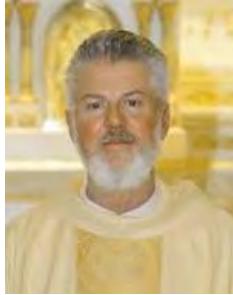




# 16 Shrines of our Lady at STAR of the SEA

December 14, 2025 Third Sunday of Advent (Red Missal: pg 23 | 1962 Black Missal: pg 147)



## Rejoice, the Lord is near

Advent has two parts. In the first two weeks, we hear readings from the prophets offering hope to the people that at long last a messiah will come who will have the spirit of the Lord upon him and rule Israel justly. This

ideal Davidic King will draw all the nations to himself in Jerusalem on God's holy mountain (Isaiah 2:3). Fallen nature itself will be transformed: "Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them" (Isaiah 1:6).

The gospels tell us of the need to prepare for the Second Coming of Christ, who will arrive like a thief in the night (Matthew 24:43). We are to prepare for his coming and watch for him with longing hearts. Jesus warns us, "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise" (Luke 21:34). So the readings for the first two weeks of Advent can be characterized by hope, longing, and sobriety. In the last two weeks of Advent, the readings at Mass invite us to ponder the mystery of the Annunciation and the Incarnation as we anticipate his birth on Christmas. We hear the announcement of the angel Gabriel to Mary and her yes to the will of God; the Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist; the calming of the doubts of Joseph concerning the child to be born; of the census and need for them to go to register in Bethlehem, the ancestral home of Joseph, who is in the line of

David. John the Baptist serves as a bridge between the second and third week of Advent. Over the centuries, the last weeks of Advent have taken on a festive and participative aspect. In 1223, St. Francis, after returning from the Holy Land, recreated a Nativity scene with live animals in a cave as a way of inviting the people of Greccio, Italy, to contemplate more deeply the humility and poverty of the Savior at his birth. In other



Live Nativity scene, China, 1940s.

places, Nativity scenes with realistic statues were placed in churches, town squares, and homes. Perhaps in your home, you have such a Nativity scene that you set up each year in addition to a tree with lights. Nativity plays with live actors, some even with live animals, have also developed as a way of catechizing children about the events

of the birth of Jesus. Advent hymns began in the Middle Ages, with *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel* being one of the earliest and most famous, and it is still sung today, *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*. In Mexico, the tradition of *Misa de Aguinaldo* (Mass at Dawn) and *Posadas* began in 1586. *Posadas* (searching for the inn) was a way of inviting people to walk with Mary and Joseph as they searched for a place in Bethlehem for the birth of Jesus, because there was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7). A similar nine-day series of Masses developed in the Philippines known as *Simbang Gabi*. The first Christmas card was mailed out in Victorian England in 1843, with an image of a family eating a Christmas meal together, along with scenes of helping the poor with food and clothing. On the card was the greeting: "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You."

**"Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee."** Fr. James Liebner

Our Mission: To evangelize God's people beginning with the gift of the Holy Eucharist



**Star of the Sea Church**  
4420 Geary Blvd.  
San Francisco, CA 94118  
(415) 751-0450  
[www.starparish.com](http://www.starparish.com)  
Gym 345 8th Ave.  
**Office Hours**  
M-TH 8:30am-5pm  
Friday 8:30am-12pm,  
1pm-5pm

**CLERGY**  
**Fr. Joseph Illo**, Pastor  
**Fr. Mike Konopik**,  
Parochial Vicar  
**Fr. Javier Ravasi**,  
Parochial Vicar  
**Fr. James Liebner**,  
Parochial Vicar  
**Deacon Albert Nimri**,  
Parish Manager

**STAFF**  
**Mariella Zevallos**,  
Director of Communications & Parish Life  
**Thelma Queri**,  
Bookkeeper  
**Karolina Zapolska**,  
Director of Sacred Music Program  
**Lynn Kraehling**,  
Director of Music  
**Juan Carlos Lopez**,  
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Maintenance  
**Santiago Ron**,  
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360 9th Ave.  
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[www.stellamarissf.org](http://www.stellamarissf.org)  
(628) 977-4836  
**John Monaco**  
Principal/Headmaster

**NATIVITY HIGH SCHOOL**  
[www.nativityhs.org](http://www.nativityhs.org)  
(415) 322-9229  
**Diana Adamson**,  
Principal  
**Nick Sparks**,  
Dean of Students & Academics

EUCARISTIC ADORATION 24/7 - LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS:

Daily Mass: M-F, 7am Latin, 12noon, 6pm. Saturday 8:30am, 12noon Latin. Sat. Vigil Mass 4:30pm. Sunday, 8am, 9:30am, 11:30am Latin, 7:30pm. Holy Day Mass, 7am Latin, 12noon, 6pm Sung Latin Mass. Confessions: 15 min. before Mass, (7am after Mass), Sat. 3:15-4:15pm. Lauds, Mon-Fri 6:45am. Vespers, Mon-Fri 5:45pm .

Holy Face Devotion, at chapel 6pm. Sacred Heart of Jesus First Friday 12 & 6pm (Latin). Divine Mercy, Saturday 3pm. Lady of Perpetual Help, Wednesday 12noon. Lady of Fatima First Saturday, 8:30am. Communal Rosary prayer after all daily Masses & Sunday 11am Latin. Sundays: 2:30pm Rosary Walk at St. Mary's Cathedral.

# The Sunday Scripture

**Third Sunday of Advent** (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11). There is reason to be joyful. Isaiah proclaims that “the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing. James encourages us to be patient as we await the coming of the Lord. Jesus proclaims that, “Among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.” There is hope for all of us.



**EUCARISTIC ADORATION** We celebrate St. Eusebius of Vercelli, a bishop, confessor, and an Early Father on December 16 (trad). He was born around 283. He's known for creating priestly communities, and was a strong defender of The Church, especially against Arianism. Even though he was not martyred, he suffered much persecution. He is quoted, “[Christ's] character is twofold: like the head of the body in that he is regarded as God and yet comparable to the feet in that he put on humanity for the sake of our salvation...”

Come adore Him in the Blessed Sacrament with a weekly holy hour commitment at [www.adorationpro.org/star](http://www.adorationpro.org/star)

## FORMED WEEKLY RECOMMENDATIONS

<http://watch.formed.org>. Free to all parishioners!

**The Birth of the Messiah: Mary and the Mystery of Christmas w/ Brant Pitre** This video is one of a series of talks to prepare your heart and mind for the coming of the Messiah. Join some of the nation's most dynamic Scripture scholars.



Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Do you wish to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and/or Confirmation?

Contact: Greg Moeck, (310) 694-6380, or email: [gmoek@gmail.com](mailto:gmoek@gmail.com)



## MARIO BRUNO

Funeral Mass: December 16th @ 9am at Star of the Sea Parish.

Rosary before the Funeral Mass

# Mass Intentions

Saturday 12/13	8:30am 12noon 4:30pm	† Jenny Lee Chow (anniv) Int. for Unborn Children in danger of losing their lives † Rene Ing
Sunday 12/14	8:00am 9:30am 11:30am 7:30pm	† Tomek Falkowski Int. of Yusmary Mendoza † Arnold Low (anniv) People of the Parish
Monday 12/15	7:00am 12noon 6:00pm	Int. of Natividad Martin (bday) Int. of Kurik Kenealy Int. of Komlon Kenealy Int. of Mikayla Kenealy † Edward Tobin † Zoila Macion † Souls in Purgatory † Antonio Dreon (bday) † Rosario Daquioag (anniv)  Int. of Nicole Arena Int. of Charles Bolla Int. of Bobbie Howard † Mario Bruno † Carmen Smith † Daniel Edwards † Elsie and Seamus Mcgee † Rosa and Francesco Sino
Tuesday 12/16	7:00am 12noon 6:00pm	Int. of Anjali Albuquerque † Eusebio Panganiban, Sr. † Edward Tobin (bday) † Richard Donohue (1st anniv)
Wednesday 12/17	7:00am 12noon 6:00pm	† Juan Pablo Novoa Grandez Int. of Maria Luisa Bogdan and Sonia Calupad (bdays) † Desmond Francis Walsh
Thursday 12/18	7:00am 12noon	† Kathleen Smith † Ofelia Panganiban † Gaetano and Eugenio Giambona
Friday 12/19	7:00am 12noon 6:00pm	Int. of Lita Guinto (bday) † Maria Bruno (anniv) † All Souls
Saturday 12/20	8:30am 12noon 4:30pm	† Fr. Francis Felice † Dr. Donald and Mary T. Lintner † Enore Beltrame

## PRAYERS OF THE SICK

Mariana Mendieta, Margaret & Mark Sellai, Shawn Mickle, Marie Bellas, Justin Chin, Joyce Durbin, Andrew Abdo, Alex Tong, Julie Johnson, Brian Galloway, Charles Bolla, Maria Molina, Maria Avedano, Sarah Monaco, Denis Von Kaepller, Oliva Setiawaty, Jose Abantao, Bryson Soncuya, O Lai Sau King, Guillermina Debuque, Jerr Dewey and all sick parishioners.

# Programs & Apostolates

<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b> Parish office, 415-751-0450 <a href="http://www.starparish.com">www.starparish.com</a>	<b>BAPTISM, MARRIAGE &amp; ALL SACRAMENTS</b> 415-751-0450
<b>Adoration Committee</b> Laurie Murdock 415-244-8186 <a href="mailto:staradorationsf@gmail.com">staradorationsf@gmail.com</a>	<b>Parish Finance Council</b> Ryan Sebers <a href="mailto:ryan@starparish.com">ryan@starparish.com</a>
<b>Altar Servers</b> Bryan Calmeyer <a href="mailto:bryancalmeyer@me.com">bryancalmeyer@me.com</a>	<b>OCIA Order of Christian Initiation of Adults</b> Gregory Moeck 310-694-6380 <a href="mailto:gmoeck@gmail.com">gmoeck@gmail.com</a>
<b>Filipino American Association (FAASTAR)</b> Estrelle Chan 415-336-9193	<b>Star of the Sea Preschool Stella Maris Academy</b> 628-977-4836 <a href="http://www.stellamarissf.org">www.stellamarissf.org</a>
<b>Foundation of Prayers for Priests</b> Carmen Duran   Register: <a href="http://foundationforpriests.org">foundationforpriests.org</a>	<b>Our Lady of Fatima, Star Pro-Life Apostolate</b> Thursdays 6-7pm, & Sat. 10-11am 1522 Bush St. <a href="http://star.flocknote.com/Star-Pro-life">star.flocknote.com/Star-Pro-life</a>
<b>Young Adults</b> Nathan Chan <a href="mailto:nathanjchan2@gmail.com">nathanjchan2@gmail.com</a> Aaron Cary <a href="mailto:aaronWcary@gmail.com">aaronWcary@gmail.com</a>	<b>Sacred Music Program</b> Lynn Kraehling 415-812-2462 <a href="mailto:lynn@starparish.com">lynn@starparish.com</a> Karolina Zapsolska (Choirs) <a href="mailto:karolina@starparish.com">karolina@starparish.com</a>
<b>Lectors</b> Deacon Albert Nimri 415-683-4295 <a href="mailto:animri@starparish.com">animri@starparish.com</a>	<b>Star Outreach to the Poor</b> Ed Katz 415-740-3939 Saori Okawa <a href="mailto:okawasaori@gmail.com">okawasaori@gmail.com</a>
<b>Legion of Mary</b> Paul Palencia 415-858-3073 <a href="mailto:leopoldmpal@gmail.com">leopoldmpal@gmail.com</a>	<b>Ushers and Greeters</b> Mariella Zevallos <a href="mailto:mariella@starparish.com">mariella@starparish.com</a>
<b>Marriage &amp; Family Apostolate</b> Christina Sullivan <a href="mailto:starmarriageandfamily@gmail.com">starmarriageandfamily@gmail.com</a>	<b>Knights of Columbus</b> Mike Dumlao <a href="mailto:m_n_dumlao@yahoo.com">m_n_dumlao@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Tuesday Bible Study</b> 3-4:30pm at Parish Rectory. Bill McCarty 415-876-8551	<b>Holy Name Society</b> (Divine Mercy Devotion) Thelma Queri, 415-751-0450
<b>Bulletin Announcements</b> Ad submissions due by 3pm on Tuesdays. Contact bulletin editor: <a href="mailto:mariella@starparish.com">mariella@starparish.com</a>	<b>Volunteer Opportunities</b> Interested in volunteering? Information at: 415-751-0450

Receive news & updates from Fr. Joseph Illo, sign up to [Flocknote.com/star](http://Flocknote.com/star). Get access to the best selection of catholic educational materials, sign up for [formed.org](http://formed.org) (information below). Use Venmo to pay for candles, kiosk items, offertory, etc. Use your cellphone camera to scan the QR codes.



Formed.org/Sign up as parishioner/Create new account: find your parish (zip code 94118)/ Select Star of the Sea/next/Create a new account/Your name and email/sign up!



New in the parish? Please register!  
Nuevo en la Parroquia? Registrate!  
[flocknote.com/star](http://flocknote.com/star)



## Keep Our Parish Prosperous

Your generous financial gifts ensure that Star of the Sea Catholic Church will continue thriving to provide a peaceful sanctuary for prayer, worship and evangelization in the Richmond District. Our doors are open 7 days a week!

### WAYS OF SUPPORTING STAR OF THE SEA:

**Offertory gifts online:** [www.starparish.com/give](http://www.starparish.com/give)

**Offertory envelopes:** Place cash or check written to Star of the Sea in the offertory envelopes. Place in the collection basket, or drop envelope in the parish office mailbox: Star of the Sea 4420 Geary Blvd, San Francisco, CA. 94118



### Matching Contribution:

Double your gift to Star of the Sea with an equal contribution from your employer! As 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, we qualify to receive matches from companies all over the Bay Area. If your company offers this program, ask for a form to submit a matching request. Contact: [mariella@starparish.com](mailto:mariella@starparish.com)

### venmo



**STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH**  
Use Venmo for: Sunday offertory, lighting candles, church kiosk purchases.

(Please add what the payment is for. Thank you!)

## PLANNED GIVING

### ONE CHARITABLE GIFT, A LEGACY OF FAITH

Consider listing Star of the Sea as beneficiary in your Will (advisable to have one). It preserves the mission and values of the church in its ministry.

### GET STARTED WITH A PLANNED GIFT

Call for information:

**Mariella Zevallos,**  
(415) 751-0450  
[mariella@starparish.com](mailto:mariella@starparish.com)



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[www.starparish.com](http://www.starparish.com)

You're invited to Stella Maris Academy's annual fundraising gala

# A Winter Wassail!

JANUARY 31<sup>st</sup> 5:00

guest speaker  
FR. DONALD CALLOWAY

STAR OF THE SEA GYMNASIUM 345 8<sup>th</sup> AVE SAN FRANCISCO 94118

TICKETS  
DONATE  
SPONSOR

**TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE**  
The Knights of Columbus will be doing the Tootsie Roll drive to benefit children with disabilities on **Sunday 12/14 and 12/21 (school yard)**

**A Guadalupe Feast for Art Lovers**  
with James Matthew Wilson, poet-in-residence for  
Archbishop Cordileone and the  
Benedict XVI Institute  
Dec 15 from 6pm to 8:30pm | 4350 Geary Blvd  
This special evening is part of ProjectGuadalupe2031.org, an initiative to help more American Catholics spiritually prepare for the upcoming 500th anniversary of Our Lady of Guadalupe's appearance in 2031.  
Suggested donation \$25 for dinner and a show!

**Simbang Gabi Traditional Filipino Advent Mass**

**December 18,  
6pm Mass.**  
**December 22,  
6pm Mass,  
followed by  
reception  
(auditorium).**

**VISIT THE 16 APPARITION SHRINES OF OUR LADY AT STAR of the SEA**  
Book a tour:  
[mariella@starparish.com](mailto:mariella@starparish.com)  
(415) 751-0450  
[www.starparish.com/marys-shrine/](http://www.starparish.com/marys-shrine/)

**STEWARDS STATS**  
Colossians 3:23 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

**Time:** 25 people joined the Divine Mercy devotional prayers last Saturday.

**Talent:** 3 Teachers volunteer for the parish Catechism classes.

**Treasure:** Sunday Offering \$8,279

**To give online:** [www.starparish.com/give](http://www.starparish.com/give)

**ADVENT MISSION** **STAR of the SEA**  
With Fr. Joseph Illo  
Mother of the Light: God's messages at Guadalupe, Lourdes, and Fatima.

**DEC. 15-16-17**

**December 15**  
6pm Mass; Rosary; 7pm, Talk: A Woman Clothed with the Sun & Heaven's Healing Waters. Refreshments (auditorium).

**December 16**  
6pm Mass; Rosary, 7pm, Talk: Penance and Reparation. Refreshments (Auditorium).

**December 17**  
6pm Mass; 6:30pm Stella Maris Academy Christmas Concert; Refreshments (auditorium).

*To Jesus Through Mary!*

*Our Lady of Lourdes*

*Our Lady of Fatima*

**STAR OF THE SEA PARISH**  
**Misa Latina para Hispanos**  
**Diciembre 21, 3pm**

Misa Tradicional Cantada. Latin, con lecturas y sermón en Español.  
Celebrada por el Padre Javier Ravasi.  
Recepcion despues de la misa  
(Auditorium)

Donate Poinsettias to decorate our altars. Please bring them to the church or parish office, beginning December 21st until Dec 24th. Thank you!