



CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION

1100 Fulton Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577

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December 19, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Simbang Gabi December 15-23: A Nine-day Novena Masses in preparation for Christmas

Join us and our Filipino Community in celebrating 9 days of Novena Masses as we prepare ourselves and our Church for Christmas. The novena masses will start on December 15 at 6:30 AM and continues every night through December 23 at 6:30 PM. During mass, the Filipino Choir will fill the church with Filipino Christmas songs and carols. And after every Mass, the faithful will gather for food and fellowship.

We welcome your support and attendance at Simbang Gabi. Please invite your family and friends to all nine days. We pray that the first Simbang Gabi at Church of the Assumption will be a memorable celebration of Christ's birth.

What is Simbang Gabi? It is sometimes known by its Spanish name *Misa de Gallo* ("Mass of the Rooster"), Simbang Gabi is a pre-dawn celebration of the Mass observed by Filipinos for centuries to affirm their faith. This tradition dates to 1587, when the Spanish conquistadores introduced the practice to symbolize the birth of Jesus Christ. Ringing church bells, singing Filipino Christmas carols, and displaying the star-shaped parol lantern signal the start of the pre-dawn celebration among Filipinos. The farmers and fishermen took time to hear the Gospel and asked for a good harvest from the fields or a good catch while at sea before they head to work.

In San Leandro, there are no fields to till or sea to catch fish, but former Filipino immigrants and Filipino Americans alike will wake up early on Dec 15 to attend Simbang Gabi before they go to work. And from Dec 15–23, they will attend Simbang Gabi when they come home from work. Over time and across lands, changes have been made to accommodate people's work schedules. To many, Simbang Gabi is an opportunity to open and prepare their hearts as the manger where Jesus would be born.

It is such an amazing grace and blessing that Filipino parishioners who originated from different regions of the Philippines and speak different languages and dialects work together and speak the word of LOVE—God's word. Members of the group assist one another: they are dedicated to support the mission of Church of the Assumption, that is, to see Christ in each person.

Through Simbang Gabi, the Filipino community of Church of the Assumption aims to take the journey in reaching out to others through faith and tradition. Through working hands, willing hearts, and motivated minds, we hope to join our pastor, our bishop, and Pope Francis have a Christ-centered faith, having Mary, the Blessed Mother as a role model of obedience to God's will.

Merciful and loving God, we await your coming, and open our hearts to receive Jesus. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Masses

Friday, December 24th

5:00 p.m. Family Mass

10:00pm - Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Masses

Saturday, December 25th

8:00am - 9:00am - 12:00pm

There will be no confession at 3:30pm or Vigil Mass at 4:30pm

*For a complete list, go to our website
[www.assumptionsanleandro.org/
calendar-of-events.html](http://www.assumptionsanleandro.org/calendar-of-events.html)*

Fourth Sunday of Advent: LOVE

In our last week of Advent, we are invited to experience the love of Christ, as well share that gift with others. It is love that brings Jesus into our world and it is love that transforms our being. Advent has prepared us for the coming of Christ, and this last week brings it all together. "God so loved the world that he sent his only Son" -John 3:16. And it is because of that love that we are called to be loving to the stranger, oppressed, and marginalized. As we end this Advent season, let us remember what the Christmas holiday is truly about, Christ and His love for mankind.

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God." -Luke 1

On this last Sunday of Advent, we quietly reflect on the mystery. We rest in awe, in wonder, at how our God entered our world and came to be with us. We pause to receive the gift offered us: that the Spirit of God will open up our lives and that Jesus will really come into our hearts.

The most important thing that can happen to a person is to encounter Jesus: the encounter with Jesus who loves us, who has saved us, who gave his life for us - to encounter Jesus. And we walk to encounter Jesus. (Pope Francis)

Advent Season

As Advent comes to a close, one of the best ways to prepare for Christmas is to revisit the story of the Nativity - the true meaning of Christmas. You can read the story of the first Christmas in both the Gospel of Matthew (1:18 - 2:12) and the Gospel of Luke (2:1-20). What better way to end the season of Advent than to take time as a family to read about the Holy Family!

We can get so used to all the secular images of Christmas that we can easily forget what it really looked like. As fun as it is to celebrate with presents and elves, reindeer, and Santa - the first Christmas was even more magical!

Advent-Christmas Lessons and Carols

We are excited to share the Advent-Christmas School Concert on Wednesday night December 15th at 6:30 p.m. via our Assumption School Facebook page @AssumptionCatholicSchool. We hope that all can participate in watching this wonderful seasonal gift of song.

Assumption School Applications

Assumption School is currently accepting Early Bird applications for the 2022-2023 school year. Openings in TK- 6th grade (7th and 8th are waiting list only).

Giving Tree

Thank you everyone for your generous support of the Giving Tree! Every single tag was taken, and we even added more tags. Our Assumption Community have made a difference in the lives of so many by making Christmas a little brighter!! Give at <https://givedirect.org/buildingfutures/holidaydrive2021/>

Dad's Club Tree Sale: A gift that keeps giving

The Assumption Dads Club is selling an assortment of fruit trees, as well as ornamental, and California native varieties! Most trees are available in both 5 gallon and 15-gallon sizes, and they both have the option for free delivery within a 10-mile radius of Assumption School, or installation with an additional charge. Orders must be received by **of**, installation and delivery of the trees will take place on the weekends between 1/8-1/15/22.

Assumption SVDP Christmas Food Drive

The members of St. Vincent de Paul's wish to express their gratitude and congratulations to the parishioners of Church of the Assumption for caring for those in need. The food drive was a huge success. We are grateful for the volunteers and donors who help our community every day. Neighbors Helping Neighbors!

DECEMBER 18—DECEMBER 25, 2021

We Remember at the Eucharist

Saturday 18

8:15a.m. Lois Norberg+
4:30pm Leticia Grajeda+

Sunday 19

8:00am Ruth McDonnell (Birthday)
10:00 am Joseph Girimonte
12:00 noon. Mina Riccio+

Monday 20

8:15a.m. Respect for the Dignity of Life
Julie Coelho+

Tuesday 21

8:15a.m. Mary A. Morgado+

Wednesday 22

8:15a.m. Tony Gonsalves+

Thursday 23

10:00am Rodrigo M Laureta+

Friday 24

8:15am Amelia Gonsalves+
5:00pm
10:00pm

Saturday 25

8:00am Jozepi DiSantis Riccomi (Living)
10:00am
12:00 noon Lucille & Douglas Danielsen+

Please think about remembering the Church of the Assumption in your will.

Welcome Fr. Aris Martin

Fr. Aris will be staying here at the rectory for a couple of weeks while he is on vacation after completing his doctorate degree in Boston. Aris Martin SVD is originally from Solsona, Philippines. He professed first vows in 2004 and was ordained a priest in 2008. Father Aris holds a licentiate in dogmatic theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, Italy. In the Philippines, he taught courses in philosophy and theology at Christ the King Mission Seminary, Divine Word Seminary and Ateneo de Manila University. Fr. Aris is the newest addition to the faculty of the Department of Theology and Philosophy at Divine Word College in Epworth, Iowa, where he teaches non-Christian religions and creation and eschatology.

FORMED Pick of the Week

CHRISTMAS IN ROME: A CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY

Nowhere celebrates the birth of the Savior like Rome. This Christmas, marvel at the Holy City's festive celebration of the coming of the child Jesus in Bethlehem. <https://watch.formed.org/videos/christmas-in-rome-a-celebration-of-the-nativity>

Please pray for all those who are ill especially: *Mary Melton, Don Rezente, Mary Croak, Eric Bertelsen and Erma Mader*

THANK YOU for your generosity!

Sunday Collection

Week of December 12, 2021

Available 12-26-21

Weekly Goal \$7,000

Parish Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday

9:00AM -12:00PM – 12:30PM - 3:00PM

Friday 9:00AM to 12:00PM

PARISH STAFF

Fr. John Carillo, Parochial Administrator

frjohn@assumptionsanleandro.org

Mary Schirmer, Youth Ministry & Formation

mschirmer@assumptionsanleandro.org

James Brady, RCIA & Adult Faith Formation

jbrady@assumptionsanleandro.org

Martha Zeyen, Administrative Assistant

mzeyen@assumptionsanleandro.org

Kelly Hodgins, Communications Director

khodgins@assumptionsanleandro.org

Bill Vaughan, Music Director

bvaughan@csdo.org

ASSUMPTION SCHOOL

Lana Rocheford, School Principal

School Office: 510-357-8772

School Office Hours: 7:30am-3:30 pm

Celebration of the Eucharist

Daily Mass: 8:15am (Live Streamed)

Saturday: 4:30pm Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am (Live Streamed), 12:00noon

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30pm to 4:00p, and by Appt

513057

Attention: Martha

510-352-1537

info@assumptionsanleandro.org

Message:

Please send 250 bulletins