

ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

373 BON AIR ROAD, GREENBRAE, CA 94904-1709
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JANUARY 3, A.D.2016



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening.....5 PM
Sundays7AM, 9AM, & 11AM
Monday - Saturday ..7AM & 9AM

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays3:30 - 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 JANUARY 4 - 9

Mon 7AM Vince Finochiaro
9AM Barbara West

Tue 7AM Lucille Gingras, *living*
9AM Barbara Damele

Wed 7AM John De Martini
9AM Barbara West

Thu 7AM John & Malvina Digardi
9AM Roger Santander

Fri 7AM Mary Ann Greer
9AM Albert Gutierrez

Sat 7AM Souls in Purgatory
9AM Jim McLoughlin

PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

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

CENACLE OF PRAYER

TODAY

3 to 4pm

Exposition

of the Blessed Sacrament,
Rosary, Meditation,
& Benediction

Spend an hour here with
Our Lord



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.

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!



THANK YOU

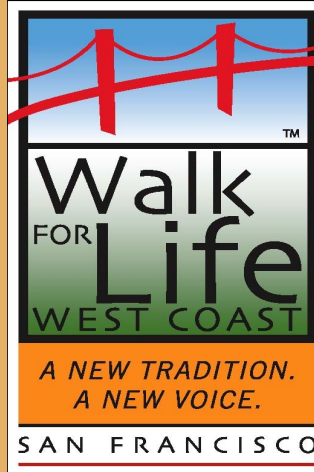
To the group of helpers who decorated the church with garland, trees, wreaths, flowers, lights, and the manger.

To the choirs of adults and children who helped us join the angels in welcoming Christ to earth through beautiful music and singing.

To the children who read and enacted the Christmas story on Christmas Eve: Mary, Joseph, the Angels, the Shepherds, 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!



12TH ANNUAL

**WALK FOR LIFE—
WEST COAST**

Saturday, January 23

**Rally 12:30-1:30 pm
Walk at 1:30pm**

**Civic Center Plaza
San Francisco**

www.walkforlifewc.com

WORD OF LIFE

"Since everything is interrelated, concern for the protection of nature is also incompatible with the justification of abortion. How can we genuinely teach the importance of concern for other vulnerable beings...if we fail to protect a human embryo, even when its presence is uncomfortable and creates difficulties?"

—Pope Francis, *Laudato Si*, no. 120

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Weekly Goal	\$ 4,200.
Dec. 20 Weekend	\$ 4,835.

MAGI TRAVELING FROM THE EAST

The word Magi, in Greek *magoi*, comes from the Latin word meaning “sage.” These particular sages were possibly Zoroastrian astrologers from Persia. Upon seeing a star rising in the East (the star of Bethlehem), they realized it was a sign that the king of the Jews had been born. According to St. Ignatius of Antioch, the star shone with an inexpressible brilliance, and the sun, moon, and other stars all formed a chorus around the special star (Letter to the Ephesians, 19). The wise men followed the star to Bethlehem of Judea, and to Jesus’ dwelling there. Having arrived, they worshiped the infant Jesus, and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

The gifts of the wise men are symbolic of who Jesus is, and what he did and taught. *Gold* symbolizes that Jesus is king, since precious metals were often given as gifts to royalty. *Myrrh* is symbolic of the sacrificial death of Jesus, since it was one of the burial spices used on Jesus’ body. As a medicinal agent, it also symbolizes that Jesus is a healer, and healing was a major component of his adult ministry. *Frankincense*, i.e. incense, symbolizes Jesus’ role as priest, since ancient Jews and Greeks believed that incense, used in worship, carried prayers to heaven. St. Irenaeus describes the symbolism in a similar fashion, although he connects frankincense to Jesus’ divinity:

[The Magi] showed, by these gifts which they offered, who it was that was worshiped; myrrh, because it was He who should die and be buried for the mortal human race; gold, because He was a King, “of whose kingdom is no end;” and frankincense, because He was God, who also “was made known in Judea,” and was “declared to those who sought Him not.”

Since the 3rd century, Christian writers have referred to them as kings, even though Matthew doesn’t specifically tell us that they were royalty. Their names in the West, Gaspar (or Caspar), Melchior, and Balthasar date to the 6th century. The names mean: Master-of-Treasure, King, and Protect-the-King.

churchyear.net

The star was seen by everyone but not everyone understood its meaning. Likewise, our Lord and Savior was born for everyone, but not everyone has welcomed him.

Cromatius of Aquileia, bishop IV-V c.

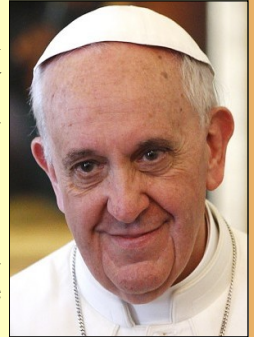
POPE FRANCIS’ JANUARY INTENTIONS

Universal: Interreligious Dialogue

That sincere dialogue among men and women of different faiths may produce the fruits of peace and justice.

Evangelization: Christian Unity

That by means of dialogue and fraternal charity and with the grace of the Holy Spirit, Christians may overcome divisions.



Looking For an Exceptional Catholic Education?

Join the fun at Saint Hilary School in Tiburon! Saint Hilary School is a K-8 Catholic school where children receive an exceptional academic and spiritual foundation, allowing them to develop their unique personal and intellectual gifts.

Kindergarten Application Deadline: 1/15/16

RSVP to admissions@sainthilaryschool.org or 415-937-5502

What Can You Do to Help End Human Trafficking?

Sr. Judy Lu McDonnell O.P. and Ms. Lyn Kirkconnell, members of the “Stop Slavery Coalition” and veterans in the fight against human trafficking will help answer that question at **St. Anselm Church’s Centennial Hall, 97 Shady Lane, Ross, CA on Weds., Jan. 13th, 7:30pm.** They will share reflections on their fight against the broad issue of human trafficking which encompasses forced labor in restaurant operations, hotels, domestic help, sweatshops as well as sexual exploitation.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first native born American to be canonized by the Catholic Church.

Born two years before the American Revolution, Elizabeth grew up in the upper class of New York society. She was a prolific reader, and read everything from the Bible to contemporary novels.

In spite of her high society background, Elizabeth's early life was quiet, simple, and often lonely. As she grew a little older, the Bible was to become her continual instruction, support and comfort -and she would continue to love the Scriptures for the rest of her life.

She married and eventually moved to Italy where her husband died of tuberculosis. The accepting and embracing of God's will - "The Will," as she called it - would be a keynote in her spiritual life. During this time Elizabeth became interested in the Catholic Faith and, over a period of months, her Italian friends guided her in Catholic instruction.

Having lost her mother at an early age, Elizabeth felt great comfort in the idea that the Blessed Virgin was truly her mother. She asked the Blessed Virgin to guide her to the True Faith and officially joined the Catholic Church in 1805.

At the suggestion of the president of St. Mary's College in Baltimore, Maryland, Elizabeth started a school in that city. The school had originally been secular but once news of her entrance to Catholicism spread, several girls were removed from her school. It was then Seton, and two other young women who helped her in her work, began plans for a Sisterhood. They established the first free Catholic school in America. When the young community adopted their rule, they made provisions for Elizabeth to continue raising her children.

On March 25, 1809, Elizabeth Seton pronounced her vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, binding for one year.

Although Mother Seton became afflicted with tuberculosis, she continued to guide her children. The Rule of the Sisterhood was formally ratified in 1812. It was based upon the Rule St. Vincent de Paul had written for his Daughters of Charity in France. By 1818, in addition to their first school, the sisters had established two orphanages and another school. Today, six groups of sisters can trace their origins to Mother Seton's initial foundation.

Mother Seton died in 1821 at the age of 46, only sixteen years after becoming a Catholic. She was beatified by Pope John XXIII on March 17, 1963 and was canonized on September 14, 1975 by Pope Paul VI.

