

St. Felicitas Catholic Church

1662 Manor Blvd. San Leandro, CA 94579

Email: stfelicitaschurch@comcast.net
www.stfelicitas.org

Telephone Number (510) 351-5244
Fax (510) 351-5730



Second Sunday of Advent

December 07, 2025



December 07, 2025

*A voice of one crying out
in the desert :*

*“Prepare the way of the
Lord, make straight his
paths....”*

Luke 3:1-6

Mass Schedule :

Chương Trình Thánh Lễ / Horario para Misas

Sunday / Chúa Nhật / Domingo

7:30 am - 9:00 am - 10:30 am (English)
12:30 pm (Spanish) 4:30 pm (Vietnamese)

Saturday / Thứ Bảy / Sábado

7:00 am - 4:00 pm (Vigil)

Daily / Ngày thường / Diariamente

(Monday to Friday) 7:00 am & 8:15 am

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed everyday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in the Chapel at the St. Joseph's Center (the Parish Office). We encourage all our parishioners to visit the Chapel and spend time with our Blessed Lord.

Sacraments / Các Bí Tích / Sacramentos

Reconciliation / Giải Tội / Reconciliación

Monday to Friday - 7:30 am to 8:00 am
Saturday, 3:00 p.m.– 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

Marriage / Hôn Phối / Matrimonio

Arrangements to be made 6 months
prior to the wedding.

Baptism : If you are planning to have your child baptized, parents must be registered members of the parish for at least six months. For more information call the parish office at (510) 351-5244.

We have Baptisms in English on the 4th Sunday of the month at 2:00 pm and Baptism classes for parents and godparents will be on the 2nd Friday of the month at 7:00 pm - St. Mary's Center.

Parish Office Hours/Giờ làm việc VPGX / Horario de Oficinas

Monday / Thứ Hai / Lunes to 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Friday / Thứ Sáu / Viernes

Parish Staff /Nhân viên của Giáo xứ / Personal de la Parroquia

Rev. Peter D. Ngo, *Pastor* 347-1286

Fr. Rinto Puthussery - *In Residence*

Fr. Anthony Huong Le - *In Residence*

Deacon Timothy Myers, RCIA./Pastoral Care 347-1283
timothykentmyers@gmail.com

Sharon Clancey, *Office Secretary* 351-5244

Maria Castillo, *Spanish Coordinator* 347-1293

Mildred de Sousa, *Bookkeeper/Bulletin* 351-5244

Parish School

Shannon Bellison, *Principal* 357-2530

1650 Manor Blvd. Fax: 357-5358

Catholic Youth Organization (CYO)

Theresa Legaspi : saintfelicitascyo@gmail.com

Religious Education Office

Sandi Walton, *Director of Religious Education* 347-1282
stfelicitasccd@comcast.net

Youth Ministry

Geri Lara, *Youth Services* 326-5693
stfelicitasconfirmation@yahoo.com

St. Vincent de Paul-Call Center 510-638-7600

SECOND SUNDAY OF Advent

December 07, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent - Peace

Sunday's Readings: : Isaiah 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7); Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

Second Candle of Advent - Peace

The second Advent candle symbolizes **peace** or **faith**. Often called the "Bethlehem Candle," it reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem and the peace that Jesus brings to the world



The peace candle symbolizes the peace Jesus offers and the fulfillment of prophecies that the Messiah would be the "Prince of Peace".

Readings for the week of December 7, 2025

Mon: Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38
 Tues: Isaiah 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13; Matthew 18:12-14
 Wed: Isaiah 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Matthew 11:28-30
 Thurs: Isaiah 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Matthew 11:11-15
 Fri: Zechariah 2:14-17 or Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Luke 1:26-38
 Sat: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

Parish Advent Reconciliation Services-Tuesday, Dec.9th

Our Parish Communal Reconciliation Service is on **Tuesday, December 9th at 7:00 pm**. There will be several priests available to hear confession in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Filipino.



For Parishioners who cannot attend the Communal Service at 7:00 pm in the evening we will have priests for confession from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm that same day.

"Confessing our sins may be difficult for us, but it brings us peace. We are sinners and we need God's forgiveness."
Pope Francis

How Much Is Enough?

Reflection : I've got some great news for some of you: Jesus Christ doesn't care what name you bear. He doesn't care where you were born, and he doesn't care what your family tree looks like. He doesn't care where you grew up or where you went to school.

I've also got some bad news for some of you: See above.

It's so easy to take our salvation for granted. The mercy of God makes it so. Look at John the Baptist — he was pouring water on everybody who wanted it. Everybody but one group: those who expected it. Those who thought it was a given because of who they were, because of what they were. Those who had no intention of doing the work of repentance. **Sometimes, because God is so faithful, we make the mistake of forgetting that He is also just.**

I am baptized, we think. I made my First Communion, and I was Confirmed. That's enough.

I went to Catholic school. I know all the Ten Commandments and I can tell you anything you want to know about the Popes. That's enough.

I'm on parish council. I put money in the basket, and I volunteer. That's enough.

None of it is enough. It would never be enough. And before we look upon the Pharisees and Sadducees with too much judgment, we need to remember: the work of repentance is ongoing. It is a process that we must commit to within ourselves, continuously.

God is the missing element to this equation. He is the one who raises children to Abraham from the stones. If we rely only on our own abilities, our own merits, our own offerings, it will never be enough.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - December 8th

The feast of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy day of Obligation.

The Mass schedule is as follows :



Masses in English : 7:00 am; 9:00 am (school children) & 5:00 pm
Bilingual Mass : 6:00 pm
Vietnamese Mass : 7:30 pm

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Offering for November 30th will be available in next Sunday's Bulletin.

Parish Offering for November 23, 2025 :

Sunday Collection : \$ 9,746.00

Campaign for Mercy: \$ 3,509.00

Second Collection this Sunday : Maintenance

Second Collection next Sunday : Religious Retirement

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Transition from Faith Direct to Parish Soft

Our parish has transitioned from Faith Direct to ParishSoft Online giving for a safe, secure and convenient giving experience. No action is required if you are currently enrolled in FaithDirect. If you have any questions, the Parish Soft Donor Support team is ready to help : donorsupport@parishsoft.com.

Your generosity helps sustain the life and mission of our parish. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support and stewardship. God Bless you all.

Retirement Fund for Religious December 13th/14th

A lifetime of service deserves care in return.

"Thanks to your generosity, we can provide the very best care to the sisters in our community," says Sr. M. Stephanie Belgeri. Donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious provide housing, medical assistance, and essential support for thousands of aging religious. Please consider giving generously next week.

Youth Confirmation Fundraiser

The Youth Confirmation children will be selling tickets after all masses for their Advent/Christmas fundraiser. The drawing will be on Sunday, Dec.21, 2025. Prizes include a 75" Toshiba Smart LED TV, HP Laptop, Golden State lower-level game tickets for two and more. Proceeds will go towards their Retreat in May. Thank you for supporting our youth.

Simbang Gabi - 9 day Novena Masses

Simbang Gabi history is a devotional, 9 day series of masses attended by Filipino Catholics in anticipation of Christmas.

The Filipino Association of St. Felicitas is inviting everyone to join us for Simbang Gabi which will be from December 16-24 with novena masses starting at 5:00 am. After the Masses, there will be a friendship gathering in the gym/social hall. If anyone is interested in sponsoring one of the days or have questions, please contact Geri Lara @510-326-5693 or Grace Echelas @ 510-508-4523 or any other Filipino Assoc. officer.

PARISH MINISTRIES & SCHEDULES

Adult Confirmation

Classes every Saturday, at 9:00 a.m. at the St. Mary's Center. For more information contact Maria Lara-Puleo at (510) 877-2888 or email her at maripazlara2211@gmail.com

Faith Formation

English: Director of Religious Education - Sandi Walton
All Classes now in person. For information call (510) 347 1282
Spanish : Marvin Ramos - President (510) 919-4314
Maria Castillo - CCD (510) 347-1293
Anavell Amezcua - Coordinator (510)825-2022
(Quinceaneras/ Weddings / Funerals)

Vietnamese: Mr. Hoang Hung

Classes: Sunday 1:00pm, Vietnamese Language
3:00pm, Catechism

OCIA-the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Meetings held in person at the St. Joseph's Center at 6:30 pm -
Contact Deacon Timothy Myers

Youth Ministry

Youth Confirmation - Contact Geri Lara

Classes now in person on the following days :

1st year Sunday at 9:00 am : 2nd year Sunday at 11:30 am

Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Every Wednesday morning after 7 am Mass

Rosary Devotion - Daily after the 7:00 am morning Mass

Catholic Daughters

Catholic Daughters invite you to meet on the 3rd Monday of each month in St. Mary's Center at 6:30 pm. Contact Lorine Bakowsky at (510)461-7317 or email cdacourtmqw@gmail.com for more information.

Legion of Mary : Meets every Wednesday at 5:00 pm in the St. Mary's Center. Contact the Parish Office at (510) 351-5244 for more information

Knights of Columbus - invites Catholic men to join. If interested please contact Carl Webb at (510) 8135957 or email Carlwebb3@gmail.com

BSA and Cubs: Come join the Cubs & Scouts-Ages 5 to 17. We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall. If interested please contact Carl Webb at (510) 8135957 or email Carlwebb3@gmail.com

Pray for those who serve in the armed forces



Shianne Solomon - Sgt. Army
Jamie Placheno - Sgt. Military
Manuel Gonzalez-Cmdr. U.S.Navy
Brian T. Lara - M.Sgt. Air Force

Troy Meno (Air Force)

Brittany Manglona (Air Force)

Ryland Toves - Navy

Joey Mesa - Navy

Julian Chan - Marines

Kaden Milner - Military

Capt. Matt Peñaranda-Army

Marquis Loto - Navy

Lt. Sam Davis - Navy

Enzo Barcelona - Army

MA Glory C.L. Newell - Navy

Guyon Ducker - Marines

1stSgt. Ron E. Hesson - Army

Christopher Pangilinan - Military

If you know anyone who is serving please call the office

The Holy Father's December Prayer Intention
For Christians in areas of conflict : *Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.*

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|  | Mass Intentions Ý Lễ trong tuần Intensions' para las | Week of December 06, 2025 |
|--|---|--|

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|-------------|--------------|----------|---|
| Sat. | 12/06 | 4:00 pm | Jose Norberto Vargas † |
| Sun. | 12/07 | 7:30 am | Parishioners |
| | | 9:00 am | Alfredo Aguayo † |
| | | 10:30am | Gerino Capino † |
| | | 12:30 pm | Family Munoz Estrada & Hilda Navarro (L) |
| Mon. | 12/08 | | The Immaculate Conception |
| | | 7:00 am | Corazon Gulinao (L) |
| | | 9:00 am | Anita Medina † |
| | | 5:00 pm | Parishioners (Eng.) |
| | | 6:00 pm | Parishioners (Bilingual) |
| | | 7:30 pm | Parishioners (Vietnamese) |
| Tue. | 12/09 | 7:00 am | Marco K. Castro † |
| | | 8:15 am | Deceased members of Jackson & Lendsey Families† |
| Wed. | 12/10 | 7:00 am | Henry Ofman † |
| | | 8:15 am | Alfonso & Teresita Colobong† |
| Thur. | 12/11 | 7:00 am | Peter & Maria Tien and Maria Hieu † |
| | | 8:15 am | Mariano Carillo, Jr. † |
| Fri. | 12/12 | 7:00 am | Pedro Carbajal † |
| | | 8:15 am | Jose & Justina Soriano and Conrado & Dionisio Soriano † |
| Sat. | 12/13 | 7:00 am | Andres Bordalo, Jr. † |
| | | 4:00 pm | Maria Vargas † |
| Sun. | 12/14 | 7:30 am | Sophia Gant (L-B) |
| | | 9:00 am | Parishioners |
| | | 10:30am | Victor Hernandez, Jr. † |
| | | 12:30 pm | Má de Jesus Barragan and Daniel Rojas † |

L-Living †-Deceased A-Anniversary B-Birthday T-Thanksgiving H-Healing

Pray for our sick relatives and friends

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Denise Abero | Donald Solomon | Gary Siu |
| Jennifer L. Aguilar | Leonie Solomon | John Lara Salvatierra |
| Barbara O'Connor | Grace Pehl | Gilbert Castillo |
| Sal & Marlene Costilla | Ruben Aguayo | Pauline Pham |
| David Boles | Brian Keith Robinson | Mary Drayton |
| Joycelyn Garner | Jeff Ibrahim | Grace I. Robinson |
| Gloria Muskopf | Dan Bautista | Tony Ysguerra |
| Michal Myers | Raymond Bautista | Evangeline Herrero |
| Tony Silveira | Jeza Mae Salvatierra | Ana Estaniel |
| Felisimia Toste | Ruben Reygoza | Patricia Coffey |
| Geoffrey Salvatierra | Bill Siem | Giana Sorbello |
| Luningning Hobbs | Jeff Ahlberg | Jim Freitas |
| Virgie Mercado | Erika Vargas | Magali Lazcano |
| Reynald Corldani | Cathlyne Vargas | Robin Homen |
| Bernice Winslow | Baby Paige | Tiana Lara |
| Martin Indalecio | Mia Loto | Lucille Oliver |
| Julie Chin | Tillie Gumataotao | |



PANCAKE BREAKFAST
with Santa
 St. Felicitas Catholic School Gym
 10AM - 12:30PM | SUNDAY DEC 7TH
 CHANCE TO WIN: ADVENT CONCERT FRONT ROW \$5 RAFFLE TICKET
 PURCHASE ON PAYBEE SCAN QR CODE OR CLICK HERE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE ON PAYBEE OR DAY OF EVENT
 ADULTS: \$12 | CHILD/SENIOR: \$10
 Purchase tickets through Paybee or Cash/Check to the office. Presale prices end on Friday, December 5th. Ticket prices increase at the door.
 Name (for pick up): _____ # of Adult Tickets: _____ x #12
 Family Name: _____ # of Child/Senior Tickets: _____ x \$10
 Grade of Oldest Child (if applicable): _____ Total # of Tickets: _____ Total Cost: \$_____
 Form only needs to be submitted if paying cash/check to the office.

Poinsettias for our Christmas Altar

*Its Christmas time and we need your help to make our church look beautiful and festive. If you would like to contribute a **Poinsettia** in memory of your loved one and make the Sanctuary more beautiful during the Christmas Celebrations, there are special envelopes available in the vestibule of the Church. You may write the name of your loved one and drop it in the collection basket on Sunday. All donations must be received by Tuesday, December 23rd.*



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Our Church needs your help!!

We are looking for volunteers to help at the Parish Office on a regular basis, to assist with the telephones and other office duties. If you think this is something you can do and you are interested, please contact Sharon at the Parish Office (510) 3515244. Thank you.

Please pray for the deceased and her family



Juanita Aragon - Nov. 18, 2025

St. Felicitas Parish -Spanish-Speaking Community

Domingo: Is 11, 1-10/Sal 71, 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17 (ver 7)/Rom 15, 4-9/Mt 3, 1-12

¿Cuánto es suficiente?

Tengo buenas noticias para algunos de ustedes: a Jesucristo no le importa el nombre que lleves. No le importa dónde naciste, y no le importa cómo es tu árbol genealógico. No le importa dónde creciste o a dónde fuiste a la escuela. También tengo malas noticias para algunos de ustedes: ver más arriba.

Es tan fácil dar por hecho nuestra salvación. La misericordia de Dios lo hace así. Mire a Juan el Bautista: estaba derramando agua sobre todos los que la querían. Todos menos un grupo: los que lo esperaban. Aquellos que pensaron que era un hecho por quienes eran, por lo que eran. Los que no tenían intención de hacer la obra del arrepentimiento.

A veces, debido a que Dios es tan fiel, cometemos el error de olvidar que Él también es justo.

Estoy bautizado, pensamos. Hice mi Primera Comunión y fui Confirmada. Eso es suficiente.

Fui a la escuela católica. Conozco todos los Diez Mandamientos y puedo decirte todo lo que quieras saber sobre los Papas. Eso es suficiente.

Estoy en el consejo parroquial. Pongo dinero en la canasta y me ofrezco como voluntario. Eso es suficiente.

Nada de eso es suficiente. Nunca sería suficiente. Y antes de juzgar demasiado a los fariseos y saduceos, debemos recordar: la obra del arrepentimiento continúa. Es un proceso con el que debemos comprometernos dentro de nosotros mismos, continuamente.

Dios es el elemento que falta en esta ecuación. Él es el que suscita hijos a Abraham de las piedras. Si confiamos solo en nuestras propias habilidades, nuestros propios méritos, nuestras propias ofrendas, nunca será suficiente.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPi

Misa de la Inmaculada Concepcion de Maria Es un día sagrado de obligacion

8 de Diciembre

Misas 7:00am 9:00 am (Niños de Edad Escolar)
Y 5:00pm

6:00pm Misa Bilingue
7:30 pm Misa Vietnamesees

Confesiones para el tiempo de adviento para nuestra parroquia

Las horas de confesiones en nuestra parroquia seran el Martes 9 de Diciembre a las 7:00pm. Habra varios sacerdotes disponibles para el sacramento de reconciliacion en Ingles, Español, Vietnamita y Filipino

9 de Diciembre
1:00-3:00pm para los que no puedan asistir a las 7pm

Los jovenes de Confirmacion de la comunidad Hispana

Estaran teniendo una venta de comida despues de cada misa de la proxima semana el 14 de diciembre. Esto les ayudara a ellos a pagar su retiro, acomapañelos y pase un momento agradable con su familia.



Celebracion de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Viernes 12 de Diciembre

Mañanitas 4:00am con Mariachi
en Vivo
5:00am Rosario

Por la tarde
6:00pm danza Azteca

6:30pm Misa

Despues de la Misa tendremos un convivio

Fondos de Jubilacion Religiosos

La Diocesis de Oakland hara la colecta anual del fin de semana del 13 y 14 de Diciembre, que beneficiara aproximadamente 24,000 Religiosas y hermanos Sacerdotes de ordes religiosas de edad avanzada en todo Estados Unidos.

La colecta proporciona a los institutos religiosos calificados ayuda financiera para abordar las necesidades de jubilacion. Gracias de antemano por su generoso apoyo.

Recaudacion de fondos para confirmacion de los jovenes de la comunidad de ingles

Youth confirmation estan vendiendo boletos despues de todas las misas para su sorteo de adviento/Navidad el domingo 21 de Diciembre de 2025.

St. Felicitas Parish Vietnamese Community

MÙA VỌNG

Chúa Nhật: Thánh Lễ lúc **4:30 chiều**

Thứ Sáu: Châu Thánh Thể lúc **7:30 tối** và
Thánh Lễ lúc **8:00 tối**

Văn phòng Giáo xứ mở cửa từ thứ 2 đến thứ 6 (9 giờ sáng đến 4 giờ chiều). Cùng với thời gian này, sẽ có Châu Thánh Thể trong Nhà Nguyện Thánh Giuse.

CÁC BÀI ĐỌC TRONG TUẦN

Thứ 2, 8/12: St 3:9-15,20; Ep 1:3-6,11-12; Lc 1:26-38

Thứ 3, 9/12: Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Thứ 4, 10/12: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

Thứ 5, 11/12: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Thứ 6, 12/12: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Thứ 7, 13/12: Hc 48:1-4,9-11; Mt 17:10-13

Chúa Nhật 14/12: Is 35:1-6,10; Gc 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Thông Báo

- Năm nay, Lễ Đức Mẹ Vô Nhiễm Nguyên Tội sẽ được mừng trọng thể vào thứ Hai, ngày 8 tháng 12, với thời gian cụ thể như sau: 7h, 9h sáng, và 5h chiều (tiếng anh); 6h30 chiều (song ngữ), và 8h00 tối (tiếng Việt). Vì đây là lễ Buộc, nên xin kính mời quý vị tham dự.

- Giáo xứ sẽ tổ chức: **Sám Hối Cộng Đồng-Mùa Vọng** vào Thứ Ba ngày 9 tháng 12, lúc 7h tối, sẽ có các Cha giải tội bằng tiếng Anh, tiếng Việt, tiếng Tây-Ban-Nha, và tiếng Phi-lip-pin. Nếu không thể tham dự được vào buổi tối, quý vị có thể tham dự Giờ Sám Hối từ 1h đến 3h chiều cùng ngày.

- Vào thứ Sáu, ngày 12 tháng 12, cộng đoàn Mễ sẽ tổ chức Lễ mừng Đức Mẹ Guadalupe, vì vậy cộng đoàn Việt Nam sẽ **không** có giờ Châu Thánh Thể như thường lệ.

- Giáo xứ sẽ có các Thánh Lễ “Simbang Gabi” vào lúc 5h sáng, từ ngày 16 tháng 12 đến ngày 24 tháng 12. Kính mời mọi người tham dự. Mọi đóng góp xin liên hệ: Geri Lara: 510-326-5693 hoặc Grace Echalas: 510- 508-4523.

- Để làm cho Cung Thánh trở nên đẹp hơn trong Mùa Giáng Sinh, Giáo xứ mời gọi mọi người giúp sức bằng việc mua cây Trạng Nguyên (Poinsettia). Nếu quý vị nào có nhã ý, xin dùng những phong thư đặc biệt, có sẵn tại tiền sảnh. Đồng thời, có thể ghi tên người mà quý vị thương yêu trên phong thư. Giáo xứ sẽ nhận mọi đóng góp đến hết thứ Ba, ngày 23 tháng 12.

- Trường Công Giáo St. Felicitas sẽ tổ chức chương trình “Điểm Tâm Cùng Ông Già Noel” vào Chúa Nhật, ngày 7 tháng 12, từ 10h sáng đến 12h30 trưa. Giá vé: \$12/người lớn và \$10/trẻ em. Xin kính mời quý vị tham dự.

- Tiền giỗ của các lễ Chúa Nhật ngày 13 và 14 tháng 12, sẽ được dành cho “Retirement Fund for Religious.”

CHÚA NHẬT II-MÙA VỌNG

Mt 3:1-12

VỊ TIÊN TRI KHÔNG CÁ NẼ

Suy niệm: Đùng tưởng Gio-an Tẩy giả, con người có vẻ bán khai rừng rú mặc chiếc áo lông lạc đà và ăn toàn những châu châu và mật ong rừng mà cho rằng vị ngôn sứ ấy sẽ vị nê những bậc quyền thế vị vọng như quý ông thuộc phái Sa-đốc hay nhóm Pha-ri-sêu. Trái lại, Gio-an Tẩy Giả lại “giáng” xuống trên những hạng người ấy những lời lẽ nặng nề nhất: nào là “nòi rắn độc” “tìm cách trốn con thịnh nộ của Chúa”, nào là những bọn “con ông cháu cha” đùng “tưởng bở” cậy mình đã có tổ phụ Áp-ra-ham. Kèm theo đó là những lời đe dọa khủng khiếp: “chiếc rìu đã đặt sát gốc cây.” Thế nên, không phải cứ đến sông Gio-đan để cho Gio-an Tẩy Giả trảm mình dưới làn nước mà đã gọi là ăn năn sám hối. Lòng ăn năn sám hối thực sự phải phát sinh hoa quả tương xứng bằng một cuộc đời tận gốc: “Hãy sinh hoa quả cho xứng với lòng thống hối.”

Mời Ban: Không ai được miễn chức khỏi việc ăn năn sám hối. Nhưng không phải là ăn năn kiểu “sĩ diện”, vụ hình thức, như quý ông Pha-ri-sêu và Sa-đốc. Cũng thế khi bạn đến lãnh nhận bí tích hoà giải, thì hoa quả của lòng thống hối chính là việc từ bỏ vết xe đổ của tính hư nết xấu (= đóc lòng chừa) và thực thi bác ái (= đền bù đi đôi với việc đền tội).

Sống Lời Chúa: Hẳn là bạn đang chuẩn bị cho việc sám hối cộng đồng trong mùa Vọng? Bạn hãy ăn năn đóc lòng chừa một cách nghiêm túc.

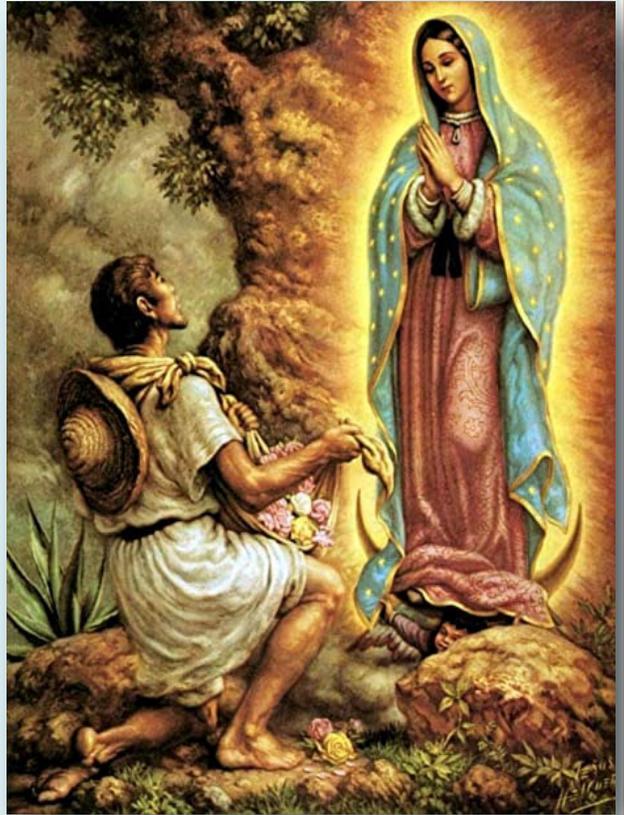
Cầu nguyện: Sốt sáng đọc kinh “Ăn Năn Tội”.

Our Lady of Guadalupe

A model of Compassion and Respect

On Friday, December 12th, we honor Mary as “Our Lady of Guadalupe,” the patroness of the Americas. This feast day offers us an opportunity to reflect on living our faith with the love, compassion, and respect that Mary herself exhibited.

On the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, we recall the appearance of Mary before Saint Juan Diego, a poor Aztec Indian peasant, on a hill in Mexico in 1531. Clothed like an Aztec princess, Mary spoke to Juan in his own language. Her request that Juan go to the local bishop and instruct him to build a church on that very spot took Juan by surprise. Why, he wondered, would a bishop listen to someone as lowly and humble as he? Yet Mary entrusted him with this important task. After first being refused by the bishop, Juan returned to the bishop with a sign given to him by Mary - roses that bloomed, impossibly, in winter. When he opened his tilma,



or cloak, the roses spilled out, and inside the tilma was imprinted the beautiful image of Mary as she appeared to Juan. The bishop built the church, and Mary’s love and compassion were extended to the people of Mexico and beyond.

Mary’s kindness and respect toward Juan and sensitivity to his culture are powerful reminders to respect the dignity of others, especially those who are poor or “different” from us. Mary also evangelizes. Over the centuries, she has brought the love of her Son to millions of people who otherwise might not have known Him. Her example is one to emulate in our roles as teachers, parents, catechists, and believers.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Pray for us.

Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrations

“Las Mañanitas” at 4:00 am

performed live by Mariachi

5:00 am - Rosary

6:00 pm - Aztec Dance performance

6:30 pm - Holy Mass

All are welcome!

Edward Jones

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