

St. John the Baptist Church

11150 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530 • Phone (510) 232-5659 • Fax (510) 236-0960
www.StJohnElCerrito.org • e-mail: stjohns@sjtbc.us

Welcome!

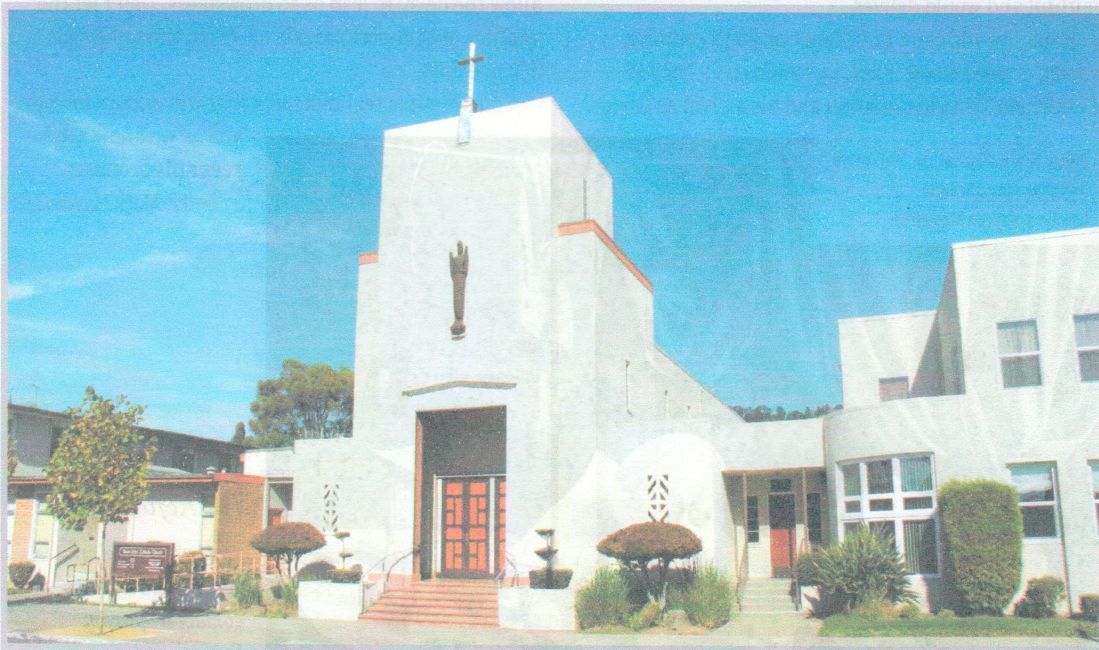
*Our warmest welcome to all who worship with us,
whether a long-time parishioner or newly arrived in the parish.
As Catholic Christians, we are committed to knowing,
loving and serving God by obeying His commandments
and serving our brothers and sisters with love and respect.*

Schedule of Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5 p.m.
Sunday: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., & 11:30 a.m.
Brazilian: 6 p.m. Sunday
Weekdays: 8 a.m.
Holy Days: 8 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Sacraments

Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday
Anointing of the Sick:
• 1st Saturday after 8 a.m. Mass
• or by individual arrangement
Baptism & Marriage: Contact office



Priests

Rev. Thuong Hoai Nguyen, Pastor
Rev. Joseph Tran, In Residence

Deacons

Thom McGowan: (707)-653-4920
Loch Sekona: (510)-837-1052

Parish Office

Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Bulletin Editor: Ed Bautista

Accountant/Bookkeeper:

Arthur De Leon

Children's Religious Education

Lynne Castro-Evans: (510)-501-4894

Confirmation – Youth Ministry

Gina DeLaTorre: (510)-815-0050

Adult Inquiry – RCIA

Christine Hickey: (510)-815-6022

Pastoral Council

Dan Hughes: (510)-253-8127

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Leave a message at (510)-232-5659

St. John's Elementary School

Principal: Dina Trombetta
(510)-234-2244 • www.stjohnec.org

St. John's Community Center

6500 Gladys Ave.

St. John's Divine Mercy

Adoration Chapel
11152 San Pablo Ave.

Sisters of Mercy Convent

(510)-233-6769

Fear and Intimacy

This bronze shows the young John pointing as if responding to a question or pointing the way. There was anxious anticipation amongst the Jews about the coming Messiah. Yet, we have no reason for anxiety.

Anxiety comes from fear of the unknown. When we're unsure of how things will turn out, we get anxious. When we lack control or can't plan for our security, we get anxious.

Fear and anxiety are the enemies of intimacy and love. Fear makes us run far enough away so we feel removed from danger, safe from the aggressor. Or it drives us to hold someone, seeking strength in attachment. But fear doesn't create space for true intimacy. It either creates excessive distance or suffocating closeness.

John didn't want to create fear or caution of God. Rather, he wanted to open hearts to receive God in love. Ours is not a God of fear, but of love.

In Jesus' Incarnation, he shows just how much he wants to be with us. He comes to make his home among us, while waiting for us to accept him and make room for him. He doesn't force, but comes with patience and love.

Knowing that he loves and wants the best for us, we merely need to make ourselves known to him by revealing our deepest needs to him with prayer.

John the Baptist came to prepare the path for the Messiah, and many responded by asking, "What should we do to prepare?" Put aside anxiety and fear, simply prepare a home for him, and then let him in.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection

What causes me fear or anxiety?

Can I give my anxiety to Jesus and ask him to bring me a greater sense of peace this Christmas?



Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.

Philippians 4:6

Mass Intentions for the Week



	Intention	Requested by:
Saturday, Dec. 15	5 p.m. Evelyn Baker † Simbang Gabi Hospitality Volunteers	Anne Sowinski St. John Parish
Sunday, Dec. 16	8 a.m. Renaldo Marin† Ramon Regalado † 9:30 a.m. Ramon Regalado-Death Anniversary	Marin Family Panganiban Family Regalado and Panganiban Families
	11:30 a.m. Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children For Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children
Monday, Dec. 17	6 p.m. Simbang Gabi Hospitality Volunteers 8 a.m. Pacquita and Teresita Yap† 7 p.m. Simbang Gabi Hospitality Volunteers	St. John Parish Noli Martinez St. John Parish
Tuesday, Dec. 18	8 a.m. Rose Boitano † 7 p.m. Simbang Gabi Hospitality Volunteers	Kathy Klatt St. John Parish
Wednesday, Dec. 19	8 a.m. Thanksgiving 7 p.m. Simbang Gabi Hospitality Volunteers	Nemesia Peralta St. John Parish
Thursday, Dec. 20	8 a.m. Enzo Lencioni † 7 p.m. Simbang Gabi Hospitality Volunteers	Gina Lencioni St. John Parish
Friday, Dec. 21	8 a.m. Barbara Brendlinger † 7 p.m. Simbang Gabi Hospitality Volunteers	Keller Family
Saturday, Dec. 22	8 a.m. Rodolfo and Elsa Abesamis	

Stewardship

Collection figures will be available in the bulletin issue of Dec 30. This week's Second Collection is for Christmas Flowers.

Thank you for your generosity.

**Mass Schedule for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
A Holy Day of Obligation**

Dec. 31, Monday, 7:30pm
Jan. 1, Tuesday, 8am, 10am

New Year's Vigil Service at Chapel

Living Our Baptismal Vows / Rejecting the Works of Satan. Dec. 31, 9pm-11pm. (English/Spanish).
Everyone is welcomed. Food will be Served.

Let Us Pray for the Sick

Rodolfo Abesamis, Virginia Alday, Niani Barber, Pearl & Patrick Batiste, Irene Blair, Robert Britto, Richard Calapini, Evelyn Canepa, Jeff Chavez, Brenna Clark, Jennette Cleadenger, Linda Crittendon, Cora Dongon, Mary Dong, Tami Duncan, Juanita Estrellas, Eric Ewen, Filomena Giese, Mike Giovannini, Joseph Golinveau, Domingos deGregorio, Andy Gutierrez, James Gutierrez, Patrick Gutierrez, Ruben Gutierrez, Maydelle Halligan, Joanne, Marvin & Maurice Haynes, Sherry Highlander, Tamaya Hunt, Ann Jones, Avelina Juat, Tom Kennedy, Maria Impang Lozada, Bernice Luckett, Marian & Michael Luoma, Nancy McVey, Cecilia Mendiola, Francis Mondragon, Ester Oppus, Judith Padilla, Theresa Parella, Angelina Patacsil, Pam Paun, Victoria Payless, Wayne Price Rose Anne, Fely Sabares, Jovita Santos, Linda Schneider, Dimitri Smith, Sarah Vidal, Evodio Walle, Winston Williams, Jan Williamson



St. John Senior Center

Dec. 18: Holiday Party and Birthdays.
11:30 am Brook's Ukelele All-Stars will perform holiday favorites. Join us for a sing-along!
Lunch at 12:30pm. Tracy, 707-400-8526

Third Sunday of Advent

Today's Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship: "Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same."

This Week's Service Schedule

Sunday Readings: Zeph 3:14-18a. Phil 4:4-7.
Lk 3:10-18.

Monday Readings: Gen 49:2, 8-10. Mt 1:1-17.

Tuesday Readings: Jer 23:5-8. Mt 1:18-25.

Wednesday Readings: Judg 13:2-7, 24-25a.
Lk 1:5-25.

Thursday Readings: Is 7:10-14. Lk 1:26-38.

Friday Readings: Song of Songs 2:8-14 or
Zeph 3:14-18a. Lk 1:39-45. Or 2 Tim 4:1-5.
Mt 5:13-19

Saturday Readings: Sam 1:24-28. Lk 1:46-56.

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.

Confessions, Sat., 4pm. Or at an Appointed time.

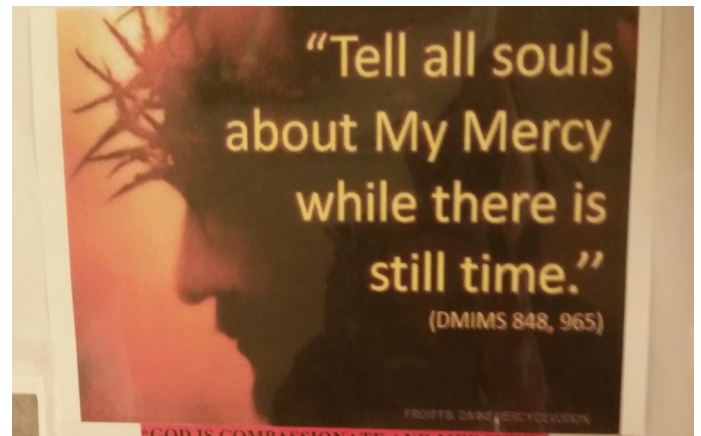
24-Hour Eucharistic Adoration, Daily at the
Chapel.

Simbang Gabi, Weekday at 7pm, Sun. at 6pm,
Sat. at 5pm.

Mass Schedule for Christmas

Dec. 24, Monday, 5pm and 9pm.

Dec. 25, Tuesday, 8am, 9:30am, 11:30am,
6pm (Brazilian).



Simbang Gabi / Advent's Novena Mass

Dec. 15, Sat. at 5pm. Fr. Thuong, Celebrant.

Hospitality: Parish Christmas Party.

Dec. 16, Sun. at 6pm. Fr. Hugo, Celebrant.

Hospitality: Brazilian Community, Jabson-Vistan, Co-
sio, Artiaga-Fleming Families.

Dec. 17, Mon. at 7pm. Fr. Leo, Celebrant.

Hospitality: Cayetano, Waxman, Flores Families.

Dec. 18, Tue. at 7pm. Fr. Bart, Celebrant.

Hospitality: L. Peralta, A. Cruz, C. Cruz, Waxman,
Alma Lyons Families.

Dec. 19, Wed. at 7pm. Fr. Ray, Celebrant.

Hospitality: Conway, Campos, Africa, Campana, Tai,
Punsalan Families.

Dec. 20, Thu. at 7pm. Fr. Joseph, Celebrant.

Hospitality: Ramirez, Venson, Maria&Kathy de los
Reyes, Fleming, Artiaga, Mildred Gardner Families.

Dec. 21, Fri. at 7pm. Fr. Fernando, Celebrant.

Hospitality: Abesamis, Lucas, McStravick, Poitier,
Eve Pampilo, Ludy Navarra, & Gaye Rivera Families.

Dec. 22, Sat. at 5pm. Fr. Joseph, Celebrant.

Hospitality: 5PM Vigil Choir, Murphy, Dolorfino
Families.

Dec. 23, Sun. at 7:30pm. Fr. Thuong, Celebrant

Hospitality: St. Lorenzo Community, Randall,
Engalla, del Rosario, Phillips, Vietti Families.

Contact: Bernie Juat at 510-526-5828 or 510-610-
4702.