

What's in a Name?

In this painting the upper scene shows Peter and Andrew walking toward Jesus. The lower central scene depicts Peter in the center, with Andrew behind him, and Jesus enthroned on a rock pointing toward him.

The scene is simple for a reason. Jesus' call is simple: Follow me. Our response should be simple, too. We often complicate the call with questions, fears, or doubts, wanting clarifications and assurances. But it is a simple imperative that requires a one-word answer: yes or no. Or as Samuel responded, "Speak, LORD for your servant is listening."

Once accepted, the call implies a new identity born of a new, deeper relationship. When Jesus calls Simon, he changes his name. In the Bible, a name change indicates a new mission or purpose. Abram was renamed Abraham to father the Old Testament people in faith.

Simon is now Cephas, or rock. His mission is to father the New Testament people in faith. He is to be a solid, unbreakable foundation for his brothers—and eventually the whole Church. His strength comes not from perfection, for we know Peter was weak, but from his acceptance of Jesus' love and call no matter his own weakness.

Similarly, in baptism and confirmation we take new names that come with our new, deeper calls. It is a meaningful Catholic tradition that parents name their children after a saint who becomes a model for their lives. Like Peter, we are called to greatness by Jesus, who looks at us, names us, and says, "Come follow me." Let's live up to that beautiful, simple invitation!

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Piece: *The Calling of St. Peter and St. Andrew*, 1500s

Artist: Giorgio Vasari and assistants

Location: Vatican Museums



For Reflection

Are you named after a saint or someone in particular? If so, how does that saint or person inspire you?

*[Jesus said,] "You are Simon the son of John;
you will be called Cephas which is translated Peter."*

(John 1:42)

Mass Intentions for the Week

Intention

Requested by

Saturday, Jan. 13	5 p.m.	Dan Fleming †	Lorraine Ostrowski
Sunday, Jan. 14	8 a.m.	Renaldo Marin †	Marin Family
	9:30 a.m.	Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children for Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children
	11 a.m.	Dan Fleming †	Lorraine Ostrowski
	12:30 p.m.	Felimon and Luisa Rosaroso †	Rosaroso Family
	6 p.m.	St. John Parishioners	St. John Parish
Monday, Jan. 15	8 a.m.	Re Mueller Rosko †	Mueller-Mendoza Family
Tuesday, Jan. 16	8 a.m.	Louis Dell †	Sandra Dellaflora
Wednesday, Jan. 17	8 a.m.	Donna Regina Vaughn-Wright For Healing	James Vaughn and Elizabeth Kristos
Thursday, Jan. 18	8 a.m.	Ernesto Cruz †	Nemesia Peraltra
Friday, Jan. 19	8 a.m.	For the Continued Good Health and Healing of El Cerrito Royale Residents	El Cerrito Royale Eucharistic Ministers
Saturday, Jan. 20	8 a.m.	For All the Living and the Dead	Anonymous

Stewardship

Envelopes & EFT, December 31, 2017	\$ 4,026
Loose Donations	\$ 1,424
Second Collection: Parish Charities	
Envelopes, EFT, Loose Donations	\$ 3,985
Simbang Gabi	\$ 1,792
Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God	
Envelopes, EFT, Loose Donations	\$ 3,985
Envelopes & EFT, January 7, 2017	\$ 3,920
Loose Donations	\$ 1,534
Second Collection: Parish Development and School Tuition Assistance Program	\$ 778
First Saturday Charismatic Service	\$ 205

This week's Second Collection will support the Seminary.

Thank you for your generosity.

Let Us Pray for the Sick

Rodolfo Abesamis, Virginia Alday, Gera Assefa
 Evelyn Baker, Niani Barber, Pearl & Patrick Batiste
 Paul Batist, Irene Blair, Robert Britto, Richard Calapini, Evelyn Canepa, Jeff Chavez, Bernadine Clark, Brenna Clark, Jennette Cleadenger
 Betty Cooper, Linda Crittendon
 Cora Dongon
 Joann Douglas, Pablo de la Vega
 Mary Dong, Tami Duncan, Juanita Estrellas, Filomena Giese, Mike Giovannini, Joseph Golinveau
 Domingos deGregorio, Andy Gutierrez, James Gutierrez, Ruben Gutierrez, Maydelle Halligan, Joanne, Marvin & Maurice Haynes, Sherry Highlander, Tamaya Hunt, Pat Jeffre Ann Jones, Tom Kennedy, Robin Laws, Maria Impang Lozada, Bernice Luckett, Marian & Michael Luoma Nancy McVey, Francis Mondragon, Ester Oppus, Judith Padilla, Theresa Parella, Angelina Patacsil, Victoria Payless, Fely Sabares, Jovita Santos, Linda Schneider Salvador Tejero, Rose Texara, Pat Tilley, James Vaughn Joseph Vidal, Sarah Vidal, Evodio Walle, Jan Williamson



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

The nation celebrates a federal holiday on Monday, Jan. 15 to honor the plight of Martin Luther King in the civil rights' movement of the 60's. The office and school will be closed in observance of the holiday.

Senior Center Event

Jan. 16, Tuesday: Guest Speaker at 11:30am/
 Lunch at 12:30pm. Call: 237-3808 (Tuesdays).

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's first reading, we hear Samuel respond eagerly, "Here I am!" each time the Lord calls him. May we, too, be listening for the call of God in our lives and be ready to say like the psalmist, "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will." - 1Samuel 3:4; Psalm 40

This Week's Service Schedule

Sunday Readings: 1Sam 3:3b-10, 19, 1Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20, Jn 1:35-42.

Monday Readings: 1Sam 15:16-23, Mk 2: 18-22.

Tuesday Readings: 1Sam 16:1-13. Mk 2:23-28.

Wednesday Readings: 1Sam 17:32-33, 37, 40-51, Mk3:1-6. Or Eph 6:10-13, 18, Mt 19:16-26.

Thursday Readings: 1Sam 18:6-9, 19:1-7, Mk 3:7-12.

Friday Readings: 1Sam 24:3-21, Mk 3:13-19.

Saturday Readings: 1Sam 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27. Mk 3:20-21. Or 1Peter 5:1-4, Jn 21:15-17. Or 1Peter 3:14-17, Mt 10:28-33.

Liturgy of the Hours, Mon.- Fri. at 7:40am.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena, Wed., 8:30am at the Church and 6pm at the Chapel.

Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet, Mon.- Sat., 8:30am at Church; Daily, 3pm, 9pm, and 10pm (Spanish) and Wed., 7:30pm (Spanish), Chapel.

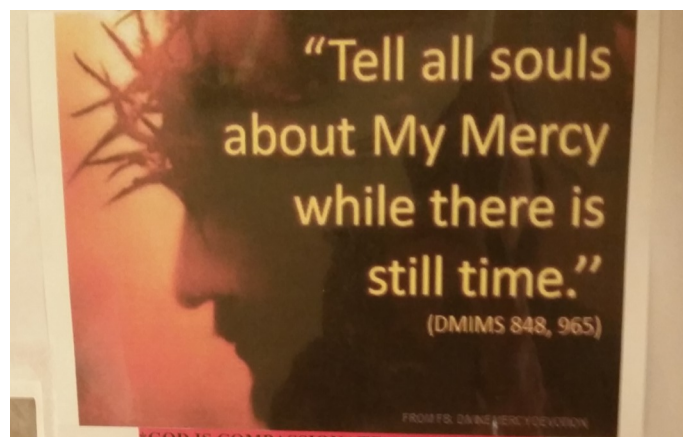
Holy Infant of Prague Novena, Thu. at 8:30am at Church.

Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Fri., 6pm at the Chapel.

Confession, Sat., at 4pm or at an appointed time.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for the Month of January

Evangelization: Religious Minorities in Asia. That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.



Walk For Life, Jan. 28

Bishop Barber invites the laity to a Mass concelebrated by bishops and priests at St. Mary Cathedral in San Francisco at 8am prior to an assembly at Civic Center and The Walk down Market Street.

Building A Safe Environment

All volunteers and church employees must complete training thru virtusonline.org and obtain a certificate online.

Volunteers, who mentor minors or assist and administer to vulnerable adults on an ongoing basis, as well as, church employees, would need to complete a livescan/fingerprint application in addition to a Virtus online training on Protection God's Children.

Send a copy of the certificate and a completed livescan/fingerprint application to the Rectory

For any questions, please call the Rectory or the Safe Environment, Diocese c/o Diana Bitz 267-8315.

Ash Wednesday

February 14 is a day of fasting and abstinence.

Feast of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr

Blessing of the throat is at Mass at 8am, Feb. 3, Saturday.



Welcome to the Faith
Citlali Enriquez · Cristian Canal
Our Newly Baptized



**Oakland Symphony Chorus
Italian Tour 2018**

Sing with the Oakland Symphony Chorus in some of the finest cities and concert venues in historic Italy. You will be traveling to Rome, Venice, Florence, and Pisa from June 21 to July 1, 2018.

Join parishioners Bernie Juat and Cynthia Webb-Beckford singing in Rome and Florence.

For more information, log on:

www.oaklandsymphony.org/about-us/chorus/
International Tours Next Stop: June 21-July 1, 2018



Catholic Charities
of the East Bay

The Spirit of the Manger

Catholic Charities of the East Bay is grateful for your generosity to our Christmas gift drive. You have helped more families experience the Christmas spirit. Together this year, we've helped people overcome obstacles resulting from violence and poverty so they can move forward in life. Your generosity reminds us of the powerful reason God choose a humble manger as the birthplace for our Savior.

Holy Land Pilgrimage with Fr. Joseph Tran

At Advent Season, from Dec. 3-13, 2018, re-visit the many places of origin of our faith.

For information: www.polandmej.com

Or call Victoria at 650-758-5802, or Luvi at 510-918-5825.

Fr. Joseph Tran will preside at all daily masses of the pilgrimage.

World Day of the Sick, Feb. 10

Bishop Barber invites everyone to take part at a Mass celebrated at the Cathedral on a Saturday at 11am and also to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Preparation for Baptism

Parents need to attend two 1-hr classes on a Sunday. For February, classes are on the 4th and 11th after the 9:30 Mass.

Godparent, a confirmed Catholic, may attend if possible. Every month, there are two classes scheduled.



with Silent and Live Auction

Calls for Help & Hope

The Contra Costa Crisis Center has provided a lifeline of help and hope for 42 years.
Call 1-800-833-2900

Every vocation is a call to love,
 a path to happiness, and
 every baptized person has one!
 Come and see! Single women
 between the ages of 18 and 38
 years are invited to spend a day
 with the cloistered Dominican
 nuns of Corpus Christi Monastery
 in Menlo Park, California, Satur-
 day, January 20th. Learn more
 about discerning God's will for
 your life and catch a glimpse of
 the same hidden life of love that has been lived at
 the heart of the Church since Saint Dominic
 founded the first community of Dominican nuns
 in 1206. For more information about this or
 other upcoming retreat days and events, visit our
 website at www.nunsmenlo.org or contact Sister
 Joseph Marie, O.P., at vocations@nunsmenlo.org



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

WWME's mission is to proclaim the value
 of Marriage and Holy Orders in the church and the
 world! - Joe & Sue Talarico, Diocese of Oakland

Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is
 listening." Let us practice listening better to God
 and our spouse by participating in a Worldwide
 Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend held
 at **San Damiano Retreat Center**, Danville
 on **May 18-20th**. Space is VERY limited! Early
 registration is highly recommended. For more
 information contact Mike & Jeanne, 925-672-
 2016 or Joe & Sue, 925-680-7767 Or:
oaklandwwme.org



Ernesto Cruz

**Sign Up for Electronic Donations
 – They're Simple, Safe and Convenient –**

I (We) hereby authorize **The Church of St. John the Baptist, El Cerrito** to initiate debit entries to my (our) account indicated
 below at the depository financial institution known as **Mechanics Bank** to collect my church donations and, if necessary,
 adjustments for any entries in error to my account indicated below to credit and/or debit the same to such account.
 I (We) acknowledge that the origination of EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) transactions to my (our) account must comply
 with the provisions of U.S. law.

PLEASE ATTACH A VOIDED CHECK FROM THE ACCOUNT YOU WISH TO DRAW FROM

REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS:

WEEKLY (drawn every Monday) AMOUNT: \$ _____

OR

MONTHLY ON THE 2ND OR MONTHLY ON THE 17TH AMOUNT: \$ _____

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:

PARISH & SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT (First Sunday) AMOUNT: \$ _____

PARISH CHARITY (5th Sunday of month – 4 times/year) AMOUNT: \$ _____

DIVINE MERCY CHAPEL (2nd or 17th of month – please specify) AMOUNT: \$ _____

DATE PAYMENTS TO BEGIN: _____

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until **The Church of St. John the Baptist, El Cerrito**, has received written
 notification from me of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford **The Church of St. John the Baptist** and
Mechanics Bank a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

 Your Name (please print)

 Signature

 Date

 Daytime Phone

Please complete and send this form to:

St. John the Baptist Church
 11150 San Pablo Avenue
 El Cerrito, CA 94530