

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!

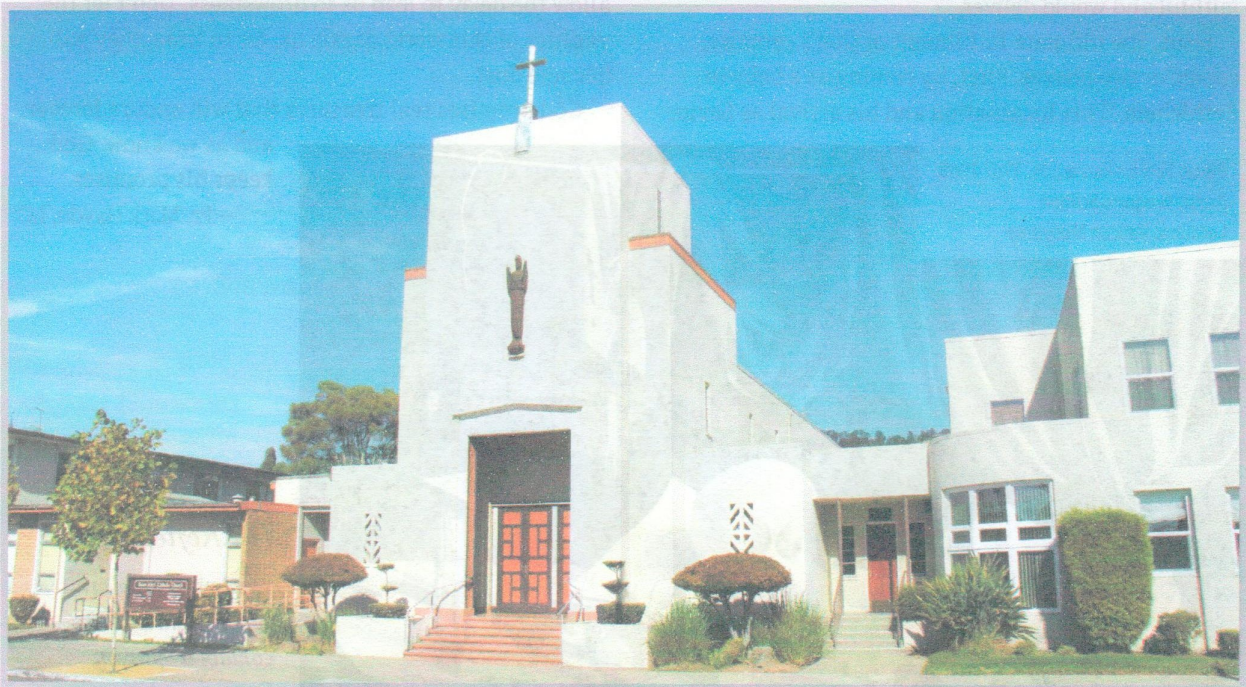
*Our warmest welcome to all who worship with us,
whether a long-time parishioner or newly arrived in the parish.
As Catholic Christians, we are committed to knowing,
loving and serving God by obeying His commandments
and serving our brothers and sisters with love and respect.*

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



April 21, 2019

Easter (C)

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8

Jn 20:1-9

Persevering in Pursuit of Jesus

The key to our faith is the testimony of the apostles who witnessed Jesus resurrected from the dead. For this reason, the Easter scriptural passages carefully record who saw him, when, and under what circumstances.

Particularly powerful is the testimony of Mary Magdalene. She was at the foot of the cross with Mary and John. She saw Jesus' passion and death in all its brutal reality: carrying the cross, the nailing, spearing, his last agonizing words, lowering his body from the cross, cleaning his corpse, and anointing it according to Jewish customs. She would have wrapped him in linen and then stood outside the tomb as soldiers sealed it shut. She, more than anyone, could testify that he was most definitely dead.

Imagine her surprise when, early Sunday morning, she found the stone rolled away and the tomb empty. After Peter and John came to confirm that it was as she said, Mary Magdalene stayed at the tomb. Having been forgiven much, she loved much. Saint Gregory the Great comments that the woman who stayed behind to seek Christ was the only one to see him, for perseverance is essential to any good deed.

Piece: *The Resurrection of Christ*, 1575

Artist: Hendrick van den Broeck

Location: Sistine Chapel



Often we need to persevere in pursuing Jesus. He doesn't reveal himself to mere curiosity seekers. Rather, he rewards those who seek him with sincerity and who have accepted him deeply.

Jesus would find the person who was seeking him. He called her by name because he knew her as no one else. She had found her lost treasure and held on to it with all her loving strength.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

What do I treasure?

What do I spend my time seeking after?

What saddens me the most when I don't have it?

*Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning,
while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb.*

John 20:1

My very dear friends in Christ,

Jesus Christ is Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Happy Easter!

Thank you very much for your presence and prayers as we celebrate Easter, a very special time of the year. I, especially, extend a warm welcome to our Newly Baptized members, to those who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, and to our brothers and sisters who are returning to the Catholic Church. I would also like to welcome those who are of other faith background and to those who are visiting from other places.

Hearing of the scandal in our Catholic Church today, we express deep sorrow and ask pardon from our Merciful God who is slow to anger but quick to forgive, slow to punish but rapid to reward, and slow to detest but quick to love. Our faith attests of the Power of God's promises to "Come, let us return to the Lord, it is He who has rent, but He will heal us; He has struck us, but He will bind our wounds." He will revive us after two days; on the third day, He will raise us up, to live in His presence. Or "And so, I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this Rock, I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." (Mt 16:18).

Needless to say, God is our God and we are His people. With the power of the Risen Lord, Jesus Christ, we have hope and courage to look ahead to the better future. For, after the rainy days, come the clear blue sky and greener pastures, more beautiful than ever before! In fact, during the Easter season, we focus on celebrations of the Sacraments of Initiation. At our Vigil Mass, we welcome eight candidates who received Confirmation, five who were baptized and all are joining the church in full communion. In a few weeks, we will be celebrating the First Eucharist with 22 children in our parish's CCD program and Saint John School as well.

I pray that as we continue to walk together towards a personal and intimate relationship with Christ, we shall grow towards embracing a heart that is burning to know, love, and serve God by loving and serving others. Let your hearts burn for God.

I also pray that you and your loved ones have a blessed Easter! Please remember in your prayers all the priests in our parish. Surely, we pray for you, your loved ones and for your special intentions. We may not see each other each day but may we meet each day in our prayers! May the Spirit of the Risen Lord be with all of you. Again, Happy Easter!

In Christ,

Fr. Thuong Hoai Nguyen

Mass for the Intentions Week

Intention

Requested by

Saturday, Apr. 20	9 p.m.	Beverly Wilkerson and Family Ethel Leonares † Joselito Asuncion † Fr. Ray Ogbemure-Easter Blessings	Baham Family Gerri Hampton Asuncion Family Kathy and Helen
Sunday, Apr. 21	8 a.m.	Luis Torres †	Torres Family
	9:30 a.m.	Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children for Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children
	11:30 a.m.	Esther Esmilla Taylor †	Christina Taylor
	6 p.m.	St. John Parishioners	St. John Parish
Monday, Apr. 22	8 a.m.	Teresa Brignone †	Diane Adame
Tuesday, Apr. 23	8 a.m.	Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children for Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children
Wednesday, Apr. 24	8 a.m.	Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children for Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children
	10 a.m.	Ricardo Medina † 40-Day Memorial	Leonor Medina & Family
Thursday, Apr. 25	8 a.m.	Jaynie Klatt † 94th Birthday	Kathy
Friday, Apr. 26	8 a.m.	Anthony Mirabel †	Mirabel Family
Saturday, Apr. 27	8 a.m.	Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children for Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children

Stewardship

This is an early edition of the Sunday Bulletin. This column will be updated in the coming issue. Check a copy at church with figures for this column.

Thank you for your generosity.

Senior Center, 6500 Gladys Ave

Apr. 23: Seniors' Meeting. 12:30pm, Lunch (\$4). Tracy (707) 400-8526.

Volunteers Needed

St John needs to build up its corps of Eucharistic Ministers - at Mass or taking Communion to a home - bound family member, friend or fellow parishioner. Neither ministry is time-consuming and will bring you closer to the Lord in amazing ways. Call Larry Mundy, 510-301-5027 for more information.

St. John Class of '68 Reunion, Oct 26

If you're from Class of 1968, please contact Laurie Gaeta. gaetalaurie1968@gmail.com

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 Crittendon, 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



Easter Sunday

In the second reading today, St. Paul reminds the Colossians that they have been raised with Christ, exhorting them to “think about the things above rather than things of earth.” We, too, have been raised with Christ. Let us rejoice and be glad! -Colossians 3:2

This Week’s Service Schedule

Sunday Readings: Acts 10:34a, 37-43. Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8. Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12.

Monday Readings: Acts 2:14, 22-33. Mt 28:8-15.

Tuesday Readings: Acts 2:36-41. Jn 20:11-18.

Wednesday Readings: Acts 3:1-10. Lk 24:13-35.

Thursday Readings: Acts 3:11-26. Lk 24:35-48.

Friday Readings: Acts 4:1-12. Jn 21:1-14.

Saturday Readings: Acts 4:13-21. Mk 16:9-15.

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

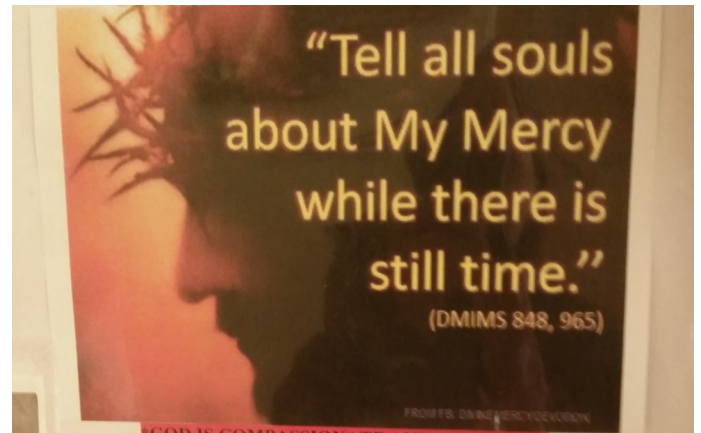
24-Hour Eucharistic Adoration,
Daily at the Chapel.

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

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

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

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



Save the Date: Special Liturgy and Farewell Reception for our Sisters of Mercy

After more than five decades of love and devotion to St. John’s School and Parish, Sr. Carmel, Sr. Angela, and Sr. Anne will retire and return to Ireland in the summer.

Please join us for a celebration to honor them on June 15 Saturday at the 5pm Mass, with a reception following.

For more information and ways to help with this special event, please contact Olivia Wong

oswong214@gmail.com or 510-701-8333.

Youth Ministry

All youth are invited to attend a day of fun, music, worship, and inspiring talks on May 4, 1pm. Grammy-nominated Sarah Hart will be in concert for all audiences at 7:30pm.

Baptism Classes

Parents and godparents are required to attend 2 1-hr classes. Classes are held every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month. Starts at 9:30am for Mass and followed by a class at the church office.

The Annual Vacation Bible Camp



Discovering Jesus’ Miraculous Powers. June 24-28, 8-5pm. Call 510-507-8694 or pam@sjtbc.us

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

Protecting God’s Children

Every volunteer and worker is required to register every 3 years at virtusonline.org

First Saturday Devotion

Our Blessed Mother appeared to St. Lucia of Fatima on December 10, 1925. It was there Our Lady requested the Five First Saturdays Devotion and gave a great promise.

Appearing with the Queen of Heaven in that apparition was the Infant Jesus, Who said to Lucia: “Have pity on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother. It is covered with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment, and there is no one to remove them with an act of reparation.”

Our Lady then spoke: “See, my daughter, my Heart encircled by thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. Do you, at least, strive to console me. Tell them that I promise to assist at the hour of death with the graces necessary for salvation all those who, in order to make reparation to me, on the First Saturday of five successive months, go to confession, receive Holy Communion, say five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for a quarter of an hour, meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary.”



At St. John the Baptist we do this devotion on every First Saturday. We start the Rosary at 4:15pm. There is a priest in the confessional starting at 4 pm. And Mass is at 5 pm. It is very easy to fulfill the whole devotion that our Lady asks in a short amount of time and in one place. Please join us at 4:15 on every first Saturday. May 4 is the next first Saturday.