

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

NOVEMBER 29, 2009 – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Toward the Light

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

The moonless night sky was sprinkled with silver stars. On the dark hillside a group of men were camped, circled around a cooking fire.

"How will we know?" Philip asked, fervently leaning forward, placing his hands on Jesus' arm. The disciples were enthralled as Jesus continued to tell them about their coming redemption. Like a prophet, he was revealing a vision of the future—a privileged glimpse at their own destiny.

Jesus' eyes reflected orange from the flickering campfire. His tolerant smile was filled with love for these followers who shared the moment with him. The words rushed to his lips.

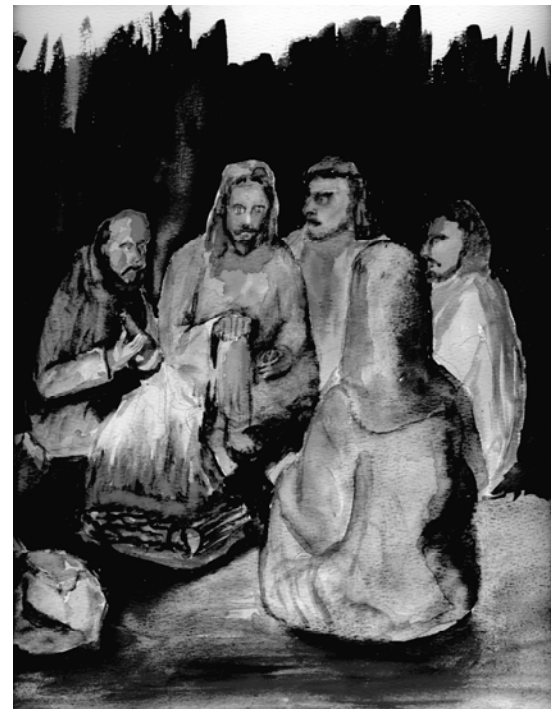
"There will be signs in the sun, the moon and the stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish, distraught at the roaring of the sea and the waves. Men will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the earth. The powers in the heavens will be shaken." Jesus paused letting the images fill their minds.

No-one spoke as Jesus continued: "After that, men will see the Son of Man coming on a cloud with great power and glory. When these things begin to happen, stand up straight and raise your heads, for your ransom is near at hand."

Philip did not even blink as the answer to his question came so clearly. In his mind the sky was already ablaze with God's glory.

Peter unstopped the wineskin and felt the good burn as he swallowed some wine. Jesus noted this and continued, eyeing Peter as he spoke.

"Be on guard lest your spirits become bloated with indulgence and drunkenness and worldly cares. The great day will suddenly close in on you like a trap. The day I speak of will come upon all who dwell on the face of the earth, so be on the watch. Pray constantly for the strength to



escape whatever is in prospect, and to stand secure before the Son of Man.”

The last flames of the campfire collapsed and only the glow of embers remained. They all sat there together in the darkness. Philip was still fearfully clutching Jesus’ arm. They sat in the silent starlight, dreaming the visions Jesus had revealed.



The vision of Jesus, coming in a cloud of power and glory as the Son of Man, has always seemed like an event that the world would watch simultaneously. But it could just as well be an individual vision that each of us will truly see on that day which will suddenly close in on us like a trap. Those who have claimed near-death experience have universally spoken about moving toward the friendly light. As we begin a new church year on this first Sunday of Advent, let us pray constantly for the strength to escape whatever is in prospect so that we can stand secure before the Son of Man.

-- Deacon Dick Folger

Our Lady of the Rosary Church
Fr. José M. León, Pastor
703 “C” Street, Union City, CA 94587-2195
www.olrchurch.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@olrchurch.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@olrchurch.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 November 30, 2009 to December 6, 2009

Mon. 8:15 a.m. – Communion Service

Tue. 8:15 a.m. – Michael Chavez (Deceased)

Wed.	8:15 a.m. –	Julian Morales (Birthday)
Thur.	8:15 a.m. –	Lillian Clark (Deceased)
Fri.	8:15 a.m. –	Mark Mello (Deceased)
Sat.	9:00 a.m. –	Robert Valle (Deceased)
	5:00 p.m. –	Yolanda Reid (Deceased)
Sun.	6:45 a.m. –	For us the Parishioners
	8:15 a.m. –	Pedro Ureste (Deceased)
	9:45 a.m. –	Veronica Padilla (Birthday) & Paganely Family (Intention); Mario Silva (Deceased)
	11:30 a.m. -	Josue Family (Intention); Reyna Castellanos (Deceased)

WEEKDAY READINGS

For November 30, 2009 to December 5, 2009

Mon	Romans 10:9-18 / Matthew 4:18-22
Tues.	Isaiah 11:1-10 / Luke 10:21-24
Wed.	Isaiah 25:6-10a / Matthew 15:29-37
Thu.	Isaiah 26:1-6 / Matthew 7:21,24-27
Fri.	Isaiah 29:17-24 / Matthew 9:27-31
Sat.	Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26 / Matthew 9:35-10:1,5a,6-8

SUNDAY READINGS

December 6, 2009 – Second Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Baruch 5:1-9 / 2nd Reading: Philippians 1:4-6,8-11 / Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

COLLECTIONS

Since this bulletin is being printed earlier than usual due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, and since the collection is being counted later than usual this week, we do not have the collection totals for last weekend in time for the printing of this Bulletin. As a result, last weekend's collection totals will appear in next weekend's bulletin.

THIS WEEKEND'S SPONSORSHIPS

HOSTS: By Jeanne Rudolph, in memory of Madeline Owens

WINE: By Susie Magbanua, en memory of Chris and Remy Salindong

FLOWERS: By Jeanne Rudolph, in loving memory of the Rudolph and Vasaturo Families

To set up a sponsorship, see the form at the bottom of the next page of this Bulletin. Thank you for your support.

NEW ARTICLES

EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT THIS FRIDAY. As this Friday, December 4 is a First Friday, we will have the Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed

Sacrament. It will be held in the Chapel from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the chapel with one hour time slots. Please sign up in advance so that we can be assured that someone will be present with the Blessed Sacrament.

IF YOU WENT TO A MASS IN ENGLISH THIS WEEKEND, YOU PROBABLY USED IT.

We're talking about our new Worship Aid, which is replacing the old, worn out, broken and injured blue songbooks which have served us well over the years. We hope that you like them (i.e. the Worship Aid, not the broken songbooks).

Now that you have first-hand knowledge of the Worship Aid, which we introduced in an article in last weekend's Bulletin, we will once again tell you about the opportunity you have to help sponsor it. Since we had to work hard and fast to get this first edition ready in time for Advent (this weekend), we didn't have any sponsors for this first edition. When the next edition comes out in Lent, we hope to have solicited sponsors for it.

The Lenten edition will have a page set aside for sponsorships and dedications. The sponsorships will be much like those we now have for hosts, wine, candles and flowers. A sponsorship will start at \$35.00. To be a sponsor in the next edition, simply fill out the sponsorship form at the end of this Bulletin and return it at the Parish Office or in the collection. Thanks.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF OUR ADVENT RECONCILIATION. So that you can mark your calendars and save the date, the Sacrament of Reconciliation in group will be held at OLR on Tuesday, December 15, at 7:30 p.m.

SPRED IS STARTING UP ITS CENTER AT OLR. We are delighted to announce that SPRED (the Special Religious Education Program) is now starting at OLR, to provide Religious Education to those with developmental disabilities. A number of parishioners have been trained and will now start working with students in this program. As this program offers one-on-one individualized attention, more catechists are needed. If you would like to learn more about sharing your faith with a young person in this rewarding program, please call Rosa at 510.489.9686. You need not have any experience – we will give you all the skills that you need.

PRAYER LIST TO BE UPDATED NEXT WEEK. Please call our office to renew the placement of your family member or friend in need of prayer. The guidelines appear above the list.

A "THANK YOU" TO TOM MEDEROS for donating the very beautiful tree that adorns our Sanctuary this weekend. He has been donating a large tree to us for a countless number of years. He does this in loving memory of his father, Earl Mederos, and his brothers Larry Mederos and Earl Mederos Jr. Tom owns Tom's Flower Stop and runs Tom's Christmas Trees, which is located at the corner of Mission Blvd. and Tamarack Drive between the Abe gasoline retailer and the cemetery. He has a large selection of trees to choose from. When you visit his lot to purchase your tree, be sure to thank him for his gift to our parish.

GIFT CARDS AND RELIGIOUS ARTICLES: WE'RE NOW OPEN VERY WEEKEND until Christmas, in order to make it more convenient for you and your holiday shopping needs. **You will find a new listing of our gift card offerings included on a page of this Bulletin**, as well as in the bulletins of the next few weeks. Remember that if it is jolly cold or raining that we'll be in the room at the side of the main Vestibule.

BLOOD DRIVE NEXT SUNDAY. The Blood Centers of the Pacific will set up its mobile blood donation center in the Parish Hall next Sunday, December 6. It will be open after all of the Masses.

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET SIGNED UP, DON'T WORRY! THIS IS WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- **Contact the Parish Office** at 510.471.2609.
- **Sign up online.** Visit www.bloodheroes.com, and use group code "rosary."
- **SIMPLY WALK-IN** at the blood drive. Registering in advance is always nice, as it helps the blood bank prepare. However, **WALK-INS ARE STILL VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!!**

A GIFT OF BLOOD IS A GIFT OF LIFE. Blood is always in short supply, and only a small fraction of those who can donate blood actually do so. The main requirements are these: 1) be in good health; 2) weigh at least 110 pounds; 3) have a good meal and drink lots of water or juice; and 4) have a photo ID. Your caring is most appreciated.

HOW YOUR BOSS OR COMPANY CAN GIVE OLR A CHRISTMAS GIFT THIS YEAR. It seems that many companies will give their employees grocery gift cards as a Christmas gift so that they can purchase their Christmas turkey or ham. If your company plans to purchase its gift cards directly from the store at full price, why not suggest that you could buy the certificates from OLR instead? It will not cost your employer a penny more, and we will reap the benefits. A number of parishioners have purchased gift cards from OLR for their employers in years past. This can be accomplished easily and quickly, as we are able to obtain large amounts of gift cards for any supermarket in as little as a day or two. Just call us and tell us the sizes and amounts that you want. And don't forget to thank the boss on our behalf!

ARTICLES FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS

The Tradition Continues ...

GIFTS FROM THE HEART

Our Advent tradition of collecting Christmas Gifts for those less fortunate continues.

Parish families are encouraged to bring a new gift to church each of the four weeks of Advent – from now through December 20. During the Offertory families will place these gifts under our Advent Tree, which will be located in the Sanctuary of the Church.

Gifts should be **unwrapped**. Gifts may be for adults as well as for children. Some items which can be donated are clothing, toiletry sets, books, stuffed animals like Teddy Bears, and toys. We ask that in the interest of promoting peace and justice that no donations of toy guns be made, or any other toy that relates to violence or war.

We often find that we have many donations of gifts for children, but need more donations for teenagers and adults. As a result, we make this suggestion: If you plan to donate gifts for the next three weeks, consider varying the gifts you give. For example, on one week donate a gift for a child 12 and under, on another week donate a gift for a teenager, and on another week donate a gift for an adult.

We also will need the following:

- Donations of gift wrap
- Donations of cellophane tape

If you can help in any way, please call the Parish Office at 471-2609, and leave a message for the Liturgy Committee.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY IS COLLECTING FOOD FOR CHRISTMAS.

Continuing until December 20, our parish's St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry will be collecting food for the 100 or so "food baskets" that we give to the needy at Christmastime. The items that we need are the following:

- ♪ Hammered vegetables
- Canned yams
- Canned fruit
- Canned soup
- Canned, baked beans
- Canned juices
- Canned tuna
- Canned meat
- Vienna Sausage
- Corned Beef
- Macaroni & cheese
- Scalloped potatoes
- Mashed potatoes
- Cake mixes and frosting
- Cereal
- Rice
- Pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Peanut butter
- Jam
- Fresh fruit (please donate only on Dec. 20)
- Rolls (please donate only on Dec. 20)

Our St. Vincent de Paul conference will complete the basket by furnishing canned hams.

So, won't you consider helping to provide a family with a healthy, full basket of food this Christmas? **Simply deposit your donation in the baskets or barrels that are located at the entrances of the church when you come to Mass in the coming weeks.**

On delivery day, the food baskets are joined by the donations which you make to the Gifts from the Heart program, and they are then delivered by our delivery volunteers in a caring manner. This act of generosity does much to alleviate depression and loneliness, and it brightens the holiday for shut-ins, persons who are disabled, seriously ill, or needy.

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING CALLS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED. These families are those who will be receiving our "Christmas Food Baskets" and the "Gifts from the Heart." We would like for you to do us a favor. Oftentimes those who are most in need are often too embarrassed to ask for help. As a result, if you know of a family that is facing unfortunate circumstances and might not be inclined to give us a call, please do them a favor and let us know. Your anonymity will be maintained.

THE GUILD IS HAVING A DRAWING FOR A CHRISTMAS WREATH. Our Lady's Guild is selling tickets for a drawing with a prize of a beautiful Christmas wreath. Tickets are being sold

in front of the Church after all weekend Masses now through December 6. The drawing for the winner will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 7 – you need not be present to win. The wreath will be on display after each Mass. Tickets are \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. All proceeds will be given back to OLR Church. This beautiful wreath can be used to decorate your home for years to come. If you were to purchase the wreath in a local retail store, it would sell for around \$90.00; so please stop by after Mass and buy some tickets. Thank you from Our Lady's Guild.

ARTICLE FROM OUTSIDE THE PARISH

DIOCESE OF OAKLAND – MARY, MOTHER OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD – GUADALUPE PILGRIMAGE, DECEMBER 5, 2009. We invite you to participate with our Reverend Bishop Joseph Salvatore Cordileone the diocesan pilgrimage. Share our faith in the pilgrimage, singing and worshipping our mother the Virgin of Guadalupe. Starting point of St. Louis Bertrand, 1410 100th Ave., Oakland 94603 at 9:00 a.m. Point: Cathedral of Christ the Light, 2121 Harrison St., Oakland 94612. For more information or to collaborate you can call the Latino Ministry Office at 510.496.7224.

PRAYERS

GUIDELINES FOR THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER. In the past we have asked that parishioners keep in contact with our office to let us know when people should be added to and removed from the list below. In spite of this request, we have not been able to maintain the list. As a result, we are now developing a set of guidelines for this list.

GUIDELINES:

1. To add a person, call our Office at 510.471-2609.
2. We will need the following information for each person on the list: a) First and Last Name of person needing prayer; b) Name and phone number of person offering the name; c) Nature of the illness; and d) Does the person need/want a visit from a Minister to the Sick.
3. Names will remain on the list for one month, after which they will be removed. In order to keep a name on the list, the person who placed the name on the list should call the Parish Office to "renew" its placement for another month.

We regret that we have to become so "procedural" with regards to this list, but we do so in order to pray better and serve those who are ill better. It will enable our clergy to know the needs of those on the list when they are praying, and even send someone to them to pay them a home or hospital visit.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS those in our parish and families who are ill or homebound: Tony Baligaya, KayMaria Baranouskas, Lindy C., Paul Cabrera, Maria Camarillo, Grace Caminada, Daniel Canales, Rose Canales, Grace Carr, Anita Castillo, Grace Continelli, Cindy Davis, Chealsy Davis, Courtney Davis, Jennie DeCosta, Irene Drouin, Joseph Dunbar, Martha Estrella, Juanita Estrellas, Mary Ferrario, Ed Fiala, James Finnigan, Frank Gallegos, Sobeida Gallegos, Ronnie Graves, Emilio Gudino, Keith Gunter, Ethel Guerrero, Jesús Gutierrez, Anne Guzman, Eduardo Hernandez, Henry Hernandez, Margaret K., Mark Kamakea, Francisco Lozano, Carmen Martinez, Lupita Martinez, Philip Molina, Frances Morales, Joe Morales, Richard Nelson, Ma. Elena Ochoa, Mario Perales, Anita Perkins, Margie (Judy) Preciado, Alexandria

Ramos, Monica Raygoza, Benjamin Renteria, Al Roderigues, Jr., Marcella Roderigues, Lydia Rodriguez, Joe Romero, Angel Salindong, Macca Savage, Myron Tejada, Vivianlee Tonry, Bienvenida Villafuerte. (Ren. 11/15)

Our Lady of the Rosary: SPONSORSHIP OF HOSTS, WINE, CANDLES AND FLOWERS

I want to sponsor the following on the first available weekend – or – on this weekend *
_____:

Hosts (\$25.00/week); Wine (\$35.00/week); Candles (\$35.00/week);
Flowers (\$125.00/week)

A dedication on the sponsorship page in the next printing of the worship aid for the Masses
in English (\$35.00)

Today's Date _____

Name _____ Envelope/Acct. # _____

Address _____ Phone _____

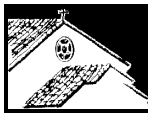
I would like my gift recognized as follows:

(Examples: "The Hosts are sponsored by the Guerrero Family."

"The wine is sponsored by Mary Smith in memory of her mother, Gladys Jones.")

* No date guarantees can be made. If a desired week is already taken, the closest weekend will be given.

Please place this in the collection (include this form and donation in an envelope) or bring it to the Parish Office



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

Tuesday, December 2

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

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

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

7th & 8th Grade Youth Group, Upper Room, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 3

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

Stewardship Committee Meeting, Office Room 206, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 4

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

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

Friday, December 5

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Chapel, 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Holy Hour, Chapel, 7:00 p.m.

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

Saturday, December 6

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

Sunday, December 7

Fundraising gift cards and religious articles sold after Mass

Second Collection for Church Renovation

English Choir Practice, Church, immediately after the 11:30 a.m. Mass

High School Youth Group, Upper Room, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Confirmation Group, Upper Room, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.