



CHURCH OF THE

# Good Shepherd

One Flock, One Family, Living and Sharing the Love of Christ

3200 Harbor Street ~ Pittsburg, CA 94565

Phone: 925-432-6404

Email: [office@goodshepherdpittsburg.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdpittsburg.org)

[www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org](http://www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org)

[www.facebook.com/goodshepherdpittsburg](https://www.facebook.com/goodshepherdpittsburg)



Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.

Luke 21:36

*The Last Judgement, from The Small Passion*  
Albrecht Dürer  
(German, 1471-1528)  
c. 1510

Metropolitan Museum of Art  
New York

## First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

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**Parish Office Hours:**  
Monday—Thursday  
9 am—12 pm & 1 pm-4pm

**MASS SCHEDULE**  
*We livestream all daily Masses and the 10 am Sunday Mass on your YouTube Channel*

**Sundays:** 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12 noon & 3pm Spanish

**Monday through Friday:** 7:30 am

**1st Fridays:** 7:00 pm

**Saturdays:** 8:00 am & 5:30 pm (Vigil)

**Holy Days:** 7:30 am & 7:00 pm

**Morning Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours)/ Rosary** 7:00 am

**Confessions:** Fridays: 8 am-9 am

Saturdays: 4-5 pm or by appointment

**Adoration:** Fridays: 8 am-9 am; 1st Fridays: 8 am-7pm

Adoration in the Chapel (door code required-call parish office).

**Devotions:** Divine Mercy Monday-Friday after 7:30 am Mass

Our Lady of Fatima/Perpetual Help~1st Saturday

Santo Niño~2nd Saturday

Divine Mercy~3rd Saturday

Saint Padre Pio~4th Saturday

Healing Mass~5th Saturday

*(All devotions take place following 8:00 am Mass)*

**Baptisms:** In order to make baptismal arrangements contact [carmen@goodshepherdpittsburg.org](mailto:carmen@goodshepherdpittsburg.org)

**Marriages:** In order to make marriage arrangements contact [carmen@goodshepherdpittsburg.org](mailto:carmen@goodshepherdpittsburg.org) 6 months prior to marriage date.

**Funeral Arrangements:** Should be arranged by family, church and mortuary. Normal Christian burial consists of Vigil Service, Holy Mass and Burial in a Catholic Cemetery. Any other arrangements should be discussed with parish priest.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK HOTLINE: 510-259-8706**

First Sunday of Advent. Cycle C

Every year we begin the new liturgical cycle with Advent, which is presence and arrival. It is a presence that is always and constantly renewed, because we prepare ourselves to celebrate the mystery of the God who incarnates in the greatness of our human misery. On the First Sunday of Advent, "Cycle C" of the liturgical year, which will be based fundamentally on the Gospel of Luke, a message full of strength is offered, a call to hope, which is the proper thing of Advent: *Let us raise our heads because our liberation is approaching*. That is the key to the evangelical reading of the day. It is not the apocalyptic signs that should impress, but the message of what is proposed to us as an offer from God. Apocalyptic signs, in this world, have always occurred and will always be occurring.

Today's Gospel puts in the mouth of Jesus a series of apocalyptic signs that describe the end times. What is important is the message of hope that Jesus gives us. What the Gospel conveys to us is that whatever the moment and the modalities of the end, it will not be a chaotic or confused moment, for there the Son of man will be waiting with love and glory. A salvific, liberating power. The coming of the Son of man does not provoke fear, it transmits hope and security, the assurance that justice, peace and love will reign under the Lordship of Christ.

And in the meantime, what do we do? This in *the meantime* is the moment of our current life, it is our present here and now. How do we live now? In keeping with the hope that assures us that the goal of our life is Christ, or do we live as if at the end of life nothing is going to happen? Let us be careful, says the gospel: *no vices or worries about money, let us not be dragged by what is worthless*. What should be our concern then? The second reading says it: *"May the Lord make us overflow with mutual love and love for all."* As we await the Lord's return, we must make the most of the gift of love in a twofold direction: *mutual love*, that is, fraternal love for the sisters and brothers of our Christian communities; and *love for all*, that is, a love that also reaches those who do not belong to our groups, the stranger, the distant, the different.

The preface of this Sunday's Mass tells us that *the Lord will come again in glory and majesty, and all is at last made manifest, we who watch for that day may inherit the great promise in which now we dare to hope*. The Lord will come to meet every person: in the helpless sick, in the vulnerable migrant, in the lonely neighbor. So that when we encounter Him, we may bear witness to our hope: a kingdom in which we will all be happy. And since that is our most ardent desire, every day we pray in the Lord's Prayer that *Thy kingdom come*. In addition to asking for it, we seek to anticipate it already now in everything we say and do. The authenticity of our hope is manifested in fraternal love.

Advent is a good symbol of what the Christian life is. A life in hope, in faith and in love. Those of us who believe in Christ spend our lives waiting to meet Him and live loving as He loved us.

Deacon Gustavo



## Primer Domingo de Adviento Ciclo C

Todos los años comenzamos el nuevo ciclo litúrgico con el Adviento, que es presencia y es llegada. Es una presencia de siempre y constantemente renovada, porque nos preparamos para celebrar el misterio del Dios que se encarna en la grandeza de nuestra miseria humana. En el Primer Domingo de Adviento, "Ciclo C" del año litúrgico, que estará apoyado fundamentalmente en el evangelio de Lucas, se ofrece un mensaje lleno de fuerza, una llamada a la esperanza, que es lo propio del Adviento: *Levantemos nuestras cabezas porque se acerca nuestra liberación*. Esa es la clave de la lectura evangélica del día. No son los signos apocalípticos los que deben impresionar, sino el mensaje de lo que se nos propone como oferta de parte de Dios. Los signos apocalípticos, en este mundo, siempre han ocurrido y siempre estarán ocurriendo.

El evangelio de hoy pone en boca de Jesús una serie de signos apocalípticos que describen el final de los tiempos. Lo importante es el mensaje de esperanza que nos da Jesús. Lo que nos transmite el evangelio es que, sea cual sea el momento y las modalidades del final, no será un momento caótico ni de desconcierto, pues allí estará esperando el Hijo del hombre con amor y gloria. Un poder salvífico, liberador. La venida del Hijo del hombre no provoca miedo, transmite esperanza y seguridad, la seguridad de que bajo el señorío de Cristo reinará la justicia, la paz y el amor.

Y mientras tanto, ¿qué hacemos? Este *mientras tanto* es el momento de nuestra vida actual, es nuestro presente aquí y ahora. ¿Cómo vivimos ahora? ¿En consonancia con la esperanza que nos asegura que la meta de nuestra vida es Cristo, o vivimos como si al final de la vida nada fuera a suceder? Tengamos cuidado, dice el evangelio: *nada de vicios ni de preocupaciones por el dinero, no nos dejemos arrastrar por lo que nada vale*. ¿Cuál debe ser nuestra preocupación entonces? Lo dice la segunda lectura: *“que el Señor nos haga rebosar de amor mutuo y de amor a todos”*. Mientras esperamos el regreso del Señor, debemos explotar al máximo el don del amor en una doble dirección: *amor mutuo*, o sea, amor fraterno a las hermanas y hermanos de nuestras comunidades cristianas; y *amor a todos*, o sea, un amor que alcanza también a los que no pertenecen a nuestros grupos, al extraño, al alejado, al diferente.

El prefacio de este domingo nos dice que *el Señor vendrá por segunda vez en el esplendor de su grandeza, para que así podamos recibir los bienes prometidos que ahora aguardamos en vigilante espera*. El Señor vendrá al encuentro de cada persona: en el enfermo desvalido, en el emigrante vulnerable, en el vecino solitario. Para que al encontrarlo a Él demos testimonio de nuestra esperanza: un reino en el que todos seremos felices. Y como ese es nuestro más ardiente deseo, todos los días rezamos en el Padre nuestro *que venga ese Reino*. Además de pedirlo, buscamos anticiparlo ya ahora en todo lo que decimos y hacemos. La autenticidad de nuestra esperanza se manifiesta en el amor fraterno.

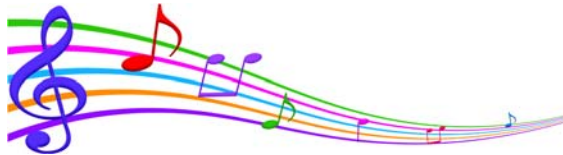
El adviento es un buen símbolo de lo que es la vida cristiana. Una vida en esperanza, en fe y en amor. Los que creemos en Cristo nos pasamos la vida esperando encontrarle y vivimos amando como Él nos amó.

Diácono Gustavo



**WANTED: CHOIR MEMBERS**

If you like to sing for the Lord, please come and join us.  
 The 8 am, 10 am and Noon choirs are in desperate need of members.  
 See the choir director at any of the masses if you are interested and can help.  
 Thank you and we look forward to seeing you and hearing your voices!

**Ushers Needed**

We are very much in need of new ushers to serve at all the weekend masses. If you feel the Lord is calling you to be an usher at our church, please contact:

Benedict at 925-550-6475 or

Rosanne at 925-783-8315

Main roles of ushers:

- 1- Welcoming visitors, guests and church family alike.
- 2- Seating those who come to church.
- 3- Taking up the collection.
- 4- Directing Holy Communion.
- 5- Handing out the bulletin after the mass.



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**CATHOLIC SCHOOL**-St. Peter Martyr 439-1014  
**PARISH MINISTRY**

**St. Martha's Guild** Mercy Cruz 408-960-9737

**Altar Servers** Ronne Lagarejos 642-0493

Lisa Hart 421-3085

**Catholic Daughters** Rosanne Ortland 783-8315

**CYO** Suzette Crayton sueissick3@gmail.com

**Divine Mercy** Becky Naca 858-9217

**Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

Ann & Bill Abitz 432-3995

**Homebound Ministers to the Sick**

Deacon Gustavo 783-0656

Lidia Castañeda (Español) 705-3045

**Filipino Ministry** Lelani Andes 212-8408

**Finance** Robert Calone 432-3300

**Grief Ministry** Carol Mondragon 457-3909

Cynthia Greely 437-7846

**Italian Catholic Federation** Patty Jarrett 957-6457

**Knights of Columbus** Robert Calone 432-3300

**Lectors** May Plata 473-0835

**Liturgy Committee** Bill Abitz 432-3995

**Missionary Families for Christ FFL**

Nap & Theresa Umadhay 427-5457

**Music Ministry** Rocco Enea 432-6404

**Nigerian Community** Ann Ekweogu 300-6327

**Padre Pio** Mila Benitez 726-7526

**Pastoral Council** David De Luna 698-8585

**Religious Education/Sacramental Preparation**

**Faith Formation** dina@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

**RCIA** david@delunatic.com

**Baptismal Prep** david@delunatic.com

**Santo Nino/ OLPPH Family Prayer Ministry**

Alma Espiritu 597-2515

Ofelia Tanyag 890-2066

**Spanish Ministry** Arturo Alvarez 415-748-1771

**St. Vincent DePaul**

Chelo Gonzalez - chelo118@comcast.net

**Tongan Community** Florentina Tangitau 278-4813

**Ushers** Benedict Vilorio 550-6475

Rosanne Ortland 783-8315

**Wedding Coordinators**

Danette Shipe 427-9561

Bee Francisco 473-9247

**Young Ladies Institute** Gina Llguno 698-0825

**2021 Bishop's Appeal**

**Our goal this year is: \$35,600.00.**

**We are at 67.15% of Goal.**

**Please help us reach our goal**

**Thank You!**

**HOMEBOUND MINISTRY IS NOW BACK ON THE SERVICE**

If you know someone who is sick or homebound that needs to receive Holy Communion at home, contact Bill Abitz at 925-872-5852 or Deacon Gustavo at 925-783-0656. We will have our ministers bring Jesus to them. Thank You.

Greetings of peace!

The Filipino clergy of the Diocese of Oakland is excited to once again welcome everybody back (yes, in-person!) to the Cathedral of Christ the Light on December 14 at 7PM for this year’s Kick-Off Mass of the Simbang Gabi with Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ. While there will be no elaborate fiesta celebration after the Mass this year because of the restrictions still in place in terms of serving food indoors, organizers of the event are planning to distribute catered “to go” boxes while the Filipino priests and deacons serenade the people gathered at the plaza. We are looking forward to re-experiencing with you the warmth of Christmas and the joy of growing in faith as we together celebrate this time-honored tradition – the Filipino way! Come in your Filipiniana attire, with your parish banner and lantern for the procession and enjoy the festive music from the choir assembled by Ariel Mayormita. For more information, contact Father Erick Villa at frjetvilla@scredublin.org. Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Jimmy Macalinao Director of Faith Formation and Evangelization On behalf of the Filipino clergy of the Diocese of Oakland

**SIMBANG GABI NEWS!**

**We will celebrate our yearly tradition of Simbang Gabi masses December 16-24, 2021 with some changes. The mass will start at 5:30am in person and will be livestreamed as well. There will be four reception days after the Mass, instead of everyday; first day (Dec 16), weekend (Dec 18 and 19) and last day (Dec 24). For mass sponsorships, please contact one of these coordinators:**



**Cecille Perez at 925-300-6234 , Cynthia Auza at 925-427-0778, or  
Leilani Andes at 925-212-8408.**

Church of the Good Shepherd  
3200 Harbor Street, Pittsburg, CA 94565

**FILIPINO MINISTRY**

**MASS SPONSORSHIP for Filipino Feast/Masses**

DATE (Please encircle mass date)	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
MASS <small>(indicate feast name or "Simbang Gabi")</small>	SIMBANG GABI								
DONATION AMOUNT: <small>If in check, please use "Church of the Good Shepherd" as payee</small>	\$								
NAME/s of SPONSOR/s <small>(Please write the name legibly and as you want it read at mass or shown in program)</small>									
INTENTION/s:									
Signature of Sponsor									
Sponsor's Telephone No.									

Please return completed form with your payment to Cecille Perez, Cora Clavel or Cynthia Auza.  
For inquiries, please "TEXT": Cecille at 925-300-6234; Cora at 925-354-2259, or Cynthia at 925-597-1178.

**Fiesta de la Virgen de Guadalupe, 12 de diciembre, 2021**

Todos estamos invitados a celebrar la fiesta de la Virgen de Guadalupe el 12 de diciembre, este es el programa:

5:00 am Cantarle a la Virgen las Mañanitas en la Iglesia.

Después se saldrá en procesión hacia el salón parroquial haciendo las estaciones a la Virgen.

En el salón parroquial se ofrecerá un desayuno para todos.

2:00 pm Misa dominical en español (anotar que la Misa no se hará a las 3pm, sino que será a las 2pm).

Dentro de la Misa se hará la representación en vivo de la aparición de la Virgen.

Después de la Misa se venderá almuerzos en el salón parroquial con música a la Virgen.

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**Feast of the Virgin of Guadalupe, December 12, 2021**

We are all invited to celebrate the feast of the Virgin of Guadalupe on December 12, this is the program:

5:00 am Singing to the Virgin Las Mañanitas in the Church.

Then we will leave in procession to the parish hall making the stations to the Virgin.

Breakfast will be offered in the parish hall for everyone.

2:00 pm Spanish Sunday Mass (note that Mass will not be held at 3pm, but will be at 2pm).

Within the Mass there will be a live representation of the apparition of the Virgin.

After the Mass, lunches will be sold in the parish hall with music to the Virgin.

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**Posadas Navideñas**

Días: del 16 al 23 de diciembre, 2021 de 7:00 am 9:00 am en el salón parroquial

Traiga a sus niños vestidos de pastorcillos o de personajes del pesebre para que como familia disfrutemos de nuestra tradición y nos preparemos para la venida de nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

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**Posadas Navideñas**

Days: December 16 to 23, 2021, from 7:00 to 9:00 am in the parish hall

Bring your children dressed as shepherds or manger characters so that as a family we can enjoy our tradition and prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.



## How to Prepare for Advent: "Wait for me!"

*from Catholic Therapists.com*

During Advent, the Church invites us to focus more intentionally on preparing ourselves to welcome the Incarnate Christ. Some practical tips for you and your family may include the following:

### **Practice Self-denial**

By removing anything that distracts you from the spiritual life, such as excessive use of the internet or television. In place of these distractions embrace a little more silence so that you can listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit within you and create sacred space for Christ to enter your life.

### **Make Use of the Sacrament of Penance**

This certainly helps us respond to Jesus' call for conversion. Conversion is an ongoing struggle for every Christian—a struggle that is "directed toward holiness and eternal life to which the Lord never ceases to call us" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1426).

### **Take a Refresher Course in the Catholic Faith**

By reading the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* on your own or with others. During the Year Of Faith, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI had urged the flock to study the fundamental content of our faith as articulated in the *Catechism*. The season of Advent is a marvelous opportunity to set aside time for spiritual reading of the *Catechism*.

### **Commit to Praying with the Scriptures**

St. Jerome firmly insisted that "ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ" because he "who does not know Scripture does not know the power and wisdom of God". Some simple ways of accomplishing this may include reflecting on the Psalms or reading the Sunday Gospel passage during the week. You can find the readings on the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

### **Learn to Pray With Your Spouse and Family**

The family that prays together stays together.

### **Decorate Your Home to Reflect the Liturgical Season**

Displaying the nativity scene is a traditional way to remember the meaning of Advent. It is a great focal point for the family and especially for children who love to hear the Christmas story. The Advent wreath is another important addition to any Catholic home. Place it in the center of your dinner table, light the appropriate candles, and sing a hymn or recite a prayer together as you anticipate the coming of Christ.



## Yvette Ripoli's Retirement and Mass of Thanksgiving

It is with mixed emotions that I write these words. I really don't know what to say. I am sad because we are saying good bye to one of our most dedicated staff members of all time. I am also happy for her because she deserves her well-earned retirement after more than 30 years of working here in our parish.

Our beloved business manager, Yvette Ripoli, has decided to officially retire on January 31, 2022. Her last day of work in the office will be December 31, 2021. She will work part time in January to submit all 2021 financial year end reports to the Diocese. Yvette is the most efficient, dedicated, caring, loving and faithful staff member that I have ever worked with. We are going to miss her a lot. Yvette's decision to retire is leading to her new vocation. She will be a first time grandmother and caretaker of her granddaughter. Her daughter and son-in-law are expecting a child in January, 2022. Yvette has prayed for such a gift and God has answered her prayers. We congratulate Yvette and her family for such a blessing. We also extend our deep gratitude to her for the dedicated service she offered to our parish. We will have a retirement party for Yvette on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm in the Hall. This party is by invitation only. **We will also have a Mass of Thanksgiving for Yvette on Sunday Dec 5th at 10am when you can meet and thank her for the tremendous labor of love she offered to our parish. Coffee and donuts will be served after the Mass. All are invited!**

Fr. Thi Hoang

*PS: To have a smooth transition of our staff and to keep our office up and running, Dina Russell will take on Yvette's position as a book keeper and Carmen Esquivel will be our office manager. Klarise Tan will be our temporary religious coordinator, replacing Dina. All new positions will be effective on the New Year 2022.*

## Mass Intentions

Nov 29-Dec 5

## Mass Intentions For The Week

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Mon	7:30 am	Birthday of Daphne A. Borromeo
Tue	7:30 am	St. Andrew & Capupus Family
Wed	7:30 am	Santos Tampos †
Thu	7:30 am	Louis Sami †
Fri	7:30 am 7:00 pm	Capupus Family John Billeci †
Sat	8:00 am	Capupus Family & Briccio Salvo †
Sat	5:30 pm	Sancho Alesna, Sr. †
Sun	8:00 am	All Souls in Purgatory † Members of FOSS
	10 am	Frances Ferrante Thomas †
	12 pm	Casas & Tampos Families
	3 pm	For the People

## Parish Staff

**Fr. Thi Van Hoang, Parochial Administrator**  
925-432-6404 Ext. 11  
frthihoang@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

**Fr. Arn Cabrias, Priest in Residence**  
arnuscab@gmail.com

**Deacon Gustavo Escruceria**  
925-432-6404 Ext. 23  
Deacon.gustavo@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

**Grace Yvette Ripoli, Business Manager**  
925-432-6404 Ext. 12  
yvette@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

**Carmen Esquivel, Parish Secretary**  
925-432-6404 Ext. 19  
carmen@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

**Dina Russell, Religious Education Coordinator**  
432-6404 Ext 21  
dina@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

**Lorena Reyes, Office Assistant**  
lorena@goodshepherdpittsburg.org  
432-6404 Ext 20

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- ◆ December 8– Immaculate Conception End of St. Joseph's Year, Masses 7:30am and 7pm.
  - ◆ December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mass at 2:00pm
  - ◆ December 13th– Advent Reconciliation at 7pm.
- More details to follow soon on all of these events.

## WEEKLY COLLECTION RECAP

1st Collection (Cash, Checks, EFT) \$  
2nd Collection (Cash, Checks, EFT) \$  
(Catholic Voice)

*This information was not available at time of publishing for Thanksgiving holiday.*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception  
a Holy Day of Obligation  
December 8 masses at  
7:30 am and 7 pm**



### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

**Baruch 5:1-9, Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11,  
Luke 3:1-6**

### NEXT SUNDAY'S 2ND COLLECTION

**Building Fund**





## Sharing Your Blessings Program 2021

Sponsored By:

Shepherd's Closet & Good Shepherd's Giving Tree

- Please take one or more ornaments from the tree to help us provide gifts for as many families as possible this Christmas
- Purchase a Gift
- Return it Unwrapped by December 12<sup>th</sup>
- Por favor, tome uno o más adornos del árbol para ayudarnos a proporcionar regalos para tantas familias como sea posible esta Navidad.
- Comprar un regalo
- Devuélvalo sin envolver antes del 12 de Diciembre

During Mass, unwrapped gifts can be placed under the trees or dropped off at the church office (see bulletin for office hours).

Also accepting new wrapping Supplies

**LAST DAY TO RETURN GIFTS IS  
DECEMBER 12TH**

Durante la Misa, los regalos sin envolver pueden colocarse debajo de los árboles o dejarse en la oficina de la iglesia (consulte el boletín para conocer las horas de oficina).

También acepta nuevos suministros de envoltura

**EL ÚLTIMO DÍA PARA DEVOLVER  
LOS REGALOS ES  
12 DE DICIEMBRE**

### **BIBLE DIARY 2022 BOOK SALE**

We are selling this Bible Diary 2022 for \$20 each. This book can become your spiritual companion for the whole year of 2022 each time you go to Mass or pray at home. It has almost everything needed to enrich your faith. It features all traditional Catholic prayers. It has family prayers, prayers before and after meetings... It has a liturgical calendar, and most especially, it has daily readings and reflections on the readings.

This book is a perfect Mass Companion for you. We only have 200 books. This book can be a perfect Christmas gift for your loved ones. Please purchase them to support our parish. We will sell them at 8am, 10am and 12pm Masses on Sundays or contact Tammy Vo at 925-698-4559 to order it any time.