Fr. Leonard Marrujo, Parochial Administrator
Fr. Chris Berbena, Parochial Vicar
Bill Vaughan, Music Director
James Brady, RCIA /Adult Faith Formation
Mary Schirmer, Youth Ministry & Formation
Rhina Ruggiero, Office Manager
Dolores Hurtado, Bookkeeper
Lana Rocheford, School Principal

CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST
Saturday: 8:15 AM, 5:00 PM (Vigil Mass)
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM and 12:00PM
Weekdays: 8:15 AM
Holy Days: 8:15 AM, 7:00 PM

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturdays: 3:30 to 4:00 PM

Perpetual Help Devotions: Tuesday mornings after 8:15 AM Liturgy

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Chaplet of Divine Mercy:
Every Wednesday 8:45-9:45 AM
First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2019
I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the
land.— Jeremiah 33:15

The weeks leading up to Christmas are filled with holiday songs, seasonal sales, decorations, lights, and sometimes Advent wreaths and candles. Why? What is it that we’re celebrating? What is Advent? Each year the Catholic Church gives us an incredible opportunity for a powerful encounter with Jesus. In her genius, the Church invites us during Advent to take a step back and look at who we are, what we are doing, and where Jesus fits into our lives.

Jesus came into this world at that first Christmas for you, to bring meaning and deep satisfaction into your life, to fill you with lasting joy, and ultimately to bring you to eternal happiness with him in heaven. That’s what we celebrate at Christmas. Are you ready? The word “advent” (the arrival of an important person or thing) is derived from the Latin word “adventus,” which means “coming.” For Catholics, Advent is the four-week season leading up to Christmas. During Advent we anticipate the coming of Jesus. It’s a time full of reflection, excitement, and hope. Advent officially begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on December 24. It marks the beginning of the Catholic Church’s calendar year.

We have a shorter Advent this year (only twenty-two days long!). Christmas Eve is the Fourth Monday of Advent, with Christmas falling on Tuesday. Four weeks isn’t long, but that still leaves plenty of time to spend some quiet time preparing for Jesus’ coming. Common Advent traditions include an Advent calendar, the Advent wreath, and special Advent prayers. During Advent and Christmas, festively decorated evergreen wreaths hang in windows and on doors everywhere. In many homes and churches, it’s also common to see special wreaths lying on tables or ledges, adorned with four candles (usually three purple and one pink). This familiar symbol of the season is the Advent wreath.

Traditionally, the Advent wreath is a circle of evergreen branches. Both the evergreen branches and the circular shape symbolize the passing of time and eternal life. The shape of the wreath, with no beginning or end, reflects the complete and endless love that Jesus has for us. During the Advent season, we eagerly anticipate his coming and the promise of eternal life in heaven with him. How to Prepare for Christmas

Think about it this way. We prepare for everything we consider important in life. You wouldn’t show up to play in a football game and expect to win if you had not been training. You wouldn’t show up unprepared to give a big presentation at work and expect to get the project. We don’t expect to excel in exams if we have not studied. Consider the preparation that goes into hosting a barbecue, a dinner party, or a wedding.

Now I don’t mean the typical Christmas preparations. Buying and wrapping presents. Baking cookies. Planning parties. Putting up the lights, the tree, and other decorations. I mean preparing you. When was the last time you prepared your heart for Jesus’ coming at Christmas? I hope you have a wonderful Advent. May God bless you and yours during this most sacred time of the year.

Christmas Schedule

Tuesday, December 24th.
5:00 P.M. 10:00 P.M.

Wednesday, December 25th.
9:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M.

Wednesday, January 1st.
10:00 A.M.
Assumption School’s annual **St. Nick’s Boutique**, benefiting the Davis Street Preschool Hot Breakfast Program, will be held on Friday, December 6th. Brian Copeland, an Assumption alumni family, started this tradition 20+ years ago. The program feeds a hot breakfast to 40 preschoolers 251 days a year. That is over 10,000 meals! Last year we raised $5,000, and we hope to raise just as much -- or more! -- this year.

We need your help! We are accepting donations of gift items that the children can purchase for their families, pets and friends. Gently used items make thoughtful gifts. Picture frames can be filled with photos and tea cups and mugs can be filled with candy or tea. We especially need items for dads and grandpas! Donations can be dropped off in the box at the back of the church labeled ST. NICK’S BOUTIQUE or at the school office beginning Monday, November 17th.

For more information contact Allison Pretto at 510-299-4593 or alliepretto@yahoo.com. Thank you for your generosity.

**Tree Lighting**

Our second annual Tree Lighting and caroling party will be held on **Sunday, December 1, 2019** starting at 5 p.m. in front of the church. This event was so much fun last year that we are bringing it back for a second year! Bring your friends and neighbors. Please bring your favorite cookies to share. Michael Denten will be playing his guitar again this year. We hope to see you all there.

**Assumption Women’s Cursillo Community is happy to announce our Annual Advent by Candlelight – Assumption’s Prayer Service for Women** which will be Thursday December 5th at 7PM in our Gym.

It is a magical evening of reflection, fellowship & beautiful one of a kind table settings to start our Advent Season.

Please see the flyer in the bulletin, or on the back tables, for more information.

**ALSO, we are in need of table hostess, please let us know asap if you are available to host a table this year, we always sell out.**

Please call Faye Caruso at (510) 882-5002 to reserve your spot, the deadline is Friday, Nov. 29th.

**Breakfast with Santa!**

This fun event will be held on **Sunday, December 8th**. Breakfast will be available from 8:30 a.m. through noon. Santa will be here from 9:00 - noon. Have you been good this year? Save your extra change for Blitzen’s Mimosa Bar and the Hot Chocolate Bar! Fliers will be out soon, but we wanted you to save this important date!

**Our Lady of Guadalupe**

We will celebrate the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12 at 7p.m. with mariachi band followed by celebration in small hall.

**JESSE TO JESUS TREE**

We once again have the opportunity to show the true meaning of the blessed Christmas Season to our families both in our Assumption Parish and our larger church family at St. Benedict’s in Oakland. The tags are on boards in the back of the church. We are asking that the gifts be returned back to the church by December 13th. Thank you so much for your generosity. The difference you all make in the lives of others is inspiring and a sign of God’s presence in our world.
St. Vincent de Paul

There is an Advent spirit in the heart of every human person. It is one of longing, of yearning for a fulfillment that somehow lies beyond ourselves; for we long for the coming of the Lord. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul thanks you for helping our mission to help those who are suffering and poor. We hope your spiritual Advent journey will bring you closer to the true meaning of Christmas. If you or someone you know is in need of assistance please call our Help-Line at 510 352-6079.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

for December 1st: Adult Faith Formation invites YOU to an evening with St. Francis, the simple saint from Assisi and founder of the Franciscans! We will view the beauty of the little town of Assisi as Bishop Barron enlightens us on how Francis went about rebuilding the Church. This viewing will be held tomorrow night December 2 in the Conference Room from 7 to 8:30. Simply enter the front door of the Rectory to the right of the church. Hope to see you there! For more information contact Jim Brady 510-393-9396.

for December 8th: Adult Faith Formation invites YOU to an evening with St. Thomas Aquinas, the brilliant Dominican saint! Widely considered one of the greatest minds in the history of Western Civilization, Thomas angelically and definitively articulated our Catholic understanding of God in his famous Summa theologiae. This viewing will be held tomorrow night December 9 in the Conference Room from 7 to 8:30. Simply enter the front door of the Rectory to the right of the church. Hope to see you there! For more information contact Jim Brady 510-393-9396. Thanks Rhina!

THE PROMISE OF JUSTICE

We are in fairly good company when we ask God for justice. Often enough we hear and agree with the lament of the people of Israel asking God why the wicked prosper. However, when we call out for justice, we usually want someone to get his or her comeuppance. God’s justice is something other than this, of course. God’s justice comprises a wonderful rightness between God and humankind.

Today, Jeremiah looks ahead to a time when a just one will sprout from the shorn-off stump of Jesse of the house and family of David. Life was not fair in Jeremiah’s time. Israel’s kings held the promise of God’s fidelity, but it was difficult to see how God’s promise could be realized through them.

Nevertheless, Jeremiah lifts his voice and announces that the Promised One will come. Luke’s Gospel echoes that announcement, and Paul is filled with sturdy encouragement. And so Advent begins with a promise.

HEARTFELT

Remember that God prefers the poverty of our hearts to the most sublime thoughts borrowed from others.

—St. Peter Julian Eymar

Financial Update for
Plate collection…………….$
EFT……………………… $
Total………………………. $ 9,500.00
Goal……………………… $9,500.00
Over/(Under)……………….$ ()
Will be in next weeks bulletin!
WE REMEMBER AT THE EUCHARIST

Weekly Mass Intentions
November 30—December 7

Saturday  5:00   Francis Mendonca +

Sunday  7:30  Ann Graves +
         9:00  Chuck Elizondo +
         10:30  Everett Einsel +
         12:00  Luis Costa +

Monday  8:15  +

Tuesday  8:15  Jules Capucao +

Wednesday  8:15  Pat Gilmore +

Thursday  10:00  +

Friday  8:15  Ken Gilbert +

Saturday  8:15  +
         5:00  Jeanne MacCoy +

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday  GYM  CYO
       Tree Lighting 5p.m.
Monday  GYM  CYO 3:30
        SH  School Board 7p.m.
Tuesday GYM  CYO 3:30 pm
         CR1  RCIA 7p.m.
Wednesday CFR1 Lecture Series 10 a.m.
         H  Boys Scout 7p.m.
         Gym  CYO 3:30 p.m.
Thursday GYM  Women’s Advent

Friday  Gym  CYO 3:30 p.m.
Saturday GYM  CYO 9a.m.
Sunday  GYM  Pancake Breakfast
       GYM  CYO 1p.m.
       MC  Faith Formation 10:30
       SH  Confirmation 1:00p.m.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS:

Head Lector:
Cathy Ralph......................................510 895-0420

Altar Server Coordinators:
Dennis Burigsay......................................510 895-1628
Mike Tedeschi.......................................510 357-9447

Head Communion Minister:
Faye Caruso........................................510 882-5002

Head Usher:  Ed Hernandez.......................510 351-7025

Head Greeter:  Hanne Gerardi....................510-393-9989

Ministry Scheduler:
Giovanna Giuliani...............................510 872-9035

Faith Formation & Teen Confirmation:
Mary Schirmer.....................................510 352-1537

St. Vincent de Paul
Denis Ducey......................................510 352-6079

Pastoral Council:
Doug Taylor........................................510 638-3050

School Board:
Paul Carney.......................................510 872-2452

Finance Committee:
George Brandt.................................510-410-5819

Tuesdays with Larry:
Larry Graves.....................................510 352-4777

Rosary Makers:
Irene Haines......................................510 483-7975

CYO:
Nathaniel Fripp..................................510 789-5565
Tom Shaddle........................................510 357-1342

All Saints Skilled Nursing
Lizette Rocha......................................510 351-1342

Communion to the Homebound:
Mary Croak........................................510 352-1537

Communion to Kindred Hospital:
Mary Croak........................................510 352-5614

Prayer Chain:
JoMarie Stavosky................................510 889-9469

Knit/Crochet Group
Gloria Calegari...................................510 357-0943

Linens:
Anita De Marais..................................510 357-9172

Cursillo
Jennie Gisslow....................................510 875-9170

Hospitality Team

Assumption Parish Mission Statement

Assumption Parish is a culturally diverse and vibrant Catholic community which strives to grow as followers of Jesus Christ. We do this by accepting the challenge to build a Christ-centered community that draws on the wisdom of our seniors and the energy of our youth. We are committed to Catholic education at various levels. We are nurtured by liturgy and faith formation programs, which enable us to share our gifts of time, talent, treasure and vision with our parish family and surrounding communities.