

## Offering the Gospel to All

If you asked Jesus what he did while on earth, I believe he would say, “preached and healed.” Those were his missions. He had good news to share and a longing to convince his listeners of the truth of this gospel of love and freedom. He was moved because he saw them like sheep without a shepherd. The gospels are nothing other than documentation of Jesus’ efforts to preach the gospel!

Paul shared Christ’s ardor. He was entrusted with preaching to the Gentiles the truth of the Gospel, and he did all he could to convince them of his message. He says he became all things to all, to save at least some. He worked hard during the day so he could pay his own way and offer his message for free. He adapted himself to his audience—their customs and ways of thinking—so they wouldn’t take offense at him, closing their hearts to his message.

How many missionaries have used this same approach? Just think of the French Jesuits Sts. Jean de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues of the Great Lakes region, St. Junípero Serra in the West, or Mother Cabrini serving European

immigrants on the East Coast. They learned new languages, ate new foods, and adopted new traditions to insert themselves into these cultures and share the gospel. They took a page out of Paul’s book, becoming all things to all to save at least some.

We are modern-day apostles and missionaries. Let’s take a page out of Paul’s book, and offer this gospel of hope and love to so many souls in need.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Piece: *Scenes From the Life of Christ: The Sermon on the Mount*, circa 1481-1482  
Artist: Cosimo Rosselli  
Location: Sistine Chapel



### For Reflection

When you look around, what needs for the gospel of love do you see? Which of these needs can you fill as Jesus’ apostle?

*[Jesus said,] “Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.”*

*(Mark 1:38)*

*Mass Intentions for the Week*



	<b>Intention</b>	<b>Requested by</b>
Saturday, Feb. 3	5 p.m. Trifina Mercado †	Alex and Marie Martija
Sunday, Feb. 4	8 a.m. Peter Vietti †	Vietti Family
	9:30 a.m. Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children for Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children
	11 a.m. Esther Taylor †	Taylor Family
	12:30 p.m. Josefa Marcelino †	Reynaldo and Erlinda Gauna
	6 p.m. St. John Parishioners	St. John Parish
Monday, Feb. 5	8 a.m. Pedro Benavides - 80th Birthday	Mila Vargas
Tuesday, Feb. 6	8 a.m. Mary Lou Asuncion - Birthday	Asuncion Family
Wednesday, Feb. 7	8 a.m. Nemesia Arriola †	Alex and Cherrie Martija
Thursday, Feb. 8	8 a.m. Ernesto Cruz †	Praxy Calbes
Friday, Feb. 9	8 a.m. Joselito Asuncion †	Mary Dong
Saturday, Feb. 10	8 a.m. Joselito Asuncion †	Menci Ferreros
	11 a.m. Memorial - Joselito Asuncion	Asuncion Family

**Stewardship**

Envelopes & EFT, January 28, 2017 \$4,041  
 Loose Donations \$1,7290  
 This week's Second Collection supports the Parish Development and School Tuition Assistance Program

*Thank you for your generosity.*

**Remembering Joselito Asuncion**

Joselito "Joe" Asuncion, husband of Mary Asuncion and a longtime parishioner and parent at St. John's, peacefully passed away on Friday, Jan. 19. He was 74 years old.

The church joins in prayer for the repose of his soul and consolation for his family. A memorial Mass is scheduled here at St. John's Church on Saturday, Feb. 10 at 11a.m. The Mass will be preceded by a Rosary at 10:30 a.m. Please join the family for a reception after the Mass at the Community Center on Gladys Avenue.

In lieu of flowers, Joe wished that donations be made to your favorite charity in his memory.

**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, 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 Jeffrey,  
 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



**Senior Center Event**

Feb. 6: Guest Speaker, Mark de Leon on Senior Center Open House at 11:30am/Lunch at 12:30pm.

### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Like St. Paul in the second reading, the good steward can say, “I do all that I do for the sake of the Gospel in the hope of sharing in its blessings.” - 1 Corinthians 9:23

#### This Week's Service Schedule

**Sunday Readings:** Job 7:1-4, 6-7, 1Cor 9:16-19, 22-23, Mk 1:29-39.

**Monday Readings:** 1Kings 8:1-7, 0-13, Mk 6:53-56. Or 1Cor 1:26-31, Lk 9:23-26.

**Tuesday Readings:** 1Kings 8:22-23, 27-30, Mk 7:1-13. Or 1Gal 2:19-20, Mt 28:16-20.

**Wednesday Readings:** 1Kings 10:1-10, Mk7:14-23.

**Thursday Readings:** 1Kings11:4-13, Mk 7:24-30. Or Tobit 12:6-13, Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27. Or 1Cor 7:25-35, Mt 25:1-13.

**Friday Readings:** 1Kings 11:29-32, 12:19, Mk 7:31-37

**Saturday Readings:** 1Kings 12:26-32, 13:33-34, Mk 8:1-10. Or Song of Songs 8:6-7, Lk 10:38-42.

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

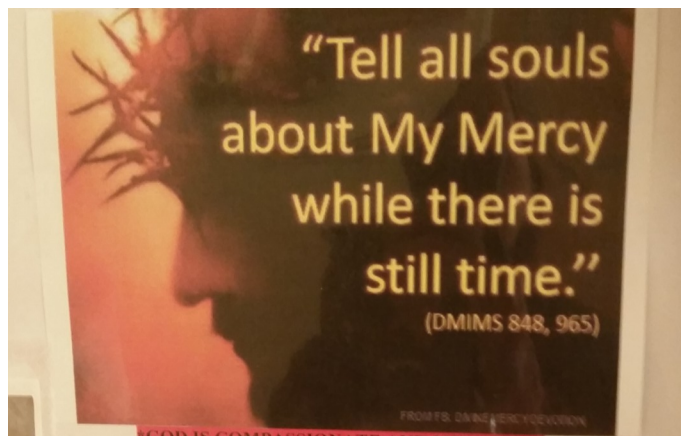
**Holy Infant of Prague Novena, Thu.** at 8:30am at Church.

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

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

#### Kindergarten Testing

On February 5, Monday, St. John School will conduct testing for kindergarten enrollees at 3pm.



Fr. Michael Norkett  
 Joselito Asuncion  
 Richard Calapini

#### Protecting God's Children

All volunteers and church employees are required to complete training at [virtusonline.org](http://virtusonline.org).

Volunteers and church employees, who mentor minors, or administer the Eucharist at homes or visit vulnerable adults need a livescan/fingerprinting.

Send copy(s) of these to the Rectory to keep on file. Notify the Rectory or the Safe Environment, Diocese c/o Diana Bitz 267-8315.

#### 2018 Bishop's Appeal

Bishop Michael Barber was very pleased and extended his gratitude to all the parishes for attaining the Diocese Goal for 2017 at a meeting last Jan. 25 held at St. John Vianney Church.

For this year, he had urged for a 100% participation from all the parishes and its parishioners. He shared of one occasion while present at a Korean service. He witnessed what he had never seen anywhere before where everyone, without exception, stood up at Offertory and placed an envelope at a basket in front of the altar.

**Vocation Discernment**

Daughters of Charity invites single women, 18-40 years for a weekend retreat at Los Altos from Apr. 20-22. For more information, contact Sister Lisa Laguna, D.C., 26000 Altamont Road, Los Altos Hills, Ca. 650-949-8890 or 213-210-9903 or [srlagfuna@doc1633.org](mailto:srllagfuna@doc1633.org). or [DaughtersOfCharity.com](http://DaughtersOfCharity.com)

**Holy Land Pilgrimage, Dec. 3-13, 2018**

Walk the path filled with miracles.  
 For information: [www.polandmej.com](http://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.

**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](http://www.oaklandsymphony.org/about-us/chorus/International%20Tours)  
 Next Stop: June 21-July 1, 2018

**CRAB FEED**  
**FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> 2018**

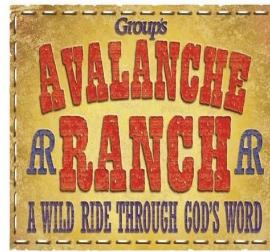
**\$50 • St. John's Gym • 6:30pm**  
 Order your tickets today! • [www.stjohncec.org](http://www.stjohncec.org)  
 (510) 234 - 2244

with Silent and Live Auction

**RCIA**

Weekly sessions are held from 12pm to 1:30pm on Sundays from Jan 28 - May 13.

**Vacation Bible Day Camp**



St. John The Baptist Church 17th Annual Vacation Bible Day Camp will be held June 25-29th, 2018. Our School Gym will be transformed into a Country Western Ranch Experience for "A Wild Ride at Avalanche Ranch".

Prairie Dog Pre-School is for 3-5 year olds who haven't started kindergarten. The same time and fees apply. All Day Campers are 9 a.m. - 5 p.m for only \$170, Morning only Campers are 9 a.m.-12 noon For \$70. (One of the Best Bargains in the Bay Area!, Kids can arrive at 8 a.m. at no extra charge.)

Kids will enjoy: Sing & Play Stampede Skits & Songs, Cowpoke Crafts & Science, Wild Bible Adventures, Chuck Wagon Chow Snacks, Horseplay Games, Special Guests & Service Projects, new friends and much more!

Mark your calendars & set the date for the Coolest week of the Summer! On-line registration will be available in March: [www.sjtbc.us/vbdc.html](http://www.sjtbc.us/vbdc.html). Questions: Pam Vincent [email:pam@sjtbc.us](mailto:pam@sjtbc.us)

**We welcome All at St. John's**

We have had a number of incidents of parishioners losing personal items at Mass and at the Divine Mercy Chapel. Although we welcome everyone who comes to our church, please do not leave your belongings unattended. Safeguard your valuables at all times, particularly during Communion time and Coffee Hour.

**DON'T GIVE UP**  
**chocolate**  
**FOR LENT**

*Instead, take a 40-day journey to become the-best-version-of-yourself.*

SIGN UP AT  
**[DynamicCatholic.com/Lent](http://DynamicCatholic.com/Lent)**

Dynamic Catholic

## Braveheart's Corner

### Witness Perspective

#### Poverty & The Work of Christmas

Marian Lamoureux, North Central Region

Voice of the Poor Leader

#### The Work of Christmas

*When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, the work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To make peace among people, To make music in the heart.* -Howard Thurman, from *The Mood of Christmas & Other Celebrations*

Over the past three weeks in this National Poverty Month January 2018, we have been enlightened by weekly Voice of the Poor Witness Perspectives on poverty: [how to build a road out of poverty](#), [poverty is always about people](#), and [how to be a change agent in the lives of the poor](#). Looking over these three articles, it struck me how these perspectives brought me back to one of my favorite poems, "The Work of Christmas," by Howard Thurman. [Thurman](#), who lived from 1899 to 1981, was raised by his grandmother who was a former slave. He was a Baptist minister and a professor of religion at Morehouse and Spelman Colleges in Atlanta. A spring semester he spent studying with Rufus Jones, a Quaker mystic and leader of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, clarified an activism rooted in faith, guided by the Spirit, and maintained in peace. His arguably most famous poem, the "Work of Christmas," causes me to reflect on its meaning for us as Vincentians at this time of confluence of noteworthy happenings – the holiday season, National Poverty Month, the Pro-Life March, political angst and paralysis. Though we've put away our Christmas decorations in our homes, outside the work of Christmas waits for us, and our opportunities are everywhere. ✠ **"To find the lost, heal the broken, feed the hungry"** Because all life comes from God, all life must be revered. Difficult as it sounds, the Gospel of Matthew instruct us, 'Amen I say to you, what you did not do for one

of these least ones, you did not do for me' (25:45). Those we serve certainly include the sick, the homeless, and the aged. But looking beyond, how are we serving the "other," the mentally challenged, the inmate, the ex-offender, the immigrant? Are we finding ways to be creative in our charity and particularly to avoid toxic charity (click [here to learn about "toxic charity"](#) from a fellow Vincentian)? Do we really believe that there are no limits in how we can find ways to help **and** be a part of one's journey out of poverty? Do we really believe in our ability as Vincentians to help others find a new way? ✠ **"To release the prisoner, rebuild the nations, make peace among people"** It is a sad reflection of politics today when Facebook memes ask the question if you think veterans should be housed before refugees should be housed, or if "illegals" should get any benefits. Human beings are not illegal, nor are these mutually exclusive moral equivalencies. It is crucial that we remember that first and foremost we are Christians, and by virtue of our Baptism called to serve everyone. The pouring of the water makes all the difference. From that moment on, we are called to serve. Again, looking at the Gospel of Matthew 25:43, "I was a stranger and you did not welcome me." A rejection of the stranger is contrary to the Gospel. Pope Francis first reminds us – "A person who thinks only about building walls, wherever they may be, and not building bridges, is not Christian. This is not the Gospel." And then our Pope and leading Catholic social-justice minded organizations ask us to "Share the Journey", pointing out on the [Share the Journey Website](#) that "Your neighbors live across the street and the country, across oceans and hemispheres" and that millions of God's children are presently fleeing war, persecution and poverty. Pope Francis invites us to share their journey by walking with them in prayer and support, and our Pope asks to act in ways suggested on the Website. ✠ **"To make peace among people, music in the heart"** In this time of political upheaval, government shutdowns, accusations of who caused what, as Catholics we must pay heed to the Gospel message. How? Here's two simple ways. Be sure to register (free) for [Vincentian VoterVoice](#), the Society's electronic social justice advocacy platform; and speak up when you see injustice, no matter how innocuous it may seem. In our serving, may we Vincentians bring peace to households, carrying a song of love in our heart and the promise of Christmas.