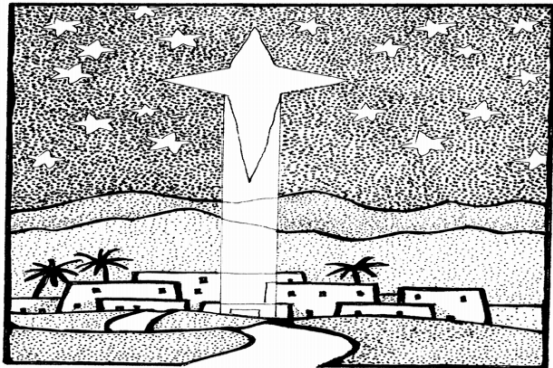


**Fourth Sunday
of Advent
December 23, 2018**



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**Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.**

— Luke 1:42

✦ **Mass Intentions ~ St. John the Baptist** ✦

Sat 22	7:30a	Matthew Perez (living b'day) by Maria Correa
	5:00p	✦ Patricia Ahern by Helma Willilams
Spanish	7:00p	✦ Concepcion Castro by Jose Dueñas
		✦ Ramon Colmenares
Sun 23	8:00a	✦ Maria Drumande by Joe & Bernice Toste
	10:00a	Caroline Sajben (living b'day)
Spanish	12:00p	Familia Godinez (living) by Gloria Godinez
	5:00p	✦ Joe Carlos by Geraldine Carlos & Family
Mon 24	7:30a	Carlana Boutwell (living b'day) by Boutwell Family
	5:00p	Rossana Correa (living) by Maria Correa
	7:00p	✦ Ana & Arnulfo Roldan by Karina Roldan
	12:00p	All Victims of the Camp Fire
Tues 25	8:00a	✦ Maria Lopez by Cascade Family
	10:00a	People of the Parish
	12:00p	Marychuy Lupercio (living b'day)
Wed 26	7:30a	NO MASS
	6:00p	NO MASS
Thur 27	7:30a	✦ Connie Murgia by Murgia Family
	6:00p	David Stoll (living) by Domenica
Fri 28	8:30a	✦ James Philmore Hall by Mary
	6:00p	✦ Itzel Mar & Living Family
Sat 29	7:30a	Amelia Zamora (living b'day)
	5:00p	People of the Parish
Spanish	7:00p	✦ Fidel Guillen Chavez

✦ **Mass Intentions – St. James** ✦

Sun 23 9:00a **Sick and Homebound**

Operating Income & Expense (updated weekly)

	Received	Needed	Shortfall
Offertory Collection Sunday, December 16, 2018			
St John's	\$10,459	\$11,600	\$1,141
St James	\$646	\$850	\$204
	\$11,105	\$12,450	\$1,345

Our Lady of Guadalupe Collection: St. John's \$1,362

Thank you...may your faithful generosity bring you blessings of joy, for the Bible says, "God loves a cheerful giver!"

Please keep in your prayers:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Julie Clark | Dal Sinor |
| Craig Hill | John Corina |
| Nate Hinderman | JJ Rodriguez & Family |
| Camp Fire Victims and Relief Efforts | |
| Francisca Albor Perez, for the repose of her soul | |
| Maria Lopez, for the repose of her soul | |
| Francisca Alvarez, for the repose of her soul | |
| Itzel Mar, for the repose of her soul | |

If you or someone you know needs prayer please contact the parish office (530)343-8741 or email your requests to stjohn33@sbcglobal.net. The names will remain in the list for 3 weeks.

The parish office will be closed for the holidays - Monday, December 24th thru Tuesday, January 1st. It will reopen on Wednesday, January 2nd. The priests and parish office staff wish you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

FYI: There will be no masses or confessions on Wednesday, Dec. 26th. The church will be closed all day that day.

Camp Fire Relief Assistance Center

Relief services will No longer be available at the Parish Library. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please call Susan at (530)518-4264.

Walk For Life West Coast January 26, 2019: Please join us on the annual Walk For Life West Coast. We will have one bus leaving on Saturday January 26th at 5:45am returning at 8:00pm. This event is for all, individuals and families are welcome. Last year's Walk drew 50,000+ people. This is a beautiful way to share your faith. The only requirement is that you can walk and stand for most of the day. Wheelchairs and strollers are welcome. Please contact Denise Marine at 530-520-4176 for more information.

Please join us for a series of workshops to bring support, information and caring to our community. Registration and attendance are FREE and open to everyone in the community!

Thursday, Jan 3, 6-8pm: Self Care (open to all ages)

Thursday, Jan 10, 6-8pm: Expressive Art around the Fire (open to all ages)

**All Workshops will be held in the St. John's Cafeteria.
416 Chestnut Street Chico, CA
Please call (530) 343-8741 to register for any of the workshops.**

Library Hours

Sundays - 9am to noon Fridays – 8am to 10am

The Parish Library volunteers wish you all a blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with peace and joy. We thank for your support through donations both monetarily and with books and DVDs.

Kathe, Steve, Anna, Ralph and John.

The library will be open again on Sunday December 30 along with hospitality to welcome in the New Year.

ESL Classes for Adults: Will begin on January 15 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm at Notre Dame School. The only cost is \$5.00 for a book. Call Yvonne Freeman Yvonne Freeman 956 358 7741 o Yolanda Holt 530 518 3988 if you have questions.

Society of St. Vincent the Paul: Preparing the way of the Lord is what Advent is all about. As we continue to reach out to those in need, please know that your generous gifts of time, prayers, and donations for the Camp Fire victims have brought much needed assistance to many. Your continued support is needed, and very much appreciated. Thank you so much for caring.

The Knights of Columbus are Catholic Gentlemen who are deeply committed to charity, protecting our faith and strengthening families through God's calling to serve.

1. A special thank you to all parishioners who volunteered to assist the St. Vincent de Paul Society in serving the victims of the Camp Fire. Thank you also to the members of the Knights who assisted with the coffee and treats for the training sessions.
2. Our Council 1137 wants to thank the Knights of Columbus from Our Divine Savior Parish for mutual support to spiritually, and physically nourish the families from St. Thomas More Parish. Much more is needed and it is gratifying to see members from all three councils working together in times of need.
3. Please join the Knights for a cup of coffee and donut the first Sunday of each month in front of the rectory.
4. "Save the Date" February 2, 2019 for the annual **CRAB FEED!**
5. If you would like more information about the Knights or about joining our team please see one of our members or go to our email: knightofcolumbus1137@gmail.com



Adoration Chapel



THE CHAPEL WILL BE OPEN ON CHRISTMAS DAY AND NEW YEAR'S DAY. Come visit the Newborn King!!

To give is better than to receive! And when you give an hour to Jesus the reward is much greater than an hour in return. Graces, blessings, mercy, revelation, wisdom, compassion, love...the list is endless, these are just a few of the gifts you will receive.

MONDAY: 9AM

TUES: 1AM, 2 AM, 11AM

WEDNESDAY: 2AM

THURSDAY: 1AM, 2AM, 8AM

FRIDAY: 1AM, 11AM, 5PM

Please call Denise Marine (530)520-4176 or Javier Lopez (530)566-0358 for more information, sign up for one of the hours above.

The Rite of Christian Initiation News



The preparations for Christmas include buying or making gifts for those whom we love. You can give no better gift than the gift that God has given to us: his Son, Jesus! Invite someone who is not Catholic to attend Mass with you during the Christmas season. **For more information about becoming Catholic please call the office at 343-8741, check out our website at stjohnthebaptist.org, or email Lori Smith at avemaria003@gmail.com.** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the way for adults to inquire about becoming Catholic. It is for those who have never been baptized or who have been baptized in a non-Catholic Christian tradition, as well as adult Catholics who have never received First Communion and/or Confirmation. RCIA Inquirers are always welcome. It's never too late to join us!



All parishioners at St. John's are encouraged to make use of our subscription to FORMED- the best Catholic content- all in one place! If you have not yet been to the site, go to stjohnthebaptist.formed.org and click "Register". Enter your name, email address and desired passcode.

PICK OF THE WEEK

The story of the Nativity: Explore the Birth of Christ – Explore the Birth of Christ. This fast-paced look at the true story of the Nativity clears away misunderstandings about Jesus's origin and is invaluable for learning more about the truth of Christmas.

DIVINE MERCY YOUTH GROUP

Youth Minister *Tanner Sheffield*
(530) 218-7771

Natural Family Planning (Creighton Model) Classes:

Love. Mercy. Life. Opening the Heart of Marriage.

Are you ready to do a great thing for yourself and your marriage? Classes are available right here in Chico. Contact Jenni Schaeffer (530)893-5474 or Jackie Hollcraft M.S.; P.A.C. (530)519-5081.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study - Special Holiday

Support meetings: The Tuesday Morning Bible Study is open to ALL in Chico (and to our Paradise guests) and meets every Tuesday morning from 9-11 in the ODS Prayer Room. This has been a tumultuous time for so many in our communities. We will be spending our Bible Study time on Dec. 11 and Dec. 18 offering prayer support, companionship, encouragement, and a DVD presentation on dealing with stress. Everyone is welcome! We are between studies, but on Jan. 8 we will begin to study the Gospel of Luke. We use a guidebook by Scott Hahn which includes helpful footnotes to put the readings in context and thought-provoking questions for discussion. We begin and end our two-hour session with prayer! No experience is required: please consider joining us. For more information call Terry Matthews, 893-1644.



Fundraiser for the participating students of Notre Dame headed to Washington D.C. this coming spring. Your support of this fundraiser and your donations are greatly appreciated! This Sunday, December 23rd

Bring your un-wrapped gifts to either the **8:00 am or 10:00 am mass on Sunday, to the downstairs cafeteria.** For quickest service bring your un-wrapped gifts to the cafeteria before mass and we'll have them ready by the end of mass for you!

•We'll **Beautifully gift wrap** and bow them, ready for pick-up by the end of mass or within minutes afterward.

Our Divine Savior Parish Knights of Columbus Council - Free Throw Championship

Saturday January 12, 2019 at 11am-2pm
Our Divine Savior Social Hall/Gym
566 E. Lassen Ave Chico, CA 95973
Boys and Girls ages 9-14

Free to all! Come show off your free throw shooting skills for a chance to move on to District, Regional, State and International Competitions!

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — From Bethlehem-Ephrathah shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:1-4a).

Psalm — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

Second Reading — We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:5-10).

Gospel — Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled (Luke 1:39-45).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]

Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5

MEMORIES AND DREAMS

Throughout our lives, we retain the language and habits of our native region and family of origin. Should we return to our home after a long absence, we quickly revert to its familiar speech and practices. Our deep memory is reflected in old stories and words and speech patterns. This familiarity runs like an underground river and accompanies us wherever we go.

Not only do we remember, we are incorporated into and made part of a greater memory. In remembering and recollecting, we are in turn gathered up and re-collected.

Today we remember Mary, a small figure travelling the country roads to visit Elizabeth. All the great pronouncements and dreams of the prophets point to this time when the Lord's words to Mary would be gathered and fulfilled. The memories of her people are alive in her, and memories of her nourish our own living faith.