



The Ascension Today we celebrate the Mass of the Ascension of the Lord, the second glorious mystery of the rosary. Fr. Morgan celebrated our 6pm Mass last Thursday of the Ascension, and I went on my annual hike up a mountain

that day with 15 Nativity High School students during our kayaking-camping trip at Point Reyes. My mother would take us kids out of public school on Ascension Thursdays for a picnic on some hill or promontory, and I have tried to continue that tradition. Christ has returned to His Father in Heaven, not to abandon us but to prepare a place for us there. From Heaven He reigns, arranging our lives so that we can someday be taken up into eternal life with Him.

A 250th Anniversary It's still over a month away, but June 29th is a very important day in San Francisco. On that day, the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, in the year 1776, St. Junipero Serra's Franciscans offered the first Mass at his 6th mission, which would give our city its name. San Francisco is a world-class city ultimately because it was founded by a saint and named for a saint. *We must all be saints!* Isn't it ironic that one of the world's richest cities takes its name from the Poor Man of Assisi. Ironic and inspiring: we must never forget our roots. Humility, and obedience to God, is what makes a city great, not tech wealth and power politics. Let all of us San Franciscans emulate St. Francis in his burning love for God. "Most High and Glorious God," he prayed, "bring light to the darkness of my heart. Give me right faith, certain hope, and perfect charity. Give me insight and wisdom, that I may always do your holy and true will. Amen." On our City's 250th anniversary, June 29th, I will sing a Solemn High Mass at 6pm with many other priests attending, and I invite you to join me. The Archbishop will also sing a High Mass at the Mission Basilica on June 27th at 11am.



I encourage you to attend both High Masses, which mark the birth of San Francisco with its first Mission Mass in 1776.

A 35th Anniversary It was also on a June 29 (1991) that I became a priest. The Mass on June 29th will not only commemorate the birth of San Francisco but also my becoming a priest 35 years ago. You are invited both to the Mass and to the dinner following in the parish center (gym). The evening will feature a brief reflection on the priesthood by one of our seminary professors and a musical interlude by the Cathedral Choir School. Did you know that four men who have served at our parish are now in the seminary, and another three are applying this year? We must promote and support these vocations to the holy priesthood, which is the real point of an ordination anniversary Mass and dinner. People often give monetary gifts to priests on their anniversaries, and all gifts that I receive on my 35th will be given to our school's scholarship fund, as I am in need of no cash at the moment.

On Human Life For the last two Sundays, Fr. Javier has written about the Church's teaching—the full truth—about human love between the sexes, and the rules that govern this exquisite and delicate gift of God. Next Sunday I will write about Pope Paul VI's 1968 encyclical *Humanae Vitae*. I first read this document when I was 21 years old, and its luminous truth filled me with joy. It helped me understand my love for the young woman I was courting and her love for me, and opened broad and beautiful vistas of God's plan for men and women. Published the same year as San Francisco's "Summer of Love," *Humanae Vitae* is one of the most prophetic papal

documents ever written. Abortion, the Pope foretold, would inevitably follow the devaluation of human sexuality, and so a proper understanding of marriage is really a "life" issue. Hence the curious title for an encyclical on artificial contraception. More to come next week. *Fr. Joseph*

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

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 Communi-
cations & Parish Life
Thelma Queri,
Bookkeeper
Karolina Zapolska,
Director of Sacred
Music Program
Lynn Kraehling,
Parish Organist
Juan Carlos Lopez,
Sacristan
Dennis Ow,
Maintenance
Santiago Ron,
Front desk

**STELLA MARIS
ACADEMY (K-8)**

360 9th Ave.
San Francisco, CA
94118
www.stellamarisf.org
(628) 977-4836

John Monaco
Principal/Headmaster

**NATIVITY HIGH
SCHOOL (9-12)**

350 9th Ave. San
Francisco, CA 94118
www.nativityhs.org
(415) 322-9229
hello@nativityhs.org

The Sunday Scripture

The Ascension (Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20) “Men of Galilee, why do you stand there, looking at the sky?” So the angels called the apostles back to earth after Our Lord had risen to heaven. We have work to do on earth, precisely so we can make it to heaven. Let’s put our backs into it!

Eucharistic Adoration The feast day of Margherita Lotti aka St. Rita of Cascia is May 22. She was forced to marry a violent and immoral man, whom she converted before he died. Her two sons died a year later, at which point she became an Augustinian nun. She was known to have been miraculously levitated. She had the wound of Christ’s thorns. A rose grew in the winter just for her. Her body is also incorrupt. She is quoted, “Most Holy Sacred Heart of Jesus, help my heart to preserve in all that is holy.” And she had a profound devotion to the Eucharist. Sign up for a weekly Holy Hour at www.adorationpro.org/star



Mass Intentions

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Saturday 05/16 | 7:00am | † Isle Berg |
| | 12noon | Int. of Fabiana Ron Mendoza |
| | 4:30pm | Susana So Tiu |
| Sunday 05/17 | 8:00am | †Catherine Chow |
| | 9:30am | Int. of Sherly Tobin |
| | 11:30am | Int. of Janet Bindi |
| | 7:30pm | People of the Parish |
| Monday 05/18 | 7:00am | Int. of Nicole Arena (bday) |
| | 12noon | Int. of Nora Mataga |
| | | In Thanksgiving of Elissa K. Barte |
| | | † Gary Gallawa |
| | | † Souls in Purgatory |
| | 6:00pm | † Murphy Lee Thomas |
| † Rachel Lynn Simons | | |
| Tuesday 05/19 | 7:00am | Int. of The Graffio Family |
| | 12noon | † Yoke Chin |
| | 6:00pm | Int. of Paco-Mari Munoz Family |
| Wednesday 05/20 | 7:00am | † Barbara McLoone |
| | 12noon | † Louis N. Petropolous |
| | 6:00pm | Int. of Katherine Nguyen |
| Thursday 05/21 | 7:00am | † Gerald J. Beauton |
| | 12noon | † Dr. John Illo |
| | 6:00pm | † Wilfred Chow |
| Friday 05/22 | 7:00am | Int. of Fr. Mike Konopik and Family |
| | 12noon | Int. of Jaimee Ines (18th bday) |
| | 6:00pm | † Rene Ing |
| Saturday 05/23 | 8:30am | † James J. Yates |
| | 12noon | Int. of Jay Mendoza |
| | 4:30pm | Int. of Perla Donovan |

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

How Mothers Teach Us to Love Like Christ

Motherhood reveals some of the deepest lessons of love: sacrifice, courage, patience, discipline, encouragement, and the steady gift of making a house into a home. Reflections on motherhood from Taylor Kemp and Dr. Scott Hefelfinger.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Fine Arts Showcase

FEATURING MUSICAL AND ARTISTIC DISPLAYS CREATED BY THE STUDENTS OF NATIVITY HIGH SCHOOL

WED 5/27 2:30pm-3:30pm

Star of the Sea Gymnasium



STAR of the SEA

Walk with Our Lady through 16 Apparition Shrines.

Join us for a guided tour and deepen your devotion.

(415) 751-0450 | mariella@starparish.com
www.starparish.com



Our Lady of China

Dong Lu, China 1900 & 1995
Feast Day is in May
Light a candle at her shrine!



Prayers for the Sick Mariana Mendieta, Margaret & Mark Sellai, Shawn Mickle, Justin Chin, Andrew Abdo, Julie Johnson, Brian Galloway, Maria Avedano, Denis Von Kaepler, Oliva Setiawaty, O Lai Sau King, John Brennan, Benjamin Tan, Brian Ahrens, Christopher Dunham, Elena Cereghino, Lourdes Washington, Jerr Dewey and all sick parishioners.

In Loving Memory

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Malony and Franklin Lee

Programs & Apostolates

| | |
|---|--|
| GENERAL INFORMATION Parish office, 415-751-0450 www.starparish.com | BAPTISM, MARRIAGE & ALL SACRAMENTS 415-751-0450 |
| Adoration Committee Laurie Murdock 415-244-8186 staradorationsf@gmail.com | Parish Finance Council Ryan Sebers ryan@starparish.com |
| Altar Servers Bryan Calmeyer bryancalmeyer@me.com | OCIA Order of Christian Initiation of Adults Gregory Moeck 310-694-6380 gmoeck@gmail.com |
| Filipino American Association (FAASTAR) Estrelle Chan 415-336-9193 | Star of the Sea Preschool Stella Maris Academy 628-977-4836 www.stellamarissf.org |
| Foundation of Prayers for Priests Carmen Duran Register: foundationforpriests.org | Our Lady of Fatima, Star Pro-Life Apostolate Thursdays 6-7pm & Sat. 10-11am. 1522 Bush St. star.flocknote.com/Star-Pro-life |
| Young Adults Nathan Chan nathanjchan2@gmail.com Thursdays 7:15pm, Gym star.flocknote.com/StarYoungAdults | Sacred Music Program Karolina Zapolska karolina@starparish.com |
| Lectors Deacon Albert Nimri 415-683-4295 animri@starparish.com | Star Outreach to the Poor Ed Katz 415-740-3939 Saori Okawa okawasaori@gmail.com |
| Legion of Mary Paul Palencia 415-858-3073 leopoldmpal@gmail.com | Ushers and Greeters Mariella Zevallos mariella@starparish.com |
| Marriage & Family Apostolate Christina Sullivan starmarriageandfamily@gmail.com | Knights of Columbus Mike Dumlao m_n_dumlao@yahoo.com |
| Tuesday Bible Study 3-4:30pm at Parish Rectory. Bill McCarty 415-876-8551 | Holy Name Society (Divine Mercy Devotion) Thelma Queri 415-751-0450 |
| Bulletin Announcements We welcome your Ad submissions! Due: Tuesdays, 3pm. Contact bulletin editor: mariella@starparish.com | Volunteer Opportunities Looking for a way to serve and connect at our parish? We'd love to welcome you! Mariella 415-751-0450 |

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 THE SEA:

Offertory gifts online:

www.starparish.com/give **Offertory envelopes:** Cash or check written to Star of the Sea. 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

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



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 | gmoeck@gmail.com

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



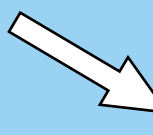
Formed.org/Sign up as parishioner/Create new account: find your parish (zip code 94118)/ Select Star of the Sea/next/Create a new account:Your name and email/sign up!



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New in the parish? Please register!
 Nuevo en la Parroquia? Registrate!
flocknote.com/star



www.starparish.com



35th

Priestly Ordination Anniversary

FR. JOSEPH ILLO

29 JUNE 2026
SOLEMN HIGH MASS 6PM
DINNER AT 7PM

Star of the Sea Gymnasium
345 8th Ave, San Francisco, CA 94118
More information: events@starparish.com

Save the Date!

Proceeds will go to Stella Maris Academy

STAR OF THE SEA PARISH PILGRIMAGE 2026

Journey to Rome, Orvieto, Assisi & Florence November 9-23, 2026

Experience the beauty, history, and spiritual richness of Italy. Walk through the heart of the Eternal City, pray at sacred sites, discover the peace of Assisi, admire the beauty of Florence, and explore the timeless charm of Orvieto – all under the spiritual guidance of

Fr. Javier Olivera Ravasi

✈️ \$5,499 – Round Trip from San Francisco. All Included. Seats are limited and expected to fill quickly.

Reserve your seat by May 31st!

For information and reservations:
mariella@starparish.com | (415) 751-0450



Parroquia Star of the Sea

Misa Latina para Hispanos Padre Javier Olivera Ravasi

MAYO 24, 3PM

Misa tradicional,
unica! en Latin con
lecturas y sermón
en Español.
Hospitalidad
despues de la Misa.



FAASTAR INVITES YOU TO

Flores de Mayo Celebration May 23, 6PM | Auditorium

\$30/PERSON (Children age 5 Free)

Check/cash payable- FAASTAR

For information:

Estrelle Chan 415-336-9193

Jennifer Gabriel 415-215-7046



STEWARDS STATS

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

Time: 19 people joined the Holy Face Devotion on Tuesday.

Talent: 16 lectors served at the daily and Sunday Masses.

Treasure: Sunday Offering \$10,980
Catholic Charities \$1,641

To give online: www.starparish.com/give