

ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

373 BON AIR ROAD, GREENBRAE, CA 94904-1709
(415) 461-0704 WWW.SEBASTIAN94904.COM

NOVEMBER 28, 2010

Advent has a two-fold character as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered, and as a season when that remembrance directs our mind and heart to await Christ's *second* coming at the end of time.

Advent thus is a period of devout and joyful expectation.



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening 5 PM
Sundays 7AM, 9AM, & 11AM
Monday - Saturday . 7AM & 9AM

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays..... 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Parish Office Phone: 461-0704

Pastor Rev. Mark Taheny

Parochial Vicar Rev. Paul Perry

Office Mgr. Nancy Lampe

Parish School of Religion:

Renée O'Neill: PSR@pacbell.net

Confirmation Youth Group:

Dave Previtali: StSebConfirmation@yahoo.com

MASS INTENTIONS FOR NOV. 29-DEC. 4

Mon	7AM	Sr. Patricia Kenny
	9AM	Liane Glave
Tue	7AM	To Stop Abortions
	9AM	Bell & Tarrant Fam., <i>living/dec.</i>
Wed	7AM	Norma Geissberger
	9AM	R. Martin
Thu	7AM	Lorenzo Alessandria
	9AM	Unbelievers
Fri	7AM	Grace Lawrence
	9AM	Fr. Bill McGuire
Sat	7AM	Souls in Purgatory
	9AM	Norma Geissberger

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Albert, Angela, Bertha, Doug, Elizabeth, Joseph, Kristen, Michael, Patrick, Tony, Stephanie, Tim, Carol Abraham, Lorenzo Acciai, Sally Arango, Nicholas Arenas, Marco Balistreri, Ivy Batmale, Madison Bostow, Lori Cohen, Yondellan Coleman, Elizabeth Cook, Elizabeth Crowley, Nancy Culhane, Doris Doty, Nanette Duffy, Luke Duval, Kathleen Foley, Tom & Eileen Harriman, Taro Hart, James Harvey, Rosemarie Hayes, Chiara Iulucci, John Kelley, Germaine Khohayting, Jeanne Killian, Joe Lazor, Manda Masse, Gino Mazzenatto, Warren McGuire, William McNamara, Richard Mogas, Monte Maroevich, Valerie Milroy, Gary Parlapiano, Mark Piatti, Bertha Ponce de Leon, Joe Popovich, Kylie Richardson, Peggy Roth, Steve Schlesselmann, Mary Lou Smith, Paul Smith, Ted Taheny, Rose Tannlund, Larry Ulin, Elizabeth Ward, Jeannette Weiss, Sibeal Whitty, & Camilla Wolfe.

STEWARDSHIP BY THE BOOK

The Son of Man will come at an hour you do not expect. Good stewards know that they are accountable to God for all that they have and are, and they strive to live in readiness for His coming.

CHURCH LIGHTING UPDATE

This week, electricians will begin installing new lights in our church. The work should require about six working days. We ask for your understanding and cooperation for any inconvenience.

ST. SEBASTIAN'S "GIVING TREE"



St. Sebastian's will again participate in the Christmas Gift-Giving Program for the Hanna Boys Center in Sonoma and St. Vincent's School for Boys. Tags are on the "Giving Tree" up near the sanctuary from now until mid-Advent. You are invited to take one or more tags and return the wrapped gift or gift certificates to the church a couple weeks before Christmas.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

CENACLE OF PRAYER

NEXT SUNDAY

3 to 4pm

Exposition

of the Blessed Sacrament,
Rosary, Meditation, & Benediction

Spend an hour here with Our Lord.



ADVENT

The word Advent is from the Latin *adventus* for "coming" and is associated with the four weeks of preparation for Christmas. Advent always contains four Sundays, beginning on the Sunday nearest the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle, (November 30) and continuing until December 24. It blends together a penitential spirit, very similar to Lent, a liturgical theme of preparation for the Second and Final Coming of the Lord, called the "Parousia", and a joyful theme of getting ready for the Bethlehem event.

Since the 900s, Advent has been considered the *beginning* of the Church year. This does not mean that Advent is the most important time of the year; Easter has always had that honor.

The traditional color of Advent is purple or violet which symbolizes the penitential spirit.

MANGER OR NATIVITY SCENE

The tradition of having a nativity scene or "crèche" was made popular by St. Francis of Assisi. It is a reproduction of the cave in Bethlehem with Mary, Joseph, the infant Jesus in a manger, shepherds, angels, and animals. The Advent tradition of children placing one piece of straw in the manger for each good deed they've done combines the spirit of conversion and the coming of Jesus.

The above information is from www.ewtn.com

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY

Requests the following items:

Next Weekend, December 4 & 5

Donations may be left in the red barrels near the entrances of the church.

Your gifts are always appreciated!

Jam	White Rice
Tuna	Sugar, granulated
Corn	Bisquick
Peas	Pancake Mix
Chili	Syrup
Canned Fruit	Canned Ravioli
Juice	Pasta
Coffee, one lb size	Pasta Sauce
Napkins	Oil
Paper Towels	Soup
Toilet Paper	Macaroni & Cheese
Ketchup	Laundry Detergent
Mayonnaise	Cleanser
Mustard, small size	Bar Soap
Cereal, (hot & cold)	Toothpaste

Outdated or opened food items cannot be accepted.

**Then, on December 11 & 12, please bring:
New Socks & Underwear**

for the St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room Clients
Your gifts will be received by them (mostly men,
and some women) on Christmas Day—from “Santa”

**The St. Vincent de Paul Society
of St. Sebastian’s Parish
is seeking new members
who would like to serve their neighbors in need.
Please call Beverly at 924-1771**

THE HOLY Rosary*

***For best results,
—use daily.**



**1260 on your AM dial
immaculate heart radio
sharing the heart of the Christian faith**

WORD OF LIFE

“The...Church is not being insensitive or heartless when she opposes human embryonic stem cell research. She is being honest and truthful [to] point out why this kind of research is morally wrong while pointing to other forms of research which are morally good and are already demonstrating real progress. As members of the Church, we need to know the medical facts, the principles of the natural moral law and the “what” and “why” of the Church’s teachings in this area. Our stance in opposing human embryonic stem cell research is not just a Catholic perspective; it is a moral perspective; it is not just a Catholic directive, but a natural moral law imperative. We are not imposing Catholic doctrine on the wider society, but we are rightfully seeking to influence decisions from a moral stance which looks to the common good.”

—*Most Rev. Paul S. Loverde,
Bishop of Arlington, VA. Homily, Sept. 25, 2010*

THE CENTER FOR BIOETHICS & CULTURE

in cooperation with

San Francisco Archdiocesan Office of Public Policy
and Social Concerns’ Respect Life Program
presents the San Francisco Premier of the
shocking new documentary film

“eggsploitation”

Thursday, December 9

7:00 to 9:00 PM

Kabuki Sundance Cinema Theatre #2, Japantown
1881 Post St., between Webster & Fillmore, S.F.

Film to be followed by Q & A
with Producer Jennifer Lahl

Admission at the door \$20, validated parking \$3.75

For film information: www.eggsploitation.com
Advance tickets & group rates, contact Vicki Evans
415-614-5533 or vevans1438@att.net

“Eggsploitation is a compelling and revealing documentary that gives the viewer an up-close look at the flipside of the infertility industry. You will meet women whose lives were changed forever after undergoing the procedure for egg donation. Their disturbing and heart wrenching stories tell a cautionary tale to all women who are considering egg donation for the purpose of in-vitro fertilization or embryonic stem cell research. A must see film for researchers, physicians, professors, college students and feminists.”

Kelly Vincent-Brunacini, President, Feminists Choosing Life
New York

THOUGHTS ON ADVENT

There was a time when the world awaited the Messiah. *Centuries* passed. Many people *stopped* watching and waiting. Many stopped being faithful to God, even though He had *revealed* Himself to the Hebrew people through prophets and by sending miraculous help from Heaven. It *seemed* that one day was like any other, and that there was nothing new under the sun. But, one day, in the fullness of time, God sent His Son. The time had come. We now number our years A.D.—the year of Our Lord.

The greatest joy for those who lived back then would have been to have recognized the Messiah. Simeon held the baby Jesus and said, “Now, Lord, you can dismiss your servant in peace.” He was ready to *die* because he had seen and held—and *recognized*—the promised One. On the other hand, what a great disappointment for all those who *failed* to recognize their Savior when He was in their midst! What a terrible thing it was to have actually insulted and persecuted and then to have killed the very One who had come to save the world and each and every person in it! How horrible. They knew the prophecies: that one day a Messiah would come, yet many did not watch for Him.

Now, how about us?

Jesus will *not* be born *again* as a baby. We are not watching and waiting for the Messiah to be *born*. He *was* born 2010 years ago, and He has already redeemed humanity by dying and rising from the dead, never to die again.

Yet, He has told us all to “Be watchful! Be alert!” Because Jesus will come again in glory. Just as the time came when He was born, the time *will* come when we will stand before our God. And how terrible, how horrible, if we do not recognize Him. In fact, how horrible it will be if we find that we have *persecuted* Him. How ashamed we shall be if we find that, in fact, we *ignored* Him, passed Him by, let him suffer and starve, hungry and cold, eventually to die unloved. Be watchful! Be alert! Jesus told us exactly how we will be judged: “Whatever you do to the least of those around you, you did to *me*.” So let us *watch* for opportunities to meet Jesus and to serve Him. Let us be *alert* to Jesus “in the distressing disguise of the poorest of the poor” so that we will *recognize* him when He comes to us, and so that we might one day hear Him say, “Well done, good and faithful servant! Enter into your Master’s joy!”