

ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

373 BON AIR ROAD, GREENBRAE, CA 94904-1709
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A.D. 2011
JANUARY 2
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



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: ReneeGOneill@gmail.com

Confirmation Youth Group:

Dave Previtali: StSebConfirmation@yahoo.com

MASS INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY 3—8

Mon 7AM Christina Piatti
9AM Unbelievers

Tue 7AM Lorenzo Alessandria
9AM Norma Geissberger

Wed 7AM John & Malvina DiGardi
9AM Lea Ridondelli

Thu 7AM Nancy Lampe, *living*
9AM Bud, Emma, Alice, & Lorri

Fri 7AM Victims of San Bruno Fire, *l & d*
9AM Special Intention

Sat 7AM Souls in Purgatory
9AM Fr. Dennis McManus

**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, Bill Parker, 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.

EPIPHANY DEFINITION:

The feast commemorating Christ's manifestation to the Gentiles in the person of the Magi, as well as his baptism and first miracle at Cana. It began in the East in the third century and soon spread to the West, where it is identified with the visit of the Magi. In some countries it is known as Twelfth Night (after Christmas) and is the occasion for special celebrations. For centuries the Epiphany has been a holy day of obligation in many places. (Etym. Greek *epiphaneia*, appearance, manifestation.)

CENACLE OF PRAYER

TODAY

3 to 4pm

Exposition

of the Blessed Sacrament,
Rosary, Meditation, & Benediction

**Spend an hour here with Our Lord
on the first Sunday of each month.**



NEXT SUNDAY IS "COFFEE SUNDAY"

Don't "run off", but be sure to come to the Parish Hall after the 9am or 11am Mass and visit with fellow parishioners who look forward to seeing you there!



**"Coffee Sunday" is scheduled for the
second Sunday of every month.**

THANK YOU

To the dozen or so parishioners who decorated the church with garland, trees, wreaths, flowers, lights, and the manger.

To the choir who helped us join the angels in welcoming Christ to earth through beautiful music and singing.

To the children who enacted the Christmas story on Christmas Eve: Mary, Joseph, the Angels, the Shepherds, Caesar, the Three Kings. And to the parents and teachers for passing on the story to them so that generations to come will know about Jesus' birth.

On behalf of St. Vincent's School for Boys and Hanna Boys Center, we thank all of you who took tags from the Advent "Giving Tree" and purchased gifts so that the youngsters would experience the joy of receiving your presents at Christmas.

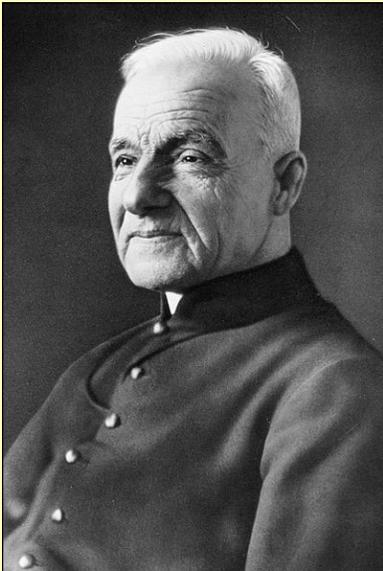
May God bless you with a bountiful return!

STEWARDSHIP BY THE BOOK

Today we remember the three wise men from the East who came to pay homage to the infant Jesus, bringing Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gifts we bring—our time, service, and some share of what we earn for the work we do—are equally precious in His sight.

JANUARY 6: MEMORIAL OF ST. ANDRÉ BESSETTE

Canonized less than three months ago, Saint André Bessette, who died in 1937, had been a simple religious brother of the Sacred Heart Congregation. He was the porter who answered the door, but became known as the “Miracle Man of Montréal”.



His great confidence in St. Joseph inspired him to recommend this saint’s devotion to all those who were afflicted in various ways. On his many visits to the sick in their homes, he would recommend them in prayer to St. Joseph, and would anoint them lightly with oil from the lamp in the college chapel which always burned before the St. Joseph altar. People claimed that they had been cured through the prayers of the good Brother and Saint Joseph, and they were grateful their prayers had been heard. Brother André steadfastly refused to take any credit for these cures, and, although usually a gentle man, he was known to become enraged at those who suggested that he possessed any healing powers. Because he wanted St. Joseph to be honored, in 1904 Bessette began the campaign to erect a chapel to honor the saint.

Brother André’s reputation grew, and soon he was known as the miracle worker of Mount-Royal (Montréal). Thousands of cures without apparent medical explanation made him the object of popular acclaim.

In 1924 construction of a basilica named Saint Joseph’s Oratory, began on the side of the mountain, near Bessette’s chapel. Today, the magnificent building is a popular place of pilgrimage and of devotion to St. Joseph.

When he died on January 6, 1937, over one million people paid their respects!

The humble Brother André was canonized on Oct. 17, 2010, and is now “*Saint André*”.

—*info from Wikipedia*

WORD OF LIFE

“Every child asks for our love. This night, then, let us think especially of those children who are denied the love of their parents. Let us think of those street children who do not have the blessing of a family home, of those children who are brutally exploited as soldiers and made instruments of violence, instead of messengers of reconciliation and peace. Let us think of those children who are victims of the industry of pornography and every other appalling form of abuse, and thus are traumatized in the depths of their soul. The Child of Bethlehem summons us once again to do everything in our power to put an end to the suffering of these children; to do everything possible to make the light of Bethlehem touch the heart of every man and woman.”

—*Pope Benedict XVI*
Homily at Midnight Mass, Dec. 25, 2008

THE POPE’S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY

General Intention: That the riches of the created world may be preserved, valued, and made available as God’s precious gift to all.

Mission Intention: That Christians may attain full unity, witnessing to all the universal fatherhood of God.

Note: The “Week of Prayer for Christian Unity” begins on January 18.

7TH ANNUAL WALK FOR LIFE—WEST COAST

Mark your calendars: Saturday, January 22, 2011 Join St. Sebastian’s parishioners and upwards of 30,000 Pro-Life Walkers for the 7th 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

ETERNAL WORD TELEVISION NETWORK

EWTN is a global Catholic Network, broadcasting the Truth 24 hours a day. You can find it on Channel 229 on Comcast. It’s available on satellite dish networks, too. Give it a try! It’s wonderful!

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Who *is* wise? Whoever *recognizes* Christ! Would you have liked to have *held* Christ when he was a baby? When we received Holy Communion, we actually *hold* Christ! But if you had a cold, a flu, or some contagious disease, you would not want to hold him, would you? How about if you had some *sin*? Wouldn't you want to be *healed* of whatever is contagious so that you wouldn't harm him? Our sinfulness is contagious! Am I angry? Mean? Do I hurt people by words? Am I selfish? All these things, like a cold or flu, are *contagious*—they affect *everyone* around us.

We call the Magi, or Kings, “Wise Men”. Why? If what they did were the *smart* thing to do, others would have gone with them, but nobody else went. They gave such expensive gifts to a homeless baby! Of course, if people had *known* that the Magi were going to give away these treasures, they would have formed a *crowd* and followed them for the free give-a-ways. But, no! The citizens of Jerusalem, Herod, and the others remained in the comfort of their homes; only those with the *wisdom* to recognize God's presence followed the star that God had placed in the heavens for their guidance.

And then, to have given such gifts to a *child*! Children seem to have *no value* in our society, since our laws recognize a so-called “right to choose” which leads to 4000 unborn children being killed—legally—by abortion in our country alone. Our currency declares “In God we Trust” but we do *not* trust God any more than King Herod did. Even a child fully formed in the womb and about to be born may be brutally killed through partial-birth abortion, and our lawmakers, fearful like Pontius Pilate of upsetting the voters, have *allowed* this to remain legal! No, children are not valued as they should be.

So, when we honor the Wise Men, it is because they saw the *truth* when they gazed upon the newborn baby in its mother's arms. They were not *fooled* by appearances, as many of us tend to be fooled. We judge by *looks*. The Magi are considered *wise* because they recognized the truth.

Let *us* recognize the truth! The world *needs* the truth. And the truth is that God became a helpless human being when he was first conceived in Mary's womb. Nine months later, when he was born in Bethlehem, his life was in mortal danger from those with political power. Innocent children were killed in an effort to kill Jesus. We call them the “Holy Innocents”. Innocent children are killed today, too, and on a much greater scale than before.

Let *us*, wisely ask for a new outpouring of wisdom upon ourselves and upon our world. For forgiveness, for humility. Maybe we, too, will be “Wise Men”.