

PARISH BULLETIN

Our Lady of the Rosary Church

703 "C" Street, Union City, CA 94587-2195

(510) 471-2609 • admin@olrchurch.org • www.olrchurch.org

JANUARY 11, 2009 – THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The Baptism of the Lord

Mark 1: 7-11

John the Baptist put his right hand on the back of Jesus' neck and gripped Jesus' arm with his other hand.

"Just lean back with me. I will guide you," John said as he eased Jesus backwards into the waist-deep water.

Jesus gasped as the cold water claimed him, flooding the warmth of his back and gushing up around his shoulders. As his head went underwater, Jesus held his breath and scrunched his eyes tightly shut. He could feel the current flowing past him. Floating just below the surface in the watery silence, Jesus felt peace come over him.

John held Jesus firmly, pushing him down into the Jordan. Through the rippling water, Jesus' face was framed with the dark crown of his swirling hair. John saw Jesus' tranquil expression, like that of a sleeping child. He wasn't struggling for air like most of the people John baptized.

The words of Isaiah and Ezekiel flowed into Jesus' mind; words about God's spirit being poured out like water, cleansing and empowering. John the Baptist was preaching that the baptism and repentance required of non-Jews now was necessary for everyone, even the Jews themselves. And John was truly a prophet. And Jesus had come to fulfill the prophecy.

Jesus' eyes burst open underwater, startling John. His eyes remained fixed on something in the sky as he stood up in the water. John backed away to behold Jesus, water streaming down his uplifted face.

Jesus saw the sky split open and fill with warmth and light. The shimmering light began to take a shape, forming itself into a white blur that suddenly resolved into a beautiful dove. Its wings opened and it began to descend toward Jesus, sending light rays shining down before it.



Jesus was overwhelmed with the presence of God filling the dove and overflowing into a Spirit which charged the air with electricity and then the scent of flowers.

A great voice spoke words that thundered across the skies and up the mountainsides, and out across the desert waste, and into every part of Jesus mind. They were words seemingly as immense as centuries of time—words encompassing all languages, words becoming all the sounds of the universe. All of this distilled itself into a tiny whisper which only Jesus could hear: “You are my beloved Son. On you my favor rests.”

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In celebrating the Baptism of Jesus this Sunday, we also celebrate our own baptism—our rising up from the water to receive new life. We celebrate that we became Children of God. We celebrate our Confirmation when we received the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the gift of Communion as we share in the banquet of Christ’s sacrifice. We celebrate our life, living as Christians so that in our dying we receive Eternal Life.

■ Deacon Dick Folger

Our Lady of the Rosary Church
Fr. José M. León, Pastor
 703 “C” Street, Union City, CA 94587-2195
www.olorchurch.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. English; 6:15 p.m. Cantonese
 Sunday: 6:45 a.m. Spanish; 8:15 a.m. English; 9:45 a.m. Spanish; 11:30 a.m. English
 Daily Mass (Bilingual):
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 8:15 a.m.;
 Saturday 9:00 a.m. (Communion Service on Mondays)
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: Every Saturday, 3:30 p.m.
 Sacraments of Baptism and Marriage
 Call the Parish Office six months in advance, (510) 471-2609.

PARISH OFFICE

Phone: (510) 471-2609 Fax: 471-4601 E-mail: admin@olorchurch.org
 Open Tue.- Sat., 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. & Tue.- Fri., 6:00-9:00 p.m.

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CCD, RCIA)

703 “C” Street, Union City, CA 94587-2195
 Phone: (510) 471-7419 Fax: (510) 471-4601 E-mail: cmagdalen@olorchurch.org
 Open Tues. - Fri., 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. and Sat., 8:00 a.m. - Noon

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY SCHOOL

678 “B” Street, Union City, CA 94587-2141
 Phone: (510) 471-3765 Fax: (510)471-4601 Open Mon. - Fri., 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

INFORMATION FOR THE COMING WEEK

MASS INTENTIONS

For January 12, 2008 to January 18, 2008

Mon. 8:15 a.m. -- Communion Service
 Tue. 8:15 a.m. -- Chaplain Captain Timothy Meier, S.J. and Troop (Safety and a Blessing)
 Wed. 8:15 a.m. -- For Peace in the Middle East
 Thur. 8:15 a.m. -- Petra Ybarra Serna (Health); Jose Piedad Romero (Health)

Fri.	8:15 a.m. --	Asuncion Gayon (Dec.)
Sat.	9:00 a.m. --	Pedro (Dec.) & Florentina Martinez (Dec.)
	5:00 p.m. --	For us, the Parishioners
Sun.	6:45 a.m. –	Nazario Alvarez (Dec.)
	8:15 a.m. –	Valentina Ureste (Dec.)
	9:45 a.m. –	Fructoso Gonzalez (Dec.); Donato (Dec.) & Rosario Valle (Dec.)
	11:30 a.m.--	Henry M. Gonzalez (Dec.)

WEEKDAY READINGS

For January 12, 2008 to January 17, 2008

Mon	Hebrews 1:1-6 / Mark 1:14-20
Tues.	Hebrews 2:5-12 / Mark 1:21-28
Wed.	Hebrews 2:14-18 / Mark 1:29-39
Thu.	Hebrews 3:7-14 / Mark 1:40-45
Fri.	Hebrews 4:1-5,11 / Mark 2:1-12
Sat.	Hebrews 4:12-16 / Mark 2:13-17

SUNDAY READINGS

January 18, 2008 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10,19 / 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a,17-20 /
 Gospel: John 1:35-42

COLLECTIONS

January 1, 2009

New Year's Day – Mary, Mother of God \$1,483.50

January 4, 2009

First Collection	\$7,365.00
Our budgeted goal for the First Collection	9,566.00
Second Collection: Church Interior Renovation	2,304.00
Children's Envelopes	52.00

Thank you very much! We appreciate your support.

FOR PARENTS OF ENGLISH-AS-A-SECOND-LANGUAGE STUDENTS: There will be a parent meeting of the English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) on Thursday, January 15, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the James Logan High School Cafeteria in "The Spot." The ELAC is a program advisory committee for students who learn English as a second language. Parents are invited to come to this meeting and learn how to help their children learn English. For more information call James Logan High School at 510.471.2520.

NEW ARTICLES

**NEXT SUNDAY:
 PANCAKE/MENUDO BREAKFAST**

The Knights of Columbus will be having a pancake-menudo breakfast next Sunday after all of the Masses except for the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Breakfast will be served from 7:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. If you normally attend the 11:30 a.m. Mass and you have a hankering for fluffy pancakes or succulent menudo, be sure to come early so you can still enjoy a hearty breakfast.

January is the Knights of Columbus' national month of recruitment. Our Lady of the Rosary's Council is small but is becoming more active. We can do even more for the parish if we would have more men and their families join our ranks. If you want more information on what you can do for the Knights and what the Knights can do for you, ask one of our members who will be working at the breakfast.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY SCHOOL'S CRAB FEED TO TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7. You are cordially invited to our annual Crab Feed on Saturday, February 7. It will take place in the Parish Hall. It will begin with no-host cocktails at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. The meal will feature crab, spaghetti, salad, French bread, dessert, coffee and tea. The program will include a dance, drawing, and a silent auction.

Tickets are now being sold for \$40.00 per person. After January 25, tickets will be \$45.00 per person. They may be purchased at the School Office. They may also be ordered using the form on the enclosed flyer. This is an adults-only event for those 21 years and over. For more information call us at 510.471.3765. Please join us in this effort to raise funds for our school.

ARTICLES FROM OUTSIDE THE PARISH

YOU CAN HELP YOUR MARRIAGE! Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue . . . or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced "retro-vi" with a long "i") helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about the February program beginning with a weekend on February 20-22 or to register for the weekend, call 510.648.6874 or email oakland@retroca.com. For the program in Spanish contact 510.487.0797. You may also visit the Retrouvaille website at www.helpourmarriage.com.

ARTICLES FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN: TAX SEASON! And what better way to season your taxes than to ask for your year-end statement of donations from Our Lady of the Rosary Church! If you receive offertory envelopes by mail or signed up for a special "envelopeless" account (numbers in the 3000 range) to track your donations, we can print out a statement of your donations for 2008. **YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE THIS STATEMENT AUTOMATICALLY – YOU NEED TO ASK US FOR IT.**

We will begin printing statements after January 15. **TO RECEIVE YOUR STATEMENT, FILL OUT THE FORM AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE** and place it in the collection at Mass or drop it by the office. You may also phone in your request at the Parish Office, 510.471.2609, extension 200, or e-mail your request to admin@olrchurch.org (**DO NOT FORGET YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER!**). Once your request is received by us, we will produce the statement and mail it out. We usually do a batch of statements at a time, normally on Fridays. If you would rather pick up your statement in person, please let us know and we will call you when it is ready. Due to security reasons, we will not send you statements in electronic form (e-mail).

A word to the wise: ask for your statement early. You can ask for it now, even if you plan to do your taxes in April. We will accommodate short-notice requests when we can, but cannot promise this. For your security and privacy, a very limited number of people are able to access the information and computer procedures necessary to produce the statements, and these people must all be available should you need your statement on short notice.

ELECTRONIC GIVING NOW OFFERED AT OLR

Last month we launched our electronic giving programs, which are EFT, and accepting donations through our website. If you are comfortable with using cash or checks when donating to OLR you may continue to donate in the same way that you always have. We are offering options for making donations electronically to better meet the needs of those parishioners who would prefer making donations electronically.

With EFT, you set up regular donations to OLR through your checking or savings account or your credit card. To enroll, simply obtain a brochure at the Parish Office or in the Main Vestibule of the Church. Be careful which version of the brochure you take: there is a version both in English and Spanish, and both of them look the same. A description of the program, the instructions, and an enrollment form are included in the brochure. You may place your enrollment form in the collection or bring it to the office. It will take about a month for your EFT transactions to begin, and you can cancel or modify amounts given at any time.

With EFT your giving schedule is a little more limited. By limiting EFT transactions to a maximum of two per month for the first collection and two for the second collection, we are reducing the processing fees the parish will pay. If you currently donate a given amount every week and plan to use EFT twice a month, be sure to at least double your former weekly donation amount for each of the two EFT processing days in order to match your former level of giving. And then, if you are using EFT once a month, you should at least multiply your former weekly donation by four (4) to match you former level of giving.

To donate online, simply visit the parish website at www.olrchurch.org, and click on the link named "GIVING."

The electronic methods have benefits for both the donor and the parish. It is less work for both of us, cuts down on bank check processing fees, and it will provide accounting of our parishioners' donations that is free of errors. Parishioners will not have to worry about using envelopes, forgetting donations at home, and what to do when vacation time comes by.

It seems that this will be an idea that is going to catch on. Early last week we were notified that a number of parishioners have already made donations through our website, and others have showed interest in signing up for the EFT service. Thank you for your interest – remember that the more parishioners that sign up, the easier it will be on both you and the parish.

If you have any question, please feel free to call the Parish Office at 510.471.2609.

PRAYERS

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS those in our parish and families who are ill or homebound: Susana Alcaraz, Tony Baligaya, Gladis Borges, Lindy C., Paul Cabrera, Alan Cady, Lindy Cady, Rebecca Cady, Maria Camarillo, Grace Caminada, Dionesio Campos, Daniel Canales, Rose Canales, Grace Carr, Grace Continelli, Cindy Davis, Chealsy Davis, Courtney Davis, Jennie DeCosta, Marc DelBianco, Irene Drouin, Joseph Dunbar, Martha Estrella, Juanita Estrellas, Ed Fiala, James Finnigan, Rita Fregoso, Frank Gallegos, Sobeida Gallegos, Gene Garcia, Deanna Graves, Emilio Gudino, Keith Gunter, Ethel Guerrero, Jesús Gutierrez, Anne Guzman, Herm Henderson, Carme Hernandez, Eduardo Hernandez, Henry Hernandez, Margaret K., Erika Lepe, Ermelinda Lopez, Francisco Lozano, Miguel Luviano, Sara Maas, Antonio Maciel, Catalina Manasala, Ismael Martinez, Lupita Martinez, Richard M. Martinez, Philip Molina, Joe Morales, Josephine Nava, Richard Nelson, Mirta Orellana, Mario Perales, Luz Perez, Ehren Perkins, Benjamin Renteria, Al Roderigues, Marcella Roderigues, Lydia Rodríguez, Joe Romero, Conor Rosado, Macca Savage, Letty Serrano, Clarence Souza, Nelly Stewart, Myron Tejada, Vivianlee Tonry, Casandra Valadez, Isabel Villarina, Miss Margaret Williams.

Yes,

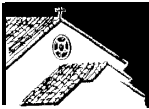
I want to receive a statement of my donations for 2008.

MY ACCOUNT NUMBER IS _____

I want to pick up my statement at the office rather than receive it in the mail. Please call me when it is ready.

(____) _____
Phone

Place this form in your collection envelope next week.



***This Week
At O.L.R.***

Tuesday, January 13

Bible Study, English, Eddie Dobrec Room, 10:00 a.m.

Rosary Night, Spanish, 5:00 p.m.

Bible Study, English, Orozco Group, Office Room 206, 7:00 p.m.

Liturgy Committee Meeting, Office Room 107, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 14

Rosary Night, Spanish, 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 15

Rosary Night, Spanish, 5:00 p.m.

Friday, January 16

Rosary Night, Spanish, 5:00 p.m.

Dinner for those in need, Eddie Dobrec Room, 6:00 p.m.

Spanish Choir Practice, Church, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 17

Rosary Night, Spanish, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 18

Second Collection for Diocesan Obligations

Exit Collection for the Oakland Seminary

Pancake/Menudo Breakfast, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

High School Youth Group, Parish Hall, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Confirmation Group, Parish Hall, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.