SAINT AMBROSE
CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2019

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR
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510-685-4058

Music Director
Rob Grant
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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
9:20 am - 10:20 am
(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
December 22, 2019
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mary and Joseph play a key role in our Catholic devotional and spiritual life. No doubt, much of our devotion to Jesus’ mother, Mary, and his foster father, Joseph, is rooted in our appreciation of their willingness to put themselves at the disposal of the will of God, to seek what God most desired of them and to carry it out. We find their example inspiring, and their proximity to the Lord consoling and encouraging. Knowing that they said yes to God in such dramatic and pivotal ways, even when there was so much at stake and there were so many obstacles to take into account, gives us much to ponder. Yet there is something else we must not forget: while God could have come to be with us as a child in any manner at all, God chose to be with us through the active and humble cooperation of a woman and a man, Mary and Joseph.

EMMANUEL

Of all of the names connected to our Lord, two stand out in the ways that they describe the identity and mission of the Lord: “Emmanuel: God is with us” and “Jesus: God saves.” The most stunning thing about our Christian faith is that God is not distant, abstract, demanding, a god of wrath and military might. Rather, God desires to be near to us, in relationship, one with us in our challenges and in our joys. God is with us even when remaining with us will lead to betrayal, persecution, and violent death. God who is beyond all of this struggle remains with us so that we might transcend the limitations of our human nature in order to become more like God, to embrace the divine light that resides within each of us. As we approach the celebration of Christmas, consider this: what does it mean to you that God is with us, now and always? What does this call you to be and to do as a Christian, as a follower of God’s Son, Jesus, who is with us and who saves us?

Lectures of today: Is 7:10–14; Ps 24:1–2, 3–4, 5–6; Rom 1:1–7; Mt 1:18–24

Martes, 24 de diciembre
Misa en inglés a las 10:30am
Misa en español a las 12:15pm

22 de diciembre de 2019
Cuarto Domingo de Adviento

María y José tuvieron un papel protagonista en nuestra devoción y vida espiritual católica. Sin duda, gran parte de nuestra devoción a María, la madre de Jesús, y a José, su padre adoptivo, está enraizada en nuestra apreciación de su disposición a ponerse ellos mismo en las manos de Dios, para buscar lo que Dios más deseaba de ellos y a llevarlo a cabo. Descubrimos su ejemplo inspirador, y su cercanía con el Señor, consolador y esperanzador. Conociendo que ellos dijeron sí a Dios en esas formas fundamentales y extraordinarias, incluso cuando había tanto en juego y demasiados obstáculos a considerar, nos da mucho en que reflexionar. Sin embargo, hay algo más que no debemos olvidar; aunque Dios pudo haber venido a estar con nosotros como un niño de cualquier manera, Dios eligió estar con nosotros mediante la cooperación activa y humilde de una mujer y un hombre, María y José.

EMMANUEL

De todos los nombres asociado con nuestro Señor, hay dos que sobresalen en la forma que describen la identidad y misión del Señor: “Emmanuel: Dios con nosotros”, y “Jesús: Dios salva”. Lo más impresionante acerca de nuestra fe cristiana es que Dios no está lejos, es algo abstracto, exigente, un dios de ira y poder militar. Al contrario, Dios desea estar cerca de nosotros, tener una relación, estar con nosotros en nuestros desafíos y alegrías. Dios está con nosotros aun cuando permaneciéndose con nosotros nos lleve a la tracción, la persecución o una muerte violenta. Dios que está más allá de esta lucha permanece con nosotros para que podamos trascender las limitaciones de nuestra naturaleza humana para llegar a ser más como Dios, para abrazar la luz divina que reside dentro de cada uno de nosotros. Al acercarnos a la celebración de Navidad, consideremos lo siguiente, ¿qué significa para ti que Dios esté con nosotros, ahora y siempre? ¿Qué te llama a ser y hacer como cristiano, como seguidor del Hijo de Dios, Jesús, quien está con nosotros y nos salva?

Lecturas de hoy: Is 7:10–14; Ps 24 (23):1–2, 3–4, 5–6; Rom 1:1–7; Mt 1:18–24

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E-mail Scam

Please be aware of an ongoing phishing scam that involves emails claiming to be priests’. An actual sample is shown below. Note the sender’s email address is a gmail.com account. It appears that the sender is phishing for valid email addresses and if you respond, the sender will follow up with a request for some sort of monetary assistance. In at least one instance, a request was made for gift cards. It’s truly unfortunate that cyber criminals will attempt to exploit the generous nature of our community. There are common sense ways to avoid being scammed. If an e-mail contains an unusual request, contact the company (in this case, Father Alberto or the parish office) directly. Do not use any phone number provided in the e-mail or click on any links in the email. In many, but not all cases, grammatical errors are present. For more information on phishing scams and email security, you can google (or search for) “RECOGNIZING PHISHING EMAILS.” The FBI website address to file an online Internet crime complaint: https://www.ic3.gov

Fr. _____________ <fr__@gmail.com>
To: [your email address]
Feb 19 at 3:26 PM
Hi, how are you doing?

I need a favor from you, email me as soon as you get this message.

God Bless,