

# 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.

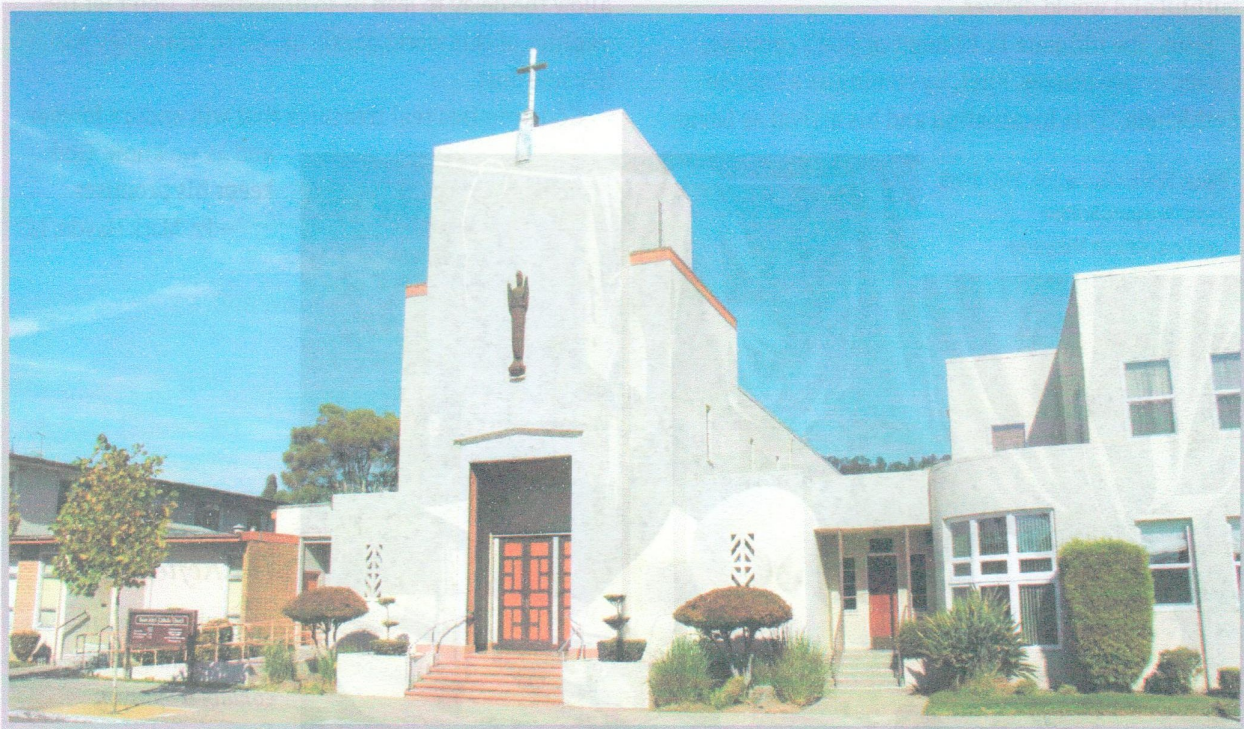
### Sacraments

Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday

Anointing of the Sick:

- 1<sup>st</sup> 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

## Learning from Jesus' Temptations

Every Lent, priests, nuns, monks, and many laypeople pray the following: "Be sober and vigilant. Your opponent the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for [someone] to devour" (1 Peter 5:8). Jesus encountered this truth in his temptations in the desert, another place in his ministry where he experienced the struggle of humanity.

The temptations begin, "If you are the Son of God..." All our temptations begin by doubting and challenging Jesus to prove himself. Although Jesus is all-powerful and all-good, we struggle to make sense of suffering and tragedies.

The temptations continue as Jesus is invited to satisfy himself, impress others, and skip suffering. But Jesus responds repeatedly in humility. In the desert he doesn't turn stones into bread. Later, he does something far greater; he turns bread and wine into himself. When tempted, we cry out to him to soften

the hard realities of our lives. And Jesus does just that. He suffers in his passion, dies, and rises again to become life-giving bread for us. He becomes manna in our desert.

When we wish for power, Jesus promises we will reign with him if we also let him suffer for us and we with him. The devil would have us take matters into our own hands, doubt God, and make him prove himself by our measures. Yet if we listen to Jesus, look at his answers, and learn from his life, then true power will be ours.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

### *For Reflection*

*What makes me question God the most?  
 How can God's word and Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection respond to that doubt?*



Piece: *Temptations of Christ* (detail), 1482  
 Artist: Sandro Botticelli  
 Location: Sistine Chapel

*When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time.*  
*Luke 4:13*

*Mass for the Intentions Week*

		<b>Intention</b>	<b>Requested by</b>
Saturday, Mar. 9	5 p.m.	Anne De Bose †	Neveu Family
Sunday, Mar. 10	8 a.m.	Mary Nguyen †	Mildred Gardner
	9:30 a.m.	Josefina Co †	Gerri Hampton
	11:30 a.m.	Esther Esmilla Taylor †	Christina Taylor
	6 p.m.	St. John Parishioners	St. John Parish
Monday, Mar. 11	8 a.m.	Josefina Co †	Gerri Hampton
Tuesday, Mar. 12	8 a.m.	Diane Marin †	Janet Chavez
Wednesday, Mar. 13	8 a.m.	Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children	Ana Prindle
		For Blessings of Good Health	Janet Chavez
Thursday, Mar. 14	8 a.m.	Patrick O'Shea †	Alice Barce
Friday, Mar. 15	8 a.m.	Diane Marin †	Alice Barce
Saturday, Mar. 16	8 a.m.	Virginia Randall †	Alice Barce

**Stewardship**

Mar 3, Envelopes/EFT \$ 6,502.00  
 Loose Collection \$ 2,588.86  
 Second Collection: Parish and School Dev \$ 1,479.  
 Charismatic Service \$ 203.00  
 Next week's Second Collection is for Catholic Relief Services.

*Thank you for your generosity.*

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend**

It's the best gift you will ever give to each other and your marriage! Contact: Chuck and Annie at (925) 849-5466 or applications@oaklandwwme.org



*Welcome to the Faith*

Nelli Chavez

*Our Newly Baptized*

**Let Us Pray for the Sick**

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



**Calls for Help & Hope**

The Contra Costa Crisis Center has provided a lifeline of help and hope for 56 years. Call 1-800-833-2900

## First Sunday of Lent

Today's first reading describes the offering of first fruits the people of Israel were to present to the Lord in thanksgiving for their deliverance from Egypt and the gift of the promised land. Is my offering at today's Mass an appropriate response to the many blessings the Lord has given me?

### This Week's Service Schedule

**Sunday Readings:** Dt 26:4-10. Rom 10:8-13. Lk 4:1-13.

**Monday Readings:** Lv 19:1-2, 11-18.  
Mt 25:31-46.

**Tuesday Readings:** Is 55:10-11. Mt 6:7-15.

**Wednesday Readings:** Jon 3:1-10. Lk 11:29-32.

**Thursday Readings:** Est C 12, 14-16, 23-25. Mt 7:7-12.

**Friday Readings:** Ez 18:21-28. Mt 5:20-26.

**Saturday Readings:** Dt 26:16-19. Mt 5:34-48.

#### **Stations of the Cross.**

Fri., 8:30am. Fri., 7:30pm (And Benediction).

#### **24-Hour Eucharistic Adoration.**

Daily at the Chapel.

#### **Liturgy of the Hours.**

Mon.- Fri. at 7:40am.

#### **Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena.**

Weds, 8:30am at Church and 6pm at the Chapel.

#### **Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet.**

Mon.-Thu., Sat., at 8:30am and Fri. at 9am at Church.

Daily at 3pm, 9pm and 10pm (Spanish) and Wed., 7:30pm (Spanish) at the Chapel.

#### **Holy Infant of Prague Novena.**

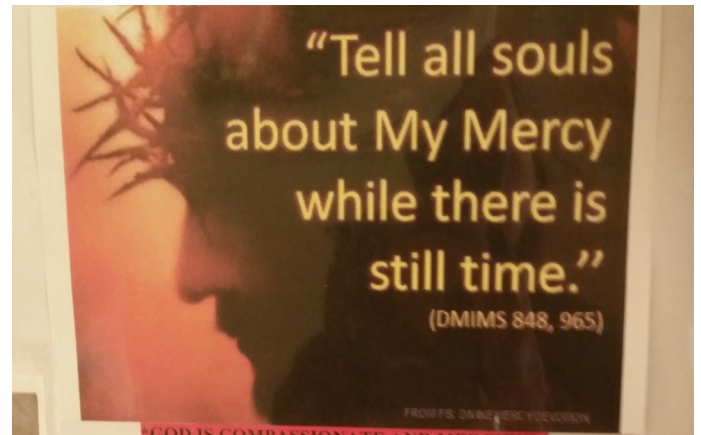
Thu. at 8:30am at Church.

#### **Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.**

Fri., 6pm at the Chapel.

**Confessions.** Fri., Before and After the Stations of the Cross and Benediction at 7:30pm.

Sat., 4pm at Church. Or Call, Mon.-Fri. 9-5:30pm.



### Saint John's Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel's Important Dates And Upcoming Events 2019

\*1st mini-retreat

Saturday, March 9, 2019 from 7pm to 9pm  
In the Chapel. Theme: Prayer

\*2nd mini-retreat

Saturday, March 16, 2019 from 7pm to 9pm  
In the Chapel. Theme: Fasting

\*3rd mini-retreat

Saturday, March 23, 2019 from 7pm to 9pm  
In the Chapel. Theme: Almsgiving

\*Public Rosary:

Saturday, March 23, 2019 At 12pm  
In front of the Chapel.

Theme: God's Marriage : 1 Man + 1 Woman  
Organized by America Needs Fatima.

### Class of '68 Reunion, Oct 26

If you're a former student from the Class of 1968 or know of someone who was in this class, please share your contact information with Laurie Gaeta.

[gaetalaurie1968@gmail.com](mailto:gaetalaurie1968@gmail.com)

### Senior Center, 6500 Gladys Ave

Mar. 12: Members' Meeting. 12:30pm, Lunch \$4.  
Tracy (707) 400-8526.

**(Francis) Rebuild My Church**

Parishes all over the diocese begins its Annual Bishop’s Appeal, Feb 27, 2019. The goal of our parish is the same as last year. Contributions from last year were allocated to the needs on shelter, work, food, medicine, education, within our community and the diocese.

The Annual Bishop’s Appeal is a plea to rebuild the church, a message as we know it from Our Lord to St. Francis 1,000 years ago. St. Francis was the first saint who received the stigmata of our Lord on his hands, feet, and on his side. Also known is that familiar image of St. Francis consoling Christ on the Cross and Jesus consoling St. Francis. Thank you to all for your 2018 contributions which exceeded our goal by almost 15% and of that will assist our parish.

**Get On The Bus**

Once more Get on the Bus volunteers are starting to prepare to bring children to meet their incarcerated mothers and fathers at Valley State Prison and Central California Women's Facility.

It has been so heartening for me to have a number of St. John's Parishioners already asking me about this year’s bus. Thanks to Fr. Thuong, I will be making an appeal next Sunday for donations to make this trip happen. Without you this would never happen.

Gratefully,  
Sr. Carmel

**Editorial: Rebuild My Church**

It is not unusual for our parish to receive a call or a visitor requesting for assistance, i.e. finances for rent, utilities, transportation, food or shelter. You can help by making a pledge or contribution through the annual bishop’s appeal. Our diocese answers this one such need in our community and other social, pastoral, academic services. Thank you for your generosity. Last year our parish exceeded our goal to almost 15%. Any excess from our goal the diocese returns back to our parish for its particular needs. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

**Email and Text Scam involving Priests**

Please be aware of an ongoing phishing scam involving emails and texts purportedly from priests or parish/Chancery staff. This scam has hit many parishes across the United States. The email or text purports to be from a person the target knows, such as one’s pastor, a parish staff member, the bishop or someone else from the Church. If the target responds to the fake email or text, the sender will follow up with a request for some sort of monetary assistance, often for gift cards or iTunes cards. It is truly unfortunate cyber criminals attempt to exploit the generous nature of our community. Sending emails or texts asking for cash or gifts cards is not how priests, parishes or the Diocese of Oakland seeks financial assistance for our work. If you receive an email or text from a trusted church personnel asking for assistance, confirm by calling that person and do not respond to the email or text. For more information on phishing scams and email security, review this attached handout. The FBI website address to file an online Internet crime complaint is <https://www.ic3.gov>.

**A Special invitation to an incredible 15-Day pilgrimage**



**Marian Shrines of Europe Portugal-Fatima, Spain-Santiago, Lourdes, Loyola, Zaragoza, Barcelona, Bosnia-Medjugorje, and more with Fr. Thuong H. Nguyen**

Visiting the locations where the Blessed Mother Mary had apparitions and miracles of healing.

October 10 - 24, 2019 \$4,499 per person double occupancy Includes round-trip airfare from US airports, hotels, breakfast, dinner, and daily Mass.

For more information please visit our web at [www.polandmej.com](http://www.polandmej.com)  
Local Contact Persons: Luvj Lumibao (510) 918-5825 or Victoria Tannady (510) 847-7773

Hail Mary, full of Grace.  
The Lord is with thee  
Blessed art thou amongst women,  
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us, sinners,  
Now and at the hour of our death, Amen.



St. John the Baptist Church Community  
11150 San Pablo Ave. El Cerrito, CA 94530 (510) 232-5659

## 17th Annual Summer Day Camp



Join us for a Week That  
Oozes  
with Fun!  
June 24-28

- Sonic Songs & Fusion Finale
- Hyper Speed Games
- Test Tub Treats
- Wacky Works Crafts & Outreach
- Bible Blast
- Power Up Dance Lab
- Surprise Guests
- Computer & Science Funology

Morning only - 9am-12:30pm, \$70  
All Day Camp -9am-5pm, \$170  
Pre-K to 6<sup>th</sup> grade (Completed)

**FREE CAMP T-SHIRT - Free Early Drop Off at 8:00 a.m.**

Squeaky Beakers Pre-School  
(3-5yrs, haven't gone to Kindergarten yet)

Jr. High, High School, & College Community Leadership

- ◆ Become a "Funologist" who can help our next generation in discovering the Miracles hidden in Science.
- ◆ Build your work & college resume through community outreach alongside your friends and fellow "Funologists"!

Registration, February: [www.sjbc.us/ybdc.html](http://www.sjbc.us/ybdc.html)  
Pam Vincent- (510)507-8694, [pam@sjbc.us](mailto:pam@sjbc.us)

## YLI-Mother of Perpetual Help Tea and Raffle

### Afternoon Tea Delight

On Saturday, March 16, 12:30PM-2:30PM, YLI Mother of Perpetual Help will have its fundraiser, Afternoon Tea Delight, at St. Jerome's Rohan Hall, 308 Carmel St., El Cerrito. Tea will be served with a delicious assortment of sandwiches and sweets. There will be a silent raffle with great prizes - proceeds from the raffle will go to our Grand President's Program supporting the American Heart Association. Cost for the tea: \$25.00/person. Raffle tickets: \$1 for 1 ticket, \$5 for 6 tickets. Send advance payment to Alia Zuniga, 945 Kern St., Richmond 94805 by March 10. Make check payable to MOPH #159 (memo Tea) and include your name and phone number along with names of people in your party. For more info, contact Alia (510) 384-8978 or email [amzunigamoph159@gmail.com](mailto:amzunigamoph159@gmail.com) or Christine Hickey (510) 815-6022.



## Prayer & Song Retreat with Sarah Hart

*Be merciful, be God's instrument  
through prayer and song*

*All youth are invited to attend a day of fun, music,  
worship, and inspiring talks. In the evening, Grammy  
nominated Sarah Hart will be in concert for all audiences.*

RETREAT	CONCERT
1:00 PM	7:30 PM

Registration Cost: Online at [www.prayerandsongretreat.org](http://www.prayerandsongretreat.org)  
\$25 Youth Retreat (5th-12th Grade) & Concert (Snack & Dinner Included)  
\$20 Concert General Admission

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More information  
Andy Gutierrez  
(510) 703-1076 • [andyg@sjtbc.us](mailto:andyg@sjtbc.us)



**Sarah Hart** has been a singer, songwriter, and keynote speaker for 20 years. Her parish missions and ministry events have taken her across the United States and abroad. Sarah has performed for countless parishes, conferences and conventions, and for Pope Francis in 2013. She has written several retreats for parish, women's and adult catechesis, which she herself presents. She is a Grammy-nominated songwriter and her songs have been recorded by numerous performers and are found in many hymnals. Sarah makes her home in Nashville, TN with her husband and two awesome teenage daughters.

## Catholic Immigrant Integration Initiative Conference

The Center for Migration Studies and the Diocese of San Jose are hosting the 2019 Catholic Immigrant Integration Initiative Conference from March 11-13, 2019 in Santa Clara. Speakers include Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco and Bishop Oscar Cantú of San Jose. More information is at <http://cmsny.org/event/2019-ciii/>. The conference fee is \$125 for all three days and includes meals during the conference program. If you would like to request a discount or waiver, please email [cms@cmsny.org](mailto:cms@cmsny.org).



### Chris Cristobal

*Chris passed away peacefully Sunday, March 3. Both  
their children attended St. John School and a volunteer  
for the church choir.*

### Edward Carville

*A memorial service for Edward Carville is scheduled on  
Mar. 15, at 10:30am, Friday at St. Joseph Cemetery  
Chapel, San Pablo. 510-234-2012.*