



# CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY

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## OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

“Come, you who are blessed by my Father.  
Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the  
foundation of the world.” - Mt 25:34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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### PRAY & WORSHIP WITH US

#### Sunday Masses

Vigil Mass (Saturday) | 4:30pm  
Sunday | 8:00am, 10:00am  
& 12:00pm

#### Daily Mass

Monday thru Saturday | 8:30am

#### Confession

Saturday | 3:00pm - 4:00pm  
Other | By Appointment

#### Eucharistic Adoration

Friday | 9:00am - 12:00pm  
Saturday | 3:00 pm- 4:00pm

#### Daily Devotions

9:00am after Mass

Mon - Sat | Holy Rosary  
Mon | Holy Spirit  
Tues | Saint Joseph  
Wed | Mother of Perpetual Help  
Thur | St. Therese of Lisieux  
Fri | Sacred Heart of Jesus  
Sat | Our Lady of Assumption

#### SACRAMENTS

Call the office for Baptism, Marriage  
and Faith Formation Classes

Solemnity of Our Lord  
Jesus Christ, King of  
the Universe

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.  
You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Psalm 23:4

# SUNDAY GOSPEL Reflection

Gospel for the Year A Matthew 25:31-46

## Jesus the shepherd-king

On this last Sunday of the liturgical year, we celebrate the solemnity of Christ the King. In a world filled with various forms and types of leadership and authority, we look to Jesus as our true king, the one who reigns with love, compassion, and selflessness.

The gospel passage from Matthew 25 presents a powerful image of Christ as the ultimate king and judge. He separates the sheep from the goats, not based on their wealth, status, or achievements, but on their acts of love and mercy. The king we honor is one who identifies himself with the hungry, thirsty, stranger, naked, sick, and imprisoned. He calls us to recognize his presence in the least of our brothers and sisters.

Ezekiel's prophecy paints a picture of God as the good shepherd, caring for God's flock. This passage reminds us that our king is not distant or indifferent but deeply involved in our lives. God seeks out the lost, binds up the injured, and strengthens the weak. Our shepherd-king knows each one of us by name and desires that none of us should be lost.

As we reflect on these readings, we are challenged to examine our lives. **Do we recognize Christ as our king and allow him to reign in our hearts? Do we follow his example of humble service and selflessness in our leadership roles, whether in our families, communities, or workplaces?**

In a world that often values power, wealth, and success, Christ's kingship stands in stark contrast. He reigns not by force but by love. He leads not with arrogance but with humility. He serves not for personal gain but for the well-being of others. This is the kind of leadership that our world desperately needs.

As we honor Christ the King, let us surrender our lives to His loving rule. Let us allow Him to be the King of our hearts, guiding us in acts of kindness, compassion, and love. Let us be a community that serves the least among us, recognizing the presence of our King in their faces.

source: <https://uscatholic.org/articles/202311/>

## THANK YOU

**Sunday Collection, November 19, 2023**      **\$5,161.49**  
**Campaign for Human Development**      **\$1,263.00**

Sign up for **ON-LINE GIVING** through **VANCO**.



## MASS Intentions

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

8:30am Dennis Kuzmicky (Healing)  
Diocelina Santo Yo Pineda+  
4:30pm Pete Robino+  
Francis Mendonca+

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 26

8:30am Bill Justus+  
10:00am George Hastings (Healing)  
12:00pm Confirmation Students

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27

8:30am Joe M. Gonzales+  
Charlie DeMarias (90th Birthday)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

8:30am Hermongenes Viray, Jr+

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

8:30am Maria Martinez (Birthday)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

8:30am Sharon Manha+

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

8:30am NO MORNING MASS

6:30PM Ramon Tapales Sr+  
Anne Manha (Healing)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:30am Dennis Kuzmicky (Healing)  
Diocelina Santo Yo Pineda+  
4:30pm Forgotten Souls in Purgatory  
Forgotten Souls in Purgatory

## Please Pray for Healing

**Julie Richardson, Dennis Kuzmicky, Donlevy  
Family, Baby Shiovonne Mullins, Juan  
Garcia, Gordon Dolezal, & Lordes DeGraw**

## In Loving Memory Ignacia Morales

## MASS INTENTIONS & PRAYERS REQUESTS

Let your Assumption Community offer prayers for your special intentions for a family member, a friend, a deceased love one or a special occasion.

Email [info@assumptionsanleandro.org](mailto:info@assumptionsanleandro.org)  
or visit the Rectory Office. Forms are available at the back of the Church.

# UPCOMING FAMILY EVENTS

## Confirmation Preparation

**November 26** 11am in the small hall

## RCIA November 27/Dec. 3

Join us at 7pm at Saint John Paul ii Room

## Help is Needed in Preparing the Church for Advent

### November 27, 28, 29, 30

We need assistance in setting up the Advent wreath, nativity, trees and much more. We will be decorating on Mon. from 2-5pm, Tues. & Wed. & Thurs. 11am-2pm. **Please come and lend a hand as we prepare for the birth of Christ.**

## Faith Formation

### Elementary-Fifth Grade Dec. 3

Ministry Center 11:15-12:15

### Parent Session Jean Schroeder

Terrace 11:15am - 12:30pm

## Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Caroling - December 3 at 5:00pm

You are invited for a prayerful and festive evening as we bless and light our Christmas tree. Our children have been busy making ornaments that will adorn our tree. We will sing Christmas Carols and sip hot chocolate. *With this tree, decorated and adorned, may we welcome Christ among us; may its lights guide us to the perfect light. This is a wonderful way to begin Advent with your community.*

## Our Lady of Guadalupe

### Ministry Taco Sunday/Bake

### Sale - December 3 9am-1:30pm

**Tacos, Rice & Beans \$10 per plate**

Homemade treats including cookies, cakes, muffins, and more! Enjoy a cup of coffee or tea with your purchase. See you there!

Bake Sale only after 8:00 mass.

## Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe

### December 3 - 11

You are invited to pray the rosary each evening at 6:30pm except Thursday the 7th & Friday the 8th when we will meet at 6:00pm. Each evening a different host family/group will share about their devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe and will lead the rosary. After we pray, please join us in the Parish Rectory for refreshments and fellowship every evening.

We pray the novenarios to Our Lady of Guadalupe in preparation for her feast which we will celebrate on December 10th at 10:00am Sunday Mass. Monsignor Tony Valdivia will be presiding and Music in Spanish by Trio Serenata.

## Annual Giving Tree

### Let us continue our giving tree tradition

Gift Tags with suggested gifts for children of Building Futures are available in the back of the church. Building Futures here in San Leandro has many services, including their newly expanded domestic violence and housing programs. Unwrapped gifts need to be returned by the second Sunday of Advent (12/10).

## Assumption's Annual Women's Advent by Candlelight - December 7

We are looking forward to ushering in the Advent Season with our prayer service in the Church this year. Come for a solemn and reflective evening of song and prayer hosted by Assumption's Cursillo Community. Afterwards we will have fellowship and refreshments hosted by PTG No need to RSVP. Please come and bring along your daughters, mothers, sisters, aunts, and friends. Women of other parishes and denominations are always welcome

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ASSUMPTION COUNCIL 8217

Support KofC "O Come, Let Us Adore Him" fundraising raffle. Drawing will be held on the Feast of the Epiphany. Tickets are available at ten dollars.

## Breakfast with Santa - December 17

9am-12pm in the gym. Save the date!

## For all events and more details go to:

<http://www.assumptionsanleandro.org/calendar-of-events.html>



## How Did Advent Come to Be on the Church Calendar?

The word “Advent” derives from the Latin *adventus*, meaning “coming.” During Advent, we await the anniversary of Jesus’ coming in human flesh as a baby born to Mary. We also wait vigilantly for the second coming of Christ, who could arrive at our doorstep at any moment. Because we “do not know when the lord of the house is coming,” we are asked to stay awake and alert spiritually. (Mk 13:35)

Advent began in France as a spiritual preparation for Epiphany, when many converts to Catholicism were baptized. It resembled Lent by involving fasting and prayer for 40 days, which may explain why Advent is often called “little Lent” (and why three candles are purple). This practice spread throughout parts of Europe. In the 400s, Pope St. Gelasius established special Advent liturgies, and in the late 500s, Pope St. Gregory I expanded them to include prayers and antiphons. Finally, in the ninth century, the Church formally recognized Advent as the four Sundays before Christmas, with the first Sunday marking the beginning of the Church calendar.

To mark Advent, we light candles to remind us of the light of Christ dispelling the darkness of sin and death. They are placed in a wreath because the unbroken circle symbolizes eternal life with God. The third candle is pink in honor of Gaudete Sunday when we celebrate with great joy the nearing of Christ’s birth and our salvation.

**We can bring the richness of Advent into our own homes by placing a wreath in a place where the family can gather and pray**, such as on our dining tables or in our living room. If we can’t find a ready-made Advent wreath, we can buy colored candles separately and set them within a live pine wreath from a Christmas tree seller.

Each Sunday, we can light the appropriate candles and read aloud the Mass readings. We can think and pray on what God is trying to tell us through Scripture. In the week leading up to Christmas, we can light the Advent wreath as we pray the O Antiphons each evening.

Bringing the light of Advent into our homes will not only get us excited for Christmas but also will remind us to stay spiritually awake at all times, even as we wait!

(source: <https://www.norwichdiocese.org/Stay-Informed/All-Diocesan-Articles/ID/15573>)

## St. Francis of Assisi and the First Nativity Scene

Nativity scenes have been a popular Advent and Christmas decoration for centuries, and—like most things glorious, time-honored, and holy—it originated with a Catholic saint.

### ST. FRANCIS' DEVOTION TO THE BABY JESUS

St. Francis of Assisi had a special devotion to the Child Jesus, and he is credited with creating the first nativity scene on Christmas Eve of the year 1223. It is believed that St. Francis was first inspired by this idea after visiting the historical place of Christ’s birth on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land—the humble stable in a Bethlehem cave. It is likely this event which deepened his devotion to the Child Jesus, who was born into the world in such poverty, humility, and simplicity. In fact, Francis founded his new religious Order to imitate these very virtues.

### THE FIRST NATIVITY SCENE

St. Francis recreated the scene of Christ’s birth in a special ritual and Mass he held inside of a cave in Greccio, Italy, inviting both his fellow friars and the townspeople to join in the celebration. Later he told a friend why he desired to create the first nativity scene in his town:

*I want to do something that will recall the memory of that Child who was born in Bethlehem, to see with bodily eyes the inconveniences of his infancy, how he lay in the manger, and how the ox and ass stood by."*

*He set up an empty manger (the feeding trough of farm animals which served as Jesus' crib) inside a cave, and even included a live ox and donkey beside the manger just as it was believed to have happened on that first Christmas night. Through these visual aids he wanted everyone to impress more deeply into their understanding how Christ came into the world in such poverty and simplicity. This was a typical perspective of St. Francis' unique charism of simple, poverty-centered spirituality.*

**It is also said that St. Francis—who was radically devoted to the virtue of evangelical poverty—was inspired to recreate the original nativity scene to overcome the rampant greed and materialism prevalent at that time in Italy.**

(source: <https://www.catholiccompany.com/magazine/story-francis-assisi-first-navity-scene-5955>)

# Season of Advent

## *Assumption Parish*

5TH ANNUAL TREE  
LIGHTING CEREMONY



DECEMBER 3RD @5PM  
MARY SEESE PLAZA

A family friendly gathering to get us all  
in the Christmas Spirit. Join us for Live  
Music, Caroling and Hot Cocoa & Cider



## Please join us for our Annual Women's Advent by Candlelight "Making Room"

Assumption's Prayer Service for \*Women  
Thursday Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Church

For an evening of music, prayer & reflection  
Sponsored by the Assumption Women's Cursillo  
Community

Followed by fellowship in the Small Hall  
provided by Assumption School's PTG

\*Please invite your mothers, daughters, sisters,  
aunts, nieces



## OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Join us for evening Novenas  
December 3 - 11  
Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day  
December 11 at 10am  
Continue the celebrations after mass

Please Join the Filipino Community  
of Assumption Church  
San Leandro

in Celebrating

## *Sinbang Gabi*

December 15 ~ 23 at 6:30 PM

Food & Fellowship After Each Mass

