

SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES

DECEMBER 01, 2024

First Sunday of
ADVENT



ST. FRANCIS DE SALES CHURCH

13360 Valleyheart Drive South, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

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SERVED BY:

Rev. Michael Wakefield, Pastor
Ms. Lisa Sanders, Office
Ms. Tess Lumague, Office

Religious Education

Mr. Jack Lathuras - JLathuras@sfdsparish.com

Little Church/Sunday Pre-School

Ms. Rachel Munyaradzi - RMunyaradzi@sfdsparish.com

St. Francis de Sales School & Pre-School

13368 Valleyheart Drive South, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

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Ms. Myra Goethals, School Principal

Ms. Jerri Ford, Pre-School Director



St. Francis de Sales ~ Pray for Us

SFDS PARISH REGISTRATION FORM

New parishioners registration or to update your existing information, please complete this form & place it directly in the Collection Basket, hand-it to an Usher, mail-it to or drop-it off at the Parish Center.

You may also call with updates, so we may keep your records current.

Or you may Register on-line at our website: sfdsparish.com

Personalized envelopes will be mailed to you from the printing company in about 8 to 12 weeks, after your registration has been processed.

FAMILY NAME: _____

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PHONE: (____) _____ E-MAIL: _____

If you use the envelopes in the pews, please make sure to write your envelope number (if known), your first & last name.

Thank you.

1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 01, 2024

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalms 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Luke 21:25-28,34-36

MASS Times

Daily: 8:15 AM, Monday thru Friday

Saturday: 8:15 AM and

5:00 PM → Sunday Anticipated Mass

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 12-Noon

Confessions: 4:00 PM on Saturdays

Baptisms and Weddings:

Please make arrangements by calling the Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY	November 30
8:15 AM	<i>For the Intentions of Joshua Tyler Plattner</i>
5:00 PM	<i>In Memory of Genevieve Briasco</i>
SUNDAY	December 01
8:00 AM	<i>For the Intentions of Carlos Joni Punzalan</i>
10:00 AM	<i>In Memories of Zoltan & 2 Brothers Horosny</i>
12:00 PM	<i>For the Intentions of Nathaniel Nolasco Tipping</i>
MONDAY	December 02
8:15 AM	<i>For the Intentions of Vivian Villaluz</i>
TUESDAY	December 03
8:15 AM	<i>In Memory of Noelle Mazza</i>
WEDNESDAY	December 04
8:15 AM	<i>In Memory of Antonio Cinco</i>
THURSDAY	December 05
8:15 AM	<i>For the Intentions of St. Expedite</i>
FRIDAY	December 06
8:15 AM	<i>In Memory of Nicolas Simeon</i>
SATURDAY	December 07
8:15 AM	<i>For the Intentions of Melanie Reyes Sobel</i>
5:00 PM	<i>In Memories of Giselle Lattig & Carlos Lattig</i>

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, 12/01	<i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>
Tuesday, 12/03	<i>St. Francis Xavier, Priest</i>
Wednesday, 12/04	<i>St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i>
Friday, 12/06	<i>St. Nicholas, Bishop</i>
Saturday, 12/07	<i>St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i>

CONTRIBUTIONS to the CHURCH

Weekend: 11/22 - 25/2024

Not available due to Thanksgiving Holiday's early printing deadline of the Bulletin.

Thank you for your generous contributions.

Pray For
The Dead



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially:

Oлга Oshiro, Trese Gmyr, Maria Berreondo, Tanya Valazquez, Catherine Crews, Deana Domsten, Jennifer Ormsby, Mary Ann Bleses, Kerry Wyse, Louise Brancale, Charlie Ho, Johnny Lopez, Jackie Ward-Smith, Ann Murcia, Rosemary Schreiber, Deb Marsdale, Linda Lucas, Vickie Council, Joan Gore, Victoria Taylor, William Moulprie, Rose Bann, James Armstrong, Sr., Catherine Mwamba, Kathy Polk, Pat Yahnke, Linda Mauleon, Sandra Mitchell, Sharon Crigler, Samiee Nejad, Mary Bailey, Eric Duran, Tina McConnell, Patrick McDougall, Tish Mc Daniel, Nina Barnes, Jana Rattigan, Audrey Rattigan, Jezebel Todd, Lauren Britton, Jen Welch, Bob Dixon, Tony Guadagno, John Proscetto, Dexter Gray, Annie Salazar, Jim Earnhart, Joseph Stockert, Marianne Karibian, Rose Ang, Lisa Miranda, Sheila van der Veen, Leonila Siga-an, Jonathan Jacobs, Sammi Petri, Brett Good, Georgina Nicoletti, Lindsay Dean, Saverio Barbieri, Davis Weld, Kevin Hogan, Rose Pernice, Catherine Sweeney, Jeffrey Paynton, Tommy Fitzpatrick, Doris McNary, Marilyn Sidley, Karin Quinn Forward, John Knight, Susan Maria, Kevin Patrick, Sean Kevin, Virginia Johnson, Fran Hurton, Arnaud Gregori, Mary Henriksen, Dominic Mantei, Edith Reeves, Stefanie Gabler, Jake Patterson, Rose Rios, Anita & Austen Canzano, David Bell, Marie Schewe, Tom & Judy King, Jonathan Masse, Steve Dee, Darya Williams, Gus Calderon, Robert Willing, Josue Meza, Thomas Oliver, Philip Graber, and Blake Cline

Your Giving Brings Hope to Your Parish

Use SFDS Parish's online giving platform, **Faith Direct**, to deepen your commitment to our parish. Your re-occurring gifts will sustain our parish month after month. You will also help our parish by cutting costs for envelopes and paper, allowing our staff to spend less time processing cash and checks. It's easy to get started.

Here are different ways to sign-up:

- Visit: **Faith.Direct/CA 882**
- E-mail: **info@faithdirect.net**
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Did You Know?

Child Pornography and Artificial Intelligence, Part 2

Artificial intelligence, or AI, has opened the door to generating incredibly realistic images. Often called "deepfakes," we have seen these images crop up on social media. In January 2024, explicit images of Taylor Swift, created by AI, were posted online, and viewed over 45 million times before they were removed. In the same way, AI technology can be used by child abusers to create and share explicit imagery.

For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Artificial Intelligence—Deepfakes and Child Abusers" on lacatholics.org/did-you-know/

Season of Advent

Advent begins this year on Sunday, December 1st. Most Catholics, even those who don't often go to Mass, know that Advent often involves a wreath with candles, possibly a "calendar" of hidden chocolates, pulling out of storage and untangling strings of Christmas lights and starting to make plans for Christmas. But Advent is much more than that. Here are a few thoughts on Advent.

The people of Israel waited for generations for the promised Messiah to arrive. Their poetry, their songs and stories and their religious worship focused on an awaited Savior who would come to them to set them free from captivity and to lead them to the fulfillment of all that God had promised.

Israel longed for a Messiah and John the Baptist, who came before Jesus, promised that the Messiah was coming and then pointed out and identified Jesus as "*Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world*".

Advent is a season in the Church's life intended to renew the experience of waiting and longing for the Messiah. Though Christ has already come into the world, the Church invites us to renew our desire for the Lord, the Lord Jesus who was born to us in Bethlehem, the Lord Jesus who is with us now and who enters our lives in Holy Communion and the Lord Jesus who will have a triumphant second coming into the world.

During Advent, we're invited to enter more frequently into silence, into prayer and reflection, into Scripture, and into the sacramental life of the Church — all to prepare for celebrating Christmas.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says the goal of Advent is to make present for ourselves and our families the "ancient expectancy of the Messiah ... by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming."

Monday, December 9, 2024

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception – Holy Day of Obligation

Sunday, December 8, 2024 is the Second Sunday of Advent, so the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (our national patronal feast day) is transferred to Monday, December 9th.

Because the Sundays of Advent outrank solemnities on the Table of Liturgical Days, all Masses on December 8th will be those of the Second Sunday of Advent.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Monday, December 9th and celebrated as a holy day of obligation. **Masses on December 9th will be at 8:15 am, 12:05 noon-time and 7:00 pm.**

Rosary Procession led by Men of Exodus 90

Saturday, December 7th

Vigil of Immaculate Conception

Pearl Harbor Day

The men of Exodus 90 are leading a Rosary Procession on Saturday, December 7th after the 8:15 AM Mass. All our welcome to join. We are specifically making an appeal to the men of the parish to join us. We encourage all men to pray with us in this procession as a show of faith in a culture that has increasingly drifted away and has become more hostile to people of faith.

Exodus 90 assists men to be uncommonly free.

"For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." (Galatians 5:1)

It is normal for men to be distracted, addicted, and enslaved by so many things today. Alcohol. Pornography. Social media. Sports. Gambling. Work. Comparison. Achievement. Wealth. Legacy. It is so normal, in fact, that society's stereotypes of men are often associated with the very idols that plague them.

What is uncommon in our time is men who are free. A free man is not a perfect man but one who remembers who he is: A son of God whom God has called forth for love. And the free man knows how much more he can become by the power of grace unfolding in his life over time.

Through contemplative prayer, men open up to a vulnerable relationship with God. Through asceticism, men grow in the power to say "no" to the common things of the world that hold them back. Through fraternity, men have the essential support, encouragement, and mercy of other men striving after the same uncommon ideals.

The freedom of the uncommon man, the Exodus man, is not for its own sake. The world defines freedom as the ability to do whatever you want, whenever you want, with whomever you want. True freedom is for commitment, sacrifice, and love. Like Jesus on the Cross, the free man takes up his life and then lays it down for others. What is returned to him is a life of meaning, integration, and eternal satisfaction.

It is for this reason that God brought forth Exodus to serve men today.

For more information or to RSVP please reach out to:

Miguel Diaz at mickd70@yahoo.com or Andy Wright at andy.c.wright@me.com

Retirement Fund for the Religious

December 7th – 8th

Across the United States, hundreds of religious communities lack financial resources sufficient to meet the retirement and health-care needs of aging members.

Many elder religious worked for years for little to no pay, leaving a large gap in retirement savings. At the same time, fewer religious are able to serve in compensated ministry.

Like many Americans, religious communities face the monumental challenge of funding elder-care.

Today, retired religious outnumber wage-earners by nearly three to one.

Your donation makes a difference. Approximately 95% of the funds collected aids senior religious. Only 5% is used for administration and promotional activities.

Some of the women and men who benefit from the Retirement Fund for Religious.

"Thanks to your generosity, we can provide the very best care to the sisters in our community," says Sister M. Stephanie Belgeri, 72, a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George in Alton, IL. "Your contributions enabled upgrades, including building an infirmary, ensuring our sisters' well-being."

"Thank you very much for your donations, always," says Sister Olivia Bellegante, 92, a member of the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in St. Louis, MO. "Since most of the sisters are getting older and not working anymore, it is difficult. It is a help to them; without it, I'm not sure that they could survive."

"It's this kindness," Brother Ronald of the Order of the Most Holy Trinity and the Captives (The Trinitarians) says, "that keeps us old birds chirping and fluttering, far from just waiting for the undertaker."

"Sincere thanks to the donors of the Retirement Fund for Religious. I hope we meet, if not in this world, then in the next," says Sister Teresa, 80, of the Sisters, Servants of Mary Immaculate in Catonsville, MD.

"Those serving in religious life receive minimal compensation because of their vow of poverty, so donors giving to the retirement fund show appreciation for their work and provide them with a sense of security in their old age. We are so grateful for all they have done for us," emphasizes Brother Charles Douglas, SSJ, 88, who has dedicated his life to religious service.

"Thank you for thinking about us! Your support acknowledges that we are the hands and feet of people, continuing the mission of Christ even in our retirement. Your generosity has been instrumental in helping others, and we are grateful for your recognition of our ongoing service. Together, we make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we touch. Thank you for being part of our journey," shares Sister Celeste Burgos, MSHS, 79.

"In the past, we who served in religious life traditionally received minimal compensation because of our vow of poverty. Therefore, when donors contribute to the retirement fund, it not only shows appreciation for our work as men and women religious but also provides us with a sense of security in our old age," says Father James Day, 77, a member of the Trinitarians in Sykesville, MD.

"I am truly, truly grateful for the assistance provided by donors. I am glad that someone thinks about the religious," says Sister Brenda Cherry, 84, a member of the Oblate Sisters of Providence in Halethorpe, MD. "It is important to support our elderly sisters, brothers and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others."



St. Francis De Sales Blood Drive

Sunday, December 8th, 2024

8:00am – 2:00pm

13368 Valleyheart Dr. Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

Location: Bloodmobile

Donors will receive TWO Pairs of EXCLUSIVE Red Cross + FRIENDS socks
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St. Francis de Sales Church Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th

Mass at 4:00 PM

Carols begin at 3:30 PM

Mass at 6:00 PM with Cantor and Organ

Mass at 10:00 PM with St. Francis de Sales Choir

Carols begin at 9:15 PM

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th

Mass at 8:00 AM with Cantor and Organ

Mass at 10:00 AM with St. Francis de Sales Choir

Mass at 12-Noon with Cantor and Organ

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1st

Holy Mary, Mother of God

Mass at 8:15 AM

Our Lady of Guadalupe Honored with Theater, Music, Annual Procession and Mass

All are invited to these annual celebrations honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Faithful, including Aztec dancers, Mexican Equestrian Troupes and Guadalupano Groups from parishes throughout the Archdiocese, will gather on **December 1st** in East Los Angeles for the procession beginning at 10:30 AM at Our Lady of Solitude Parish (4561 E. Cesar Chavez) and continue for one mile along Cesar Chavez Ave., to the East Los Angeles College Stadium for Holy Mass at 1:00 PM. Additional information about the **2024 Procession and Mass**, including how to support, is available at: www.lacatholics.org/Guadalupe.com

The Latino Theater will return to the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels on **December 6th** at 7:00 PM and **December 7th** at 6:00 PM with its live play, **“La Virgen de Guadalupe, Dios Inantzin”**. Since 2002, the story of an indigenous peasant’s vision of the Virgin Mary has become a Los Angeles holiday tradition with its music, dance and a universal message of faith, love and perseverance. The play features more than 100 actors, singers and indigenous Aztec dancers, children and seniors from the community.

For more information, visit: <https://www.latinotheaterco.org/lavirgen>

On **December 11th**, the Annual **“Las Mañanitas”** celebration at the Cathedral will begin at 6:00 PM with indigenous dancers and free seasonal treats on the Cathedral Plaza, and veneration of the Relic of the Tilma of St. Juan Diego, on which the miraculous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared 493 years ago.

The Cathedral is home to the only Relic of the Tilma outside of the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. At 10:00 PM, the celebration continues inside the Cathedral with a special Rosary with the participation of local talents. The musical tribute, or serenata, begins at 11:00 PM, with guest singers invited to serenade the Virgin Mary and sing **“Las Mañanitas,”** a traditional Mexican birthday song to honor the Virgin Mary on Her Feast Day. The program will be in Spanish and the festivities will culminate with mid-night Mass in Spanish celebrated by Archbishop José H. Gomez.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Advent Penance Service</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>City</u>
Our Lady of Grace	No Penance Service		
St. John Eudes	Thursday, December 05	7:00 PM	Chatsworth
St. Bridget of Sweden	Friday, December 06	6:30 PM	Lake Balboa
St. John Baptist De La Salle @ St. Euphrasia	Tuesday, December 10	7:00 PM	Chatsworth
St. Catherine of Siena	Wednesday, December 11	7:00 PM	Reseda
St. Joseph the Worker	Friday, December 13	7:00 PM	Reseda
Our Lady of the Valley	Monday, December 16	7:00 PM	Canoga Park
St. Francis De Sales @ St. Cyril of Jerusalem	Monday, December 16	7:00 PM	Encino
Our Lady of Lourdes	Tuesday, December 17	7:00 PM	Northridge
St. Mel	Thursday, December 19	7:00 PM	Woodland Hills
St. Bernardine of Siena	Friday, December 20	7:00 PM	Chatsworth

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Telephone #: **(818) 895-2500** or Email: norma@pregnanthelp.org



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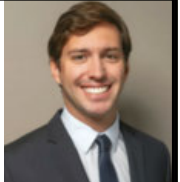
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