SAINT AMBROSE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2019

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Parochial Administrator
Fr. Alberto Perez
chaplainperez1@gmail.com

Permanent Deacon
Ralph Nagel

STAFF
Bookkeeper
Judy Nagel

Office Manager
Aimee Gonzalez
stambrosechurch@comcast.net

MINISTRY COORDINATORS
Religious Education
Ana Perez
DRE/Confirmation Coordinator
stambrose.faithformation @outlook.com

Rosalva Gutierrez
Rosalva Orozco
• First Communion •
510-685-4058

Music Director
Rob Grant
415 819-9749
robgrant001@gmail.com

LITURGY
Saturday Vigil
4:30 pm - English

Sunday Masses
8:30 am & 10:30am - English
12:15 pm- Spanish

Monday-Saturday Mass
8:30 am - English

Wednesday - Liturgy of the Word
8:30am - English

Rosary
Monday - Saturday
8:00 am, Church

Holy Day Masses
8:30am English
7:00pm Spanish

Eucharistic Adoration
Fridays 9:00 - 9:30 am

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
All classes on Sundays
(In church hall)

First Communion
Grades 2-8
(in English)
9:20 am - 10:20 am
(in Spanish)
11:00am - 12:00pm

Confirmation
9:00 - 10:30am

Baptism Class
(English & Spanish)
3rd Wednesday of each month; register in the office one week prior.

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM
Arrangements to be made at least one month in advance.

RECONCILIATION
Saturday, 3:30pm-4:30pm or by appointment.

WEDDING
Appointments should be made at least six months in advance. Church dates should be confirmed with a priest before making other arrangements.

FUNERAL
Should be arranged by family with the Parish office and the mortuary.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK
Please call for home or hospital visit.

Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services
Holy Angels / St. Joseph Cemetery
San Pablo—510-223-1265
St. Mary Cemetery • Oakland 510-654-0936

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
8:30am-12:30pm

Closed Thursdays

1145 Gilman Street • Berkeley, California 94706
E-Mail: stambrosechurch@comcast.net
Website: saintambroseberkeley.org
Office (510) 525-2620 • FAX (510)-525-5399
Tuesday, December 24th
Vigil Mass at 7:00pm

Wednesday, December 25th
English Mass at 10:30am
Spanish Mass at 12:15pm

Martes, 24 de diciembre
Misa a las 7:00pm

Miercoles, 25 de diciembre
Misa en ingles a las 10:30am
Misa en espanol a las 12:15pm

The people had been searching and waiting for generations for the Anointed One of God. They knew in their hearts that they needed someone to bring them back, to close the divide that had grown between God and God’s people. John’s baptism of repentance prepared them for the advent, or coming, of the Christ. John’s message of repentance and the demands of faith, of justice, and care for the poor and oppressed, while comforting the weak and vulnerable, was challenging to those in positions of power. Like prophets before him, he refused to ignore the promptings of God to speak God’s word. And like many prophets who preceded him, John was imprisoned and eventually martyred.

We can relate to the people who went out into the desert to be baptized. They heard John’s urgent call to repentance and his declaration that the Messiah was coming soon. They heard him express God’s care for those who needed it most. They were compelled to hear and respond. Their lives were changed, as their hearts were opened to the reality of God’s love to which John so powerfully gave witness.

GOD IS WITH YOU

We too ache for God’s healing and peace. We wait for God to break into our lives with love. Who among us has not at times felt weak, feeble, afraid? Take heart, you are not alone. God is with you. God is ready to save us from the darkness of sin and lead us to joy in the presence of God’s mercy. This is the message of Advent, and of the whole of the gospel: God desires so deeply to be with us that God came to be one with us in Jesus Christ.

Today’s Readings: Is 35:1–6a, 10; Ps 146:6–7, 8–9, 9–10; Jas 5:7–10; Mt 11:2–11

El pueblo había estado buscando y esperando por generaciones al Unguido de Dios. Ellos sabían en sus corazones que necesitaban a alguien que los llevara de regreso, para terminar la división que había crecido entre Dios y su pueblo. El bautismo de arrepentimiento de Juan los preparó para el advenimiento o venida de Cristo. El mensaje de Jesús de arrepentimiento y exigencias de la fe, de la justicia y atención a los pobres y oprimidos, al tiempo que consuela a los débiles y vulnerables, era desafiante a aquellos en posiciones de poder. Como los profetas antes que él, rehusó ignorar los movimientos de Dios para hablar de la Palabra de Dios. Y como muchos profetas que lo precedieron, Juan fue hecho prisionero y después martirizado.

Podemos relacionarnos a las personas que fueron al desierto para ser bautizadas. Ellos escucharon el urgente llamado de Juan de arrepentimiento y su declaración que el Mesías estaba por venir. Lo escucharon expresar el cuidado de Dios por aquellos que más lo necesitaban. Ellos fueron obligados a escuchar y responder. Sus vidas cambiaron y sus corazones abiertos a la realidad del amor de Dios por el cual Juan fuertemente dio testimonio.

DIOS ESTÁ CONTIGO

Nosotros también anhelamos la sanación y paz de Dios. Esperamos que Dios interrumpla en nuestras vidas con amor. ¿Quién de nosotros no se ha sentido alguna vez frágil, débil o con miedo? Animo, no estás solo. Dios está contigo. Dios está listo para salvarnos de la oscuridad del pecado y guiarnos a la alegría en la presencia de la misericordia de Dios. Este es el mensaje de Adviento y de todo el Evangelio: Dios desea profundamente estar con nosotros por lo que Dios vino a ser uno con nosotros en Jesucristo.

Lecturas de hoy: Is 35:1–6a, 10; Sal 146 (145):6–7, 8–9, 9–10; Sant 5:7–10; Mt 11:2–11

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Third Sunday of Advent

Weekly Offering
Weekly Goal: $5,000    Monthly Goal: $20,000

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<th>Date/Fecha:</th>
<th>First Collection Donations:</th>
<th>Second Collection Donations:</th>
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<td>November 30 &amp; December 1</td>
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<td>Maintenance $780.42</td>
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Intention Requested by

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND AND THOSE IN CONVALESCENT HOMES (and their caregivers)

Connie Casiano, Rose Arcol, Romanda Scott, Frank Flynn, Rosa Maria Sanchez, Martha Valdivia, Rene Cerna

Melvin Shiavon, 91, of Berkeley, CA passed away on Saturday, November 23, 2019. Mel was born on January 27, 1928 to Teresa and Guido Schiavon in Oakland, CA. In his early years, Mel was a football and track and field athlete. After graduating with honors from Technical High School in Oakland in 1946, he joined the U.S. Army where he served as a Technician Fifth Grade and was decorated with the World War II Victory Medal and Army of Occupation Medal. After his service in Japan, he earned a trade certificate as a Structural Steel Fabricator in 1954. He worked for Herrick Corporation in Hayward as an ironworker, fitter and layout man for 40 years, advancing to foreman and superintendent. After retiring in 1988, Mel spent his time gardening, jogging, walking, cycling, fishing, drinking wine (never water!!!) and volunteering at his neighborhood church. Never having children of his own, his sister’s children and grandchildren, his lifelong friends and the communities of Saint Ambrose Catholic Church and Stanton Avenue (where he was dubbed “The Ambassador”) became his family. Mel was predeceased by his parents, his brother-in-law, Anthony Crescenti and his dearest friend, Jennie Lim Lee. He is survived by his sister, Elsie Crescenti; his niece, Toni Fischer and her husband Charles Fischer; his nephew, David Crescenti; his great niece, Ashley Fischer Stern and her husband Michael Stern, his great nephew, Brandon Fischer; and many close friends.