

ADVENT

December 18, 2016

goodshepherdchurch@frontiernet.net

www.gscccg.org

Church, Office & School

9539 Racquet Court
Elk Grove, CA 95758

(916) 684-5722 • (916) 684-4472 Fax
Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8am - 5pm
Closed for lunch 12-1pm
Closed Wednesdays



Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Leon Juchniewicz

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Lester Menor

Deacon: William Sousa

Deacon: Edward Smith

Office Manager: Denise Wesleder

Parish Office Receptionist: Monica Goodale

Catholic Faith Formation: (916) 683-2963

Director, Faith Formation: Sr. Sibele Gaya Moreira, VDMF

Coordinator, Religious Education: Menchie Cabrera

ONE EIGHT/EDGE Confirmation Preparation Coordinators:

Elizabeth Pott & Scotia Burrell

Life Teen Coordinator: Brennen Cull

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. at the church, or by appointment.

Baptism: Parents and godparents please see our baptism information at www.gscccg.org regarding scheduling for the baptism class.

Marriage: Engaged couples begin preparation a minimum of six months prior to the date of the wedding. Please contact the parish office to schedule.

Mission Statement:

Good Shepherd Catholic Church is a diverse parish community; guided by the Holy Spirit into One Flock, following Jesus Christ, Our Good Shepherd to live and proclaim the Word of God.

We Value: Life Long Faith Formation | Sacramental Devotions
Evangelization | Community Service | Social Justice

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School

K-8 Principal: Trina Koontz (916) 684-7903

tkoontz@stelizabetheg.org

Preschool Director: Tammy Babich (916) 691-4825

Schedule

Mass Times:

Saturday at 5p.m. Vigil

Sunday at 7, 9, 11 a.m. and 1, 5p.m.

Weekdays at 8:30 a.m.

First Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.m.

Holy Days of Obligation - 7p.m. Vigil, and

8:30 a.m. and 7p.m.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: 9, 11 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Masses on Sunday.

Kinderchurch: 9 a.m. Mass only

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

First Thursday, silent adoration, and with prayers of devotion - 6 to 9 p.m. First Friday, Exposition at 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. with Divine Mercy chaplet and solemn benediction.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Tuesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Friday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Saturday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Sunday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: s 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]



*They shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."
Matthew 1:23*

SUMMONED BY GOD

As Christmas draws near, Advent's scriptures lure us into a world of dreams, signs, wonders, and the miracle of the virgin birth. Too often we allow the great stories of our faith, the ones that are most familiar, simply to wash over us. Today's Gospel account of the events leading up to the birth of the Lord reads like a present-day soap opera. Yet Joseph's courage, even in the midst of what must have been an incredibly confusing time, provides a model for us. Each week, we are summoned by God to embrace the way of goodness and truth through the proclamation of God's holy word. Like Joseph, we are called to do as the Lord commands us. As we stand at the threshold of Christmas, let us have the courage to be open to whatever it is that the Lord will require of us as we celebrate the miracle of Bethlehem.

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Parish News and Announcements

Holiday Office Closures

In observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays, the parish office will be closed on Dec. 23rd, 26th, and 30th and on Jan. 2nd.

Environment Change

The Art and Environment Ministry will be changing the church environment to Christmas on Dec. 24th. This is a large undertaking that will require lots of help. If you're available, please meet in the Narthex any time after 9:30 a.m. We will be working until it is completed. Last year it took 25 people over 3 hours. We will be taking down the Christmas environment on Jan. 9th at 10:00 a.m. Your help will be much appreciated!

Devotional Masses (Simbang Gabi)

Devotional Masses (Simbang Gabi) will be celebrated Dec. 15 through Dec. 23, at 7:00 p.m. Simbang Gabi (Filipino for "Night Mass") is a devotional nine-day series of masses in anticipation of Christmas and to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. The theme for this year is "Beatitudes" and in keeping with this theme, we will be collecting donations of warm clothing or blankets. Please drop them off when you attend the Simbang Gabi mass. Contact Bobby at 916-525-5180 or at BobbyNavRet@aol.com for more information.

Christmas Schedule

Confessions:

Communal Reconciliation Service:

Wed., Dec. 14th, 7:00 p.m.

Individual Confessions:

Sat., Dec. 17th, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 21st, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

And 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 22nd, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

And 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Masses:

Sat., Dec. 24th, Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 9:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight

Sun., Dec. 25th, Christmas Day

7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Sun., Jan. 1st, 2017 New Year's Day

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God,
Holy Day of Obligation

5:00 p.m. Sat. (Vigil)

7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m.

Parish News

Jacob's Ladder Photos

If you left a picture of your loved one for the month of November display, please check the tables in the narthex and take your picture home. We have limited storage space and ask that you hold your pictures until next November.

Walk for Life West Coast 2017!

The 11th Annual Walk for Life in San Francisco is Sat., Jan. 21st, 2017. Contact the parish office to reserve your seat on our chartered bus. For more information, please visit www.walkforlifewc.com or email Gary at greenhope28@yahoo.com. Please join us to make a public stand for Families and for LIFE.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Jordan

Join Father Leon for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with a visit to Jordan and Dubai - April 19 to May 3, 2017. For reservations and inquiries, please call Angela at 707-315-4686 or Travel Travel at 510-724-4200.

Religious Education News

A big "Thank You" to all of our Donors and Faith Community for supporting our Religious Education Ministry's "12 Christmas Raffle Baskets" fundraiser. We are happy to announce that we raised a total of \$22,360.00 benefitting all of our Religious Education programs. Special thanks to Lynette Magnino, Victor Alaniz, Bill & Sharon Sousa, Michelle Hayes, Denise Gallardo, Ted Truong with Laguna Party & Rentals, Judith LaDeaux, Sofia Moreno, Al & Irma Michel, Elizabeth Pott, Eddie Cabrera, Dr. Gregory Adams of Laguna Orthodontics, Vince Gutierrez of Elk Grove Party Bus, Hyatt Regency Sacramento, and the generous donations from our Religious Education families. Your contributions made this event a huge success beyond our expectations. Our gratitude to all who bought tickets, worked behind the scenes, who cheered and prayed for our success ... Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

CFF is on Christmas Break beginning Dec 19 thru Jan 2. We will resume classes on Jan 3, 2017. Safe travels ... Merry Christmas and a Very Prosperous New Year.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
Tuesday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter Solstice
Thursday: St. John of Kanty
Friday: The Vigil of Christmas
Saturday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)



St. Vincent de Paul News

This week we assisted 50 families consisting of 186 people and gave out 175 boxes. We are in need of paper or reusable grocery bags. Thank you for your continued generosity.



Current SVdP locker hours are Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. **The locker will be closed Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.** Volunteers are always welcome. To volunteer, contact us at (916) 647-1243.

Upcoming Events

Crab Feed Meeting

If you are interested in helping with our Crab Feed on Feb. 11th, please join us for a planning meeting on December 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Lucia Room.

2017 Women's Retreat

The women of Good Shepherd are cordially invited to make their annual retreat to Christ the King Passionist of Holy Cross Province Retreat Center on the weekend of Jan. 13-15, 2017. The theme for this year is "Gathered in the Name of Jesus." Please prayerfully consider spending time with our Lord to pray and learn more of Him. For more information please contact Carol at 916-725-4720 ext. #314; or email cforrest@passionist.org.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Do you feel the call for more Christian Unity? Be part of Good Shepherd's new team to increase Ecumenical dialogue and Christian Unity. Join us on January 18th, 2017 during Christian Unity week for rich workshops and dinner. Contact Rommel Declines 916-479-3459 or at declines.family@gmail.com to sign up and be included on the registration.

Fatima Pilgrimage

Please join Fr. Lester Menor on a pilgrimage celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Fatima— the first apparition of our Blessed Mother to the three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal, in 1917. We will also visit other Marian Shrines in Europe. Pilgrimage will be May, 2017. Flyers are available in the office and the Narthex. Questions? Call 916-284-1214.

Stewardship at Good Shepherd

Collection total for Dec. 10/11 = \$19,781.01
2nd Collection/Priests' Retirement = \$5,418.32
Immaculate Conception = \$3,905.82
Weekly collection totals include Faith Direct Contributions.

Thank you for your generous support. Your ongoing donations are essential in helping us meet the many needs of the parish and community.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, Dec. 17, 2016

5:00 pm

Connie Pacheco (SI-H)
Vega Family (TG)
Zoraida Ruiz (+)
Leonor Roxas (+)
Guaping Viray (+)

Sunday, Dec. 18, 2016

7:00 am

Len Beltran (TG)
Loraine Barbee (+)
Lucia Pascual (+)
Eduardo Quiambao (+)
Vicente Teves Sr. (+)

9:00am

Evangeline Arevalo (SI-H)
Estella Martinez (+)
Raymond Martinez (+)
Ramon Martinez (+)
Petronilo Chua Sr. (+)

11:00 am

Concepcion Family (TG)
Jesusa Carretero (TG)
Isauro Caasi (+)
Natividad Corcuera (+)
Amada Fletcher (+)
Jared Crisologo Smith (+)

1:00 pm

Angel Bacerra (BD)
Donald R. Carson (+)
Jamie Inigo (+)
Bernadette Florentine (+)

5:00pm

Valerie Manuel (SI-H)
Sixtus Aliriagwu (SI)
Desmond Aliriagwu (SI)
Grace Aliriagwu (SI)
Victoria Jimenez (+)

Monday, Dec. 19, 2016

8:30am

John Baptiste Jr. (+)
Leo Papas (+)
Zoraida Ruiz (+)

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2016

8:30am

Chinedu Ozoiko (BD)
Vicente & Epifania Ceniza (+)
Zoraida Ruiz (+)

Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2016

8:30am

Joe & Angelica Ray (WA)
Zoraida Ruiz (+)
Rebecca Urbano (+)

Thursday, Dec. 22, 2016

8:30am

Irenea Cendanda (DA)
Teotonio Martins (+)
Ben Mangabang (+)
Zoraida Ruiz (+)

Friday, Dec. 23, 2016

8:30am

Celeste Bocade (BD)
Ricardo & Lorna Cruz & Family (SI)
Mildred Arafiles Dela Cruz (+)
Analynn Basa-Merza (+)
Zoraida Ruiz (+)

Key:

Deceased (+) Thanksgiving (TG) Death Anniversary (DA)

Birthday (BD) Special Intention (SI) Wedding Anniversary (WA)

(SI-H) Special Intention for healing



Parish Registration and Change of Address

New to Good Shepherd Catholic Church Community?

Recently moved or changed phone number?

Name _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Address _____

City, Zip _____

Please provide weekly offering envelopes Yes No

Please fill out and deposit in Offertory Basket. Thank You!



Christmas 2016

Dear Parish Family,

Memories of Christmas past flood our minds at this time of year – scenes of family around the Christmas tree, happy voices, and tearful reunions, Midnight mass or Christmas dinner – truly a special day of hope and love. And it should be, for we have Christ as our Saviour. No one has greater love for us!

Our thoughts need to turn from self-centeredness and commercialism toward a focus on the true meaning of Christmas, a view that can give us visions of how God-Man-Christ came as a lowly servant, bringing love and peace to all He touched, ultimately giving even His own life. Let us not seek anything for ourselves, but seek this season to bring happiness to others. Give totally of yourself, and the love and peace it returns will be beyond measure.

Fr. Lester and I, with Deacon Bill, Deacon Ed, and the parish staff of Good Shepherd, pray that Christ blesses each of you with unsurpassed happiness at Christmas, and a New Year full of hope and joy.

Thank you again for your many sacrifices made for the Parish Family, your kind words, your patience, and the many things you did this year. You are indeed a great and loving family whom we love to serve.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Leon Juchniewicz