

# ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH

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## PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. Prasanth George, CMI *Pastor*

Fr. James Cyfko *Associate Pastor*

Marcellina Kristiani, Brenda Parenteau *Secretaries*

Mary Jean Caratao *Custodian*

Josephine Balbidades *Bookkeeper*



# Advent



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, December 20th

5:00 pm: People of the Parish

### Sunday, December 21st—4th Sunday of Advent

8:00 am: † Antonio Figueira

10:00 am: Onah Maximus Family

12:00 pm: Wedding Anniversary—Alex & Gretta

7:00 pm: † Ronnie Platon

### Monday, December 22nd

8:00 am: † Elisa Claudio

12:30 pm: Anniversary— Peter & Pauline Chan

### Tuesday, December 23rd

8:00 am: † Monette Betsayda

12:30 pm: † Orlando Gonsalves

### Wednesday, December 24th

9:00 am: Donor's Intention

6:00 pm: † Alan Schmidt

9:00 pm: † Magdalene Clara Rodriguez

12:00 am: People of the Parish

### Thursday, December 25th

8:00 am: People of the Parish

10:00 am: † Ina Madden

12:00 pm: † Yule De La Cerna

### Friday, December 26th

9:00 am: † Elizabeth Marshall

### Saturday, December 27th

9:00 am: † Cleta & Vincent Dias

5:00 pm: People of the Parish

### Sunday, December 28th—Feast of the Holy Family

8:00 am: † Antonio Figueira

10:00 am: Onah Maximus Family

12:00 pm: Wedding Anniversary—Alex & Gretta

7:00 pm: † Ronnie Platon

### CONFESSIONS FOR ADVENT

We will be offering additional confession times for the Season of Advent (December 1st-23rd)! A priest will be available to hear confessions on:

**Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays**

at 8:30am (after 8am Mass) and

11:30am (Before 12:30pm Mass)

**Saturdays** at 9:30am and 4:00pm

or by appointment



## Christmas and New Year Schedule

### CHRISTMAS EVE

#### Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

Weekday Mass at 9:00am

Vigil Mass at 6:00pm, 9:00pm (incense)

& Midnight (incense)

Children's Choir Concert at 5:30pm

Adult Choir Concert at 8:30pm

*Parish Office closed*

### CHRISTMAS DAY

#### Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

Mass at 8:00am, 10:00am (incense) & 12:00pm

*Parish Office closed*

#### Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup>

Weekday Mass at 9:00am

*Parish Office closed*

### Feast of the Holy Family

#### Saturday, December 27<sup>th</sup>

Weekday Mass at 9:00am

Confessions at 9:30am & 4:00pm

Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

#### Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>

Mass at 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00 Noon & 7:00pm

#### Monday, December 29<sup>th</sup>

Weekday Mass at 8:00am & 12:30pm

*Parish Office closed*

#### Tuesday, December 30<sup>th</sup>

Weekday Mass at 8:00am & 12:30pm

*Parish Office open 10am - 12pm, 1pm - 4pm*

### New Year's Eve—Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

Weekday Mass at 9:00am

Vigil Mass at 5:00pm & 7:00pm

Adoration after 5:00pm Mass, Benediction 6:45pm

*Parish Office closed*

### New Year's Day—Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026

#### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Mass at 10:00am, 12:00pm

*Parish Office closed*

#### Friday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026

Weekday Mass at 8:00am & 12:30pm

*Parish Office closed*



## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



*"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours" (Luke 2:14)*

For the four weeks of Advent, our hopeful voices sing, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel", and at last, at the glorious birth of our Lord and Saviour, we joyfully proclaim, "Emmanuel, God is With Us! Yes, our Lord is so close to us, he stands by us granting us his strength when we need it the most.

Christmas tells us the love story of God and his incredible gift, Jesus himself, to us-his children. It calls us to rekindle our inner hope, find strength in faith, and look beyond current hardships, seeing Jesus's birth as the ultimate light and assurance for humanity. Christmas is the story of hope, peace and joy. It is a story of a baby born to a young mother Mary, Mother of God, and this baby was given to the custody of a foster father, Joseph. They were reassured that this child was the one foretold by the prophets: the ***Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace*** (Isaiah 9:6) He may not have been the gift the world was expecting, but believe it, His birth is the best news the world has ever heard.

At times when we feel as though we have been walking in darkness, we are reminded of the words of the great prophet Isaiah: ***"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shone"*** (Isaiah 9:2).

May this light from our Lord, fill our hearts with his peace, joy and love. Jesus' light will shine and we will know that our God is always constant, unwavering and faithful.

"As we celebrate Christmas 2025, let us embrace our role as 'Pilgrims of Hope' during this Jubilee Year. May the infant Jesus rekindle our faith and guide us to be agents of peace, offering kindness and love in a world longing for connection, transforming our struggles into shared strength."

May the baby, born in Bethlehem, bless you and your loved ones.

Together with the parish staff, we wish you and your loved ones a **Merry Christmas** and a blessed **New Year**.

Fr. Prasanth George CMI  
Fr. James Cyfko

## CHRISTMAS TRIDUUM

in the spirit of "Simbang Gabi"

December 21st, 22nd, and 23rd at 7pm

Inspired by the Filipino 9 day novena, our parish invites all to join us for Mass and hymns on Sunday December 21st, Monday December 22nd, and Tuesday December 23rd at 7pm. Reception to follow after the last Mass. As we open our hearts in preparation for the Birth of our Lord, we invite you to take part in this beautiful tradition.

## CHURCH PARKING DURING CHRISTMAS

To maintain safety, reduce parking congestion and maximize access for all who come to worship, **please park only in designated areas**. Additionally, please be aware where you are parking as fire engines are not able to pass through the blocked fire route. A limited number of handicap spots are available for those with **valid permits**.

## 2025 DONATIONS

To ensure your donation is included in the 2025 donation tax receipt, cash or cheque must be received by **Tuesday, December 30th, 2025**. Any cheques issued and received after this date will be applied to your 2026 donation. If you have changed your address or phone number, please update us of your new information.

## HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Monday December 29th

The Serra Club will be visiting our Parish on Monday, December 29th to pray for vocations from 11am-12noon. During Adoration, we will also pray in a special way for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life, asking the Lord to inspire generous hearts to respond to His call. All are welcome to petition the Lord to send labourers into His harvest!

## CLOSING MASS FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR

All of the faithful are invited to join with Cardinal Leo for the Closing Mass for the Year of Jubilee on Sunday, December 28, 2025 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica at 5 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available with numerous priests present from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. All are most welcome.

## PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The parish office will be closed from December 24th—December 29th, and December 31st—January 2nd, 2026. We will be open from 10am-12pm, 1pm-4pm on Tuesday, December 30th. Regular office hours will resume on Monday, January 5th, 2026.

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