

"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord," as Isaiah the prophet said.

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY	Dec 16	5:30 PM	Christmas Novena Mass All Parishioners
SUNDAY	Dec 17	9:00 AM	Jan Valencia (Healing) Patty Gianatasio (Healing)
		11:00 AM	Douglas Cato + Florencio Miranda + Rosary Lawrence + Mary Rose Pasion +
		6:30 PM	Christmas Novena Mass
MONDAY	Dec 18	8:30 AM	Robin Poplowitz (Healing) Jean Sawitzky (Healing) Suzanne Shunk (Healing) Charline Brumfield (Healing)
		6:30 PM	Christmas Novena Mass
TUESDAY	Dec 19	8:30 AM	Ranee Gunasekara (Spcl Int) Luba & Olga's Families (Spcl Int) Anthony Quenga (Spcl Int)
		6:30 PM	Christmas Novena Mass
WEDNESDAY	Dec 20	8:30 AM	Jovencia 'Linda' Stewart +
		5:00 PM 6:30 PM	Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena Christmas Novena Mass (Bishop Soto)
THURSDAY	Dec 21	8:30 AM 6:30 PM	Father Mathew's Intentions Christmas Novena Mass
FRIDAY	Dec 22	8:30 AM 6:30 PM	Daily Mass in Church Christmas Novena Mass

REASONS TO REJOICE

Third Sunday of Advent

Saint Paul seems to be throwing out a handful of sayings that may sound overly optimistic, but are actually very practical. "Rejoice always"? If we pray constantly and thank God for all that happens to us, we have reason to rejoice. Even the things we don't like can be turned to good by God. God allows sin because it leads to forgiveness, an experience of God's love for us. And God allows even death, because God can bring us to eternal life.

When Paul tells us not to quench the Spirit he means we should be open to what the Holy Spirit moves us to do. "Prophetic utterances" refer to things that other people were inspired to proclaim. If we pray constantly (1 Thessalonians 5:17), the distractions of this world will not keep us from hearing the Spirit within us. We won't be so critical of others that we miss what the Spirit is telling us through them.

How do we know if something really is from the Spirit? Saint Paul says, test everything. Retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:21). Use the scriptures, the teachings of the Church, and your conscience to decide whether the Spirit is moving you, or if advice you hear is worthwhile. Trust God to make us holy if we only allow it. Then we will be ready for the coming of the Lord, whether through the sacraments, the celebration of Christmas, or God's final coming in glory. I'd say that's a reason to rejoice. - Tom Schmidt

ANNOUNCEMENTS



9 DAY CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASS - Join our nine-day celebrations beginning December 15, and continuing until December 23, filled with traditions that takes us through these final days of Advent, heightened with anticipation in so soon welcoming the birth of the King of Kings. There is still time to offer Mass for a loved one (living or deceased) thanksgiving, birthday, or healing of a sick family or friend. Offering envelopes are in the vestibule, and can be filled out, and dropped in the offertory basket, or Parish Office.

9 Day Christmas Novena Mass Schedule:
December 15, and 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 & 22, at 6:30 PM.
December 16 and 23, at 5:30 PM (Saturday Vigil.)

- 12/15, at 6:30 PM - Fr. Mathew Rappu
- 12/16, at 5:30 PM - Fr. Mathew Rappu
- 12/17, at 6:30 PM - Fr. Ronald Torres
- 12/18, at 6:30 PM - Fr. Ace Racela
- 12/19, at 6:30 PM - Fr. Jhay Galeon
- 12/20, at 6:30 PM - Bishop Jaime Soto & Fr. Jovito Rata
- 12/21, at 6:30 PM - Fr. Marcelino Malana
- 12/22, at 6:30 PM - Fr. Eric Flores
- 12/23, at 5:30 PM - Fr. Mathew Rappu



CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS & PAGEANT - As Christmas approaches, we are preparing for the 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass that will be held in the gym. *This mass features a pageant during the Gospel. We invite you to not only attend the liturgy, but to encourage your children to participate in the Gospel pageant. There will be two rehearsals for the pageant on:*

Wednesday, December 20th, 5:30 - 6:30 PM in the gym where will assign roles, distribute costumes and read through the script.
Tuesday, December 21st, 5:30 - 6:30 PM (at the latest) in the gym where we will rehearse the pageant.

Roles are suitable for children ages 4 and up. If you have any questions or would like to sign your child up to participate, please contact Patrice Griffith at kpatricegriffith@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Our Lady of Grace School Events

Christmas Nativity Performance held in the school hall.
 December 19, at 1:30 PM and December 20, at 10 AM
 CRAB FEED on February 3, 2024. Details coming soon

SERVICE & PRAYER



Weekly Budget Goal: \$4,271.00
 Collection November 26: \$3,888.00

Remember Our Lady of Grace Church when shopping online at smile.amazon.com
 Thank you for your loving support!

Pray for sick members in the Parish:
 Leonila Arucan, Suzanne Shunk, Jan Valencia & Stephanie Smith

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

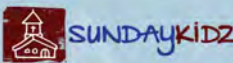
- December 24: Sunday Mass: 9 AM & 11 AM (Not for Christmas)
- December 24: Christmas Eve Family Mass: 5 PM at OLG School
 Christmas Midnight Mass: 12 AM (Carols 11:30 PM)
- December 25: Christmas Day Mass: 9 AM & 11 AM
- December 31: Sunday Mass: 9 AM & 11 AM
- January 1, 2024: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
 Mass: 9 AM only

Confused About the Christmas 2023 Obligation This Year? You Need to Go to Mass for Both Sunday and Christmas Day. The faithful must attend two Masses, U.S. bishops explain.

Christmas Eve is also the Fourth Sunday of Advent this year. That means the faithful must attend two Masses to meet their Sunday and Christmas Day obligations. This means that the Sunday obligation for December 24 can be fulfilled on Sunday, or any time after 4 PM on December 23, and the Christmas Mass obligation can be fulfilled on Monday, any time after 4 PM on December 24.

The bishops emphasized that they hoped that Catholics "foster a love for the Sacred Liturgy and hold a desire to celebrate the holy days as fully as is reasonably possible." - ncrregister.com

The Birth of Jesus



MROO

NGEAL

BYBA

NBOR

You will find the baby lying in a _____
 Luke 2:12

"This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."
 Luke 2:12



PASTORAL & FORMATION SUPPORT -
Call the Parish Office: (916) 371-4814 for spiritual formation assistance.

Communion for the Homebound or Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick -
Call the Parish Office to schedule a visit. One need not be in immediate danger of death to request support.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL (SVDP) -

If anyone in our Parish or greater community needs assistance, or if anyone would like to volunteer their time to work with our Parish SVDP program please call: (916) 371-5264.

Life Long Catholic Faith Formation

Baptism - Mandatory class for parents and godparents is scheduled for the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the rectory. Baptisms will be scheduled for the First Saturday at 11:30 am after completion of the class and all required paperwork. Please call the Parish Office to register for the class or to schedule the Baptism.

Adult Bible Study - Tuesdays at 7pm in the Parish Center.

Children's Religious Education/Catholic Faith Formation (CFF)
TK4 - 8th - Tuesdays from 5:30 to 6:45 pm. Includes preparation in the 2nd grade to receive First Eucharist; and preparation in the 7th grade for Confirmation. Both sacraments require 2-year attendance in CFF. Classes for high school students available. Adult and Youth Catechists and Office Help needed. Call the Director of Religious Education: (916) 371-4814 for enrollment questions or to volunteer in our CFF program.

Marriage Preparation - Engaged couples should contact the Parish Office to begin preparation nine (9) months prior to the intended wedding date.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) - Thursdays 6pm-8:30pm in the Parish Center. All are welcome, baptized and un-baptized Christians seeking to complete their initiation into the Faith.

Graced Youth Ministry - Alternating Sundays at 4pm in the Parish Center.

Parish Council: Chair: Michael Babowal; Members: Sonja Craighton, Keith Doyle, Mike Fritz, Cara Giordano, Helen Kanowsky, Joe Matella, Courtney Schrag, and Casey Valine
Email: parishcouncil@westsacolg.org

Finance Council: Chair: Kenneth Barrow; Members: Maggie Carson, Anthony Tassone, and Harry Valencia. Call the Parish Office: (916) 371-4814 for questions.

Welcome to Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church!

New to the parish? Like to register?
Please fill in & tear this off & drop in the offertory basket.

Name: _____
Phone: _____

 <p>We meet @ 6:00pm starting with Hospitality 2nd Thursday of each month For details call: 916-371-5264</p>	<p>"Shop us first & Save!"</p> <p>GROCERY OUTLET bargain market</p> <p>\$3 off any \$30 or more purchase</p> <p>845 Harbor Blvd • 916-372-6575 Matt & Jennifer Engstrom</p>	
	<p>Augustine Associates REAL ESTATE SERVICES RE/MAX GOLD</p> <p>Cristina Quirarte DRE: #02133212 916.541.8324 cristinaqremax@gmail.com HABLO ESPAÑOL</p>	
<p>916-372-8484</p> <p>UBS UNITED BUILDING SERVICE MECHANICAL HEATING & AIR</p>		
<p>RIVER CITIES FUNERAL CHAPEL Lic. FD1082 Jon R. Daniel - Fourth Generation Catholic Director Call Concerning Pre-Need Arrangements ... For Your Peace of Mind. 910 Soule St. West Sacramento 371-4535</p>		
<p>Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will. Please call the Parish Office</p>	<p>God Bless America</p>	
<p>Mercy McMahon Terrace Across from Sacred Heart Church Assisted Living At It's Best 3865 J St • 916-733-6510 Protecting Our Seniors During Difficult Times www.mercymcmahonterrace.org Holy Communion Available + Mass on Saturdays</p>	<p>West Coast Painting & Decorating 916-995-7798 Mauricio@wcpnd.com Contractor License #1064390 Proprietor/Operator for Palmdale, CA</p>	
	<p>MARY KAY Isabelle Cammarota Beauty Consultant 916-247-6279 Try before you buy! (virtual / in-person) www.marykay.com/isabellec</p>	
<p>Our Lady of Grace Council #9469</p> <p>Knights of Columbus Meets 2nd Wednesdays at 7pm in the Convent Building, Our Lady of Grace School. For membership information contact Byron Paige, Membership Chairman: (916) 995-4570</p>	<p>Good Counsel Homes + Hope for Babies + Mothers</p> <p>Pregnant? Need a place to stay? Call our helpline: 800-723-8331 or 916-395-9370 to speak with one of our counselors https://help.goodcounselhomes.org</p>	

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formation@westsacolg.org

Mass Schedule

Weekdays (except Thursday): 8:30am
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm
Sunday: 9am and 11am
First Saturday (Immaculate Heart of Mary): 8:30am
First Friday Eucharistic Adoration: 7 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday: 4:45 to 5:15 or by appointment

Mission Statement - We are a welcoming Eucharistic Community nourished by the Word of God, committed to extend Christ's unconditional love to ALL.

Our Lady of Grace School
Transitional Kindergarten through 8th Grade
Casey Valine, Principal
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