Easter Sunday 2021. God willing, we can have our Confirmation early next year.
4. Last Tuesday, December 8th on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Francis announced a **Year of St. Joseph**, in honor of the 150th anniversary of the saint's proclamation as patron of the Universal Church. Pope Francis said he was establishing the year so that "every member of the faithful, following his example, may strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfillment of God's will." The year begins December 8, 2020, and concludes on December 8, 2021. Let us reflect on St. Joseph, as so many people during the pandemic have made hidden sacrifices to protect others, just as St. Joseph quietly protected and cared for Mary and Jesus.
5. The lights have started to shine in our school and in our church. **Andy and Julie Cress** put the Christmas wreaths with clear lights on the glass windows of our school. The school looks so beautiful at night and thanks to Julie and Andy. **Fr. Boie** and some friends also installed hanging lights in the rectory's garden. The Nativity Scene or Christmas Creche is now being displayed on the top of the rectory's garage. Thanks to **John Lynch, Mike Lynch and co**. The same people also volunteered to remove the wooden church sign in front of the church for repair and reconditioning. Upon completion, they will also install it back with new post and concrete footings. St. Robert Parish is so blessed with these people. Our next dream is to make the front area of the church inviting and welcoming with a little makeover and landscaping.
6. We have not forgotten our "SR Bear Walk Bricks" project. We have a total of 59 large bricks ordered and 86 smaller bricks. Our project proponents **Marcee Wardell and Julie Cress** decided to wait until the Church heating project is done since that job will involve working in the site where that bricks are going to be installed. As to the **Church Heating** project, we already have one proposal with a tag price of over \$150,000 excluding the unknowns. We are just waiting for other proposals as required per Archdiocesan policy.
7. I am always filled with awe and admiration by the goodness and generosity of our parishioners who continue to support our church despite of the hard times brought by this pandemic. According to our records, our **Archdiocesan Annual Appeal** count is about almost the same as last year around this time of the year. We still need about 40 thousand to complete our goal but I was told of the usual homestretch generous giving. "Nothing is impossible with God, all things are possible with you."

FAZnotes
(Father Arnold Zamora)
December 11, 2020



Dear parishioners and friends of St. Roberts,

**Whatever the weather will be today, let your heart sing.
Let your spirit soar.
For there is so much in life to be grateful for --
There's the warmth of sunshine;
The coolness of the rain,
The quiet of evening when day is done;
and dearest of all the love of family & friends.**

**Blessings in the rain,
*Fr. Arnold***