

# 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.  
6 p.m. (Brazilian)  
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. Robson Luis Weber, Associate Pastor

### Deacons

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

### Parish Office

Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 3:00 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

(510)-232-5659 for messages

### 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.

## Creating God’s Peaceable Kingdom

At times, God’s presence among us is so unspectacular that we need someone else to point it out, someone with a loud voice. That seems to have been the role of John the Baptist. His lifestyle and his message certainly caught everyone’s attention. But when he caught their attention, he directed it away from himself to the kingdom of heaven.

He called it a kingdom because that was the government those of his time knew. (Jesus, too, often spoke of his kingdom.) However, the kingdom John referred to is not one of military power and privilege but a “peaceable kingdom,” where animals that are normally feared as predators live with each other in peace. A beautiful picture, but is it a possibility or just fantasy? The people believed that some day one would be born who would rule this way, thus enabling them to become a genuine peaceable kingdom. This

kingdom would not be made of animals, but of women and men of different races, cultures, and beliefs; women and men who would recognize each other’s God-given uniqueness and would create genuine unity from this diversity.

John the Baptist declared that this kingdom “is at hand.” Is it? Do we strive to live peacefully with the great diversity of people of our world? Or are we smug as we proclaim: “We have Abraham as our father” (Matthew 3:9), so we are right and you are wrong. The people of John’s time should have known better. We should, too. John cries out to them—and to us: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” (Matthew 3:2).

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *How open are you to people of different faiths, races, or nations?*
- ★ *What can you do to make real the peaceable kingdom of heaven?*

*[John the Baptist said,] “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” MATTHEW 3:3*



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## *Mass Intentions for the Week*



	<b>Intention</b>	<b>Requested by</b>
Saturday, Dec. 7	5 p.m. Ambrose Loyola, Sr. †	Tipping Family
Sunday, Dec. 8	8 a.m. Esther Esmilla Taylor †	Christina Taylor
	9:30 a.m. Thanksgiving	Murphy Family
	11:30 a.m. Fr. Ray Ogbemure-Happy 45th Anniversary	Kathy and Helen
	6 p.m. St. John Parishioners	St. John Parish
Monday, Dec. 9	Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Virgin Mary
	8 a.m. Chris Murphy-Birthday	Rosie Murphy
	7:30 p.m. Jose G. Lozano-Birthday	Maria Lozano
Tuesday, Dec. 10	8 a.m. Mary Frances Asta †	Keller Family
Wednesday, Dec. 11	8 a.m. Aldina and Pasquale Matteucci †	Gina Lencioni
Thursday, Dec. 12	8 a.m. Luis Torres †	Torres Family
Friday, Dec. 13	8 a.m. Phillip Millspaugh †	Debi Mendoza
Saturday, Dec. 14	8 a.m. Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children for Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children

### **Stewardship**

Plate Collection, Nov. 24  
 Envelopes \$1,982.00  
 Loose \$ 1,187.00  
 EFT, Weekly \$210.00  
 Campaign on Human Development \$ 627.00

*Thank you for your generosity.*

### **Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Dec. 9, Monday, Mass at 8am, 7:30pm.  
 Not A Holy Day of Obligation.

### **Advent Communal Penance Service**

Dec. 13, Friday at 7:30 pm

### **Mass Schedule at Christmas**

Dec 24, Tuesday at 5pm and 9pm.  
 Dec. 25, Wednesday at 8am, 9:30am, 11:30am,  
 6pm (Brazilian).

### **Mass Schedule on the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

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

### **Prayers for Healing**

Virginia Alday, Niani Barber Pearl & Patrick  
 Batiste, Irene Blair, Robert Britto  
 Gustavo Caceres and Friends  
 Evelyn Canepa, Al Carlson,  
 Brenna Clark, Jennette  
 Cleadenger, Linda  
 Crittendon, Cora Dongon, Mary  
 Dong, Tami Duncan  
 Juanita Estrellas, Eric Ewen  
 Frank Gardner, Filomena Giese Mike Giovannini,  
 Joseph Golinveau, Victoria 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, Bernice Lockett Marian & Michael Luoma,  
 Mary Agnes, Nancy McVey, Cecilia Mendiola,  
 Francis Mondragon, 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, Isaac Tiongson,  
 Joseph Vidal, Sarah Vidal Evodio Walle  
 Winston Williams, Jan Williamson



### **Senior Center, 6500 Gladys Ave**

Dec. 10: Nutrition for Seniors. Plus assistive technology and devices. 12:30pm, Pizza Lunch \$5.

**Second Sunday of Advent ( A )**

We must be good stewards of God's gifts to us, receiving them gracefully and cultivating them with care, lest we be the ones about whom John the Baptist speaks today, cautioning us, "Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." Matthew 3:10

**This Week's Service Schedule**

**Sunday Readings:** Is 11:1-10. Rom 15:4-9. Mt 3:1-12.  
**Monday Readings/Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary:** Gn 3:9-15, 20. Eph 1:3-6, 11-12. Lk 1:26-38.  
**Tuesday Readings:** Is 40:1-11. Mt 18:12-14.  
**Wednesday Readings:** Is 40:25-31. Mt 11:28-30.  
**Thursday Readings:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab. Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47.  
**Friday Readings:** Is 48:17-19. Mt 11:16-19.  
**Saturday Readings:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11.

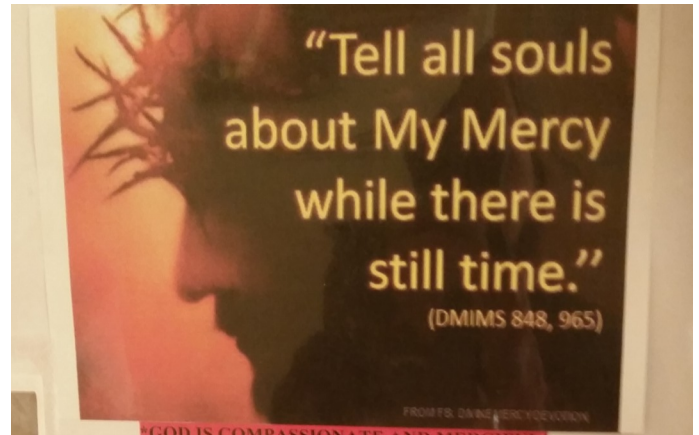
**Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** Mass at 8am, 7:30pm.  
**Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet.** Mon.-Sat., 8:30am at Church. Daily, 3pm, 9pm, and 10pm (Spanish) and Wed., 7:30pm (Spanish) at Chapel.  
**24-Hour Eucharistic Adoration.** Daily at the Chapel.  
**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena.** Weds, 8:30am at Church and 6pm at the Chapel.  
**Liturgy of the Hours.** Mon.- Fri., 7:40am.  
**Confessions.** Sat., 4pm. Or call 9am-3pm, Mon.-Fri.  
**Holy Infant of Prague Novena.** Thu. at 8:30am at Church.  
**Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.** Fri., 6pm at the Chapel.

**Advent Evening Novena Mass/ Simbang Gabi**

Dec. 15-23. Mon.-Fri. at 7pm, Sat. at 5pm, Sun. at 6pm (Brazilian).  
 Reception follows after Mass.  
 (Welcomes Music, Choir, Hospitality Volunteers)

**Linen Ministry**

Volunteer to Wash, Starch, Iron Altar linens.  
 Call Kathleen Keller at 510-234-1754.



**The Annual Bishop's Appeal**

**Rebuild My Church.** As of Nov. 15, our parishioners have contributed 92.68% of the parish goal of \$23,400.00. Thank you for all your contributions to the Annual Appeal.

**Safe Environment**

Every volunteer and worker is required to register every 3 years at [virtusonline.org](http://virtusonline.org) and complete one online training each time i.e. Protecting God's Children or Keeping the Promise Alive.

**St . Vincent de Paul Thanksgiving Campaign**

Thank you to everyone for the turkey donations to the families that come to our pantry.

**Eucharistic Ministry**

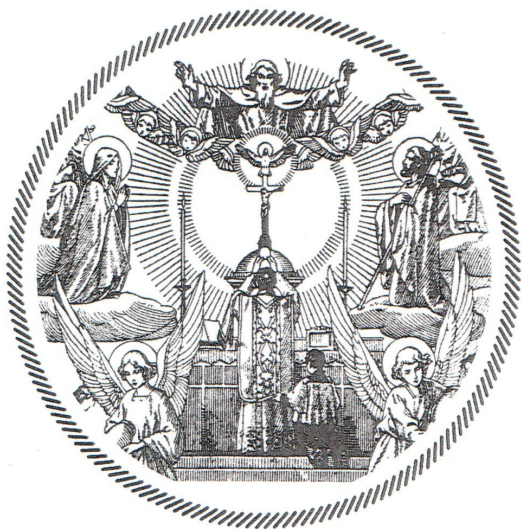
Volunteer to give Communion at Mass. Call Sharon Ewen, 510-412-9761. Or bring Communion to the Sick. Call Larry Mundy, 510-301-5027.

**Baptism Classes**

For Parents and godparents, Every 1st and 2nd Sunday of the Month at 9:30am, Church.

**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



The  
**HOLY**  
**SACRIFICE**  
of the *MASS* is ...

*Christ's Passion and  
Death on Calvary*

*The following constitutes a pious reflection on the Mass, which the faithful may use to derive spiritual fruit.*

**THE PRIEST AT MASS**

**CHRIST**

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1  | Enters the Sanctuary . . . . .  | Enters the Garden of Olives                  |
| 2  | Begins prayers at the foot of the Altar . . . . .                       | Begins prayer in the garden                  |
| 3  | Says the <i>Confiteor</i> ("I Confess") . . . . .                       | Falls down in agony, sweats blood            |
| 4  | Goes to the Epistle side of the Altar . . . . .                         | Is bound and as a prisoner is led to Annas   |
| 5  | Reads the Introit . . . . .   | Is falsely accused by Annas and blasphemed   |
| 6  | Goes to the middle of the Altar, recites <i>Kyrie Eleison</i> . . . . . | Is brought to Caiphas; is denied 3x by Peter |
| 7  | Turns to the people and says "Dominus vobiscum" . . . . .               | Looks at Peter and converts him              |
| 8  | Goes to the Roman Missal and reads the Collect and Epistle . . . . .    | Is brought to Pilate                         |
| 9  | Goes to the middle of the Altar, then to the Gospel side . . . . .      | Is taken to Herod and mocked                 |
| 10 | Returns to the middle of the Altar . . . . .                            | Is led back to Pilate                        |

**OFFERTORY**

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 11 | Uncovers the chalice . . . . .                              | Is stripped of His garments   |
| 12 | Offers the bread and wine . . . . .                         | Is scourged at the pillar   |
| 13 | Covers the chalice with the pall . . . . .                  | Is crowned with thorns  |
| 14 | Washes his hands at the Epistle side of the Altar . . . . . | Is declared innocent by Pilate  |
| 15 | Turns to the people and says "Orate Fratres..." . . . . .   | Is shown to the people by Pilate who says<br>"Ecce Homo" ("Behold the man") |
| 16 | Prays in a low voice, the Secret (prayer) . . . . .         | Is mocked and spat upon   |
| 17 | Recites the Preface and Sanctus – bell is rung . . . . .    | Christ is condemned; Barabbas is freed                                      |

**CANON OF THE MASS**

- |    |  |                              |
|----|--|------------------------------|
| 18 | Makes the Commemoration of the living . . . . .                    | Carries the Cross to Calvary |
| 19 | Blesses the bread and wine with the sign of the cross 5x . . . . . | Is nailed to the Cross       |

## CONSECRATION

- 20 Consecrates the Host, adores and elevates It . . . . . Christ is raised on the Cross  
21 Consecrates the wine and elevates the chalice . . . . . Blood of Christ flows from His wounds  
22 Prays in a low voice. . . . . Hangs on the Cross; sees His Mother kneeling  
23 Says aloud, "Nobis quoque peccatoribus". . . . . Prays for all mankind  
24 Recites aloud the *Pater Noster* ("Our Father") . . . . . Speaks the seven last words on the Cross  
25 Breaks the Sacred Host . . . . . Dies on the Cross  
26 Drops a particle of the Host into the chalice . . . . . Christ's soul descends into Limbo  
27 Recites the *Agnus Dei* ("Lamb of God") . . . . . Christ is acknowledged to be the Son of God  
by those standing beneath the Cross

## COMMUNION

- 28 Receives the Body and Blood of Christ. . . . . Christ's body is laid in the sepulcher  
29 Cleanses the chalice. . . . . Christ's body is anointed in the sepulcher  
30 Prepares the chalice on the Altar again. . . . . Rises from the dead  
31 Turns to the people and says "Dominus vobiscum" . . . . . Appears to His Mother and Disciples  
32 Reads Communion and Post Communion prayers . . . . . Teaches for forty days  
33 Turns to the people and says the last "Dominus vobiscum" . . . Bids farewell to His Disciples  
34 Says the "Ite Missa est" . . . . . Commissions the Apostles to preach the  
Gospel to all nations; ascends into Heaven  
35 Gives the blessing to the people . . . . . Sends down the Holy Ghost on Pentecost  
36 Reads the last Gospel . . . . . Is preached and worshiped throughout the  
world as the Son of God made Man

## *Adoro Te Devote*

O Godhead hid, devoutly I adore Thee,  
Who truly art within the forms before me;  
To Thee my heart I bow with bended knee,  
As failing quite in contemplating Thee.

Sight, touch, and taste in Thee are each deceived;  
The ear alone most safely is believed:  
I believe all the Son of God has spoken;  
Than Truth's own word there is no truer token.

God only on the Cross lay hid from view,  
But here lies hid at once the Manhood too:  
And I, in both professing my belief,  
Make the same prayer as the repentant thief.

Thy wounds, as Thomas saw, I do not see,  
Yet Thee confess my Lord and God to be:  
Make me believe Thee ever more and more;  
In Thee my hope, in Thee my love to store.

O Thou memorial of Our Lord's own dying!  
O Bread that living art and vivifying!  
Make ever Thou my soul on Thee to live;  
Ever a taste of Heavenly sweetness give.

O loving Pelican! O Jesu, Lord!  
Unclean I am, but cleanse me in Thy blood,  
Of which a single drop, for sinners spilt,  
Is ransom for a world's entire guilt.

Jesu! Whom for the present veil'd I see,  
What I so thirst for, O vouchsafe to me:  
That I may see Thy countenance unfolding,  
And may be blest Thy glory in beholding.  
*Amen.*

*By Saint Thomas Aquinas*

### The Fatima Center

Canada: P.O. Box 602, Fort Erie, ON L2A 5X3 | U.S.A.: - P.O. Box 1470, Buffalo, New York 14240  
LF412 Call toll-free: 1-800-263-8160 | 1-905-871-7607 [www.fatima.org](http://www.fatima.org) | Email: [info@fatima.org](mailto:info@fatima.org) Printed in Canada