CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION   PARISH  510-352-1537
1100 Fulton Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577 Fax  510-352-2094
Website: assumptionsanleandro.org
e-mail: SLASSUMPTION@SBCGLOBAL.NET

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
Satudays: 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

Office Hours:
8:30 AM-12:00 PM
1:30 PM-5:00PM
School Office 510 357-8772
School Office Hours:
7:30 AM-3:30 PM
Why is the beginning of a new year marked with so much noise? All across the world the standard way of marking the end of the old and the beginning of the new year is for people to set off fireworks, tearing apart the night sky with a blaze of light and an explosion of noise. The Romans have been at this for a long time, believing that the turning of the year was a vulnerable moment, a changeover that had to be watched carefully lest witches, ghosts and demons slip through the gap between the years and get up to all kinds of mischief. The antidote, they believed, was to make as much noise as possible, to scare away any wandering demon, ghost or witch who might think of trying to slip through that gap. To this day Rome at the end of the year is the noisiest place on earth. The only ghosts who could possibly slip through there are the ones who are profoundly deaf. Strange to think that sophisticated cities like Sydney, Paris, London and New York continue to mark the turn of the year in this primitive way.

Ten years we passed not just from one year or decade or century to another, but from one millennium to another. Remember how, as the year 2000 approached, there were so many articles, programs and films on ‘apocalyptic’, end-of-the-world themes. The feared catastrophe of the Y2K computer superbug was perhaps a secularized version of the fear the ancient Romans knew: something mysterious may slip through at the changeover and wreak all kinds of mischief. A number of films appeared at that time about demons insinuating their way into our world and its affairs. And there were some groups and individuals who felt that the world itself might come to an end with the great cosmic battle of Armageddon getting under way.

The origins of ‘apocalyptic’ thinking are in the Bible. The ten plagues of Egypt recounted in the Book of Exodus as well as the later prophecies which we still value and read — for example Ezekiel, Daniel and Zechariah — are the sources of apocalyptic imagery: horsemen, chariots, fire, floods, the world being turned upside down and inside out, the earth disappearing beneath our feet, the stars falling from the sky, strange beasts appearing — all that. Jesus himself preached in apocalyptic terms about the destruction of Jerusalem, the meaning of his own death, the breaking in of the kingdom of God and the return of the Son of Man on the clouds of heaven surrounded by the angels. It seems natural that our response to this kind of imagery should be a mixture of fear and hope. On the one hand we will want to keep it at bay, fingers crossed that if the ‘great and terrible day of the Lord’ is to come — as we believe it is — that maybe it won’t be for a while yet. On the other hand why are we not simply filled with that ‘joyful hope’, for which we pray at every Eucharist, at the prospect of the return of our Lord?

There is one very striking change in apocalyptic imagery as used by Christians. The Book of Revelation, the ‘Apocalypse’, places at the centre of the great battles and disturbances of the end time, the figure of a lamb, ‘a lamb that seemed to have been sacrificed’ (Revelation 5.6). This Lamb unlocks the secrets of the future of the world (Revelation 6.1). The Lamb stands on Mount Zion at the head of those who have been faithful to him (Revelation 14.1-5). The final battle with evil, sin and death is followed by the wedding feast of the Lamb (Revelation 19.9) and heaven is described as the new Jerusalem, a city whose only light is the glory of God and the Lamb (Revelation 21.23). It is a strange contrast, between the violent, aggressive and seemingly powerful armies of wickedness and the gentle creature who in fact holds the key to human history and whose sacrifice is the victory of God and of God’s people. The smoke of fireworks drifts away and the memory of their brightness and loudness fades. But the primitive fears, which they help us forget for a moment, remain. By contrast we continue in hope to follow the Lamb, a creature infinitely gentle, not aggressive, not violent, and yet infinitely more powerful than weapons with all their noise and clamour. The sacrifice of the Lamb — his death for love — is
the most powerful moment in human history and the key to its meaning. In the Church we keep the memory of that moment alive each day, knowing that it is the source of any real strength we may have. With John the Baptist we continue to ‘stare hard’ at Jesus Christ and to say ‘look, there is the lamb of God’ (John 1.35). I hope and pray we all share in a prosperous and holy new year. (from an article from the Dominican Friars of England and Scotland)

SCHOOL NEWS

We are happy to make this announcement to our early bird families who have come to visit our school during the 2019 Fall Trimester. Our 2020 - 2021 online application is now available to you! Call the school office on how to apply online.

We would also like to welcome you to our annual Open House on January 26, 2020 from 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. All prospective and current families are also welcome to come to our 9 a.m. Catholic Schools Week Mass the same day where we will introduce our Class of 2020 to the Assumption Parish.

Prospective families are welcome to come and tour our active classrooms and school grounds. Please make sure to schedule a tour. To schedule a tour please contact Christine Viviani at cviviani@csdo.org or call (510) 357-8772. We are excited to welcome you to Assumption School.

First Reconciliation for 2nd graders February 8 at 10:30 a.m.

Parish Crab Feed February 8
Dad’s Club crab feed February 27th
March 15th St. Patrick’s dinner

More information to come!!!

HOME IS WHERE THE FAMILY IS

The idea, dream, and reality of family is so strong and durable that we use it to describe all that is best about human gatherings. We speak of the family of nations, of our church and parish families. The greatest compliment we can pay a friend or gracious host is to say that we feel at home with them, we feel part of the family.

Families are the first crucibles in which love is tested and tempered. Jesus himself was one of three people who lived in the shadow of each other. This family, like our own, did not always “get it right,” but they always tried to. These three “amateurs” were on holiday, and one of them got lost. Two were worried sick and took great measures to find the third, a boy after all, who was seeking the meaning of his calling. He found his vocation—to do his Father’s work—but he also returned home with his parents.
St. Vincent de Paul

Today is the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We hear the words: "The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him." During this New Year may we also grow in wisdom and have the favor of God upon us by remembering to take care of our suffering brothers and sisters. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul thanks the parishioners of the Church of the Assumption for their generous support throughout the year and especially during this weekend's second collection. A portion of this Fifth Sunday collection will be shared with conferences in the areas recovering from the recent Kincade Fire.

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance please call our Help-Line at 510 352-6079.

mail Scam

Please be aware of an ongoing phishing scam that involves emails purportedly from people you many know in our parish. It appears that the sender is phishing for valid email addresses and if you respond, the sender will follow up with a request for some sort of monetary assistance. In at least one instance, a request was made for gift cards. It's truly unfortunate that cyber criminals will attempt to exploit the generous nature of our community. There are common sense ways to avoid being scammed. If an email contains an unusual request, contact the person directly. Do not use any phone number provided in the email or click on any links in the email. In many, but not all cases, grammatical errors are present. For more information on phishing scams and email security, you can google (or search for) "RECOGNIZING PHISHING EMAILS." The FBI website address to file an online Internet crime complaint: https://www.ic3.gov

Financial Update for 12-16-2019
Plate collection $6,187.00
EFT $280.00
Total $6,467.00
Goal $9,500.00
Over/(Under) $3,033.00

Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose Center for Education & Spirituality present:
New Year’s Eve Retreat with Fr. Bartholomew Hutcherson, O.P.
Tuesday, December 31, 2019 – 7-10:30pm – Free Will Offering
Dominican Center - 43326 Mission Circle (entrance off Mission Tierra) Fremont, CA 94539  Register by 12/28/19 http://bit.ly/2019NewYrRtrt or call (510) 933-6360

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today’s feast is new as feasts go, and it sets us this year in a very modern crisis. Amid conflicting schedules and commitments, a young man, testing the limits, has strayed from his parents and gone off to the big city. Mary and Joseph search frantically, only to find the child Jesus in the temple, conversing with the elders and scholars of the law, who are amazed at his wisdom.

In the time of Jesus, the temple was the religious center of Jewish ritual. Outside of Jerusalem, people gathered in the synagogues, centers of learning, for daily prayer and study. Still, everyone longed to journey to the temple to participate in the offerings, and to fulfill certain obligations of the law that could only be done there. On this feast, we catch a glimpse of the family of Jesus: parents dealing with the normal stresses of raising a child, and yet completely grounded in the ways of faith and tradition.

There has always been an appreciation in Christianity for the value of pilgrimage—the journey to holy places that is a symbol of our life’s journey to God, and a sense of connection to important events in our family history. During the Christmas season, many of us undertake pilgrimages to the family homestead for festival meals, to the parishes where we were formed in the faith, or perhaps even to a beautiful manger scene or festival of lights. There are few better days than this in our calendar for spending time with the family, especially on a short pilgrimage to a favorite place. Just make sure that no one gets left behind!

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
**WE REMEMBER AT THE EUCHARIST**

**Weekly Mass Intentions**
**December 28—January 4**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name/Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>Claire Canning +</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>Brady Family (L)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Ruggiero Family (L)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Jose Rodrigues Oliveira +</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Jean &amp; Alice Dupont +</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>Romulo &amp; Erik Reynosa +</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>Carmen Martinez +</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>Lori Guest +</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>Anna Griffin</td>
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**LITURGICAL MINISTERS:**
- **Head Lector:** Cathy Ralph
- **Altar Server Coordinators:** Dennis Burigsay, Mike Tedeschi
- **Head Communion Minister:** Faye Caruso
- **Head Usher:** Ed Hernandez
- **Head Greeter:** Hanne Gerardi
- **Ministry Scheduler:** Giovanna Giuliani
- **Faith Formation & Teen Confirmation:** Mary Schirmer
- **St. Vincent de Paul:** Denis Ducey
- **Pastoral Council:** Doug Taylor
- **School Board:** Paul Carney
- **Finance Committee:** George Brandt
- **Tuesdays with Larry:** Larry Graves
- **Rosary Makers:** Irene Haines
- **CYO:** Nathaniel Fripp, Tom Shaddle
- **All Saints Skilled Nursing:** Lizette Rocha
- **Communion to the Homebound:** Mary Croak
- **Communion to Kindred Hospital:** Susan Sequeira
- **Prayer Chain:** JoMarie Stavosky
- **Knit/Crochet Group:** Gloria Calegari
- **Linens:** Anita De Marais
- **Cursillo:** Jennie Gisslow
- **Hospitality Team**

**WEEK AT A GLANCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>GYM CYO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>GYM CYO 3:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>GYM CYO 3:30 CR1 RCIA 7p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>CFR1 Lecture Series 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>H Boys Scout 7p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gym CYO 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Happy New Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Gym CYO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>GYM CYO</td>
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**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.