

ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

373 BON AIR ROAD, GREENBRAE, CA 94904-1709
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NOVEMBER 27, 2011

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

Pastor Rev. Mark Taheny
Parochial Vicar Rev. Paul Perry
Deacon Rev. Mr. Bill Turrentine
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 NOV. 28—DEC. 3

Mon 7AM Mary Collins
9AM Edwin Calleja, *living*

Tue 7AM Polly Connor, *living*
9AM Liane Glave

Wed 7AM Catherine Burke
9AM Special Intention

Thu 7AM Fr. Theodore Taheny, S.J.
9AM Ric Martin

Fri 7AM Unbelievers
9AM John & Dinka Velcich

Sat 7AM Souls in Purgatory
9AM Grace Lawrence

**THANK YOU FOR KEEPING THE FOLLOWING
PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Albert, Angela, Bertha, Caroline, Coner, Elizabeth, Kristen, Monica, Patrick, Stephanie, Tim, Carol Abraham, Lorenzo Acciai, Sally Arango, Ivy Batmale, Madison Bostow, Marilyn Charbonneau, Lori Cohen, Yondellan Coleman, Elizabeth Cook, Elizabeth Crowley, Nancy Culhane, Doris Doty, Nanette Duffy, Luke Duval, Tom & Eileen Harriman, Taro Hart, Rosemarie Hayes, Chiara Iulucci, John Kelley, Bob King, Germaine Khohayting, Jeanne Killian, Mary Lazor, Manda Masse, Gino Mazzenatto, William McNamara, Richard Mogas, Monte Maroevich, Valerie Milroy, Mark Piatti, Bertha Ponce de Leon, Tony Powers, Kylie Richardson, Peggy Roth, Alex Salit, Steve Schlesselmann, Anne Schreiner, Mary Lou Smith, Rose Tannlund, & Camilla Wolfe.

WORD OF LIFE

Every child conceived by in vitro fertilization is truly deserving of respect and love: Each is a human person, regardless of the manner of conception. The problem is that the way they are brought into the world does not live up to their dignity.

— “Life Matters: Reproductive Technologies,”
Respect Life Program 2011-2012

STEWARDSHIP BY THE BOOK

We are the servants of God, each with his or her own task. We will be judged good stewards if, at His coming, He finds us ready and conscientiously pursuing the tasks to which we have been called.

CENACLE OF PRAYER

NEXT SUNDAY

3 to 4pm
Exposition
of the Blessed Sacrament,
Rosary, Meditation, & Benediction

Spend an hour here with Our Lord.

Jesus is always present in the tabernacle,
waiting to hear what’s on your mind.

Your prayers are powerful!



**PRAYERS FOR THE
ADVENT WREATH**



**Blessing for the Advent
Wreath (by laypersons):**

O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth thy blessing upon this wreath and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts

for the Coming of Christ, and may receive from thee abundant graces. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Week 1

Let us pray. Stir up thy power, O Lord, and come, that by thy protection we may be rescued from the dangers that beset us through our sins; and be a Redeemer to deliver us; You live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

Week 2

Let us pray. O Father, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Your only begotten Son, that through His coming, we may be made worthy to serve you with pure souls. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Week 3

Let us pray. We humbly beg You, O Lord, to listen to our prayers; and by the grace of Your coming, bring light into our darkened minds. You live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

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.

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 tag with a Gift or Gift Card to the church a couple weeks before Christmas.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Dates For Your Calendar

Thursday, **December 8**, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which is a Holyday of Obligation.

We will offer a Vigil Mass at 4 PM on Wednesday, Dec. 7, and three Masses on Dec. 8: at 7 AM, 9 AM, and 7 o'clock in the evening.

On **Christmas Eve**, Saturday, Dec. 24, the children in our Parish School of Religion will present their Christmas Pageant at 5 PM, and we will offer Masses at 5:30 PM and at 9 PM.



On **Christmas Day**, we'll have our regular schedule of Masses: 7 AM, 9 AM, and 11AM.

YOUNG AT HEART'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON MEETING

Tuesday, December 6 at 11:45AM

Lunch will be catered by Deer Park Villa:

Chicken Picatta, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Fresh Vegetables, served with Spring Mix Green Salad and French Bread. Apple Pie, Coffee, Tea
A bottle of Red wine / White wine on each table

\$28.50/members, \$30.00/guests

Entertainment by "Singers Marin"

RSVP: Denise 461-0689 or Estelle 461-1789

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Donations may be left in the red barrels near the entrances of the church.
Your gifts are always appreciated!

Outdated or opened food items cannot be accepted.

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

Please do not bring any other items such as clothing! We cannot handle them and they actually become "garbage" that we have to dump since we do not have the means of transporting them elsewhere.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY GROUP

We are forming a Bible Study Group which will meet in the Parish Hall on Sunday mornings after the 9am

Mass, open to everyone, and hoping especially to draw those in their 30s or 40s who are looking for an opportunity to deepen their faith in the company of like-minded people. Deacon Bill Turrentine has agreed to lead the group, and the plan is to look ahead and discuss the readings for the *next* Sunday, beginning next month in December.

If you are interested in studying the Word of the Lord in this group, please call the Parish Office at 461-0704, and leave your name and number so that we can contact you.



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 2011 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!”