



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

St. John's – Mon Dec 17th at 7pm
St. Thomas More, Paradise – Dec 19 at 3:30pm



Vespers— Evening Prayer: Please join the choir to pray the Liturgy of the Hours Evening Prayer, 6:30pm at St John's Dec 18. This is the last one.

Christmas Flowers: This year, as in years past, the Art and Environment Committee will be accepting donations for Christmas flowers and decorations. Your donation may be in the name of your family, in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving. Please return donation envelopes to the office or put into the collection basket. Extra envelopes are in the vestibule.

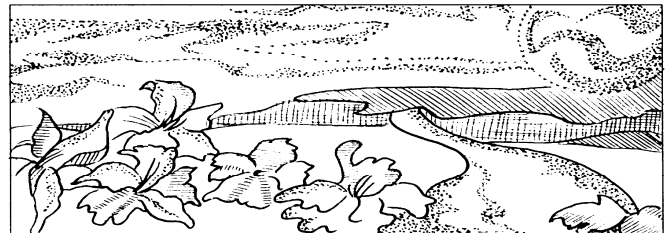


Giving and Angel Trees: Please remember to deliver the gift, **already wrapped with the tag taped to it**, to the parish office by Dec. 17 and it will be delivered for you. **If you can help deliver the gifts for the children please call**

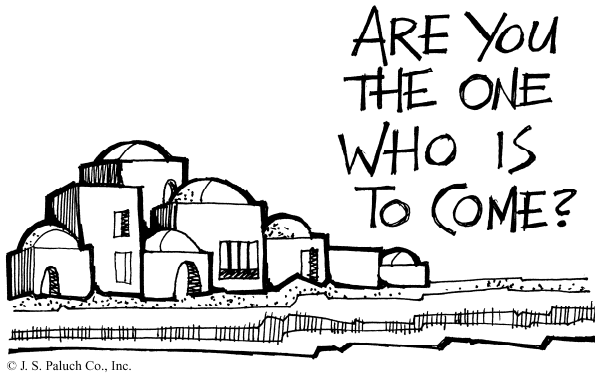
Karen or Bruce Neadly at 345-4350 to help.

Christmas Party for the Homeless Dec 18th: Your response to our requests for food and presents has been wonderful. However, the numbers at the shelter grew dramatically this week. At this time we have pledges for all the food except maybe a few more deserts. We have nearly enough presents but could use a few more sweat shirts and pants. Dani Elliott (894-5518) is coordinating the food. Call Carmen Loza (892-0238) about gifts. Thank you for your generosity! It should be a great Christmas party!

WALK FOR LIFE WEST COAST: Sat Jan 19, 2008. An awesome experience! There is a comfort travel bus that will pick up in Chico. For more information call Erika Sajben 566-1201. Call the parish office to register and reserve your spot 343-8741. Cost is \$37 per person.



Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy. – Isaiah 35:10a



**Third Sunday of Advent
December 16, 2007**

◆ Mass Intentions ~ St. John the Baptist ◆

Sat 15	7:30a	◆ John & Mary O'Hara by John O'Hara
	5:30p	◆ William Kaps & Vince Starwyck by Thelma Kaps
Sun 16	7:30a	◆ Miguel Valine by Mr. Nevis
	9:30a	People of God
	12:30p	Javier & Guadalupe Camacho (46th anniv/living)
Latin Mass	2:30p	Special Intention
	5:30p	◆ Kathy Logan by Ann Logan
Mon 17	7:30a	◆ Vince Starwyck by The Shea's
Tue 18	7:30a	◆ Nicholas Spiniola by K of C
Wed 19	7:30a	Deno & Nancy Rabo (70th anniv) by Jean Rabo
	7:00p	◆ María Montez by Blanca Vazquez
Thur 20	7:30a	◆ Vince Starwyck by Thelma Kaps
Fri 21	7:30a	◆ Miguel Valine
	8:30a	NDS intentions
Sat 22	7:30a	◆ Vivian Reginato by Ida Martin
	5:30p	◆ Colleen Howard by Gala Ybanez

◆ Mass Intentions ~ St. James ◆

Sun 16	9:00a	no intention
	10:30a	no intention

Pray for the repose of the soul of Ellen Scofield, Gerda Hase, Archbishop Kirima and for the comfort of their family and friends.

Weekly Offering

2nd week of December

Sunday Collection	\$9,232
Holy Day	\$ 911
Maintance	\$1,979
Religious Retirement	\$ 918
Christmas Offering	\$ 615
Bishop Appeal	\$ 122
TOTAL:	\$13,777

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

--2 Corinthians 9:7

ST. JOHN'S WEBSITE

stjohnthebaptistchico.org

Fr. Brent's email: fbrent@stjohnthebaptistchico.org

St. John Office email address: stjohn33@sbcglobal.net

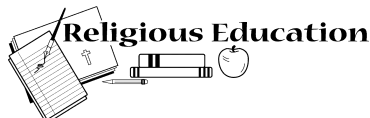
(NEW E-MAIL)
Chico_It_ym@yahoo.com
Andrea Florez, Youth Director 530-961-2050

LIFE TEEN – Christmas Party Dec 16th, 7pm. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Youth 2000 - Retreat registration forms are due **today** Dec 16th. If you still need to turn in your form please bring it to LIFE TEEN or EDGE or turn it in to St. John's or ODS parish offices. This retreat is \$45 per teen and is open to all teens age 13 and up.

EDGE – We are taking a Christmas break during this busy season. Please enjoy this time with your family and friends.

❖ **CFF: CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION** ❖



Religious Education Questions
Call 343-8741



Posada Celebration: TODAY Dec 16th, CFF will celebrate the traditional Hispanic celebration of Mary and Joseph trying to find a room in Bethlehem (La Posada). There will be a procession, prayers, piñatas and goodies. Don't miss this wonderful Hispanic tradition! Call Raquel or the office at 343-8741 if you have any questions.

Youth Sacrament Program is for students in 7th thru 12th grades who have not received all the sacraments (Baptism, 1st Penance, 1st Communion) and students in 8th thru 12th who have not received Confirmation. If the student has not received one or more of these sacraments their parents should enroll them in this program by calling 343-8741 or coming to the parish office to register.

Sacramental Parents Classes are for parents who have children receiving Sacraments this year. The required classes will be Tues Jan 22, Feb 19, March 11, April 22, and Sun May 4. Watch for details of time and place.

All CFF parents are encouraged to attend the following classes. Some topics that will be discussed will include: How to better our relationship with God at home; How we as parents can emphasize God's love to our children; Learn more about our Catholic Faith.

Tuesday Jan. 22 (UMR at 7pm)
Tuesday Feb. 19 (UMR at 7pm)

Catholics Returning Home: A Ministry of Compassion and Reconciliation is designed to reach-out and encourage non-practicing Catholics to return "Home to the Catholic Church" and resume active practice of their faith. For more details contact Deacon James Burkett at 893-2348.

Holy Spirit Prayer Group: They meet at 7pm on the 4th Wed of each month at the Newman Center. For more information call Sharon Haselton: 891-5334 or James Burkett: 893-2348.



Scripture Study/Radio: Joe Hollcraft is live on AM 930 at 11:00am-12:00 each Saturday and Sunday (re-aired). Joe will have a different guest each week. Each program will be devoted to the readings from the Mass. On Dec 15th (program to be re-aired Dec 16th) Joe will be joined by a guest and they will discuss the "Advent sense" to the virtue of patience in light of the coming of the Infant king Jesus. The following week Joe will be joined by Ann Baumgartner and they will consider the deeper sense of Christmas in lieu of the Gospel of Matthew. Be sure not to miss this great opportunity to better understand the Bible and the structure of our faith. You can email Joe at jholljnj@yahoo.com if you have any questions about the radio program and/or the Catholic faith.

❖ **MARRIAGE & FAMILY** ❖



Respect for Life Committee: Prayer for Advent – God of Life, We rejoice in the promise of your coming. You have sent your Son, born in Bethlehem. He is the Prince of Peace, and the one in whose name all oppression shall cease. May we welcome His coming each day and prepare for His coming at the end of time. May we build a culture that welcomes Him by welcoming every child, born and unborn. We pray through the same Christ our Lord. Amen. **Please join us for the next Respect Life Committee meeting on Dec 18th at 3:30 in the St. John's library.**

Mothers' Prayer Group: Join other mothers and children for a "pray and play" group every Thursday at 10:30am in the preschool room at ODS. If you have any questions, please call Marijeanne Birchard at 343-6912.



Marriage Encounter: Make a great marriage even better! Sign up for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Call Stephanie & Deacon James Burkett at 893-2348 for more information.

Natural Family Planning (Creighton model) Classes: Are you ready to do a great thing for yourself and your marriage? Classes are available right here in Chico. Contact Jackie Hollcraft M.S.; P.A.C. (899-0243).

BE AWARE: A new movie, *The Golden Compass*, was released on December 7th throughout the U.S. and translated into 32 different languages as well. The movie is based on a trilogy, *His Dark Materials*. The author, Phillip Pullman has said in an interview that this trilogy concentrates upon this theme: "I Want to kill God in the minds of Children... I want them to decide against God and the Kingdom of Heaven" quote from Phillip Pullman. *The Golden Compass*, a sanitized version of the book, wants to have children and young people rebel against parents, teachers, the Church, and anyone in authority.

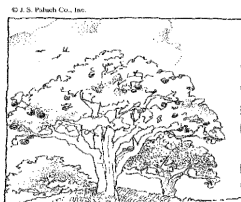
University of Sacramento: The University of Sacramento is excited to announce our Spring 2008 course entitled *Introduction to the Catechism of the Catholic Church*. This course provides the content requirement for the Basic Catechist Certificate and is approved by the Diocese of Sacramento. If you are interested and would like more information, please call 916-443-4760. Applications and registration forms for all our programs in Catholic Faith Formation may be located online at www.universityofsacramento.org

One-day Seminar: Saturday, January 19th Dr. Alexander Shaia will offer a one-day retreat on "The Wholeness of John's Gospel." Faith Lutheran Church social hall from 9am-2pm, \$15 donation. For more information contact Connie Cox at 345-2378.


Travel to France: Pilgrimage to Catholic France (Lourdes & Other Sacred Sites) with Fr. Steve Avella, May 13th thru May 28th 2008. For details call Karen Chappellear, 916-652-7560. Leaves from SFO.

Bereaved Parents is a national non-profit self-help group that offers support, understanding, compassion and hope to parents after the death of a child. All are welcome. We meet the second Thursday of each month at 7pm at Faith Lutheran Church, 667 E. 1st Ave in room #9. For information call Cathy Boutwell, 345-8905 or Lisa Palmer, 894-7025.

Healing After Abortion Retreat: Do you know someone hurting after an abortion? Still seeking peace years later? Experience the healing love of Jesus at Rachel's Vineyard Retreat in Auburn, sponsored by the Diocese of Sacramento. A weekend retreat includes sharing of stories, spiritual exercises, sacraments and a memorial service. Open to women, men, couples and family members touched by abortion. The cost is \$150 for meals, private room and all retreat materials. Financial assistance is available. For more information, call Edie at 916-733-0161 or 1-888-HOPE-790 or email esickman@diocese-sacramento.org.



Be patient until the coming of the Lord

Sun 16	Third Sunday of Advent 9am-noon RCIA 10:45am-noon CFF 2:30pm Latin Mass (potluck) 7pm Life Teen 7-9pm Posadas (in church)	
Mon 17	6-8pm English AA 6:30-8pm BSA #2 (Convent) 7-9pm Spanish Cursillo 6:30-9pm Posadas (in church/gym)	
Tues 18	6pm Vespers (at St. John's) 6:30pm choir practice 7pm Grupo Carismatico 6:30-9pm Posadas (in church/gym)	
Wed 19	3:30-5pm Youth Sacrament Class 6-9pm Spanish AA 7pm BSA #2 6:30-9pm Posadas (in church/gym)	
Thur 20	7pm NDS Christmas Program 6:30-9pm Posadas (in gym) 7pm Rosary	
Fri 21	St. Peter Canisius 6-7am men's Bible Study (ODS) 6:15am Bible Study (St John's) 3:30-4:30pm Adoration 6-9pm Spanish AA 7pm Span confirm class 6:30-9pm Posadas (in church/gym)	
Sat 22	First Day of Winter 10am Confessions NO Spanish CFF 6pm Spanish Coro 6:30-9pm Posadas (in church/gym)	

Library Hours:

Sunday 8:30-9:30am & 10:30am-12:15pm

Wednesday 9-noon and Thursday 9-noon



Pope Benedict XVI's Prayer Intentions for December:

General prayer intention: Care of all those stricken with AIDS

Mission intention: That human society may be solicitous in the care of all those stricken with AIDS, especially children and women, and that the Church may make them feel the Lord's love.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17
 Tuesday: Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25
 Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25
 Thursday: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38
 Friday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45
 Saturday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56
 Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Liturgy of the Hours - Week III

