



STAR
of the **SEA**

A Catholic Stewardship Parish

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Our Lady
Star of the Sea
icon placed
in a new home

See page 2



Photo by Mariella Zevallos

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Our Lady Star The Sea



This beautiful icon of Our Lady, Star of the Sea, which has hung in our adoration chapel, will move to a new home in a few days. It was painted by Pavel Tikhomorov, a professional iconographer born in Russia who resides in Sacramento, California. We have commissioned Pavel to paint a series of sacred images for Star of the Sea Church and our St. Joseph Perpetual Adoration Chapel over the next few years.

Thanks to the generosity of parish benefactors, we are delighted to donate the image of our Patroness Stella Maris (Latin for *Star of the Sea*) to the school community. The icon will be placed in the school hall on the first day of school. At the time our parish was established, in 1894, it was the closest church to the ocean, and so took the name "Star of the Sea." Our Lady has had that title since at least the 8th Century, when our parish hymn *Ave Maris Stella* was composed. Mary is the star who guides our little ships (as in the icon) across the turbulent waters of this life to Jesus her Son. She holds Him out to us in the icon, guiding us to heaven, our life's safe haven.

We are looking forward to welcoming our new principal **Mr. David Gallagher**, the faculty, school staff, school families, our little stars in the preschool, the kindergarten class, and all the students that soon will fill our yard with laughter and warmth as we open the doors to the 2018-2019 school year.



From the Pastor

Fr. Joseph Illo

The Stewardship of Marriage

My Dear Parishioners,

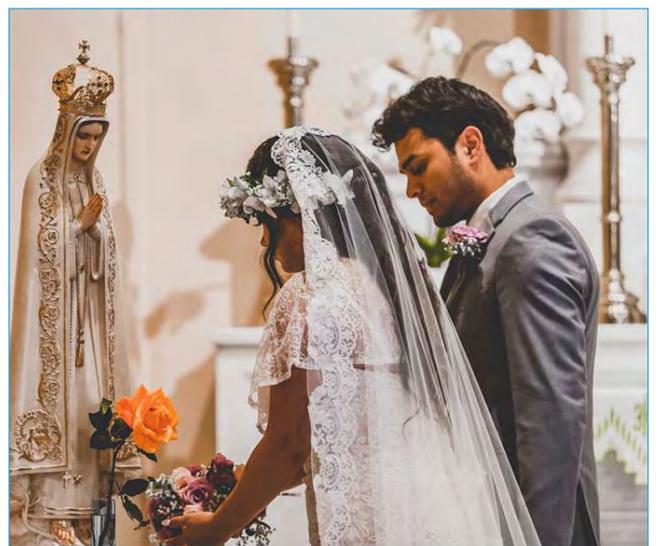
The Late Summer Edition of our Parish Magazine is themed around marriage and family life. In fact, family is the first experience of the Church for all of us. I remember Mamma teaching me how to make the sign of the cross on my little baby fingers. Long before I understood anything about the Mass or the priesthood, I understood the love between my parents and siblings.

So also marriage and family is the first and most essential act of Christian Stewardship. I recently attended the fabulous Napa Institute, an annual gathering of Catholic leadership from around the country. This year, of the 700 attendees, about 60 of us were “professional” Catholics (bishops, priests, and sisters). The vast majority were laypeople, and most of them were married, and most of them had children. These dedicated Church leaders are using the gifts God has given them to bring Christ into the Public Square.

Dr. Scott Hahn, America’s beloved Scripture teacher for the last 30 years (you can get many of his books and CD’s at our parish media kiosk near the adoration chapel), gave a stunning talk on marriage and family life at Napa. “If the New Evangelization is to happen at all,” he declared, “it will happen through the family.” The enemy of God and humanity has done his best to mock, redefine, and destroy the family in the wealthier countries. He’s done a good job in America, because according to the Census Bureau, less than half of Americans are married today. How sad to grow old and die alone, with no children and no loving spouse!

The sacrament of matrimony, and the family that naturally follows, is a beautiful gift from God. Receive it and use it for his Greater Glory. If you are not married, get married! If you are already married, stay married! Love your spouse and children, because married people, in the here and now, show the world what unconditional love looks like. Every sacrifice for your wife or husband or child helps us all believe that God exists, and love is possible.

*Recent wedding ceremonies at Star of the Sea Church
Mariana and Marcus Quintanilla (below)
Sarah and Hebert Moran (right)*





STAR GIRLS

By Mariana Quintanilla

Empowering Girls to be Influential Leaders with Strong Catholic Values

When I first came to Star of the Sea, I felt a sense of Catholic community like I have not felt since I left Florida in 2008. The smell, the music, the offering of confession during Mass, and the beautiful priest's vestments took me to the time when I was a girl. Back then, I was part of the Mass choir, the priest was a close family friend, and I spent some of my afternoons with Opus Dei numeraries learning how to grow closer to God. Shortly after becoming a Star parishioner, I thought it would be wonderful to lead a group of girls to practice Catholic values by helping those in need and by learning about influential Catholic Saints.

My name is Mariana Quintanilla. In the last twelve years I have dedicated my professional life to serving immigrant students in the public school system – developing and managing extracurricular academic enrichment programs as a way to provide equity in education. As a mother and educator, I have experienced the hurdles that society and media present when we want to teach strong values to our children and youth. I have seen firsthand how detrimental it is if we don't have the opportunity to raise our children in a community that shares our Catholic principles and views.

Thanks to the support of some members of the

parish, the Star Girls ministry was started for the girls of our community at the beginning of 2018. With Star Girls we look to offer a space where girls can meet and work together sharing their gifts to help others as they develop into strong, compassionate, and devoted women of faith.

The mission of Star Girls is to promote personal and spiritual growth based on Catholic principles. We aim to promote Catholic values, in daily activities, by voluntarism directed to the neediest members of our community, by making known the lives of the Saints as role models for life, and by underscoring the ways that science and technology can be used for the greater love and service of God.





ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

By Fr. John Matthew Fewel

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is the doorway to the infinite. It is the entry level to such a love of God as has only been experienced by the greatest of Saints.

Jesus Christ said, “I am the Way and the Truth and the Life.” We, who can perceive only the merest accidents of appearance – of bread and of wine – have been called into the presence of the divine infinite, in adoration of the Eucharist. He is really, truly, and substantially present. It is not bread, nor wine which we see, but Jesus himself. He looks at us as we look at him. He sees deeply into our core, our heart.

If the grace by which we have life within us is absent through sin, our Lord in the Eucharist will draw us to repentance. He will call and urge us to turn back to him, but never deny us our right to refuse his entreaties. God’s will is sovereign over all. Our will is sovereign over nothing. Yet, it is sovereign over God (who is everything) in that it is ours to refuse him if we will not serve him. Our Almighty Creator is complete, lacking nothing and we are possessed of nothing except our free will.

Coming to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is among the greatest gifts which God gives to a soul. “No one can come to me unless my father beckons

him,” Our Lord assures us. If we simply come to be with him as he desires, we place ourselves in the way of a divine flood of mercy. We, who perhaps cannot receive him in holy communion due to sin, are cared for by the Divine Physician and may be quickly healed in his presence as he enlightens us to our faults and offenses toward him and leads us to his sacraments for washing, cleansing, and absolution of every wrong thing. We adore him of whom we may not partake intimately in holy communion, and he for his part may soon grant us this desire which we have of him.

We adore him of whom we do share worthily in holy communion, and so delight the Sacred Heart of Jesus that he safeguards us against the loss of this most precious union with him.

Sign up for a weekly holy hour in our beautiful St. Joseph Adoration Chapel. Even better: choose a sacred time for your family to come together before Our Lord, the Lord of all heaven and earth. A family who prays together – in the Real Presence of our Eucharistic Lord – cannot but stay very blessed together. Our children’s Holy Hour is every Tuesday at 7pm, at which your children can lead the rosary!

Please visit www.adorationpro.org/star
contact Fr. John Fewel, fr.johnfewel@starparish.com

A Stewardship Profile

By Mariella Zevallos

The Gabriel Family

We are all called to be disciples and caretakers of God's many gifts. In order to thank God for our gifts, we must learn to give back a portion of the time, talent, and wealth with which God has blessed us. Spending time with God in prayer, and setting aside periods for personal and family prayer, will prepare us spiritually to be able to give back from our hearts the gifts that God has given us. This is what the Gabriel family shares with our parish community. They love God first and so love the community as they give their time in prayer and their talent in service.

James and Jennifer had been parishioners at Star of the Sea for many years before they got married in 1996. They are the proud parents of Michael and Aleyna. The Gabriel family faithfully attends the Sunday 9:30 am Mass, where they all give time in prayer and service. At 7pm every Tuesday the Gabriel family comes to adore Jesus, helping lead the rosary at our Children's Holy Hour. At home they find time to pray the rosary together as well, adding the St. Michael prayer among others. "Sometimes James and I will forget to pray before meals, and the kids will remind us to thank the Lord for the food and blessings", says Jennifer.

The Gabriels are also dedicated members of FAASTAR, our Filipino-American Club. It is fun to see the Gabriels leading some of the dances when FAASTAR has a social event. They are all good dancers! James recently joined the Knights of Columbus, and he and Jennifer are the friendly greeters that welcome our parishioners at Sunday's 9:30 family Mass. Michael serves at the altar during Tuesday Holy Hour and at Sunday Mass, and he is the president of the Young Legion of Mary. Aleyna is one of our young greeters at Sunday Mass, leads the Rosary during Tuesday Holy Hour, and is active in Star Girls (see p 4).

As the Gabriel family grows older, their children take greater leadership roles in the community, preparing them to take leadership in the wide world. The Catholic parish is an extension of the family itself, a safe place to stretch our wings, to make mistakes among those who love us, and to prepare us for our true home, which is heaven. May God bless James and Jennifer for raising such a family to the glory of God!

Mariella Zevallos directs our parish efforts to make stewardship a way of life at Star of the Sea



Community Upcoming Events

- August 15** The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of obligation); Masses: 7:30am (Latin), 12noon (English), 5:30pm (English), Solemn High Latin Mass, 6:30pm
- Aug 30** Back to School Night, Star of the Sea School, 6:30pm, Church
- August 22** First Day of Class, Star of the Sea School
- August 25** Fr. Joseph Illo's Installation as Pastor, Bishop Christian OP, presiding, 4:30pm Mass
Benefit Dinner for Church Painting Fund, following 4:30pm Mass, Auditorium
- September 8** First Day of Class, Parish School of Religion (Children's Catechism, 10:00am)
- September 27-29** San Lorenzo Ruiz Triduum, 7:00pm - 9:00pm, Church (Sept 29: 4:30pm Mass)
- October 6** Rosary Rally at St. Mary's Cathedral, 9:00am
- October 13, 14** Parish Ministry Fair, Auditorium (after all weekend Masses)
- October 27, 28** Stewardship Commitment Weekend - Time in Prayer
- October 30** Speaker Series -Cardinal Francis Arinze, 6:00pm, Church
- November 1** Feast of all Saints (Holy Day of obligation); Masses:
7:30am (Latin), 12noon (English), 5:30 pm (English), Solemn High Latin Mass, 6:30pm
- November 2** Feast of All Souls, Solemn High Mass, 6:30pm, Church
- November 3, 4** Stewardship Commitment Weekend - Talent in Service
- November 3** School "Stella Maris" Gala dinner and auction, Gym
- November 10, 11** Stewardship Commitment Weekend - Treasure in Generosity
- November 10** Knights of Columbus Oktoberfest dinner/dance, auditorium

Please check the weekly parish bulletin for updates



Star of the Sea school car wash fundraiser

The 6th grade car wash fundraiser was a success, thanks to a dedicated group of parents and children from our school, who gathered together on April 28. Funds were used to help offset the cost of an outdoor education trip for the 6th grade class.



Star of the Sea school kindergarten class praying with Fr. Joseph

The kindergarten class gathers in the "Greenway" (between rectory and church) on a beautiful sunny morning to release some butterflies. After saying good bye to the butterflies, the children, some teachers, and our pastor Fr. Joseph Illo, prayed together to thank God for their blessings.



A Catholic Stewardship Parish

4420 Geary Blvd.
San Francisco, CA 94118
www.starparish.com
415-751-0450

Have you been Confirmed? Do you want to know more about being Catholic?

Star of the Sea is blessed to have an active RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) program. If you are interested in becoming Catholic or completing your sacraments, please call 415.751.0740. Classes are every other Monday, 6:30pm – 8:00pm, at the parish office. Refreshments provided!



Bishop Justice confirming RCIA graduate Kei McHale

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
Sunday Morning: 8:00 am
Family Mass: 9:30 am
Latin High Mass: 11:30 am
Candlelight Mass: 7:30 pm

Weekday Masses

Latin: 7:30 am
English: 12 noon

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday 8:30 am through
Saturday 4:00 pm

Confessions

15 minutes before every Mass
Saturday: 3:15 pm – 4:15 pm
Tuesday: 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm