

Saint Robert's Church

December 16, 2018

Gaudete Sunday Rejoice



CHRISTMAS 2018

CONFESSIONS

Saturday, December 22nd

3:00 - 4:15 pm

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24th

4:30 pm, 8:00 pm and Midnight

Christmas Day,

Tuesday, December 25th

7:30 am, 9:30 am & 11:30 am

No Evening Mass

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Tuesday, January 1, 2019

9:30 am

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Saturday, January 5th

4:30 pm

Sunday, January 6th

7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am, 5:00 pm

Gaudete Sunday: Joyful, Joyful!!! By Fr. Tony

My reasoning was pretty good and—at least to me—common sense: figure out what you really like, what really causes joy within you and pursue that. It was a no-brainer for me. I had seen *The Godfather* (1972) 25 times, *Unforgiven* (1992) 32 times, *Sweet Smell of Success* (1957) 20 times, and *The Hustler* (1961) 28 times. These were my favorite movies and they caused me great joy: I viewed and re-viewed them taking them apart, analyzing each bit.

The no-brainer part was becoming a film director—that would bring me joy. My reasoning wasn't bad: I went to film school, eventually self-financed several short films, and in time making these films brought me great joy. But meanwhile I had found Jesus or more accurately, Jesus had found me. And Jesus told me he was calling me to the priesthood, that if I trusted His call, I would be far more joyful than I would ever think.

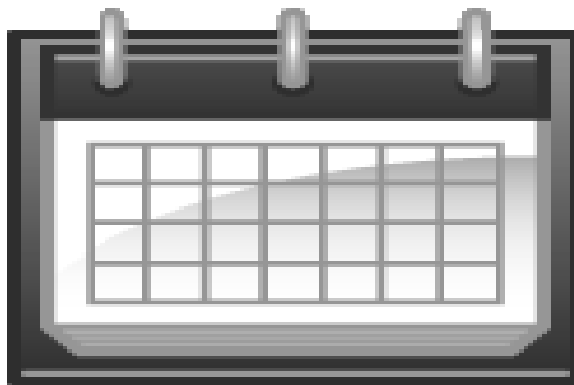
So I gave up the film directing and went into becoming a priest—a long endeavor: 9 years of studying philosophy and theology. Then the first 2 years of priesthood were so raw and challenging I didn't see how I could make it, and there wasn't much joy. But Jesus led me, molded me, even cajoled me, and here I am 4 ½ years into priesthood feeling joy I didn't even think possible.

Similarly, the prophet Zephaniah in the first reading today promises overwhelming, shattering joy to Israel once their Messiah/Savior/Anointed One comes. And in the Gospel reading from Luke the Hebrew people know who the Messiah is—it is John the Baptist! It is evident he has the wisdom, faith and power, he has to be the Messiah. The people are ecstatic, joyful! But John says he is not the one. He says something much better, much mightier than him is coming. It turns out to be Jesus—the real Messiah. And Jesus turns out to be more unexpected, better and life-giving than anyone ever *conceived*.

The lesson is simple: we may think we know what we really want, but we don't, because God will always give us something a million times better that will truly bring joy!

**The Parish Office will be closed
December 24th –26th
We will reopen on Thursday 27th**

THE WEEK AHEAD



Monday-December 17th

Mass Intention 8:30 Altagracia Zelidon †
Simbang Gabi 7:00pm Church

Tuesday-December 18th

Mass Intention 8:30 Sister Ita Cleary †
Adult Education 9:15am Rectory
Rel Ed (Gr 1 thru 5) 3:30pm Hall & Church
Legion of Mary 6:30pm Rectory
Rel Ed/Jr. High 7:00pm Hall & Church

Wednesday-December 19th

Mass Intention 8:30 Rudometkin & Morena
Families †
RCIA 7:00pm Rectory
Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Church
Simbang Gabi 7:00pm Church

Thursday-December 20th

Mass Intention 8:30 Jim Olmo †
Children's Choir 3:15pm Church
Simbang Gabi 7:00pm Church

Friday-December 21st

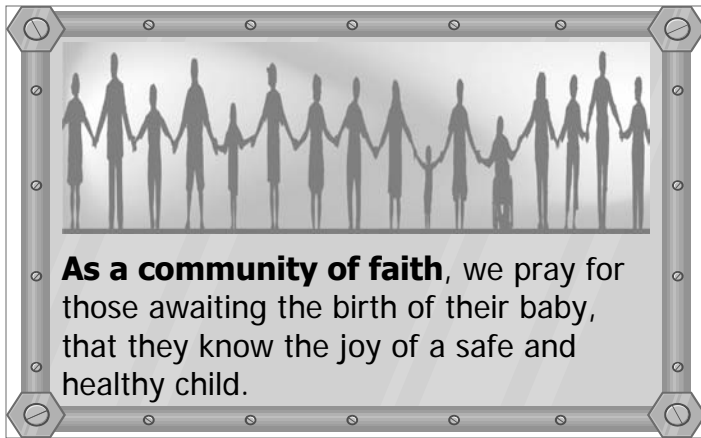
Mass Intention 8:30 Bob Tobener †
Simbang Gabi 7:00pm Church

Saturday-December 22nd

Mass Intention 8:30 Gan Family †
4:30 Rosa & Natalio
Cadematori †
AA Meeting 10:00am Mahoney Room
Simbang Gabi 7:00pm Church

Sunday-December 23rd

Simbang Gabi 7:00pm Church



As a community of faith, we pray for those awaiting the birth of their baby, that they know the joy of a safe and healthy child.

We congratulate the newly baptized

George Louis Halpin



We continue to ask each week that parishioners pray for the chronically ill of our parish. If you have a friend or loved one in need of our prayers, please call the Rectory at 589-2800



This week we pray for

- Francisca Perez
- Chris Sigillo
- Loraine Strong
- Elvira Weiler

Our sincere sympathy to the family of



David Infusino
who died recently

STEWARDSHIP

| | |
|---|------------|
| July 1st to Dec 9th (goal) | 240,000.00 |
| July 1st to Dec 9th (actual) (including E Contributions) | 221,686.64 |
| 7/1/18—6/30/19 Weekly (Goal) | 10,000.00 |
| Weekly Collection (actual 12/09) | 7,407.91 |
| (E Cont for month of November) | 7,450.50 |
| Thank you for your generosity | |

Thank you for your generous donation of **\$3,276.71** for Retirement for Religious.

2018 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

As of 12/12/18

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Total Pledge to Date | \$ 100,137.26 |
| Total Cash Donations to Date | \$ 100,137.26 |
| Archdiocese tax Due | \$121,212.00 |

Thank you in advance for your generous donation.

Getting the Church Ready for Christmas

Lots of us will be cleaning on Friday the 21st to get the church ready for the Christmas celebrations. If you're available from 9:30 am on, wear your old clothes and come by! After we clean, we'll be there decorating until we're finished.

Service hours gladly given. Please let me know if you'll be joining us, so I can have enough items available for all of us to use.

Thanks very much!

Sr. Sheral

Giving Tree

The Children's Liturgy annual Giving Tree ornaments are all up! Purchased item should be returned unwrapped along with the gift tags to the rectory by December 20th. These gifts will be distributed to families in San Mateo County. Thank you for your generosity.

Fr. Tony Farewell

We sadly announced that our Associate Pastor, Fr. Tony is being transferred from Saint Robert's to a new parish.

A special farewell reception will take place on Sunday, December 30th after the 11:30 a.m. All are invited to attend!

We are so grateful for the 2 1/2 years Fr. Tony spent at Saint Robert's. He was a wonderful gift to our parish and school and was a great help to Fr. Greene.

We are all so sorry to see him go and wish him all God's blessings in his new assignment.

MEMORIAL CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Christmas flowers will decorate the church during the Christmas Season. If you would like to make a donation of \$10 toward their purchase in memory or in honor of a loved one, please fill out the form below and return it to the rectory by Friday, December 21st. Please make checks payable to St. Robert's.

My Gift in Memory of: _____

My Gift in Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

"Adopt-A-Family Tree"

Gifts will be collected this weekend of December 15-16 . Thanks for your help. Rob Aveson.

"The Sick and Homebound"

We wish to thank all the generous parishioners for the beautiful Christmas gifts donated for our "Sick and Homebound" . They are greatly appreciated. THANK YOU!

"The Gift Wrapping Party" will be on **Tuesday December 18**, @ 9:15 a.m. (after the 8:30 Mass), in the Old St. Robert's Convent , 349 Oak Ave. It should last approx. one hour. Any Questions contact Sister Patricia posullivan3@juno.com or (650-763-8822)

SIMBANG GABI

St. Roberts Fil-Am Group is hosting the traditional Simbang Gabi, a nine-day novena of Masses in preparation for Christmas, Dec. 15th thru Dec 23rd, at 7:00 PM. Simbang Gabi expresses the cultural and religious heritage of the Filipinos to prepare and celebrate the birth of Jesus, our Lord. Everyone is invited and welcome to participate. The children of our parish are especially invited for the parol processional at the beginning of each Mass. Fellowship and reception follows each Mass at the Hall. Our Simbang Gabi culminates on Dec. 23rd with the annual Fil-Am Christmas party. Join us ALL to continue this joyous tradition and celebrate Our Savior's birth. For information and participation, food donations, and Mass sponsorships, please call: Albert Reyes 238-4923.

Saint Robert Catholic School

KINDERGARTEN APPLICATIONS-2019-2020

Information and applications for Kindergarten are available now at the school office or at www.saintrobert-school.org. Please personally bring completed Kindergarten applications to the school office, January 7th through January 25th between 8:00am - 3:00 pm. Applicants must be 5 years of age by September 1, 2018. Please be sure to include with your child's application, a copy of their birth and baptismal certificates, a family picture, and the application fee. Thank you for your interest in our school! Open House Saint Robert Catholic School will hold its annual Open House on Thursday evening, January 31, 2019, from 7:00 to 8:00p.m. All are Welcome!

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY St. Robert School, mindful of its mission to be witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color and national and/or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at this school. St. Robert School does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color and national and/or ethnic origin in administration of education policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school administered programs.

MINISTER SCHEDULE/DEC 22ND & 23RD

Saturday/4:30 P.M. Mass

President: Fr. Tony

Eucharistic Ministers: Katie B.

Barbara R., Jean W., Sophia C.

Lectors: Paul S.

Sunday/7:30 A.M. Mass

President: Fr. Stewart

Eucharistic Ministers: Agnes D.

Brian M., Cindy B., Kathleen H., Sean Q.

Lectors: Janet A.

Altar Servers: Jaden N. and Trevor W.

Sunday/9:30 A.M. Mass

President: Fr. Greene

Eucharistic Ministers: Sam M.

Amparo S., Cynthia M., Sophia L., Trish C.

Lectors: Janet T. and Brent V.

Altar Servers: Cassidy R., Gabby R. and Brianna F.

Children's Liturgy: Alanna and Rachel

Sunday/11:30 A.M. Mass

President: Fr. Tony

Eucharistic Ministers: Catalina M.

Anacarmina M., Ethel G., Joyce M., Maureen H.

Lectors: Mario B. and Carmen P.

Altar Servers: Jordan J.

Sunday/5:00 P.M. Mass

President: Fr. Greene

Eucharistic Ministers: George L.

Haydee M., Joe L., Ken S., Mike S.

Lectors: Sheral M. and Neil B.

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday-December 17th

Readings: Gn 49:2, 8-10 Mt 1:1-17

Tuesday-December 18th

Readings: Jer 23:5-8 Mt 1:18-25

Wednesday-December 19th

Readings: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Lk 1:5-25

Thursday-December 20th

Readings: Is 7:10-14 Lk 1:26-38

Friday-December 21st

Readings: Sg 2:8-14 Lk 1:39-45

Saturday-December 22nd

Readings: 1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1:46-56

Sunday-December 23rd

Readings: Mi 5:1-4a Heb 10:5-10
Lk 1:39-45