

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 20, 2009

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Mon 7AM Rosaleen McArdle
9AM Destiny Calvano, *living*

Tue 7AM Christina Piatti
9AM Joseph Lampe, *living*

Wed 7AM Bud, Emma, Alice, & Lorri
9AM Gregorio Guasch

Thu 7AM Pope, Bishops, & All Priests
9AM Bill Baker

Friday Christmas Day

Sat 7AM Frank Bonavia
9AM Joe Lampe, *living*
5PM William Gaudiani

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Lorenzo Acciai, Ken Anderson, Sally Arango, Marco Balistreri, Charles Bellia, Bertha, Madison Bostow, Joseph Calleja, Patricia Cane, Charles, Cary Chiappone, Yondellan Coleman, Elizabeth Crowley, Bill & Vladia Cutler, Dick Degan, Doris Doty, Doug, Nanette Duffy, Ed, Luke Duval, Faith Gillis, Eileen Harriman, Taro Hart, Rosemarie Hayes, Chiara Iulucci, Joseph, Germaine Khohayting, Jeanne Killian, Karla Kincade, Jan Lamphere, Manda Masse, Warren McGuire, Richard Mogas, Monte Maroevich, Tony, Valerie Milroy, Mark Piatti, Bertha Ponce de Leon, Joe Popovich, Stephanie, Steve Schlesselmann, Mary Ann Smith, Rose Tannlund, Tim, Elizabeth Ward, Sibeal Whitty, & Camilla Wolfe.

STEWARDSHIP – A WAY OF LIFE

Last weekend's collection \$ 4,433.
Weekly goal \$ 5,200.
Weekly average \$ 4,269.

STEWARDSHIP BY THE BOOK

The Gospel today tells of the Virgin Mary, pregnant herself, hurrying off to help her cousin Elizabeth. The model of good stewardship, she who had given herself to bear the Savior gave her time and love to others as well.



PRAYER FOR THE ADVENT WREATH

Week 4

Let us pray. Stir up Your might, we pray You, O Lord, and come; rescue us through Your great strength so that salvation, which has been hindered by our sins, may be hastened by the grace of Your gentle mercy.

You live and reign for ever and ever. *Amen.*

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

The last opportunity for Confession before Christmas will be from 10:30 until Noon this Tuesday, December 22nd.

CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE

On Thursday evening at 5:00pm, the Children of our Parish School of Religion will present a Christmas Pageant followed at 5:30pm by the Vigil Mass.

At 9:00pm, another Vigil Mass will be celebrated, and the Adult Choir will lead the singing.

PARISH BULLETINS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE ON ST. SEBASTIAN'S WEBSITE:
www.sebastian94904.com



1260 on your AM dial
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sharing the heart of the Christian faith



THANK YOU

To the parishioners
who wish to remain
anonymous
who provided
St. Sebastian's

with a beautiful new
Nativity Scene
for the Church

Thank you &
God Bless You!

"FOR THE LORD SEES NOT AS MAN SEES"

Let's consider today's Gospel story of Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth: Who would ever think that a baby could teach them anything, especially an *un-born* baby? Yet, God chose an unborn child (John the Baptist) to be the first to recognize the presence of Jesus by leaping for joy when Mary greeted his mother Elizabeth! These words come to us as the divinely-inspired Word of God in Sacred Scripture! God wants us to know that He sees things differently than we do, and He, who is Truth itself, *reveals* the Truth to us.

And the truth is that God knows each and every human being, and loves them all. Each starving child in a far-off country is loved by God. Each refugee child whose family is killed because of a tribal war is loved by God. Each child born to poverty-stricken parents who have no food or shelter is loved by God. And each unborn child whose life is in danger of being destroyed because that child's very existence is "inconvenient" to someone, is also loved by God.

Yes, even Jesus, for the first nine months of His life on earth, was an unborn child in His loving mother's womb. That is something which John the Baptist would like us to know today because we do not see as God sees. But let us pray that Jesus, the Light of the world, will enlighten us so that we may rejoice like Saint John the Baptist and the lowly shepherds. May we be wise like the Wise Men, and *recognize* Jesus in the most unexpected places.

WORD OF LIFE

"Children...teach us that life is a shared gift, not an encumbrance. At the end of life, we will be judged on love alone."—Cardinal Justin Rigali,

Statement for Respect Life Sunday, 9/29/09

A PRAYER FOR OUR MILITARY MEN & WOMEN

O God of Mercy,

We beg you now to protect in a special way those who are defending us and the Country we love.
Bless them and take care of them.

If they are tired, give them strength. If they are wounded and suffering, give them comfort.
If they are lonely, touch them with Your gentle hand and let them know that You are near them.

And if it be Your holy will that they should give up their lives for us, grant them a peaceful death and a home with You in heaven.

Hasten the day, dear Lord, when along with them and their families, we may all enjoy the blessings of peace once more.

Amen.

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Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

6TH ANNUAL WALK FOR LIFE—WEST COAST

Mark your calendars: Saturday, January 23, 2010
Join St. Sebastian's parishioners and upwards of 25,000 Pro-Life Walkers for the 6th Annual Walk for Life in San Francisco, and peacefully proclaim the message that abortion *hurts* women and that they deserve better than abortion.

www.walkforlifewc.com

To volunteer or to arrange buses call 586-1576

or e-mail questions to info@walkforlifewc.com

A FINAL CORRECTION:

THE DATE FOR CONFIRMATION

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered to our Confirmation Youth Group here at Saint Sebastian Church on Sunday, April 11, 2010 at the 11:00am Mass by Bishop William Justice.

And Congratulations ...

to Confirmation Youth Group members Jared Lazor and A.J. Michna, and to the entire Southern Marin Broncos team who won the American Youth Football National Championship in Florida! Quite an athletic achievement!



Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

Thursday - December 24

5pm Children's Pageant

5:30pm Vigil Mass

9pm Vigil Mass

Christmas Day

Friday - December 25

7am, 9am, and 11am Masses

New Year's Eve

4:30pm Holy Hour

5:15pm Benediction

5:30pm Mass

New Year's Day

9am Mass

January 1, 2010

is not a Holyday of Obligation.