



**BULLETIN**

# ST. RAYMOND CATHOLIC CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15, 2019



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## Parish Events

### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019

- 3:00 pm Vallombrosa Choir Christmas Concert  
 3:00 pm R.C.I.A. in Parish Hall  
 7:00 pm Young Adult Potluck & White Elephant Gift Exchange

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2019

- 9:00 am Legion of Mary  
 7:00 pm Music & Evangelization with Fr. James Moore, O.P.  
 7:00 pm Buildings & Grounds Committee  
 7:45 pm Couples' Ministry

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2019

- 10:00 am Small Group Bible Study  
 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2019

- 7:00 pm Holy Hour

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2019

- 5:00 pm Simbang Gabi Mass & Dinner

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2019

- 8:45 am Adoration after morning Mass

## Christmas Schedule

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2019

- 4:40 pm Children's Singing Program  
 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Family Mass (new time!)  
 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2019

- 12:00 am Christmas Midnight Mass  
 8:00 am Christmas Day Mass  
 10:00 am Christmas Day Mass

There will be **no** 12:00 pm or 6:00 pm Masses on Christmas Day.

**ON THE COVER:** *The Holy Family with John the Baptist and the Lamb*, by Jan Brueghel the Younger (1601–1678). Public Domain.

## Liturgy

### MASS INTENTIONS

- Sat., Dec. 14, 5:15 pm** Sr. Christina Heltsley  
*Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)*  
**Sun., Dec. 15, 8:00 am** Sr. Judy Roach, RSCJ  
**10:00 am** The Imperial & Bantug Families, Both Living & Deceased  
**12:00 pm** St. Raymond Parish  
**6:00 pm** Addi Porcella †  
**Mon., Dec. 16, 8:15 am** The Ferrando Family, Both Living & Deceased  
**Tues., Dec. 17, 8:15 am** The Galdes Family, Both Living & Deceased  
**Wed., Dec. 18, 8:15 am** Ralph & Norma Thieman †  
**Thur., Dec. 19, 8:15 am** For the Souls in Purgatory  
**Fri., Dec. 20, 8:15 am** Maria Sa-ing Swang-ngam †  
**5:00 pm** The Filipino Community at St. Raymond  
**Sat., Dec. 21, 8:15 am** Frederick Imperial †  
**Sat., Dec. 21, 5:15 pm** Betty Herle  
*Fourth Sunday of Advent*  
**Sun., Dec. 22, 8:00 am** St. Raymond Parish  
**10:00 am** Charles Galdes †  
**12:00 pm** Herb Pickard †  
**6:00 pm** Maurice Galvez †

*S—Solemnity F—Feast M—Memorial m—Optional Memorial*

Mass intentions are now available through 2021. Please visit or call the parish office.

## Christmas Poinsettias

Join us again this year in decorating the altar with poinsettias, which will be available to order after each Mass this weekend. You may wish to honor a friend or loved one with a poinsettia. Names will be published in an upcoming bulletin. The altar will be decorated in time for the Christmas Eve Masses on December 24, 2019.



Poinsettias can also be ordered online at [straymondmp.org/donate](http://straymondmp.org/donate).

## Speaker Series

### MUSIC AND EVANGELIZATION

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2019, 7:00 PM

Through all of its history, the Catholic Church has used music to proclaim Jesus Christ! This was true in the early church, the medieval times, the counter-reformation, the evangelization of the new world, and even down to our present day. In this talk, **Fr. James Moore, O.P.**, will give lots of musical examples from throughout history and explain how the church has used beauty in sound to capture the heart for Christ! It will be a feast for the ears – and hopefully, will lead hearts closer to Christ even now. Fr. James Moore is a member of the Western Dominican Province and a Ph.D candidate in music at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.



## A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

with

### THE VALLOMBROSA CHOIR



**St. Raymond Church**  
1100 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park

**Sunday 15 December 2019 at 3pm**

Admission is free. Donations are gratefully accepted.

## Stewardship

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### COLLECTIONS THROUGH DEC. 8, 2019

Sunday Collections	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	+ / -
At Mass	\$103,078.65	—	—
E-Giving	\$ 79,958.00	—	—
Total Offertory	<b>\$183,036.65</b>	<b>\$217,925.00</b>	<b>(\$34,888.35)</b>
	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>YTD Goal</b>	<b>+ / -</b>
<b>Fall Campaign</b>	<b>\$204,835.15</b>	<b>\$600,000.00</b>	<b>(\$395,164.85)</b>

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 5TH SUNDAY COLLECTION

As we approach the last 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the year (December 28 & 29), the Society of St. Vincent de Paul thanks you sincerely for both your financial and spiritual support.

St. Vincent de Paul envelopes are available at the tables by the four entrances of the church. If you're away for the holidays, please consider an early contribution. You can also contribute online at [straymondmp.org/donate](http://straymondmp.org/donate) and look for "St. Vincent de Paul". Thank you.

## Simbang Gabi

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2018, 5:00 PM (NEW TIME!)

Please join us in celebrating Simbang Gabi. The Mass will be followed by dinner and fellowship in the parish hall. All are welcome.



**What is Simbang Gabi?** Simbang Gabi (translation: Masses at Night) is a long treasured Filipino spiritual tradition. In the Philippines, it was celebrated as a series of nine dawn Masses right before Christmas, each Mass followed by a reception and fellowship. For pastoral reasons, these daily novena Masses are now also celebrated in the evening. Set within Advent, Simbang Gabi invites participants to heighten their preparation for the birth of Jesus, as well as honor the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The collection will be in support of Street Life Ministries. Street Life Ministries is a community-based, non-profit organization that serves the homeless and at-risk populations of the Mid-Peninsula.

## Pastor's Corner

As we approach year's end, and you plan your charitable inclinations, please note in addition to giving via check or the parish website, we can also accept donations of appreciated securities and receive wire transfers. In addition, as a non-profit, St. Raymond does qualify to receive donations from donor advised funds and foundations as well.

To donate securities or wire funds, please email [office@straymondmp.org](mailto:office@straymondmp.org), and we can send you the instructions you will need. If you have a donor advised fund or foundation, the parish can receive donations from them. Please be sure to select the St. Raymond Catholic Church in Menlo Park as there are a few St. Raymond Catholic Churches listed in the databases.

Finally, if your employer matches donations, please email us at [office@straymondmp.org](mailto:office@straymondmp.org), and let us know what information we can provide to assist with submitting the matching request.

Before I sign off, I would like to give a Fall Campaign update. As of Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019 we have raised \$204,835.15, which is 34% of our total goal of \$600,000. 106 individual families have already contributed, which is less than half of the families who currently attend St. Raymond. If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider making a donation. We'd love to have 100% participation!

Thank you for your continuing financial support of St. Raymond Church.

God bless,  
Fr. Jerome

## Homily Archive

Listen to homilies from Fr. Jerome and Deacon Tom, along with special guest preachers such as Fr. Edward Inyanwachi, Fr Michael Amabisco, O.P., and more. Homilies are available online at [www.straymondmp.org/homilies](http://www.straymondmp.org/homilies).

**BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS** If you have a notice for the bulletin, please send it to [bulletin@straymondmp.org](mailto:bulletin@straymondmp.org). Submissions are due by Friday two weeks before the publication date. You can also send any St. Raymond event photos that you would like to share with the community to the same address.

## Catholic Charities

### CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY VOLUNTEERING

Help bring cheer to our formerly homeless Leland House Community residents who have disabling HIV/AIDS. Volunteer to help set-up, clean-up, and join in the fun for our **Christmas Eve Party, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 PM**; or our **Christmas Day Party, December 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:30-11:30 AM**. Must be 21 or older to volunteer at Leland.

To volunteer and for more information, contact Carol Laughlin at [CLaughlin@CatholicCharitiesSF.org](mailto:CLaughlin@CatholicCharitiesSF.org) or visit us at [www.catholiccharitiessf.org](http://www.catholiccharitiessf.org).

## Ministry Corner

**YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY** is having a potluck and white elephant gift exchange on Sunday, Dec. 15 after the 6:00 pm Mass. For more info, join their Facebook group page at [bit.ly/yastraymond](http://bit.ly/yastraymond) for updates.

**BIBLE STUDY** meets every Wednesday in the Parish Center at 10:00 am. Join us for prayer and scripture. (There will be no Bible Study on 12/25 and 1/1).

**LEGION OF MARY** meets every Tuesday at 9:00 am in the parish hall. The Legion of Mary is a world-wide organization of the lay apostolate, in which Catholic men, women, and youth sanctify themselves through prayer and apostolic work in union with Our Lady. Join us!

**ALTAR SERVERS**—If your son or daughter is interested in becoming an altar server (4th Grade and up), email John at [jsanchez@straymondmp.org](mailto:jsanchez@straymondmp.org) for more info.

## ADVENT REFLECTIONS

Looking for ways your family can enter into the Advent season together?  
Grow closer to Christ this season with reflections sent to you daily.

Sign up at [formed.org/advent](http://formed.org/advent) o para español [formed.org/adviento](http://formed.org/adviento)

FORMED Daily

### ADVENT'S PREGNANT PAUSE

BY BR. DAVID WOO, O.P.

Advent has begun!

We've entered into a pregnant pause. The hope of the world—of our lives—is *imminent*! The canticles of Zechariah, Simeon, and Mary in the gospel of Luke express the hope of the people Israel. God's chosen people have been waiting for the fulfillment of His promise: of the coming of the anointed one, the Christ, to show the strength of his arm, scatter the proud in their conceit, lift up the lowly, and fill the hungry with good things, remembering his promise and mercy to Abraham and his descendants forever. (cf. Luke 1:46-55)

These canticles express our hope for a new world where there will be no pain, "He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, [for] the old order has passed away." (Rev. 21:4)

But we have *not* yet fully arrived at the fulfillment of that promise.

The season of Advent provides time to pause, reflect, and wait. Jesus, in his humanity, took time to 'develop' before beginning his ministry. Mary was pregnant with Jesus in her womb for nine months of gestation, growth and development. And for approximately thirty years after his birth, Jesus was raised according to the Law. He began His ministry *only after* this lengthy preparation.

Before Jesus is 'active' in ministry, there is a pregnant pause. 'Pregnant pause' is an English idiom that means something significant or noteworthy is about to happen, or just happened, with a response forthcoming. It is a moment of silence that is full of expectation and hope.

Many married couples shift their attitudes on life once they have their first child. The husband and wife become *parents*, becoming a family qualitatively different from before. This new creation, a child, is a wonderful gift from God. It is the beginning of a wonderful new reality, but it takes time to develop. There is literally a *pregnant pause*.

A child requires planning, preparing, and *patience* for its arrival. Advent is a time for us as a Church to plan, prepare, and be patient for Christ's arrival. We joyfully commemorate the

"Adriana" is a single mother with two sons and a daughter. Her husband was recently killed in an automobile accident, and in addition to their emotional stress they were facing financial crisis as well.



Her husband had been the primary wage earner and her income was not enough to pay for funeral expenses, rent, and utilities. She fell behind on the rent and the family was facing eviction. Lana sought help from Coast Side Hope who referred them to St. Vincent de Paul's Peninsula Family Resource Center (PFRC). Volunteers visited them with bags of groceries and agreed to pay the September rent.

Adriana has increased her work hours this month and now shares two rooms with extended family members. She expects to be able to pay the full rent moving forward.

## Digital Advent

### More Online Advent Resources

**Dynamic Catholic**—Join Matthew Kelly and other leading Catholic speakers for a daily reflection called Rediscover Mercy. You'll receive daily inspirational emails with short videos, encouragement, and coaching for Advent. [dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever](http://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever)

**Bishop Robert Baron**—Advent reflections from Bishop Robert Baron. More than 275,000 people have signed up to receive his e-mails. They are deep yet thoughtful and give you an "action item" each day. [adventreflections.com](http://adventreflections.com)

**EWTN**—Save this one in your browser and visit it daily for readings, reflections, and an Advent action. There are also links and videos to history lessons and messages of hope. [ewtn.com/advent](http://ewtn.com/advent)

arrival of Jesus from the womb of Mary, and we also prepare for Christ's second coming. We plan, prepare, and wait for the Lord by our prayers, charitable actions, and living with joyful expectation.

*"He delivered them from their distress; he brought them out of darkness and gloom, and broke their bonds asunder. Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to the sons of men."* (Psalm 107:14-15)

So, we wait, in that pregnant pause, for the fulfillment of our hope—for God to manifest Himself to us.

~Br. David Woo, O.P., is a student brother at St. Albert's Priory in Oakland.

## Music Ministry

PLEASE don't forget to contact your friends, relatives, neighbors, work colleagues, anyone whom you know loves to sing carols or likes to play an instrument, and INVITE them to join our choirs for Christmas Masses at St. Raymond, at 5:00 pm on Christmas Eve (starting with carols with the children at 4:40 pm) and at 10:00 am Mass on Christmas Day.

We need more voices! Many of our year-round choir members are away this Christmas so come help us out!

Questions? Call or email Donna 408-406-6240 [dstoering@gmail.com](mailto:dstoering@gmail.com).

## Children's Christmas Program

Children ages 3-18 are invited to come to music practices at 11:00 am (just following the 10:00 am Mass) on **Dec. 15** and **Dec. 22**. This is to prepare for a short Children's Singing Program that will take place at 4:40 pm before the 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass this year. All children who would like to sing some Christmas songs/prepare for Dec. 24 are welcome. Practices to be held in the Church; meet at the piano!



## NEW YEAR'S EVE RETREAT

TUE., DECEMBER 31, 2019 7:00 PM—10:30 PM

This retreat is facilitated by **Fr. Bartholomew Hutcherson, O.P.**, and will include a reflection, Eucharist, and festive dessert (provided by the Dominican Sisters).

Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose Chapel, 43326 Mission Circle (off Mission Tierra), Fremont, CA.

RSVP by Dec. 28th at [bit.ly/2019NewYrRtrt](http://bit.ly/2019NewYrRtrt) or call 510-933-6360. Free will offering.



**MINISTRY TO THE SICK** Do you know of anyone who is homebound or ill? If so, we want to hear from you. Please contact the parish office at (650) 323-1755 or email [office@straymondmp.org](mailto:office@straymondmp.org) and help us get in touch with those who need ministry.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK** As a parish community we pray for the sick among us, including: Arthur Ang, Balvina Gonzalez, Bernice Corcoran, Candy Hernandez, Celeste Green, Concepcion Varron, Diane Mojtehed, Emmanuel Barbariol, Gayland Hagy, Janice Hagy, Karen Lundberg, Lorraine Macchello, Lynn Bacon, Margaret McSweeney, Modesta Cintron, and those who wish not to be named.

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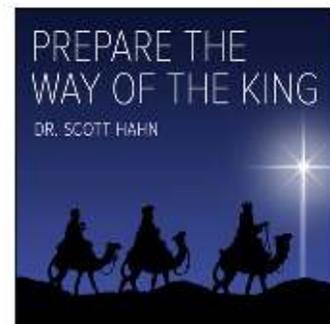
SHOULD I  
FORCE MY  
KIDS TO GO  
TO MASS?



WITH FR. JEROME

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PICK OF THE WEEK



Prepare the Way of the King  
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*The Greatest Gift We Can Ever Receive*

Dr. Scott Hahn reveals what scholars know about the shepherds, the mysterious Magi, and King Herod. Your Advent journey will take on new meaning. This illuminating presentation is sure to help you grow in appreciation of the greatest gift ever given to mankind — Jesus Christ.

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**LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS**—Low-gluten hosts are available at each Mass. Go to Father's line during Communion and ask for a low-gluten host. To avoid contamination, please take a host from the low-gluten pyx.

**WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS** If you are a visitor to St. Raymond Parish, we want you to know you are welcome here—whether you have come from another part of the country, from across the world, or another parish in the Archdiocese. Say hello to any of our parishioners! For information about our parish or to register, please contact us at [office@straymondmp.org](mailto:office@straymondmp.org).

## ST. RAYMOND PARISH

*Served by the Dominican Friars of the Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus (Western Dominican Province) since 2013.*

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Caitlin Burke, Tim Connors



## CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS

### MASSES

Saturdays 5:15 pm Vigil

Sundays 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 Noon,  
6:00 pm

Weekdays 8:15 am (Mon.-Sat.) in the Chapel

Holy Days 8:15 am, 12:15 pm & 7:00 pm

**Christmas Schedule on page 2.**

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturdays after the 8:15 am Mass (Chapel)

Thursdays 7:00 pm—8:00 pm at Holy Hour

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

1st Thursdays after 8:15 am Mass (Chapel)  
or by appointment

### RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:45 pm-4:45 pm or by  
appointment

Thursdays 7:00 pm—8:00 pm at Holy Hour

### HOLY HOUR (ADORATION & RECONCILIATION)

Thursdays 7:00 pm—8:00 pm\*

### LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Mon.-Sat. 7:25 am (Office of Readings and  
Morning Prayer) in the Chapel

### ROSARY

Mon.-Sat. 8:00 am in the Chapel

### BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, AND FUNERALS

Please contact the parish office at 650-323-1755 or  
email [office@straymondmp.org](mailto:office@straymondmp.org).

**VISION STATEMENT** St. Raymond Parish is a family. As disciples of Jesus, we are “children of God” and “brothers and sisters in Christ.” Jesus himself says, “Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother, and sister, and mother” (Matthew 12:50). We welcome all to belong to our Catholic family and to inherit with us in Christ the mission to preach the Gospel!

**MISSION STATEMENT** St. Raymond Parish is a community united by our Catholic Faith as disciples of Jesus Christ. We seek communion with God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit through ongoing personal and communal conversion to Christ and a deeper commitment to the mission Jesus gives each of us to preach the Gospel. The sacred scriptures and sacraments of the Church sustain us. We dedicate ourselves to Truth and strive to grow in love of God and neighbor through community, prayer, study, and service, as we work by grace to build up in one another and share freely with others the abundance of magnificent gifts God has given.