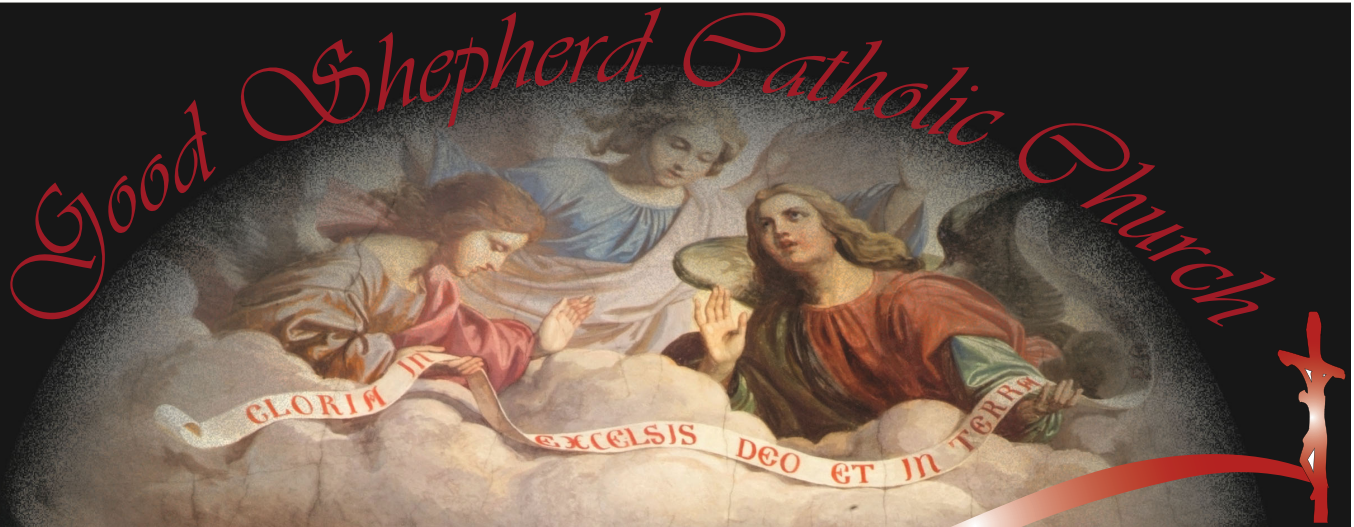


Good Shepherd Catholic Church



The Nativity of the Lord

December 25, 2016

goodshepherdchurch@frontiernet.net

www.gscceg.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 Coordinator:

Elizabeth Pott & Scotta Burrell

Life Teen Coordinator: Brennen Cull

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School

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

tkoontz@stelizabethheg.org

Preschool Director: Tammy Babich (916) 691-4825

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.gscceg.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 schedule with the parish office

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.

The Nativity of the Lord

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40
Friday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
Sunday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
-- John 1:5



THE GIFT OF GOD'S WORD

On this day of gifts and gift-giving, it seems appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the great gift of God's Word. Because it is creative, God's Word always points to its author, always calls us to respond. Because it is powerful, God's Word can link the sublime with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the immanent, the divine with the human. Because it is graceful, God's Word establishes a relationship of deep intimacy between us and God.

At the heart of God's Word lies a tantalizing tension between the mysterious and the mundane. In our liturgical celebration, this unresolved tension both reveals the meaning of life for us and calls us to respond, to act upon that meaning.

Once accepted and opened, the gift of God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving and keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares us to be like the gift-giver and to become gifts for others, not only at Christmas, but at every moment of life.

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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. 26th, Dec. 30th, and on Jan. 2nd.

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation

Mass Schedule

Sat., Dec. 31st, 2016

5:00 p.m. (Vigil)

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

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

Monthly Fellowship Breakfast

Our next monthly Fellowship will be Sun., Jan. 8th following the 7:00 a.m. Mass with continuous serving until shortly before the 11:00 Mass begins. We would like to invite all those who regularly attend the 11:00 Mass to join us before to enjoy breakfast. Breakfast will be blueberry pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, coffee, milk, juice, and hot cocoa. We ask for a free will offering to cover expenses. Please join in Fellowship!

HOLY INFANT JESUS (STO. NINO) NOVENA

"The more you honor me, the more I will bless you."

This was the promise of the Divine Infant Jesus himself. Princess Polyxena said, "honor this statue and you shall never be in want." Let us join and come to the Novena as scheduled below.

Novena Schedule

(Will be led by the Sto. Nino Prayer Group)

1st Day	Thu, Dec. 29, 2016 at 9:15 a.m.
2nd Day	Fri., Dec. 30, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.
3rd Day	Sat., Dec. 31, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.
4th Day	Sun., Jan. 1, 2017 at 2:30 p.m.
5th Day	Mon., Jan. 2, 2017 at 9:15 a.m.
6th Day	Tue., Jan. 3, 2017 at 9:15 a.m.
7th Day	Wed., Jan. 4, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
8th Day	Thu., Jan. 5, 2017 at 9:15 a.m.
9th Day	Fri., Jan. 6, 2017 at 3:30 p.m.

FIESTA Day Sat., Jan. 7, 2017 Mass at 9:30 a.m.
Mass will be followed by a procession around the Church's building, and fellowship in the Narthex. Bring your Sto. Nino statues for blessing. For more info call Agri and Tess at 916-799-0750 or 916-346-6554.

Parish News

Environment Change

The Art and Environment Ministry will be taking down the Christmas environment on Jan. 9th at 10:00 a.m. If you are available, please meet us in the Narthex. Your help will be much appreciated!

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.

Religious Education News

WINNERS of 12 Christmas Raffle Baskets!

We Three Kings = Rommel Cruz

Santa Claus Is Coming to Town = Gavin Sauls

I'll Be Home For Christmas = Lena Perez

All I Want For Christmas Is You = Marilou Manela

Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow = James Cortes

O Come, All Ye Faithful = Ronald Lopez Escala

Santa Baby = Dolsora Tilan

Walking In A Winter Wonderland = Bobbie Watson

White Christmas = Edwin Camerino

All I Want For Christmas Is My 2 Front Teeth = Vanessa Rivera

Jingle Bells = Ann Koenig

Auld Lang Syne = Jennifer Riturban

Congratulations to all of our winners!!!

CFF is on Christmas break beginning Dec. 19th thru Jan. 2nd. We will resume classes on Jan. 3rd. Safe travels . . . Merry Christmas and a very prosperous New Year!

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Monday:	St. Stephen; Kwanzaa begins
Tuesday:	St. John
Wednesday:	The Holy Innocents
Thursday:	St. Thomas Becket; Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
Friday:	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Saturday:	St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve; Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord



St. Vincent de Paul News

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

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.

Grief Support Sessions

St. Joseph's Church Ministry of Consolation will be offering seven weekly grief support sessions on Mondays beginning Jan. 9th at 6:30 p.m. We are present for those grieving the loss of a loved one or other significant loss in one's life. For more information, please contact Marilyn at 685-3207 or Mary Ellen at 893-8863.

Stewardship at Good Shepherd

Collection total for Dec. 17/18 = \$17,768.41

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. 24, 2016

4:00 pm

Dena McCarroll (SI)
Ramon Medina (+)
Isabel Rodriguez (+)

6:30 pm

The Kloeppel Family (SI)
Milagros Javier (+)
Froilan Ysmael (+)

9:00 pm

Jesus Vasquez (BD)

Midnight

Bobby & Elma Aglubat (WA)
Emilas B. Maquinto (+)
Michael Pina (+)
Zoraida Ruiz (+)

Sunday, Dec. 25, 2016

7:00 am

Felipa Radoc & family (TG)
Juanita Chavez (SI)
Natividad Vasquez (+)
Anthony Viduya (+)
Deceased members
of Legion of Mary (+)

9:00am

Evangeline Arevalo (SI-H)
Andrew & Ann Narloch (SI)
Richard Branchaud (+)
Grace Chavez (DA)
Holy souls in purgatory (+)

11:00 am

Chavez Family (TG)
Eugenio V. Alejo Sr. (+)
Joe Avis (+)
Domingos Fagundes (+)
Maria Martins (+)
Francisco & Conceicao Nunes (+)
Jared Crisologo Smith (+)

Monday, Dec. 26, 2016

8:30am

Fernando Delara (+)
Ilda Martins (+)
Maria Martins (+)
Mr. & Mrs. Jose Martins (+)
Mr. & Mrs. Joaquim V. Pedro (+)
Sue Stephen Simon (+)

Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2016

8:30am

Teodora Bulatao (+)
Zoraida Ruiz (+)
Angela Urbano (+)
Belen Tayag (+)

Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016

8:30am

Paulino & Consalacion
Feraren (DA)
Carl Mogavero (+)
Nancy Maria Olivares (+)
Zoraida Ruiz (+)

Thursday, Dec. 29, 2016

8:30am

Christian Campomanes (BD)
Blesilda Rodriguez (+)
Zoraida Ruiz (+)

Friday, Dec. 30, 2016

8:30am

Rizza Garnate (BD)
Chinedu & Blessing Ozoiko (WA)
Virginia Maiolini (DA)
Manuel Marquez (+)
Margaret Sullivan (5yrDA)
All souls in purgatory (+)

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