Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In these days of Epiphanytide, the Church continues to contemplate the mystery of the Infant Savior. She kneels in adoration today with the Magi before the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Here she contemplates the marvelous reality that God, Who could have saved us in any way at all, has willed to save us by being born into a human family. God the Son, Who had only a Father from all eternity, has willed to have now a true Mother!

On this traditional feast of the Holy Family, we marvel at the now-divine beauty of human family life. We are students today at this feast, allowing ourselves to learn the meaning of familial love. In a culture in which the family is constantly under attack, we learn today that there is a Perfect Family. We acknowledge the perfection of the Holy Family. We acknowledge that St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary had a perfect marriage, that there has never been in the history of the world a marriage bond as united as their virginal love. We joyfully proclaim that the Son of God is the obedient Son of Mary, subject also to his foster-father. We rejoice that we too are members of the Perfect Family, that we too are invited into the house at Bethlehem today to adore with the Magi, to help St. Joseph, to honor our holy Mother, to worship God-become-a-baby. How joyful are the mysteries we celebrate on this Epiphany day! On January 13, the Church will celebrate traditionally the Baptism of the Lord, which is the Octave of Epiphany. The Baptism is the second of the Epiphany mysteries (followed by the Wedding Feast at Cana). In the Baptism, Our Lord's Divinity is manifest by the voice of the Father: "This is my Beloved Son..." The feast of the Lord's Baptism is the feast also of our own Baptism into Him. He was baptized not to be made holy (He was already all-holy), but rather to make the waters of Baptism holy with His holiness. To the waters of Baptism He communicated the gifts of salvation (the Heavens opened), sanctifying grace (the descent of the Holy Spirit) and adoptive sonship (the voice of the Father). In our own Baptism, we died and rose with Christ so that we could live in Him as members of His Body. Thanks to Baptism, we now have His gift of salvation, His anointing with the Holy Spirit, His treasures of grace, His relationship with God the Father. Thanks to Baptism, we have become by grace what Christ is by nature. He has communicated to us His very identity! Right now, we renew the promises of our own Baptism: to live by faith, to desire Heaven, to order our lives entirely to the Supreme Good, Who is God. We beg for the graces we need to live this life we have received, being born by baptism into the Holy Family. We ask our foster-father, St. Joseph, to pray for us to our true Father, that we may live in obedience to His commands. We ask our Mother to pray for us that we may persevere always in grace. We ask our Infant Savior to pour forth into our hearts the unceasing Stream of Salvation flowing from His Heart. We beg Him to cover us with His Blood, to protect us and guide us all the days of our life, until we may rejoice in Heaven with our Holy Family forever.

Pray for me, Father Joseph Previtali
**Parish Announcements**

**Upcoming Events**

**Our Lady of the Pillar**

**Monday Nights**
Adult Catechism with Father Joe
7:30pm—8:30pm @ New Hall

**Third Tuesday of the Month**
Knights of Columbus Meeting
Old Hall—7:00pm

**Tuesday Nights**
Bible Study
5:30pm—7:00pm @ Conference Room

**Miércoles por la Noche**
Estudio de la Biblia
7:00pm en el Salón Viejo (Old Hall)

**Saturday Morning**
Legion of Mary Meeting
Conference Room
9:00am–11:00am

**Second Sunday of the Month**
Hospitality after 8:00am Mass
Old Hall

**Clases de Bautizo Para Padres y Padrinos**
El cuarto Viernes del Mes
7:00pm en el Old Hall (Salon Viejo)

**Priesthood Discernment Retreat**
Friday through Sunday, January 27-29
St. Patrick’s Seminary
320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park
Fr. David Schunk, Director of Vocations 415-614-5684
vocations@sfarch.org

St. Patrick’s Seminary is hosting its annual discernment retreat for men who are interested in exploring the vocation to the priesthood. The retreat includes time to meet men already studying to be priests, listen to the experience of their call to the priesthood, and see what life is like at the seminary. The retreat is open to young men over 18 years of age, and is free. For more information or to register for the retreat, please contact the Director of Vocations, Fr. David Schunk, see above.

**Litany of the Infant Jesus**

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy,
Christ, have mercy, Christ, have mercy,
Lord have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

Infant Jesus, hear us, Infant Jesus, graciously hear us.

God the Father of heaven, have mercy on us.
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us.

God the Holy Ghost, have mercy on us.
Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us.

Infant Jesus, have mercy on us.

Infant, very God, have mercy on us.
Infant, Son of the Living God, have mercy on us.
Infant, Son of the Virgin Mary, have mercy on us.

Infant, begotten before the morning star, have mercy on us.

Infant, Word made flesh, have mercy on us.
Infant, Wisdom of your Father, have mercy on us.
Infant, Purity of your mother, have mercy on us.

Infant, only Son of your Father, have mercy on us.
Infant, First-Born of your people, have mercy on us.

Infant, Image of your Father, have mercy on us.
Infant, Creator of your mother, have mercy on us.
Infant, Splendor of your Father, have mercy on us.

Infant, Honor of your mother, have mercy on us.
Infant, equal to your Father, have mercy on us.

Infant, subject to your mother, have mercy on us.
Infant, Joy of your Father, have mercy on us.
Infant, Riches of your mother, have mercy on us.

Infant, Gift of your Father, have mercy on us.
Infant, Offering of your mother, have mercy on us.

Infant, precious fruit of a virgin, have mercy on us.

Infant, Creator of man, have mercy on us.
Infant, Power of God, have mercy on us.

Infant, our God, have mercy on us.
Infant, our Brother, have mercy on us.

Infant, perfect Man from your conception, have mercy on us.

Infant, ancient in wisdom from your childhood, have mercy on us.
Infant, Father of ages, have mercy on us.

Infant, of days, have mercy on us.

Infant, giving life, and nourished at the breast, have mercy on us.
Infant, Eternal Word, and making yourself dumb, have mercy on us.

Infant, weeping in the crib, have mercy on us.
Infant, thundering in heaven, have mercy on us.

Infant, terror of hell, have mercy on us.
Infant, Joy of Paradise, have mercy on us.

Infant, dreaded by tyrants, have mercy on us.
Infant, desired by the Magi, have mercy on us.

Infant, exiled from your people, have mercy on us.
Infant, King in exile, have mercy on us.

Infant, Destroyer of idols, have mercy on us.

Infant, Vindicator of the glory of God, have mercy on us.
Infant, strong in weakness, have mercy on us.

Infant, powerful in abasement, have mercy on us.
Infant, Treasure of Grace, have mercy on us.

Infant, Fountain of Love, have mercy on us.

Infant, Author of the blessings of heaven, have mercy on us.
Infant, Repairer of the evils of earth, have mercy on us.

Infant, Head of the angels, have mercy on us.
Infant, Stem of the patriarchs, have mercy on us.

Infant, Word of the prophets, have mercy on us.

Infant, Expectation of nations, have mercy on us.

Infant, Joy of the shepherds, have mercy on us.

Infant, Light of the Magi, have mercy on us.

Infant, Salvation of children, have mercy on us.

Infant, Hope of the just, have mercy on us.

Infant, Teacher of doctors, have mercy on us.

Infant, First-fruits of the saints, have mercy on us.

Be merciful, spare us, O Infant Jesus.
Be merciful, graciously hear us, O Infant Jesus.

From the bondage of the children of Adam, Infant Jesus, deliver us.
From the slavery of the devil, Infant Jesus, deliver us.

From the corruption of the world, Infant Jesus, deliver us.
From the lust of the flesh, Infant Jesus, deliver us.

From the pride of life, Infant Jesus, deliver us.

From the immediate desire of knowledge, Infant Jesus, deliver us.
From the blindness of mind, Infant Jesus, deliver us.

From the perversity of will, Infant Jesus, deliver us.
From our sins, Infant Jesus, deliver us.

Continued next page……

**Pray for Our Parishioners Who are Sick**

**Sick Relatives & Friends/Parientes y Amigos Enfermos**

Pray that God’s, healing power will fill them with strength and hope.

Your Offerings | Supporting Our Parish

**Collection for December 25th, 2016**

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<td>$133</td>
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**Collection for January 1st, 2017**

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<tr>
<td>St Anthony’s</td>
<td>$429</td>
<td>$144</td>
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**Second Collection this week: Annual Appeal**

- January 15: Religious Education
- January 22: St. Patrick’s Seminary
- January 29: St. Vincent de Paul

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**Parish Pilgrimage Walk for Life in San Francisco and Walk for Life Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral**

Saturday, January 21, 2017
9:30 am: Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral with Archbishop Cordileone
10:45 am: Rally at Civic Center Plaza
1:30 pm: Walk to Justin Herman Plaza
The annual Walk for Life West Coast, which draws 50,000 participants each year, takes place on January 21, 2017. Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone begins the day with a special Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral at 9:30 am. The Walk for Life Rally begins at 10:45 am at the starting point of the Walk, Civic Center Plaza. There the archbishop will announce the recipient of this year’s Saint Gianna Molla Award for Prolife Heroism. The walk from Civic Center Plaza to Justin Herman Plaza at the foot of Market Street begins at 1:30 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE: All are invited to join our Parish Pilgrimage Walk for Life in San Francisco on Saturday, January 21, 2017. More details to follow. Call the parish office to reserve your spaces on the bus.

**Peregrinación Parroquial Caminata por la Vida en San Francisco**
Caminata por la Vida de la Costa Oeste 2017: Únete a hermanos católicos y gente pro-vida proveniente de toda California y más allá, poniéndonos de pie a favor de los más pequeños entre nosotros en la doceava Caminata anual por la Vida de la Costa Oeste en San Francisco, el 21 de enero de 2017. La manifestación comienza a las 12:30 pm en la Plaza del Centro Cívico de San Francisco, y la caminata por la Calle Market comienza a las 1:30. El año pasado la Caminata atrajo a 50,000 personas. Para obtener información completa sobre la Caminata, visite o llame al 415-658-793 Aparte la fecha: Todos están invitados a unirse Peregrinación de nuestra Parroquia a la Caminata por la vida en San Francisco el Sabado, 21 de Enero de 2017. Más información se les proporcionara en el futuro. Por favor llame a la oficina para reservar su espacio en el autobús.

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**Mass Schedule and Intentions**

**Saturday EVENING January 7, 2016**
5:00pm: Anne Minoletti & Family (Int.)
8:00pm: Terese Renteria +

**Sunday January 8, 2017**
8:00 am: Antonio & Genuina Costa + & Sons
10:00 am: Raquel & Gilberto Nuñez Benitez +
12:00 pm: Por la Parroquia
6:00pm: Domingo & Maria Rocha +

**Monday January 9, 2017**
8:00 am: Jason Cornell +

**Tuesday January 10, 2017**
8:00am: Francisco & Idalina Costa + & Family

**Wednesday January 11, 2017**
8:00 am: Angelo Giannini +

**Thursday January 12, 2017**
8:00 am: Manuel Pacheco + & Family

**Friday January 13, 2017**
8:00 am: Diana Lopes & Jose Valdemar +

**Saturday January 14, 2017**
8:00 am: Souls in Purgatory
5:00pm: Joe Goulart, Manuel & Sofia Cunha + Isabel & Jose Gabriel +
8:00pm: Manuel & Maria Ferreira + & Parents

**Sunday January 15, 2017**
8:00 am: Elias Pacheco + & Family
10:00 am: Manuel Machado + & Family
12:00 pm: Por la Parroquia
6:00pm: Antonio Sr. & Virginia Coelho +

**St. Anthony’s**
6:00pm January 7: Graciela Barrios +
9:00am January 8: Graham Sommers +
6:00pm January 14: Paulina Caal +
9:00am January 15: The Burns Family

**Our Lady of Refuge**
10:30am January 8: Domenico Lencioni +
10:30am January 15: Dorothy Wylie +

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Litany continued...

**St. Anthony’s**
6:00pm January 7: Graciela Barrios +
9:00am January 8: Graham Sommers +
6:00pm January 14: Paulina Caal +
9:00am January 15: The Burns Family

**Our Lady of Refuge**
10:30am January 8: Domenico Lencioni +
10:30am January 15: Dorothy Wylie +

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Litany continued...

Through your most pure conception, deliver us.
Through your most humble birth, deliver us.
Through your tears, deliver us.
Through your most painful circumcision, deliver us.
Through your most glorious epiphany, deliver us.
Through your devout presentation, deliver us.
Through your most innocent conversation in the world, deliver us.
Through your most holy life, deliver us.
Through your poverty, deliver us.
Through your sorrows, deliver us.
Through your labors and trials, deliver us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, spare us, O Infant Jesus.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, graciulously hear us, O Infant Jesus.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us, O Infant Jesus.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us, O Infant Jesus.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Infant Jesus.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Infant Jesus.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Infant Jesus.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Infant Jesus.

Let us pray:
O Lord Jesus, who allowed the greatness of your incarnate divinity and most sacred humanity to be born in time, to become a little child, and to suffer bitter death, grant that we may acknowledge infinite wisdom in the silence of a child, power in weakness, majesty in abasement, so that adoring your humility and littleness on earth we may contemplate your glories in heaven.
We ask this of you, who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns God, forever and ever. Amen
Advent Preparations For Christmas

During Advent, we prepare for Jesus' birth at Christmas by joining the patriarchs and prophets in awaiting the coming of Jesus. Advent is a penitential season, as seen by the Church's use of violet vestments and more somber music and decorations. Our home should mimic what we are doing in our church - use purple to decorate the dining table and other places in the home, hold off on Christmas themes until it's Christmas and let Advent be Advent in your family! During this time, the Advent wreath is our primary symbol, not the Christmas tree - it is quite inappropriate to have a fully decorated Christmas Tree throughout the season of Advent.

On the other hand, Catholics celebrate Christmas with particular joy when it really is Christmas! Unlike the rest of the world, we continue to celebrate Christmas with much festivity through the whole Twelve Days, till January 6th. The Christmas spirit continues even until February 2nd, forty days after our Lord's birth, when Mary and Joseph first left Bethlehem to take the newborn King to the Temple. Let Advent be Advent, and let Christmas be Christmas!

Here are some simple ideas for decorating the home during the Advent and Christmas seasons. These are just suggestions and do not follow a hard and fast rule. We all can adapt practices to our particular needs - so long as we continue to respect the essential character of the season and both temptations of celebrating Christmas too soon (during Advent) or not long enough (ending before February 2nd, or even before January 6th).

**First Sunday of Advent** - Put up the Christmas Tree, but without any lights or ornaments. Put up the rest of the greenery around the home, but again without any ornaments. Put up more lights on the outside of the house, but don't turn them on at night (only those that have been up since St Lucy Day).

December 17th to December 23rd - Each day, place more figures in the Nativity set: shepherds and sheep, ox and ass, and other livestock, the empty manger. Mary and Joseph go in on the last couple days before Christmas. Do not put in the Baby Jesus, or any of the Wise Men, or the Angel, or the Star.

**Fourth Sunday of Advent** - Put up the remaining lights on the outside of the home and all around the tree and throughout the house. These lights are finally all turned on tonight! Fully decorate the tree and garland around the home. In the early eve, replace the purple and other dark colors around the home with white and gold and happy colors!

December 24th, Christmas Eve - Place a few of the Christmas lights around the inside and outside of the house. December 25th, Christmas Day - At midnight, place the Baby Jesus in the Nativity set and kneel for a moment as a family to worship the newborn King! The star and the angel are also placed in the Nativity set, but not the wise men or their camel. All other Christmas decoration are placed throughout the home!

January 6th, Epiphany - The Magi finally arrive and are placed in the Nativity Set! Any extra decorations are set up inside and outside the house today! This is the day that Christmas was revealed to the world! It is as great a feast as Christmas itself, and we should take pride in having our tree up and our Christmas lights fully aglow! Throw your Christmas/Epiphany party today!

January 7th to January 13th, the Octave of Epiphany - We gradually reduce our Christmas decorations and begin to put them away. But our Christmas spirit continues till February 2nd, and we keep at least our Nativity Set in a prominent position until then.

May God grant us all a most prayerful Advent, so that we will be ready to receive Christ with true Christmas joy!
Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

En estos días de los Reyes Magos, la Iglesia continúa a contemplar el misterio del Niño Salvador. Se arrodilla en adoración hoy con los Magos ante la Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José. Aquí ella contempla la maravillosa realidad de que Dios, que nos podría haber salvado de cualquier forma, ha querido salvarnos por haber nacido en una familia humana. Dios el Hijo, que tenía sólo habla un Padre desde toda la eternidad, ha querido tener ahora una verdadera madre!

En esta tradicional fiesta de la Sagrada Familia, nos maravillamos ante la belleza divina de la vida de la familia humana. Somos estudiantes en el día de hoy a esta fiesta, permitiéndonos conocer el significado del amor familiar. En una cultura en la cual la familia está constantemente bajo ataque, hoy sabemos que existe una familia perfecta. Reconocemos la perfección de la Sagrada Familia. Reconocemos que San José y la Santísima Virgen María tenían un matrimonio perfecto, que nunca hubo en la historia del mundo un vínculo matrimonial tan unido con su amor virginal. Debemos proclamar con alegría que el Hijo de Dios es el hijo obediente de María, sujeto también a su padre adoptivo. Nos alegramos que también nosotros somos miembros de la familia perfecta, que también nosotros estamos invitados a la casa de Belén hoy para adorar con los Reyes Magos: para ayudar a San José, en honor de Nuestra Santísima Madre, para adorar a Dios hecho un bebé. ¡Que alegres son los misterios que celebramos en este día de Epifanía! El 13 de enero, la Iglesia celebra tradicionalmente el Bautismo del Señor, que es la octava de la Epifanía. El bautismo es el segundo de los misterios de la Epifanía (seguido por las bodas de Caná). En el bautismo, la divinidad de Nuestro Señor se manifiesta por la voz del Padre: "Este es mi Hijo amado..."

La fiesta del Bautismo del Señor es la fiesta también de nuestro propio bautismo en El. Fue bautizado para no hacerse santo (era todo Santo ya), sino mas para hacer las aguas del Bautismo Santas con su Santidad. A las aguas del bautismo, Él comunica los dones de la salvación (el Cielo se abrió), santificando la gracia y la filiación adoptiva (la voz del Padre). En nuestro Bautismo, hemos muerto y resucitado con Cristo para que nosotros pudieramos vivir en él como miembros de su cuerpo. Gracias al Bautismo, ahora tenemos su regalo de salvación. Su unción con el Espíritu Santo, sus tesoros de gracia, su relación con Dios el Padre. Gracias al Bautismo, nos hemos convertido por gracia lo que Cristo es por naturaleza. Él nos ha comunicado su propia identidad!

Ahora mismo, renovamos las promesas de nuestro Bautismo: vivir por la fe, desear el cielo, para ordenar nuestras vidas completamente al bien supremo, que es Dios. Suplicamos por los dones que necesitamos para vivir esta vida que hemos recibido, naciendo por el bautismo en la Sagrada Familia. Pedimos a nuestro padre adoptivo, San José, ruega por nosotros a nuestro verdadero padre, para que podamos vivir en obediencia a Sus mandamientos. Pedimos a nuestra madre que ruegue por nosotros para que podamos perseverar siempre en la gracia. Le pedimos a nuestro bebé Salvador que infunda en nuestros corazones el flujo incesante de la salvación que brota de su corazón. Supliquémonos que nos cubra con Su sangre, que nos proteja y nos guíe a todos los días de nuestra vida, hasta podamos regocijarnos en el cielo con nuestra Sagrada Familia para siempre.

Oren por mi, Padre José Previtali