

St. Ignatius of Antioch

December 17, 2017– Third Sunday of Advent

Address: 3351 Contra Loma Boulevard, Antioch CA 94509-5468

Parish Office: (925) 778-0768 ● Fax: (925) 778-0845 ● Faith Formation: (925) 778-1631 ● Rectory: (925) 470-3253

E-mail: st.ignatius@sbcglobal.net ● Website: www.stignatiusofantioch.org

● facebook: www.facebook.com/stignatiusofantiochchurch

Third Sunday of Advent Candle of Joy



Mission Statement:

United in Faith, Ignited by the Spirit, We Reflect the Light of the Living Christ

Fr. Robert K. Rien
Pastor

Fr. George Griener, S.J.
Assisting Clergy

Fr. Richard Mangini
Assisting Clergy

Deacon Gary Hack
Permanent Deacon

Don Pearson
Director of Music, Organist,
Artist in Residence

Frances Rojek
Pastoral Associate,
Formation & Administration

Peter Degl'Innocenti
Pastoral Associate, Pastoral Care

Carolyn Krantz, M.Div.
Pastoral Associate, Social Justice

Maryann Peddicord
Pastoral Secretary

Estrella Rusk
Financial Secretary

Rich Confetti
Facilities Manager

Eucharist Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4 pm (New Time)
Sunday: 8 am & 10 am
Mon., Wed., Fri.: 8 am Holy Eucharist
Tue., Thur.: 8 am Liturgy of the Word
and Holy Communion

Holy Days: 8 am & 7:30 pm
Reconciliation: Saturday, 2:45 to 3:30 pm

Faith Formation Office: (925) 778-1631

Sacraments: Contact Parish Office: (925) 778-0768

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

For Ministries, Activities & Outreaches in Parish: see
Parish handbook, available in the Office.



December 17, 2017
Third Sunday
of Advent

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.

—1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

Stewardship

Thank you for the gift of your Time, your Talent and your Treasure to St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish.

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be.” —Matthew 6:21

Stewardship of Treasure

Our goal for weekly plate collections is: \$12,500.00

Weekend Offering for December 2-3

Weekend Offering.....\$10,880.77

Second Collection (Parking Lot Loan).....\$4,178.91

Looking Ahead

December 16: Simbang Gabi begins at 5 am.

December 24: Please note, only one morning Liturgy for the 4th Sunday of Advent at 10:00 a.m. Christmas Eve Liturgies are at 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Ongoing:

Tuesdays: 9:15 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. - Hula Class in the Parish Hall. Contact Samantha Peralto at 726-7117 for information or questions.

Thursday: Growing in Faith Together (G I F T) sessions - 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. - Parish Hall. Call the Faith Formation office for more details (778-1631).

Schedule of Events

Sunday, December 17

- Simbang Gabi - 5 am Liturgy - Church
- 8 am & 10 am Liturgies
- Confirmation I & II Meet - 12 noon to 1:15 pm - Parish Hall

Monday, December 18

- Simbang Gabi - 5 am Liturgy - Church
- Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am
- No SPRED this month
- RCIA meets - 7 to 8:30 pm - Parish Office

Tuesday, December 19

- Simbang Gabi - 5 am Liturgy - Church
- Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion - 8 am
- Family Faith Formation - 6 to 7:15 pm - Parish Hall
- Adult Confirmation Class Meets - 7:30 to 9 pm - Parish Office

Wednesday, December 20

- Simbang Gabi - 5 am Liturgy - Church
- Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am with Novena following - Church
- No Faith Formation Classes - Christmas Break

Thursday, December 21

- Simbang Gabi - 5 am Liturgy - Church
- Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am
- Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) sessions - 9 to 10:30 am - Parish Hall
- Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 pm to 9 pm - Church

Friday, December 22

- Simbang Gabi - 5 am Liturgy - Church
- Rosary - 7:25 am - Church
- Eucharist - 8 am

Saturday, December 23

- Simbang Gabi - 5 am Liturgy - Church
- 4 pm Liturgy
- Second Collection for St. Vincent de Paul

Sunday, December 24

- Simbang Gabi - 5 am Liturgy - Church
- 10 am Liturgy only - 4th Sunday of Advent
- Second Collection for St. Vincent de Paul
- 4 pm - Christmas Eve - Eucharist for Families with Children
- 9 pm - Christmas Eve - The Solemn Eucharist of Christmas Night

Pray for the Sick

Remember in your prayers all those who are sick or suffering in any way, especially:

Angelina Alphonso	Robin Goncalves	Tylor Rideau
Rocco Battaglia	Avelina Gordovez	Kim Tank
Rosita Bonayon	Emilia Amezcua-Gutierrez	Peter Villalpando
Tom Bresciani	Linda Morrison	Theresa Weathers
Todd Campbell	Jose Guillermino Ramos	Guy Worth
Dorothy		

Members of our Parish Family who are in the Military, hospitals, nursing homes, shut-ins and all those who have no one to pray for them.

Readings for the Week

Monday	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Friday	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Saturday	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Sunday	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

Lay Ministers—Week of Dec 23rd & Dec 24th

Minister signup sheets on the wall adjacent to the Sacristy

Dec. 23rd - Fr. Mangini Presiding and Preaching at 4 pm

Dec. 24th - Fr. Robert Presiding and Fr. Mangini Preaching at 10 am (only one Liturgy - 4th Sunday of Advent)

Dec. 24th (Christmas Eve)

Fr. Robert Presiding and Preaching at 4 pm
Fr. Mangini Presiding and Preaching at 9 pm

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat. 4:00 pm	Teresa De Castro †
Sun. 5:00 am 8:00 am	Tranquilino & Nieves Buclatin Debbie Olson †
Sun. 10:00 am	Joel Rusk †
Mon. 8:00 am	Fara Costanza †
Tues. 8:00 am	All Priests & Deacons
Wed. 8:00 am	Our Parish Family
Thur. 8:00 am	All Care Givers
Fri. 8:00 am	Lenore Jarin †

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the soul of **Richard Baumach**. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

St. Vincent De Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is requesting the following food items:

- 2 lb. bag White Rice**
- Canned Tuna - 5 oz.**
- Chicken Noodle Soup - 10. 5 oz.**

Please bring your donations to weekend liturgies or place them in the donation barrel in the Narthex.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

If you can help or need help call (925)757-0941
Food Pantry - Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9-10 am - Parish Center *

Food Bank Fresh Food Truck - 1st & 3rd Friday of the month 1-2 pm Church Parking lot *Most Holy Rosary.

If you can just once a month visit a needy family with us to offer them help call (925)757-0941

For every type of help from the country call 211 or go to: www.211database.org

Marriage Preparation Programs

“A Program to Prepare Couples for the Sacrament of Marriage.” The last Marriage Preparation Registration for the Summer Sessions is as follows:

Saturday, January 13th - 8:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Location: St. Vincent’s Marinwood -

1 Saint Vincents Drive San Rafael, CA

The cost is \$325.00 per couple. For more information, call (415) 699-8348.

Most Holy Rosary School

Holy Rosary School is now Accepting Applications for grades Pre-K through 8th grade for the School Year 2018-2019.

Holy Rosary also offers Pre-School Learning Center for 2 & 3 year olds.

Application packets are available for pick up at the school office, or visit the website at www.holyrosarycatholicsschool.org . For questions or to schedule a tour: Call 925-757-1270.

St. Joseph Missals Have Arrived

If you would like to purchase a St. Joseph Missal for the new liturgical year through the parish, please contact the parish office at (925) 778-0768. The cost is \$4.00.

Shelter Inc.—Contra Costa

Help needed to provide, cook and serve dinner at Mountain View Emergency Family Shelter.

Volunteers are needed to provide and serve dinner for homeless families living at this emergency shelter in Martinez. By providing a meal, you’re providing a family dining experience while ensuring no one goes hungry. Your participation and support is greatly appreciated.

Location: 1391 Shell Avenue, Martinez, CA (entrance is on Orchard Avenue).

For more information or questions about volunteering, please contact Stephanie Harrison at (925) 228-6920 or at StephanieH@shelterinc.org.

Adult Confirmation Classes

All those seeking the benefits of the sacrament of Confirmation who are already baptized and will be 18 years of age or older on January 13th, are urged to call Pastoral Associate, Peter Degl’Innocenti, immediately at (925) 756-6172. Four classes will be given on Tuesday nights starting December 19th at 7:30 pm in the Parish Office. Confirmation will be held on January 13th at the Cathedral of Christ the Light at 10:00 am. Registration deadline is December 22nd. Call now!

Environment Change for Christmas

The Environment Committee will be changing the church environment from Advent to Christmas on Monday, December 18th at 9:00 am. If you would like to offer your services in any way, please come and check-in with Fr. Robert.

There is always ironing that needs to be done and bins that need to be filled when taking Advent down and putting Christmas up. This is also a wonderful way to get to know your fellow parishioners.

Coffee and breakfast goodies are available for all the workers in the parish hall. Thank you, in advance, for helping make St. Ignatius of Antioch Church a beautiful Christmas environment for everyone!

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

“Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God.” Let us learn to comfort each other better by attending a World Wide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend with our spouse.

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are held at **San Damiano Retreat Center**, Danville on January 12-14th or May 18th-20th. Space is VERY limited! Early registration is highly recommended. For more information contact Greg & Mary @ 925-754-1284 or Joe & Sue @ 925-680-7767 now or go to oaklandwwme.org.

Justice Corner

By Carolyn Krantz...Pastoral Associate

Isaiah 61 in today's readings gives us our marching orders as a church: bring glad tidings, heal, bring release and freedom. Today's article is about the "Emerging Church" that is being discussed among various theologians and practical religious workers in today's world, among which Pope Francis is a guiding light. It is a change in Christian consciousness. It has much more to do with lifestyle than doctrine. Here are some descriptions:

The "Emerging Church" concept indicates that there is a shift in awareness toward a non-dual way of thinking about what it means to be a part of church, not so much about institution as about a value system that upholds a Way of Life. I have often described church as disciples on the road to Emmaus. We don't always recognize Jesus, but are gradually enlightened as we grow into adulthood and liturgy teaches us The Way. More of our thinking becomes "both/and" rather than "either/or". Jesus becomes for us a model of living rather than an object of worship. We begin to look more for the ways to affirm one another rather than being judgmental. After all, who has "walked in the shoes" of the other. We strive toward being reconciling people rather than always making judgments. We move toward compassion for the needs of others rather than maintaining institutions. We see this in the actions of Pope Francis and in our own efforts to help the people in need in our area.

In raising our children we encourage personal search rather than uniformity. We invite them to ask questions and teach by asking questions rather than supplying answers. I am reminded of a simple phrase I learned when learning a new culture in Louisiana, "Ask rather than tell." Befriend rather than parent. We become peacemakers rather than competitors for control or power. We are focused on bringing the kingdom here rather than making it to heaven. "The Kingdom of God is within you." We try to act graciously rather than making sure everything is "right." I have seen examples in the past where Catholics who think they are "right" destroy the peace of others and encourage disunity by their obstinate accusations that the other is wrong. Unity in diversity has become more the Way. "There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female. All are one in Christ."

The "Emerging Church" is about companionship with others who are struggling to find Jesus in the middle of life's trails. It is about love rather than rightness. It is about affirming each other's search. It is about questioning and looking for the divine action of the Holy Spirit. "Where not our hearts burning as He opened the Scriptures for us?" It is about ordering our hearts and tuning them to hear God's Presence in our everyday existence.

The concept of "Emerging Church" recognizes the goodness and beauty in all humans, all religious practice, all cultures. It is "interfaith" and "ecumenical." While we appreciate our own tradition, we do not condemn others who are also searching for the truth by a different path. Together we walk toward and alongside. Recently I attended a meeting hosted by the San Francisco Foundation of many individuals and organizations that are working for economic and racial equity in East County. All of us could agree on working toward better housing, jobs and opportunities for youth. We focused on what we could do together for the betterment of the people in our area. This is what "Emerging Church" does.

Parish Perspective

By Peter Degl'Innocenti...Pastoral Associate

Ode to Table Two

The 12th annual St. Nicholas Dinner was a resounding success. How do they do it, year after year? They don't mess with a proven method of ensuring everyone has the best in food, entertainment, comradery, and holiday festivity. Once again, the tables were decorated in unduplicated beauty. The theme for this year's decorations was "O Christmas Tree". The style of trees ran the gamut from traditional green to frozen white, to Neo-Palm. In addition to the table centerpiece other tree motifs were carried in printed dinner plates, napkin folding, and multi-sized and colored ancillary trees. Table Two was decorated very nicely and the people there were having a great time (feeling no pain, wink, wink).

The food was incredible! Dave Costanza and his entire kitchen team were stellar in their menu planning and execution of the cuisine. To ensure order and civility tables were called to the buffet line randomly by number and I can't blame the folks at one table for sprinting to the food line prematurely. They were intercepted halfway by the alert Marla P. and sent back to their table, hat-in-hand; or should I say plate-in-hand? I won't mention any names I'll just call them "Table Two" (really feeling no pain now). There was a ton of food left over too. This was no skimpy event, this was a feast fit for Saint Nicholas. Also, fit for a saint, was the dessert; a moist seasoned cake. It was garnished with pomegranate seeds for texture and crunch factor and most surprisingly of all was the half walnut crowning the cake. The walnuts were Eureka Walnuts, an heirloom variety introduced to California in the 1800s. Once commercially available, but now are only available from private groves. They were like no other walnut you've ever tasted!

Then came the announcements of the silent auction winners, each applauded in turn. Next came the live auction action. Bidding was competitive on a minor league level until the battle for the Golden State Warriors Jersey and replica Trophy came into play. Resembling more like a boxing slugfest than an auction, the two bidding pugilist Kirby McNesby and Melodye Costanza squared-off toe-to-toe. At first the bids increased at the usual \$20 increments. It was clear that it would take all night at this rate, so Kirby initiated the \$50 step ups. Bids increased until one sought to intimidate the other out of bidding by the \$100 increase over the last bid! No, that wasn't going to deter these bold competitors. The bid reached \$500 and in the most gentlemanly and chivalrous way Kirby acceded to the lady's desire for sports memorabilia and let Melodye take the prize. Bravo to both! What a glorious evening. It's no wonder the tickets sell-out the first weekend they're offered. Mark your new '18 calendars now to be ready for the next one. If you're lucky, you may even get a seat at Table Two!

Get Your Tickets to the
6th Annual Knights of Columbus
Crab Feed



Saturday, January 27, 2018
5:30 PM
St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish Hall
All You Can Eat:
Appetizers
Dungeness Crab
Salad – Bread – Pasta – Dessert
No-Host Bar
Raffles

\$50 per person
Tickets sold after Mass
January 6/7 & 13/14 & 20/21
or
Call Steve Rojek at 925-642-2329
(No tickets sold at the door)

YLI Annual Comfort Bag Drive

YLI is currently accepting donations toward their annual Comfort Bags drive. Any unopened, unused personal hygiene items, especially the travel sized ones you may have collected from your hotel stays, are great. Please make sure that any donated products are alcohol free. (Be wary of dental products, perfumes, and hand sanitizers).

We are also accepting donations of new women's, men's and children's socks. Donations can be delivered to our church in the box in the Narthex as labeled.

(Do not place items in the barrel)

For questions please contact Tina Gutilla at 925-642-1465 or Jeannine Ford at 925-757-9650.



Giving Thanks!

As 2017 draws to a close, St. Ignatius of Antioch parish is taking time to reflect upon what we've accomplished this year and all that we have to look forward to in 2018.

Undoubtedly, we are a parish blessed with the love, prayers, and support of so many generous individuals.

Without the kindness and generosity of our parishioners, so much of what we accomplish in ministry and outreach would not be possible.

As you count your blessings this Christmas season, we ask that you prayerfully consider a special year-end gift to St. Ignatius of Antioch.

Please know that every gift, no matter the amount, is both celebrated and appreciated!



Preparations are being made for the annual Spirit of Giving Program. Anyone interested in helping families and individuals in need at Pleasant Hill, Concord, Pittsburg/Bay Point, and other sites, please contact CCIH. Profiles of each family or individual will be provided, along with a wish list and guidelines on how to help. The clients are matched up with each donor to ensure that each resident receives something special for the holidays. Anonymity will need to be preserved in order to protect confidentiality. Please contact Gloria Bertolozzi at: gloria@ccinterfaithhousing.org





*SIMBANG GABI
2017*

You are invited to join our Filipino Community for the traditional nine-day novena of liturgies up to Christmas, beginning December 16th through the 24th at 5:00 a.m. each morning at St. Ignatius of Antioch Church, 3351 Contra Loma Blvd., Antioch. It will be followed by a traditional Filipino Breakfast in our parish hall.

Thank you & Mabuhay!

