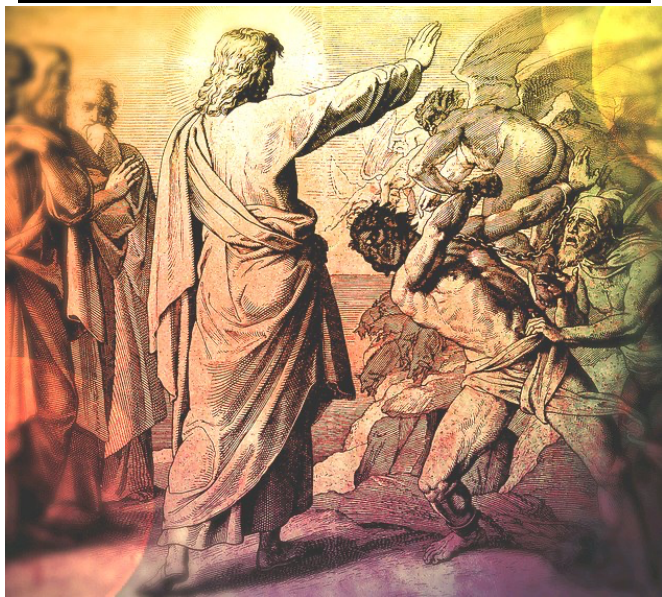


JANUARY 27 & 28, 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



This year, among the Sunday celebrations, the liturgy proposes the Gospel of St Mark for our meditation. A unique characteristic of this Gospel is what is called the "messianic secret": namely, the fact that, for the moment, Jesus does not want it to be known outside the small group of his disciples that he is the Christ, the Son of God. Moreover, at this point he warns both the Apostles and the sick whom he heals not to reveal his identity to anyone. For example, this Sunday's Gospel passage (Mk 1: 21-28) tells of a man possessed by the devil who suddenly shouts: "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God". And Jesus commands the spirit: "Quiet! Come out of him!". And immediately the Evangelist notes the unclean spirit, with excruciating cries, came out of that man. Jesus not only drives demons out of people, freeing them from the worst slavery, but prevents the demons themselves from revealing his identity. And he insists on this "secret" because what is at stake is the success of his very mission, on which our salvation depends. Indeed, he knows that to liberate humanity from the dominion of sin he will have to be sacrificed on the Cross as the true Paschal Lamb. The devil, for his part, seeks to dissuade him so as to divert him instead toward the human logic of a powerful and successful Messiah. The Cross of Christ will be the devil's ruin, and this is why Jesus always taught his disciples that in order to enter into his glory he must suffer much, he must be rejected, condemned and crucified (cf. Lk 24: 26), for suffering is an integral part of his mission.

Jesus suffered and died on the Cross for love. On close consideration, it was in this way that he gave meaning to our suffering, a meaning that many men and women of every age have understood and made their own, experiencing profound tranquility even in the bitterness of harsh physical and moral trials. - Benedict XVI

TEMPORARY TUESDAY MASS TIME

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, MASS WILL BE AT 5:30PM

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear parishioners,

Before my arrival at Our Lady of Good Counsel parish, I was assigned to St. Vincent de Paul parish in Petaluma. One of the fruits of my time at St. Vincent's was a deepened appreciation for the life and work of the parish's patron saint. St. Vincent was a French priest (1581-1660) who was especially devoted to the formation of clergy, and to charitable works in service of the sick and the poor. Because of his tireless efforts directed towards those most in need, Pope Leo XIII named him the universal patron of all charitable societies in 1885. Outstanding among these is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, founded in 1833 by St. Vincent's admirer, Bl. Frédéric Ozanam. This society happily has been established in many parishes in our diocese, and is one of the principal ways the local Church carries out her charitable mission. As noted elsewhere in this bulletin as well as in recent parish announcements, our local St. Vincent de Paul Society is hosting a day of orientation on Saturday, February 17th for those who are interested in joining the society. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those currently serving in the SVdP Society here in our parish, and to encourage more parishioners to consider becoming involved in this important work in service of God and neighbor. The theme of this conference is "How can we answer the call to see the Face of Christ in all people?". Pope Benedict XVI wrote that "*The Christian's program — the program of Jesus—is 'a heart which sees'. This heart sees where love is needed and acts accordingly*" (*Deus caritas est*, 31). Assisting in the work of our parish's SVdP Society is a wonderful means to help develop this "*seeing heart*," and to offer it in service in our local community. Let us never underestimate the good that even small acts of Christian charity can accomplish! *Amen I say to you, as long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me (Mt 25:40).*

God bless you,

Fr. Pacheco



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY OF OLGIC PARISH
WOULD LIKE TO INVITE THE COMMUNITY
TO A DAY OF ORIENTATION**

**"HOW CAN WE ANSWER THE CALL TO SEE THE FACE OF CHRIST
IN ALL PEOPLE?"**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024
MASS AT 8:00AM**

9:00AM- 3:30PM

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROVIDED

BILINGUAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE

**RSVP TO EMMET O'CONNELL BY FEBRUARY 10TH,
PH: 707-367-0690; EMAIL: eoko@mcn.org .**



Candlemas Day

THIS FIRST FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 2, 2024) IS ALSO CANDLEMAS! WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE PARISHIONERS TO BRING THEIR CANDLES IF THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THEM BLESSED AFTER THE 12:05PM MASS. THERE WILL BE A TABLE IN FRONT OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, PLEASE PLACE THEM THERE.



A FRIENDLY REMINDER

THIS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND IS FIRST FRIDAY AND THERE WILL BE EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AT 11AM, FOLLOWED BY ENGLISH MASS AND AT 5:30PM THERE WILL BE EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, FOLLOWED BY SPANISH MASS AT 6PM. ALSO, REMEMBER THAT SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD IS FIRST SATURDAY AND THERE WILL BE MASS AT 9AM.



INCOME TAX SEASON

THE PARISH OFFICE IS WORKING ON MAKING THE LETTERS FOR DONATIONS DONE TO OUR CHURCH DURING 2023. FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE AT 707-964-0229 EXT 1 OR BY EMAIL olgcinfb@gmail.com.



PALM BURNING FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

OLD PALMS WILL BE COLLECTED FROM JANUARY 29TH – FEBRUARY 12TH. THESE OLD PALMS WILL BE BURNED BEFORE ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH, 2024. PLACE THEM IN THE BASKET THAT IS IN THE VESTIBULE OF THE CHURCH OR BRING THEM TO THE OFFICE. IT IS AN OLD CATHOLIC CUSTOM FOR THE PRIEST TO COLLECT AND BURN THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S PALMS FOR USE ON ASH WEDNESDAY. PALMS SHOULD NOT BE DISPOSED OF AS WASTE MATERIAL.

NEW TO THE PARISH?

If you are new to Our Lady of Good Counsel's Church, Welcome! We hope you find a spiritual home here. Please formally register in the parish and be a part of our family. Come to the Parish Office Mon - Fri, 10am – 2pm to register. Registration forms are also available in the church vestibule.

~UPDATE YOUR RECORDS ~

Have you changed your address? Phone number? Email address? If so, please contact the parish office and let us know your changes so that we can update your parishioner record. Email changes to olgcinfb@gmail.com or call at 707-964-0229.



WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT: Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish now provides "ParishSOFT Giving," an online giving software!

To get started, you can go to olgcinfb.org.

From this link you will be allowed to manage your own account online, set up gifts on a schedule that you choose or a one-time donation, and can be set up with a credit card, debit card, checking or savings account!

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office at 964-0229.

**MASS INTENTIONS
JANUARY 27 – FEBRUARY 2, 2024**

Saturday (27)	5:00pm	Fred & Clara White † Thomas Galemba †
	6:30pm	Sacramento Peña † Josefa Ramirez † Maximiliano Reyes † Silvia & Elba Ramirez † Antonia Rentería † Mauricio Escobedo † Victor Martín & Raquel Dzul † María Bran † Eleuterio Gaona † Gerardo Escobedo (healing)
Sunday (28)	8:00am	Antonia Rentería †
	10:00am	Missa pro populo
Monday (29)	12:05pm	NO MASS
Tuesday (30)	5:30pm	Private Intention
Wednesday (31)	12:05pm	Private Intention
Thursday (01)	12:05pm	Private Intention
Friday (02)	12:05pm	Violet Johnson † & family
	6:00pm	Alfonso & Maria Bran †, Eleuterio Gaona †, Beatriz Valencia † & Belén Mandujano †

WEEKLY COLLECTION

JANUARY 20 & 21, 2024...\$1,971.00
CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA...\$881.00

**THIS WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR MAINTENANCE FUND FOR CHURCH
NEXT WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR LIABILITY INSURANCE
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT & CHRISTIAN GENEROSITY!!**

**LET'S PRAY FOR ALL OUR FAMILY MEMBERS
AND FRIENDS IN THE MILITARY**

Jovany Baez, Justin Mertle, María de la Luz Ramirez, Rebeca Sánchez, José Araiza, Jr., Marina González, Alondra Jara, Sonia Jara, Matt Mills & Jared Schroeder.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

Bertha Valenzuela, Carole Shoptaw, Gina Pivrotto, Angie Gómez, Judy Halren, Rose Cortez, Fidela Jara, Felix Santillán, Martha Sánchez, Gerardo Escobedo, Angie Freitas, Russel Bryant, Derrick Heater, Ann Gallagher, Brianna Lopez, Margaret Milliken, Nick Quin, Mary Servis, Matty Walker, Ofelia Ybarra.



EVERY THURSDAY @ 11:00AM,
WE HAVE THE EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, FOLLOWED BY MASS AT 12:05PM.



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

When a parishioner is homebound or hospitalized and would like Father Pacheco to pay them a visit to receive Holy Communion and/or Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Office at 707-964-0229 and after office hours, please call 707-813-4188.

WHAT IS CANDLEMAS DAY?

Candlemas Day is another name for the feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Forty days after His birth, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple for the rites of purification and dedication as prescribed by the Torah. According to the Book of Leviticus (12:1-4), when a woman bore a male child, she was considered "unclean" for seven days. On the eighth day, the boy was circumcised. The mother continued to stay at home for 33 days for her blood to be purified. After the 40 days, the mother and the father came to the temple for the rite of purification, which included the offering of a sacrifice — a lamb for a holocaust (burnt offering) and a pigeon or turtledove for a sin offering, or for a poor couple who could not afford a lamb, two pigeons or two turtledoves. Note Joseph and Mary made the offering of the poor (Lk 2:24).

Also, Joseph and Mary were obliged by the Torah to "redeem" their first born son: "The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'Consecrate to me every first-born that opens the womb among the Israelites, both of man and beast, for it belongs to me'" (Ex 13:1). The price for such a redemption was five shekels, which the parents paid to the priest. This "redemption" was a kind of payment for the Passover sacrifice, by which the Jews had been freed from slavery.

However, St. Luke in the Gospel does not mention this redemption, but rather the presentation of Our Lord: "When the day came to purify them according to the law of Moses, the couple brought Him up to Jerusalem, so that He could be presented to the Lord, for it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every first-born male shall be consecrated to the Lord'" (Lk 2:22-23). So the focus is on Jesus' consecration to God. The verb "to present" (*paristanai*) also means to "offer," which evokes Jesus being presented as the priest who will offer Himself as the perfect sacrifice to free us from the slavery of sin, seal the new and eternal covenant with His blood, and open the gates to the true promised land of heaven.

Simeon, a just and pious man, who awaited the Messiah and looked for the consolation of Israel, was inspired to come to the temple. He held baby Jesus in his arms and blessed God, saying, "Now, Master, you can dismiss your servant in peace; you have fulfilled your word. For my eyes have witnessed your saving deed, displayed for all the peoples to see: A revealing light to the Gentiles, the glory of your people Israel" (Lk 2:29-32). Simeon, thereby, announced that the Messiah has come not just for the Jew but the gentile; not just the righteous, but the sinner.

He then blessed the Holy Family, and said in turn to Mary: "This child is destined to be the downfall and the rise of many in Israel, a sign that will be opposed—and you yourself shall be pierced with a sword — so that the thoughts of many hearts may be laid bare" (Lk 2:34-35).

So, the Presentation is a proclamation of Christ — Messiah and Priest, Lord and Savior. He is the light who came into this world to dispel sin and darkness. For this reason, traditionally at least since the seventh century, candles have been blessed at Mass this day that will be used throughout the year, hence coining the term "Candlemas."

As we consider the feast of the Presentation, we remember that our parents presented us at church for our baptism. We were dedicated to God, and given the name, "Christian." We, too, received a lit candle from the Paschal Candle, at which the priest said, "You have been enlightened by Christ. Walk always as a child of the light and keep the flame of faith alive in your heart. When the Lord comes, may you go out to meet Him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom".



John Bosco was born on August 16, 1815 in the village of Becchi, close to Castelnuovo d'Asti (today Castelnuovo Don Bosco, northern Italy). His parents were poor farmers and his father died when he was only two years of age. His mother, Margarita, raised him with great difficulty but with great love. She taught him how to work and most importantly to recognize God in life's fortunes and misfortunes.

At the age of nine he had a very mysterious dream that would change his life forever. Both he and his mother understood the real meaning of that dream and so Margarita would later bear many sacrifices so that John's dream of becoming a priest would be fulfilled.

In 1841 as a young priest he came to work in Turin. His spiritual guide, Joseph Cafasso, gave him the following advice: "go throughout the city and observe how the people are living everyday life". It was then that he saw human misery in all of its forms. The living standard of the workers was miserable and the youth were aimlessly wandering the city streets unemployed, lost and prone to crime and evil.

His encounter with the juvenile delinquents had a great impact on him. He then made the decision to do all that he could to prevent the youth from getting into these tragic situations. Many of the priests at that time expected the youth, who swarmed into the city from the countryside, to find work and to come to church on their own. That was, however, very unlikely. A new way had to be developed that allowed one to contact the youth in the streets, town squares and cafes. Many priests, including Don Bosco, experimented with new methods to do this.

On the feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 1841, Don Bosco met Bartholomew Garelli from Asti, a young boy who came to Turin to find work. Three days later he brought along nine more friends and after three months there were twenty-five. By the summer of 1842 there were 80 boys. In short, that's how the oratory began.

One of the greatest problems that the boys encountered with city life was where to sleep. With time this became one of Don Bosco's main preoccupations. His first benefactor was no aristocrat but rather his poor and illiterate mother Margarita. She left the peace and comfort of her village home and came to Turin to cook and clean for Don Bosco's boys.

Amongst the boys for whom Don Bosco was father and teacher, there were those who wanted to follow him. Hence, the beginning of the Salesian Society – The Society of St. Francis de Sales. In the autumn of 1853, the first workshops were opened in Valdocco with Don Bosco as the first teacher. The Salesian Society was officially recognized on January 20, 1854.

Don Bosco's first "volunteer", Michael Rua, was ordained a priest July 30, 1860. At the end of his life Don Bosco was able to say that over 3000 vocations came from his oratory.

In March of 1864, the cornerstone of the Basilica of Mary, Help of Christians was laid in Valdocco. Eight years later Don Bosco began to build one more Marian "shrine" – the Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians.

In November of 1875, the first ten Salesians left for the missions in South America. That same year Don Bosco founded the third branch of the Salesian family – the cooperators. On his deathbed Don Bosco told them: "without your help I would not have been able to do anything. Your love has wiped away many tears and saved many souls."

The greatest heritage that Don Bosco left the Church was his "preventive system" for the education of youth. When asked for the secret of his success, which transformed big institutions into a family of love, he answered with three words: reason, religion and kindness. When reasoning is used instead of threats, when God is the housemaster and when there is no fear but rather love, the end result is a true family.

Don Bosco died at dawn on January 31, 1888. While on his deathbed, he whispered to his Salesians: "love each other as brothers. Do good to all and avoid evil, tell my boys that I am waiting for them in paradise."



IN THE VESTIBULE OF THE CHURCH, ON THE SOUTHERN
WALL IS A BEAUTIFUL MEMORIAL TREE.
ITS BRIGHT LEAVES REPRESENT PERMANENT MEMORIALS TO THE
DEPARTED OF OUR PARISH. FOR THE SUM OF \$200.00, YOU CAN
GIVE TO THE PARISH SECRETARY, THE CORRECT SPELLING AND
DATES OF THE DEPARTED AND IN DUE TIME THE LEAF IS PRINTED
AND ATTACHED TO THE TREE, AS A PERMANENT REMINDER
OF A LOVED ONE WHO IS GONE.
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AT 707-964-0229.