

# SAINT ROBERT'S CHURCH



## Advent Reconciliation Service



On Monday, Dec. 13th at 7:30PM, the 8 parishes of our deanery will come together to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance at St. Dunstan's Church in Millbrae (1133 Broadway Ave). Let us join with one another to prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus by listening to God's Word, praying together and confessing our sins. All we have to do is come – God will do the rest!

Rectory Office: 1380 Crystal Springs Rd.  
San Bruno, CA 94066 Phone: **(650) 589-2800**  
FAX: **(650) 588-9628**  
Web Site: [www.saintroberts.org](http://www.saintroberts.org)

Rev. Roberto A. Andrey, Pastor  
Rev. Paul O'Dell, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Vincent Ring, *Retired In Residence*  
Deacon Rusty Duffey, Pastoral Associate  
Deacon John Meyer, Pastoral Associate  
Sister Sheral Marshall, OSF,  
Pastoral Associate for Liturgy  
Sister Patricia O'Sullivan, PBVM, **589-0104**  
Pastoral Associate for Sick and Homebound

In residence **763-8822**  
Sister Ita Cleary, PBVM  
Sister Antonio Heaphy, PBVM  
Sister Vianney Buckley, PBVM

Ms. Rose Aragon, **589-2800**  
Office Administrator  
Mrs. Judy DeMartini, **589-2800**  
Parish Receptionist/Bookkeeper

PARISH SCHOOL – **583-5065**  
Ms. Yvonne Olcomendy, Principal

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (CCD)-  
**588-0477**  
Ms. Joanne Bartolotti - Director  
Mrs. Leslie Fong, Office Manager

PARISH MUSIC MINISTRY – **589-2800**  
Mr. Kevin Imbimbo

### MASS TIMES

Vigil Mass 4:30 pm (Saturday)  
Sundays: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am and 5:00 pm  
Holy Days: Please consult weekly bulletin.  
**Weekdays:** Masses are on Monday, Tuesday and Friday at 6:30 a.m. and Monday through Saturday at 8:30 a.m. *Communion Services* are held Wednesday and Thursday at 6:30 a.m.

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

There is a period of preparation for the celebration of this Sacrament. Parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptismal class. Please contact the rectory in advance.

### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday: 3:30 pm to 4:15 pm or call 589-2800 to make an appointment.

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

There is a six month period of preparation for the celebration of this Sacrament. Please contact the rectory to make arrangements.

### SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the rectory in case of serious illness and before surgery and hospital care.

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

High school students call the Religious Education Office.  
Adult confirmation is available on an individual basis. Please contact the rectory to make arrangements.

**Schedules for Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors & Altar Servers are also available on the web at [www.saintroberts.org](http://www.saintroberts.org).**

## Dear Parishioners,

We start our celebration of the Christmas season with Simbang Gabi. Simbang Gabi, a novena of masses before Christmas, has been recognized and approved by the Archdiocese of San Francisco as a meaningful way to start the celebration of the Christmas season. On December 11th, a Simbang Gabi commissioning will take place at the Mater Dolorosa Church in South San Francisco. This event is intended to promote to all the parishes in the Archdiocese the celebration of Simbang Gabi masses. In celebrating Simbang Gabi we are honoring and accompanying Mary as she awaits the birth of her son. This is why the Simbang Gabi celebration is in essence a Marian devotion.

Here at Saint Robert's the Fil-Am Group is sponsoring Simbang Gabi 2010. Our Simbang Gabi masses will be on December 15 to 23 at 7:00 pm. After every mass there will be a fellowship in Hennessy Hall. Attending the novena of masses and the fellowship is an avenue for community building. On December 15 there will be a blessing and procession of the Christmas lanterns or parols. The parols symbolize the Star of Bethlehem. If you would like to have your Christmas lanterns or parols blessed you may bring them to church on December 15.

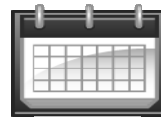
I hope and pray that our celebration of Christmas this year will become truly meaningful. Mary will certainly guide and lead us towards that meaningful celebration of Christmas as we accompany her in our celebration of Simbang Gabi.

Blessings,  
Father Obet

### Decorating for Christmas!

The liturgy committee and I would be most grateful for any help you could offer on Wednesday, Dec. 22 to get the church ready for Christmas. The trees, graciously donated by Deb's Trees at Serramonte. We'll also be making our own sprays for the doors this year to cut down on expenses, so bow-makers would be especially welcomed! And before we do all this, we'll do some major twice a year cleaning like you do at home. So please wear your grubbies and bring gloves if you'd like. Service hours gladly given! **S. Sheral**

## THE WEEK AHEAD



### Monday-December 13th

Mass Intention 6:30 Pat Mialloich  
8:30 Vittoria Fanti †  
**Liturgy Committee 7:00pm Library**  
**St. Vincent de Paul 7:00pm Mahoney Room**  
**Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Church**

### Tuesday-December 14th

Mass Intention 6:30 Joanne Johnson  
8:30 Steve Jerabek †  
**Adult Religious Ed 9:15 am Mary's Chapel**  
**Religious Education 3:30pm Church & Hall**  
**Legion of Mary 6:30pm Library**  
**Kids Stock 7:00pm Church**

### Wednesday-December 15th

6:30 Communion Service  
Mass Intention 8:30 Gandeza Family  
**Simbang Gabi 7:00pm Church**

### Thursday-December 16th

6:30 Communion Service  
Mass Intention 8:30 Noelle Lille †  
**Simbang Gabi 7:00pm Church**

### Friday-December 17th

Mass Intention 6:30 Susan De La Rosa †  
8:30 Walter Strizic †  
**Simbang Gabi 7:00pm Church**

### Saturday-December 18th

Mass Intention 8:30 Steven Hart †  
4:30 People of St. Robert's  
**AA 9:30am Mahoney Room**  
**Consolation Min. 3:00pm Convent**  
**Simbang Gabi 7:00pm Church**

### Sunday-December 19th

#### 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass Intention 7:30 Lois Marco †  
9:30 Ernest Ronzini †  
11:30 Jaime & Jovita  
Duskey †  
5:00 Norman Yates †  
**Simbang Gabi 7:00pm Church**



AS A PARISH COMMUNITY, WE PRAY FOR...**THOSE RECEIVING GIFTS FROM OUR GIVING TREES AND OUR BASKET FOR THE HOMEBOUND. MAY OUR CONCERN AND LOVE BRING THEM HOPE AND JOY.**



**WE CONGRATULATE THE NEWLY BAPTIZED**

**Michael Leo Murray**



Our sincere sympathy to the families of Katherine Bartolotti, Marilyn Olson & Paul Uliana who died recently.



**MEMORIAL CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**



Christmas flowers and garlands will decorate the Church during the Christmas Season. If you would like to make a donation of \$10 toward their purchase in memory or in honor of a loved one please fill out the form below and return it by Friday, December 17th. Please make checks out to St. Robert's.

My Gift in Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

My Gift in Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

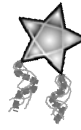
**Keeping Advent**

It's a great struggle, I realize, when all the world but the Church is already into wearing red and playing Christmas music, but the Church wisely asks us to take some time to prepare for this great feast. So I'd invite us to wear purple instead of red or green (except for Christmas parties of course) and please not to bring poinsettias yet. We'll put them out only when we decorate **Wednesday, Dec. 22.** Thank you.

**SIMBANG GABI**

**Mass a Dawn or Misa de Gallo**

- December 15th 7:00 pm
- December 16th 7:00 pm
- December 17th 7:00 pm
- December 18th 7:00 pm
- December 19th 7:00 pm
- December 20th 7:00 pm
- December 21st 7:00 pm
- December 22nd 7:00 pm
- December 23rd 7:00 pm



followed by a reception at Hennessy Hall. On the last night we will have our Christmas Party. Come, join and celebrate with us.

**CONSOLATION MINISTRY**  
*"Getting Ready for the Holidays"*

Saint Robert's Grief Support Group will hold special sessions to help those who are faced with the celebrating of **Christmas** for the first or second time since the passing of their loved one, on **December 18**, in the Convent Chapel from 3:00 – 4:15.

Anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one – spouse, sibling, child, parent, friend or relative is invited to come together and pray, share, comfort and be comforted. We will give you some very helpful hints to cope with your grief and sorrow during this festive season. No one is pressured to share or contribute, if your pain is too intense. May God bless and comfort you in your sorrow. If you have any questions, call: **Sister Patricia @ 589-0104.**

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

<b>July 1st to Dec 5th (goal)</b>	<b>233,780.00</b>
<b>July 1st to Dec 5th (actual)</b>	<b>202,547.13</b>
<b>7/1/10-6/30/11 Weekly Goal</b>	<b>10,490.00</b>
<b>Collection (actual 12/05)</b>	<b>9,916.50</b>

Thank you for your generous donation of **\$2,179.77** to our School, CCD and Confirmation Programs.

**ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL**

**As of 12/7/10**  
**over 500 families have pledged**  
**\$77,868.17**  
**Our goal this year is \$96,000**

*Thank you in advance*  
*for your generous donation.*

# MINISTER SCHEDULE/DEC 18 & 19

## **Saturday/4:30 P.M. Mass**

**Presider:** Fr. Obet

**Eucharistic Ministers:** R. Hanley (C)

D. Hageman, T. Dachauer, J. Beltrano, K. Martinez,  
S. Chester, A. Ciraulo

**Lectors:** B. Rudometkin and M. Dachauer

**Altar Servers:** C. McHale and J. Silva

## **Sunday/7:30 A.M. Mass**

**Presider:** Fr. Obet

**Eucharistic Ministers:** R. Vassallo (C)

E. Ruggiero, B. Mullins, B. Albright, A. Buelow

**Lectors:** A. Cotroneo and J. Thomson

**Altar Servers:** A. Kucsak and C. Paulbitski

## **Sunday/9:30 A.M. Mass**

**Presider:** Fr. Ring

**Eucharistic Ministers:** L. Cesca (C)

M. Bourne, M. Zamattia, T. Casey, M.A. Saisi,  
J. Valdez, R. Valdez

**Lectors:** D. Jolie and D. Wilson

**Altar Servers:** E. Gonzalez, C. Lynch and P. Lynch

**Children's Liturgy:** MaryAnn and Bob & Karen

## **Sunday/11:30 A.M. Mass**

**Presider:** Fr. Paul

**Eucharistic Ministers:** B. Chester (C)

C. Morgan, H. Mantler, J. Yee, D/C Sosa,  
P. Fernandez, M. Fernandez

**Lectors:** G. Khoury and H. Beck

**Altar Servers:** S. Stelmachenko and I. Galindo

## **Sunday/5:00 P.M. Mass**

**Presider:** Fr. Paul

**Eucharistic Ministers:** G. Huddleston (C)

J. Semeniuk, M. Salvato, A. Lopez, C. Lopez, V. Lopez,  
M. Aberouette

**Lector:** L. Misculin and N. Buencamino

**Altar Servers:** R. Cuddy and P. Stack

### **WEEKLY READINGS**

#### **Monday-December 13th**

Readings: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a Mt 21:23-27

#### **Tuesday-December 14th**

Readings: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 Mt 21:28-32

#### **Wednesday-December 15th**

Readings: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25 Lk 7:18b-23

#### **Thursday-December 16th**

Readings: Is 54:1-10 Lk 7:24-30

#### **Friday-December 17th**

Readings: Gn 49:2, 8-10 Mt 1:1-17

#### **Saturday-December 18th**

Readings: Jer 23:5-8 Mt 1:18-25

#### **Sunday-December 19th**

Readings: Is 7:10-14 Rom 1:1-7 Mt 1:18-24

## Year of Renewal in Worship and Prayer

**Part II: The Entrance Procession.** The Entrance Procession in liturgical celebrations began when the Church community started to celebrate in large buildings. For centuries these processions have served as visible expressions of our liturgical community gathering around the table of the Lord in praise and worship. Each time God's people and the Church's ministers come to the altar in procession, the whole assembly is invited to be attentive to the profound act of prayer that we share. The altar, our table of banquet and sacrifice is a symbol of Christ. We offer reverence with a kiss by the priest and deacon and a profound bow by all the ministers present. Incense is sometimes used to venerate the altar, a sign of our prayer and sacrifice rising up to God.

To symbolize our unity as we gather, the community usually sings a song or psalm of celebration. In doing so we allow the music and its message to help us give praise to God. Thus in movement, symbol and song we unite as a worshipping assembly and prepare ourselves to experience the mystery of God in Word and Sacrament.



### SPOTLIGHT on SYMBOLS

Consider all that makes up the entrance procession — the Cross leading us, the Book of the Gospels, the various servant ministers, including the bishop or priest vested to lead the assembly in this sacrificial meal. The procession is symbolic of our entire pilgrim Christian life.

## Religious Retirement Fund

**Aging religious need your help.** Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests offered their lives in service to others—educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious supports basic necessities, such as prescription drugs and nursing care. Please give generously to today's second collection.

## Bulletin Articles

**Due to the upcoming holiday schedule  
If you have an article for the bulletins of December 26  
and/or January 2nd  
They must be delivered to the rectory no later than  
noon on Monday, December 13th.**

## Mary's Feasts

Today we celebrate that we're halfway through Advent! Hopefully, we're a bit more aware of God's presence with us already in the beauty of the leaves and the unique sky at sunrise. And, of course, God is hiding in the people around us, if only we'll look. Though we may get depressed by events around us, God hasn't given up on his beloved human family!

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception Dec. 8 celebrates our belief that God kept Mary free from sin from the first moment of her conception in her mother's womb, knowing that she would be the mother of the Savior. The feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe today, though overshadowed by this third Sunday of Advent, also has a message for us. In 1531, Mary appears to a simple Nahautl peasant, Juan Diego, after the Mexican people had been overrun by the conquistadores, leaving their land, customs and family structure in ruins. In the depths of their despair, Mary appears as a pregnant Mestiza, promising them that she will be with them and will protect them. Her pregnancy symbolizes for the people the new life which would come in spite of the crushing conditions they endured. Lest we forget, Jesus also comes to an insignificant people in the midst of their oppression by the Romans.

Hope isn't really hope if you see before you what you're hoping for! And we are called to hope these days especially - in this country, in Ireland and all countries experiencing financial hardships; in the Palestinian territories and all countries experiencing oppression, in our families and businesses which are "barely making it."

This weekend, the second collection is for retired religious. These are members of communities, founded by women (and sometimes, men) who began works of charity with only a few dollars in their pockets and a dream. Nano Nagle, the foundress of our Presentation Sisters in Ireland, would be so proud of what her daughters have done since 1775 and continue to do to aid those in need! Catherine Damen, the foundress of my particular branch of Franciscans, experienced the effects of the French Revolution in the Netherlands and taught catechism and sewing to the street girls of the 1830's as well as caring for the sick with three friends, no education and no money. These women and probably most of our grandparents lived on hope and helped their neighbors from their own poverty.

In today's gospel passage, Matthew's community presents John the Baptist and Jesus as cut from the same cloth. John is in prison, unsure of his fate, and he wants to know if Jesus is the Messiah he's been preaching about. Jesus tells John's disciples to convey to him what they've seen: the wonderful healings - the works of God described by Isaiah - are being done by Jesus. Then Jesus praises John as "more than a prophet."

Do we have the patience James encourages as we wait for clearer signs, perhaps, of God's presence in our world? Can we help in some small ways to open the eyes of the blind, clear the ears of the deaf, enable songs to rise from the mute? Whose hope can we strengthen with our own hope? Who needs to know that he/she doesn't need to face hardships alone? May we be open to be the presence of Jesus for others and to do his works in our own small way. A blessed Advent to you! **S. Sheral**

## ADOPT A FAMILY

Once again this year we will have an Adopt-a-Family tree in front of church for the Christmas Season. The tree will have paper ornaments profiling families that can use some help during this time of year. We've received our families from our own St. Vincent de Paul Society, as well as Catholic Worker House in Redwood City, Child and Family Services of San Mateo County and again this year we've gotten some families from our adopted parish in Mississippi.

If you have means to help, look for the tree after Mass this weekend

Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you have questions please call Rob & Cathy Aveson 583 4757, John & Eileen Grealish 589 6011 or John & Nancy Marty 588 4740.

## GIFTS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Many members of our Parish family are homebound or in nursing facilities due to serious illness or advanced years. During Advent, we say to Our Lord: "Come, Lord Jesus!" This hope is in their hearts as well. We can bring Jesus' love to them by placing an unwrapped gift in the basket on our altar steps by December 19th. Some suggestions are: white knee socks, lap robes, sweaters, slippers, robes, dusters, nightgowns, pajamas, a note of encouragement.



## The Giving Tree

The Children's Liturgy team will be setting up their annual Giving Tree. Parishioners are invited to take an ornament from the tree, purchase that item and return it unwrapped along with the gift tag to the box in vestibule. These gifts are distributed through various needy organizations.



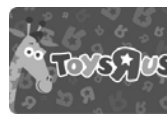
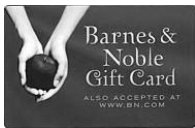
Thank you in advance for your continued spirit of generosity for our neighbors in need.

## One Stop Shopping Shop Now... Take Home ..... Wrap



## The Perfect Gift

### St. Robert Parish Gift Card Fundraiser



Have a **birthday** coming up, **home repair** to do or Christmas gifts to buy or simply purchase groceries? Gift cards from various local retailers will be available to purchase after all Masses. No fees. Cash and checks accepted.

**Caroling! Caroling! Here we go!!!!!! Oh how fun it is to .....**



**YES! It's that time of the year. It's time for the annual caroling trip to Emmanuel Convalescent Hospital to give a little holiday cheer to those who may not get it any other way.**



We will meet on Sun. Dec. 19th at 1:00 pm. Then Caravan to the hospital to sing. Please plan to be there till 4:00 pm. The time spent with the people in the hospital is important way of showing our faith at work. The smiles and tears from some of the elderly make this a moving experience. Come join us.

**Kevin Imbimbo**