

# ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

373 BON AIR ROAD, GREENBRAE, CA 94904-1709  
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28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 11, 2015

## EVERY LIFE IS WORTH LIVING



[www.usccb.org/respectlife](http://www.usccb.org/respectlife)  
**RESPECT LIFE**

Models used for illustrative purposes only. Clothesline, etc. by Rangizz, courtesy of 123RF Photos. Used with permission. Baby, mother & daughter, couple. © Getty Images. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

### MASS SCHEDULE

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

### CONFESSIONS

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

### EXPOSITION & ADORATION

Mon-Fri 7:30-8:55am, 9:30-10:30, 3-4pm

Pastor ..... Rev. Mark Taheny  
Parochial Vicar .... Rev. Paul Perry  
Deacon ..... Bill Turrentine  
Deacon ..... David Previtali  
Secretary..... Agata Konopka

### Parish School of Religion:

Gretchen Harris: StSebPSR@gmail.com

### Confirmation Youth Group:

Deacon Dave: StSebCYG@outlook.com

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER 12 - 17

Mon 7AM Randa Stenson  
9AM Daphne Massucco, *living*

Tue 7AM Robert Perry, *living*  
9AM Elizabeth Kilty, *living*

Wed 7AM Kenny Massucco, *living*  
9AM Nancy Lampe, *living*

Thu 7AM Samantha Kazmierczak, *living*  
9AM Elma Santander

Fri 7AM Greer Family, *living*  
9AM Cheri Orense

Sat 7AM Fr. Frank Filice  
9AM Lydia Taheny

## PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Angela, Bertha, Kristen, Mary, Monica, Patrick, Sandra L., Stephanie, Tim, Ann Boeri, Cathy Connor, Elizabeth Cook, Nancy Lampe, Monte Maroevich, Chris Matthew, Mark Piatti, Rose Tannlund, and Sherry Willis.

## TODAY 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.**

## WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Next weekend, October 17 and 18, our parish will participate in the special collection for the World Mission.

Your prayers and generous support offered to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith on World Mission Sunday directly benefit the mission Church—places like Mongolia and Zambia, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia, where young churches are growing, filled with zeal for the faith, but lacking resources for its outreach to families and those in need.

# THE HOLY Rosary\*

**\*For best results,  
—use daily.**

## **UPCOMING EVENT**

**Saturday, November 14th, Craft Fair  
-Calling all artists to come sell your goods**

**More details to follow.**

**Save the date!**

## RCIA HAS BEGUN

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) has begun and meets on Wednesdays at 7PM in the hall with Deacon Dave. Participants can be Inquirers seeking to investigate the Catholic Faith w/o obligation; unbaptized adults desiring Baptism; baptized Catholics who need Confirmation or Eucharist; non-Catholic Christians who desire to become Catholic. ANY adult Catholic who desires to study and discuss the Faith with others for personal growth is also welcome to participate. Candidates for Baptism and Confirmation need sponsors to attend with them as well. Email [DcnDave@outlook.com](mailto:DcnDave@outlook.com) for more information.

## CYG HOLIDAY OCT 12

Our Confirmation Youth Group (CYG) will not meet on Monday, Oct 12, due to Columbus Day holiday. We will resume on Mon., Oct 19. Any junior/senior high youth who desire the Sacrament of Confirmation are welcome to enroll and attend. Registration is still open.

## BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study led by Deacon Bill Turrentine meets on Sundays after the 9am Mass, down in the Parish Hall.

*Drop in and take part!*



## THE ANNUAL "OCTOBER COUNT"

Every Sunday in October, parishes count the number of men, women, & children at Sunday Masses for Archdiocesan records.

Let us pray that all those who are able to attend will do so, and come to celebrate the Mass with us!

## SUNDAY COLLECTION

Weekly Goal	\$ 4,200.
Last Weekend	\$ 4,516.50
Parish Improvement	\$ 1,415.

## **“EVERY LIFE IS WORTH LIVING”**

*Reflections for Respect Life Month, October 2015*

Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap., Chairman, USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities

My dear friends in Christ:

One of the deepest desires of the human heart is to discover our identity. So often, as a society and as individuals, we identify ourselves by what we do. We base our worth on how productive we are at work or at home, and we determine our lives to be more or less good depending on the degree of independence or pleasure. We may even begin to believe that if our lives, or those of others, don't "measure up" to a certain standard, they are somehow less valuable or less worth living.

Respect Life Month is a fitting time to reflect on the truth of who we are.

Our worth is based not on our skills or levels of productivity. Rather, we discover our worth when we discover our true identity found in the unchangeable, permanent fact that we are created in God's image and likeness and called to an eternal destiny with him.

Because of this, absolutely nothing can diminish our God-given dignity, and therefore, nothing can diminish the immeasurable worth of our lives. Others may fail to respect that dignity—may even try to undermine it—but in doing so, they only distance themselves from God's loving embrace. Human dignity is forever.

Whether it lasts for a brief moment or for a hundred years, each of our lives is a good and perfect gift. At every stage and in every circumstance, we are held in existence by God's love.

An elderly man whose health is quickly deteriorating; an unborn baby girl whose diagnosis indicates she may not live long; a little boy with Down syndrome; a mother facing terminal cancer—each may have great difficulties and need our assistance, but each of their lives is worth living.

When we encounter the suffering of another, let us reach out and embrace them in love, allowing God to work through us. This might mean slowing down and taking the time to listen. It might mean providing respite care or preparing meals for a family facing serious illness. It might mean simply being present and available. And of course, it always means prayer--bringing their needs before the Father and asking him to work in their lives.

Experiencing suffering—or watching another suffer—is one of the hardest human experiences. Fear of the unknown can lead us into the temptation of taking control in ways that offend our dignity and disregard the reverence due to each person.

But we are not alone. Christ experienced suffering more deeply than we can comprehend, and our own suffering can be meaningful when we unite it with his. Especially in the midst of trials, we are invited to hold fast to the hope of the Resurrection. God is with us every step of the way, giving us the grace we need.

In times of suffering, let us have the courage to accept help that others genuinely want to give, and give the help that others need. We were made to love and be loved; we are meant to depend on one another, serving each other in humility and walking together in times of suffering. Our relationships are meant to help us grow in perfect love.

Let us learn to let go of our own standards of perfection and instead learn more deeply how to live according to God's standards. He does not call us to perfect efficiency or material success; he calls us to self-sacrificial love. He invites us to embrace each life for as long as it is given—our own lives and the lives of those he has placed in our paths. Every life is worth living.

**STATEMENT OF THE BISHOPS OF CALIFORNIA**

*on Governor Brown Signing ABx2-15  
to Legalize Physician-Assisted Suicide*

The physician-assisted suicide legislation (ABx2-15) signed today [October 5, 2015] by Governor Brown makes it legal to prescribe a lethal dose of drugs to assist terminally ill patients to take their own life. This law stands in direct contradiction to providing compassionate, quality care for those facing a terminal illness.

All 48 Catholic hospitals in California provide excellent palliative care services as all medical facilities for terminally ill patients should but often do not. As Catholic Bishops in California we join hands with the disability rights groups, physicians, other health care professionals, and advocates for the elderly in opposing physician-assisted suicide as the wrong way to advance the human dignity for those facing a terminal illness.

Pope Francis has warned us about our "throw away culture." Have we become so callous in protecting the sacredness of life that we easily approve of a physician handing over a lethal dose of drugs to someone to end their life at their most vulnerable moment when they most need to be cared for with love and attention?

We are particularly disappointed that the very real concerns and risks posed to our brothers and sisters in vulnerable communities of the disabled and elderly have been consistently ignored by our state's elected officials. In a health care system grappling with constantly escalating costs, the elderly and disabled are in great peril now that assisted suicide has become legal. Application of such a law elsewhere shows that the option to offer the low-cost alternative of lethal drugs instead of proper medical care is a temptation not long resisted.

For vulnerable people, this isn't compassion. There's nothing in this law that supports or promotes the common good. This bill does nothing to validate the lives of the vulnerable. If anything, this bill says just the opposite and only serves to increase their emotional burden. And it facilitates subtle but potent pressures on the elderly and the disabled to end their lives rather than become a financial or emotional burden on their children.

Nothing illustrates what is wrong with this bill more than how it got to Governor Brown's desk having failed to even get out of committee in the normal legislative process. In a special legislative session called to help fix a \$1 billion gap in Medi-Cal funding and other health-financing issues, the Legislature and Governor did not address the problems nor offer ways to bring down the cost of healthcare. Millions of people on Medi-Cal are still not eligible for palliative or other 'end-of-life care.' Instead, lawmakers' solution to bringing down health care costs is to allow physicians to end a person's life. This will adversely affect the poor, as those with resources will always have access to palliative care. This is not compassion.

The California Catholic Conference has been very proud to work with Californians Against Assisted Suicide and its partners from the disability-rights community, advocates for the elderly, physicians' groups and other health care professionals during the debate on physician-assisted suicide. We thank all these members and the thousands of Catholics throughout the state who expressed their opposition for their outstanding work and we will continue to stand with them in efforts to protect the most vulnerable Californians."

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(Note: The California Catholic Conference is the public advocacy office of the Bishops of California. Representing the Archbishops of Los Angeles and San Francisco, and the Bishops of Fresno, Monterey, Oakland, Orange, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Jose, Santa Rosa and Stockton, it is the official voice of the 10 million Catholics and their many parishes, schools, universities, and social service agencies in California.)