

ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA PARISH COMMUNITY



They shall name him Emmanuel,
which means "God is with us."
Matthew 1:23



Ministered by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart
(MSC)

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Generoso Sabio, MSC, Pastor
Rev. Benjamin Alforque, MSC, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Arturo Mateo, MSC, Parochial Vicar
Deacon John De Gano
Deacon Donald Tillitson

Ministry Center: 7005 Brockton Ave.
Riverside, CA 92506

Church: 3680 Arlington Ave.
Riverside, CA 92506

Parish Office: 951.781.9855

Fax: 951.683.4114

Rectory: 951.683.0800

School: 951.684.1091

Visit us online: www.stcofa.org

Confessions

Saturday 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Daily Upon Request

Sick Calls (during office hours): 951.781.9855

Sick Calls (after office hours): 951.683.0800 ext. 25

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 19, 2010

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5:15 p.m.

Sunday: 6:30 a.m.
8:30 a.m.
10:15 a.m. (Interpreted for Deaf)
12:00 noon (Gospel Choir)
1:30 p.m. (Español)
5:15 p.m. (Life Teen)

Daily: 8:00 a.m. (Monday - Saturday)
5:30 p.m. (Monday - Friday from Labor Day
through Memorial Day)

Holy Days (Except Christmas & New Year's): Holy Days Vigil
Mass at 5:30 p.m.; 8:00 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

Novena to the Sacred Heart

First Friday at 8:30 a.m.

Novena to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

First Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday after 8:00 a.m. Mass until 8:00 a.m. on Saturday

Parish Mission Statement

One God, One people in Christ, One community of love guided by the Holy Spirit to impact lives.

Un Dios, Un pueblo en Cristo, Una comunidad de amor guiada por el Espíritu Santo para impactar vidas.

Mass Intentions - Intenciones de MisasSUNDAY - DOMINGO 12/19

- 6:30 a.m. Tillie, Joseph Sr. & Joseph Medure Jr. †
 8:30 a.m. Parishioners
 10:15 a.m. William & Clara Verrenti †
 12:00 noon Deceased members of the Carta Family
 1:30 p.m. Luis Reveles †
 5:15 p.m. Olive & Carl Van Houten †

MONDAY - LUNES 12/20

- 8:00 a.m. Parishioners
 5:30 p.m. Parishioners

TUESDAY - MARTES 12/21

- 8:00 a.m. Anton Erwin Bartholomew, Sr. †
 5:30 p.m. Parishioners

WEDNESDAY - MIERCOLES 12/22

- 8:00 a.m. Armando Landar †
 5:30 p.m. Patrick White †

THURSDAY - JUEVES 12/23

- 8:00 a.m. Delfin Tito †
 5:30 p.m. Carolyn De Leon & Natividad De Leon †

FRIDAY - VIERNES 12/24

- 8:10 a.m. Marie Mendoza †

Vigil Masses for the Nativity of Our Lord

- 5:30 p.m. Parishioners
 7:30 p.m. Parishioners
 12:00 Parishioners

SATURDAY - SABADO 12/25 NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

- 6:30 a.m. Parishioners
 8:30 a.m. Parishioners
 10:15 a.m. Parishioners
 12:00 noon Parishioners
 1:30 p.m. Parishioners †

SUNDAY - DOMINGO 12/26

- 6:30 a.m. Parishioners
 8:30 a.m. Richard Cleary †
 10:15 a.m. Marshall & Aurelia Ciubal †
 12:00 noon Larry Lazar †
 1:30 p.m. Martha & Carlos Posado †
 5:15 p.m. Nancy Jane Sams †
 † *Symbolizes Soul of Deceased*

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading - You will be given this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:10-14).

Psalm - Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory (Psalm 24).

Second Reading - God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

Gospel - The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:18-24).



LITURGY

Liturgy Corner

December 19 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 21 – Peter Canisius, priest, doctor

December 23 – John of Kanty, priest

December 24 – **VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

December 25 – **THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

The liturgies of Christmas as set out in the sacramentary and lectionary seek to express and shape the spirituality not of one person or of a single cultural community but of the entire ecclesial bodies of those baptized into the pasch of Jesus Christ. They set before us the powerful challenge of the Christmas child who is not our personal or communal past but the dawning future we share with all humanity. Advent has prepared us for the child of the Christmas texts (2011 Ordo).

Next to the yearly celebration of the paschal mystery, the Church holds most sacred the memorial of Christ's birth and early manifestations. This is the purpose of the Christmas season (General Norms, 32).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38
 Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zeph 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45
 Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56
 Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66
 Friday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79
 Saturday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25;
 Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Midnight: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
 Sunday: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14; Ps 128; Col 3:12-21 [12-17];
 Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

- Lunes: Is 7:10-14; Lc 1:26-38
 Martes: Cant 2:8-14 o Sof 3:14-18a; Lc 1:39-45
 Miércoles: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lc 1:46-56
 Jueves: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lc 1:57-66
 Viernes: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lc 1:67-79
 Sábado: Vigilia: Is 62:1-5; Sal 89 (88);
 Hch 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Medianoche: Is 9:1-6; Sal 96 (95); Ti 2:11-14; Lc 2:1-14
Alborada: Is 62:11-12; Sal 97 (96); Ti 3:4-7; Lc 2:15-20
Día: Is 52:7-10; Sal 98 (97); Heb 1:1-6;
 Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
 Domingo: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Sal 128 (127); Col 3:12-21 [12-17];
 Mt 2:13-15, 19-23



A Sense of the Season

Advent is the way we as church express our hopes. Prophetic visions, prayers and songs calling for the Lord to come do help us to hope profoundly. Advent allows us to do what most others do in December - but to see in the coming Lord the answer to our dreams. In our Catholic tradition, keeping Advent means singing the songs of expectation, of our hopes and longing, before we enter into the full-throated praise of Christmas carols.

Here are a few lines from our tradition on what Advent is about. "Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare us for Christmas when Christ's first coming is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and the heart to await Christ's second coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation." (General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, #39)

Thomas Merton, in his book *Seasons of Celebration*, reviewed the ways Saint Bernard of Clairvaux approached these comings of Christ. The first advent was Christ's birth. The other will be at the end of time. Faith in these two stimulates recognition of a third, the advent of Christ in our church now, today. Viewed from this perspective, the Advent liturgy, with its scriptures, prayers and songs, is neither a romantic return to the Old Testament while we wait for the baby at Bethlehem, nor is it an exercise in expressing hope for an ever-receding end of time. The Advent liturgy is neither nostalgic nor illusory. When we take the tradition and enter it fully, we become Advent, the people in and through whom Christ comes.

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Christmas Mass Schedule

Friday, December 24 Vigil

- 5:30 pm - Family Mass (Children's Choir)
- 7:30 pm - Life Teen/Family Mass (Life Teen Choir)
- 12:00 - Midnight Mass (Traditional Choir)
- Carols at 11:30 pm (Combined Choirs)

Saturday, December 25

- 6:30 am - English (Cantor)
- 8:30 am - English (Psalm 100 Choir)
- 10:15 am - English (Filipino Choir)
- 12 noon - English (Gospel Choir)
- 1:30 pm - Spanish (Spanish Choir)
- No 5:15 pm Mass

Closed

The Parish Offices will be closed beginning Friday, December 24th and reopen on Monday, January 3rd.

May you and your families have a happy and blessed Christmas season.

If anyone would like to donate a poinsettia plant in memory of a loved one, you may bring your plant to church Friday morning, December 24th, between 9:30 am and



11:00 am and fill out the card to be placed with the plant in the church.

Financial updates were not available at press time. Look for them in next week's bulletin.



Salt & Light

A PMFP (Parish Ministry Formation Program) specialization course in the Social Mission of the Parish; this course is the specialization course for those working in social ministry. Our winter dates are: Jan. 15, 22, and 29 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Ontario. A registration fee of \$30 for each person is required. This cost will cover all three sessions. Please note that a minimum of 12 registrations is necessary for the class to proceed. For more information call the Office of Social Concerns at 909 475-5465.

"I Was in Prison and You Visited Me" (Mt 25:36)

The Catholic Community at the California Institution for Women is a vibrant, engaged group of incarcerated women who are dependent upon outside donations for supplies and stipends. Additionally, they need assorted greeting cards, stamps, paperback Bibles, grief books, and inspirational literature (all in English and Spanish).

If you would like more information about helping this very appreciative community, please call Chaplain Maryloyola Yettke at

909.597.1771 ext. 6366

or e-mail at maryloyola.yettke@cdcr.ca.gov.



Religious Give Thanks

Women and men religious throughout the country offer heartfelt thanks for your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your gift makes a tangible difference in the lives of thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Isaac Society

Christmas social with Santa
 Sunday, December 19 at 2:00 pm
 Chapman Convalescent Hospital
 Bring your family! The residents
 Love to see the children.

For more information call Diana 781-9855 ext. 18 or Walter 789-0186.



Adopt-a-Family for Christmas

Are you looking for ways to make the Christmas season more meaningful? Give a gift from the heart by adopting a family for Christmas. St. Vincent de Paul volunteers have visited many needy homes in Riverside throughout the year in which there would be very little extra resources for Christmas gifts.

If you are interested in adopting a family or an individual who has been a client of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, please call Paula Ferrett at 951 697-7733 for details or information.

RESPECT LIFE

"In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God's glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ."

Pope John Paul II, The Gospel of Life



St. Catherine Stephen Ministers Are Ready to Care

We all experience challenges in life.

Stephen Ministry is a **CONFIDENTIAL** ministry. The identity of those receiving care and what takes place in each caring relationship remains private.

Do You or a Loved One Need a Stephen Minister?
 Call Stephen Leader, Mary Lou Couch at 682-6377.

LIFELINES

Pregnant & Scared? You have options:

1.800.395.HELP / OptionLine.org

Hurt by an Abortion? You are not alone.

For Hope & Healing contact:

English: 1.800.794.7863 Spanish: 909.238.4037

RachelsVineyard.org

Natural Family Planning

909.475.5351

Adoption Needs

Holy Family Services 1.800.464.2367

Christmas is coming soon along with the "Giving Tree"



This year Catholic Mission Outreach will dedicate the tree to all who suffer or lack because of the economic situation - lack of a job, food, health care, suffering from loneliness or, worst of all, lack of faith. Our prayers are with them especially at this time of year.

The tree will stand on Joseph's side of the church. It will be adorned with paper ornaments with the age and gender of a deserving child in need of a Christmas gift. Take the ornament home and pray about the child to receive this gift. Purchase a gift LEAVE IT UNWRAPPED and put it under the tree with the ORNAMENT SECURELY ATTACHED.

We also ask that you bring an ornament and place it in the ornament box by the tree. Please place all gifts under the tree by DEC. 20th to allow for packing and shipping in a timely manner. There will be envelopes on the tree for those who would like to help with our ever-increasing shipping costs. Please take one and put it in the collection with your donation inside (make checks payable to St. Catherine with C.M.O. on the memo line).

Each year we try to give the tree and ornaments to a deserving family so they may experience and celebrate the birth of our Lord this Advent as you do with your family. We at "Catholic Mission Outreach" wish you and yours a blessed and holy holiday.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR - DEC. 20TH IS THE
CUTOFF FOR RETURNING GIFTS.**



At the Crossroads Padre Pio

Our pilgrimage dubbed as "Following the Footsteps of St. Paul" made a side visit to the crypt of Padre Pio in San Giovanni Rotondo in Southern Italy.

Padre Pio was born Francesco Forgione in May 25, 1887. He entered the Capuchin order at the age of 15, taking on the name of Bro. Pio. In 1910 Padre Pio was ordained priest.

It is said that as a young boy of 5 years, he already decided to dedicate his life to God and lived a life of penance, like having a stone for a pillow. He worked on the land and delayed his education. When he informed his parents of his desire to enter the Capuchin monastery, the parents were told that he was welcome but that he needed more education. So Padre Pio's father traveled to America, worked here in order to be able to send his son to school and fulfill his dream to become a member of the Capuchin order.

It is said that his health was fragile as a young priest. He lived in San Giovanni Rotondo for most of his priestly and religious life. He dedicated himself to the celebration of the Sacraments of Penance and Reconciliation and of the Holy Eucharist.

On 20 September 1918 it is said that he began to experience the Stigmata: the wounds of Jesus on the Cross, while experiencing divine ecstasy. For the next 50 years, Padre Pio's hands would be wrapped to hide the wounds and the blood that flowed. It is said that his sharing in the wounds of Jesus included his feet and his side.

He died in September 23, 1968 at the age of 81. Beatified in May 2, 1999, Padre Pio was canonized in June 16, 2002 by Pope John Paul II.

Here are some famous quotes from Padre Pio, for our spiritual nourishment.

"Pray, hope, and don't worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer."

"Prayer is the best weapon we have; it is the key to God's heart. You must speak to Jesus not only with your lips, but with your heart. In fact on certain occasions you should only speak to Him with your heart."

"The life of a Christian is nothing but a perpetual struggle against self; there is no flowering of the soul to the beauty of its perfection except at the price of pain."

Father Ben

ANNUAL SILENT LADIES' RETREAT WEEKEND



JANUARY 29-31, 2011

with the Carmelite sisters at
Sacred Heart Retreat House in Alhambra
www.sacredheartretreathouse.com

You don't need to know anyone.

This is a time for conversation between you and God in beautiful surroundings with the loving sisters who provide all your needs and a fine retreat master.

It's an unforgettable time of peace, quiet and renewal of spirit.

Please consider joining us.

A wonderful way to start the New Year or prepare for Lent.

Call Mary Jo before Dec. 27 for reservations or more info @ 951-369-5788 or maryjos7@gmail.com.

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."



*News from Our Parish School
Excellence in Education, Body, Mind, & Spirit*

The Final Candle Shines in the Darkness

The final candle in the Advent wreath is often called the Angels' Candle for those who keep vigil over the Virgin as she travels toward Bethlehem and seeks shelter for the Nativity. It is a time of expectation, joy, and some apprehension. Will our efforts be overwhelmed by the trappings of the season, or will we truly find the promised savior on the day of his birth safe in the manger asleep?

Our school celebrated last week with a Christmas performance focused on the joy of Christ come to us. Friday we came before Christ as a school at Mass and left for Christmas break with the joy of the Lord echoing in the songs we sang. Our children now will celebrate with their families the coming of the Lord, and while Santa will certainly be on their minds, the baby in the manger is central to their hearts. We prepared for this as a community contributing food, blankets and mittens to those in need. We have prayed for relief for those in crisis during these hard economic times. It was to a world in need of hope that he came. That is the joy we wish for all, the joy of a God who loves us enough to become one with us in the midst of our circumstance.

Our children have prayed that joy for all. May the peace which passes understanding and the joy of Jesus infuse us all this Christmas. May all of us turn our hearts beyond our circumstance and breathe in deeply at the foot of the manger the sweet aroma of frankincense and myrrh which accompanies the baby. May God bless us all this Christmas with the great light which shines in the darkness to bring us all great joy.

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!

Rick Howick
School Principal

You may contact our school about space for next year at (951) 684-1091.

Catholic 101 - Being Catholic in the 21st Century



ON BREAK UNTIL
Sunday, January 9
7 – 9 PM in the Ministry Center
5 winter parts will be: The Mass, Sacraments, and Spiritual Gifts
Have a Blessed Advent and a Joyous Christmas season.

HELP FOR THE HOMELESS AND HUNGRY

A common sight at busy intersections is a homeless person with a sign asking for help. People may directly approach us for cash at other places. We can't help everyone, but we can help those in need of food.

A homeless person may receive \$200 each month in food stamps even if they do not have an address, a place to stay, or a place to cook meals. The homeless may not be aware that this and other services are available. You can help by clipping the info below and passing it on to those in need.

Help for homeless and hungry Riverside County residents. You may get \$200 in Food Stamps the same day you apply. Call 877-905-3777 and you will be directed to the nearest DPSS office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Seeing Jesus through the Eyes of Faith



It is the Holy Spirit that gives you an attraction to Me in the Blessed Sacrament.

The same Spirit that prompted Mary's fiat of obedient faith prompts your faith in the Eucharist. Of all the things you do with your time, contemplating My Eucharistic love is the highest good producing fruit that lasts. Your contemplation does not end when you leave the Tabernacle. It continues in the enthusiasm of your good works in the service of others.

BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD

INQUIRY



Thinking about becoming Catholic?
Baptized Catholic but never received any other sacraments?
Come to Adult Inquiry to explore and get your questions answered.

2nd & 4th Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. or
2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month at 9:00 a.m.
in the Ministry Center

Questions? Call Mary or Marty at 781.9855 ext. 29

Next meeting: Dec. 28



Bible/Scripture Study Groups

Wednesday, Exploring the Sunday Scriptures Group
for All Adults

6:30 p.m., Parish Hall info: 689-1710

Thursday, Group Bible Study for All Adults on the
Acts of the Apostles in depth

7 p.m., Ministry Center info: 689-1710

1st & 3rd Fridays, Men's Exploring Scripture Group

7:00-8:30 p.m., Ministry Center info: 789-4642

Thursday, Presentations on the New Testament
Gospels - Matthew

2 - 3:30 p.m., Ministry Center or

7 - 8:30 p.m., Ministry Center info: 697-7733

**(Before each session, you are encouraged to read
the chapters that will be studied)**

For Jan. 6th: Matt 14:1-17:27

If you would like to participate in this Bible Study online through email, please let Dr. Ferrett know at robert_ferrett@yahoo.com. You will receive a weekly PowerPoint presentation to guide your study and a set of study questions.

RISKY BUSINESS

Matthew's Gospel today tells us Joseph was betrothed to Mary. Unlike engagement, betrothal was a binding contract. The couple might wait for a year before beginning married life. Sexual activity during the betrothal was frowned upon. If the bride became pregnant by another man, her groom could denounce her, and she would be stoned to death. The alternative was quiet divorce. This would have saved Joseph from humiliation, but would have done nothing to protect Mary. God spoke in Joseph's dream and told him to take Mary as his wife. God named her child Jesus - the one who saves. Joseph took a risk and said "Yes" to God, without regard for the outcome.

Not all women have a "just man" like Joseph to stand by them during pregnancy and birth, or the resources to cope with single motherhood or a child with disabilities. Take a risk like Joseph and commit to offering help.

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LIFE TEEN
Lance Wiseman 781-9855 ext. 14 ®
Archie LaSalle 684-1065

All High-School-Age Youth LIFE NIGHT, Sundays
from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. after LIFE TEEN Mass

LIFE TEEN (high school age teen)

Tonight, Sunday - 12/19 - "Christmas Baskets"

The season is about giving, help us to serve those families in need by assembling food baskets. A great way to serve while earning service hours. This life night is at the Youth House at 7pm.

Next Sunday 12/26 - "NO Life Night"

Rejoice! Rejoice! Our savior has come! May your family be blessed, and see you next year - no life night tonight, enjoy the time with your family.

Remember every Sunday is LIFE NIGHT from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM at the Parish Hall or the Youth House, 6956 Nixon St. **All High School Age Youth** are welcome to come over as soon as the LIFE TEEN Mass ends.

Youth Service Hours - Christmas Baskets, teens wishing to help with collection & sorting of food on 12/19 please contact Archie at 684-1065.

Youth Fundraiser - Thanks to all who dined out at DeMatteo's on Dec. 17. Please remember we are doing this monthly. The next one is Friday, Jan. 21. Mention St. Catherine or present a flyer for us to get credit. Flyers are available at the Ministry Center, M-F, 9am to 5pm.

Middle School

THE EDGE - a Ministry for youth in middle school - Open to 6th to 8th graders in private or public schools. Our next gathering is Jan. 19, 6:30pm to 7:45pm, at the Youth House.

Confirmation News

1st Year Confirmation - The next Modules are Sunday Jan. 9, 3pm to 5pm or Monday Jan. 10, 6:30pm to 8:30pm in the Parish Hall.

2nd Year Confirmation - Remember 4 Life Nights, Mass reflection and service hours for each year. Contact Lance if you have any questions.

3rd Year Confirmation - The Parent and Candidate Retreat meeting will be Sunday, Jan. 9 from 1pm to 3pm in the Parish Hall. This is very important and a mandatory meeting.

Confirmation Registration - We have started our program, if you have not registered please contact Lance Wiseman @ 781-9855 ext 14.

Our Confirmation process is a three year program, starting in 9th grade, confirming in 11th grade, this includes public or any private school. Please contact Lance Wiseman if you have any questions.



Please note Children's Homily, Pre-School and Nursery will be closed for the holidays on December 26th and January 2nd.

Merry Christmas to all! Happy New Year!