



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

DECEMBER 28, 2008 – FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

The Knowing

Luke 2: 22-40

It was the Jewish month of Abib, and in keeping with the tradition, the family of Jesus set out for Jerusalem where in the great temple, Jesus, as firstborn son, would be consecrated and dedicated to God.

Joseph held the cage containing the two doves and smiled down at Mary, holding their son in her arms.

"I wish that we could give a year-old lamb as the offering," Mary said, shifting little Jesus to her other arm. She adjusted her shawl to shield his eyes from the sun. Looking to Joseph for an answer, Mary noticed a weariness in his face. They had been walking steadily since early morning.

"Because we have no flocks of our own," Joseph explained, "these doves are acceptable. One will be for adoration and the other for a sin offering."

Mary smiled silently as she thought about tomorrow. Ahead was the immense city and the lofty temple rising up on the mount. Joseph noticed Mary looking, wide-eyed, up at the fortress walls and the towers beyond. Jerusalem was exciting—the Great Temple, the merchants and markets,



soldiers and strange people from foreign lands. Tonight Joseph and Mary and Jesus would sleep within its walls.

At the temple the next morning the Saducee priest Simeon eyed the trio coming toward him. He felt tired, wondering why he had risen so early and come to the temple this day. Simeon also noted that they only had caged doves for the offerings.

“Good morning Rabbi,” Joseph said. “We want to dedicate our firstborn.” Mary drew back her shawl so that Simeon could see the child.

Simeon looked down on the little face and a rush of realization swept over him. This was the special child, the one foretold. This was the Anointed of the Lord, the Messiah!

Simeon remembered his years of waiting. He remembered his times of doubt. He remembered the clear promise of the Spirit, now fulfilled before him.

The old man reached out to claim the child. Mary placed little Jesus in Simeon’s arms and the old Rabbi’s eyes brimmed with tears as he gently embraced his God.

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We, like Simeon, have heard the promise and we also wait for the coming of the Lord in our lives. The wonder-child waits too. Waiting for us to keep our appointment in that special time and place when we come to “the knowing.”

-- 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 December 29, 2008 to January 4, 2008

Mon. 8:15 a.m. -- Communion Service
Tue. 8:15 a.m. -- For Us, the Parishioners
Wed. 8:15 a.m. -- Marcella Roderigues (Health)
Thur. 10:00 a.m. - For World Peace
Fri. 8:15 a.m. -- Al Roderigues (Health)
Sat. 9:00 a.m. -- Juan Perez (Dec.)
5:00 p.m. -- In Honor of St. Rita (Intention)
Sun. 6:45 a.m. -- Arturo Vega (Recovery)
8:15 a.m. -- Dorothy Louis Tiffer (Dec.)
9:45 a.m. -- Arcenio Rodriguez-Flores (Health)
11:30 a.m.-- Louis Canales, Jr. (Dec.)

WEEKDAY READINGS

For December 29, 2008 to January 4, 2008

Mon 1 John 2:3-11 / Luke 2:22-35
Tues. 1 John 2:12-17 / Luke 2:36-40
Wed. 1 John 2:18-21 / John 1:1-18
Thu. Numbers 6:22-27 / Galatians 4:4-7 / Luke 2:16-21
Fri. 1 John 2:22-28 / John 1:19-28
Sat. 1 John 2:29-3:6 / John 1:29-34

SUNDAY READINGS

January 4, 2008 - The Epiphany of the Lord

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6 / 2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6 / Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

NOTE ABOUT THE CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: Even though Christmas day is behind us, the collection totals for Christmas do not appear below. This is due to the fact that our volunteer collection counters have decided not to hold an extra "collection counting session" for Christmas Day. It will count the Christmas collection at the same time as this weekend's collection. As a result, the Christmas total will appear in next weekend's bulletin.

COLLECTIONS

December 21, 2008

First Collection	\$6,923.73
Our budgeted goal for the First Collection	9,566.00
Second Collection: Christmas Flower Fund.....	2,258.00
Children's Envelopes	128.78

Thank you very much! We appreciate your support.

*Happy
New
Year!*



NEW ARTICLES

MASS ON NEW YEARS DAY THE FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESE: A dispensation has been granted from the obligation of the faithful to attend Mass on January 1, 2009.

TRANSLATION: New Years' Day, the Feast of Mary, Mother of God, **IS NOT** a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

HOWEVER, even though it is not a Holy Day, you are never the less encouraged to attend Mass that day as an appropriate way to give thanks to God for the graces and blessings of the past year and to honor Mary under her most ancient title "Mother of God."

SO, we will celebrate Mass at OLR at 10:00 a.m. on New Year's Day. There will not be a Mass at 8:15 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE FOR THE PARISH OFFICE. The Parish Office will be closed on both New Years Eve (Wednesday) and New Years Day (Thursday). It will reopen on Friday, January 2.

EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT THIS FRIDAY. As this Friday, January 2, 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.

A THANK YOU to all of you who, through your giving, made Christmas a little merrier for those in need. Last Sunday members of our St. Vincent de Paul Conference, our Youth Groups and other volunteers delivered food, toys and clothing to some 112 families. We thank you for placing gifts under the advent tree, dropping off gifts at Roberto's Donuts, for donating food and cash, and for volunteering your time to wrap and deliver gifts. ***Despite the economic conditions that are affecting all of us this year in one way or another, our parishioners have outdone themselves in generosity and caring.*** This year parishioners have donated more food and more gifts, and more people have lent a hand in assembling and delivering the gifts and food. This means that the work was done in less time last Sunday, and that we were able too meet the needs of everyone who asked for help – and then some. Thanks again for your phenomenal support.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR MAKING THIS CHRISTMAS SO SPECIAL.

Our Christmas celebrations were a gift to our parish from many people who gave their time and talent. It all started with our Liturgy Committee which as been planning our celebrations over the past several weeks. Then many of the members of Our Lady's Guild and members of our Spanish Youth Group did a beautiful job in decorating our church on Sunday afternoon. Lectors, Altar Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers had their role in serving at our Christmas Masses. Musicians and choir members practiced weeks in advance. The fourth grade teacher in our parish school, Joey Zarate; the seventh grade teacher, Alex Herrera; and our Choir Director, Donna Santos, put together a Children's Choir for our 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Finally, our parishioners made it all complete in their participation in our celebrations. So once again, thanks for making our celebration of Christmas both beautiful and meaningful.

A BIG "THANK YOU." We would like to thank the

Fremont Bank Foundation

for caring for those in our community. The foundation board approached us as it desired to help those in need through Our Lady of the Rosary. The result was that the Foundation gave our parish a check in the amount of \$1,000.00, which we used to help purchase food to supply our "Christmas Food Baskets" for those in need. Our parish staff and members of St. Vincent de Paul are grateful to the bank and its foundation for its generosity and for keeping our work in mind.

ANOTHER "THANK YOU." Talk about dedication! Perhaps you've noticed that a number of the light bulbs over the pews in the Church were burned out. No longer! **Russell Simmons** sacrificed his Christmas Eve morning to replace all of the bulbs. We thank Russell for this shining example of the stewardship of time.

ARTICLES FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS

ELECTRONIC GIVING NOW OFFERED AT OLR

Last weekend 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 your 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.

ARTICLES FROM OUTSIDE THE PARISH

REMEMBER THAT THERE IS NO NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER-DANCE AT OLR THIS YEAR, BUT THERE ARE STILL CELEBRATIONS NEARBY.

Consider these two events which will begin the celebration of Union City's 50th Anniversary:

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASQUERADE PARTY. It will take place from 6:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 32083 Alvarado-Niles Road. Tickets are \$75.00 per person. The doors will open at 6:00. There will be dancing to a DJ and festive hors d'oeuvres from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. After, there will be live music from a San Francisco band, Savoir Faire, until 1:00 a.m. The contacts for tickets and more information are 510.675.5420 or www.unioncity50.com.

BLACK AND WHITE GALA. It will take place from 6:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at the Union City Sports Center at 31224 Union City Blvd. Tickets are \$150.00 per person, and the attire is black and white formal wear. There will be music, cocktails and surprise entertainment. Dinner will be served at 8:00, followed by live music and dancing until 1:00 a.m. There will be a silent auction to support 2009 public events. The contacts for tickets and more information are 510.471.5313 or www.unioncity50.com. 112308

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.



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

Tuesday, December 30

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

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

Wednesday, December 31

NEW YEARS EVE

Parish Office is Closed

Thursday, January 1

NEW YEARS DAY

Parish Office is Closed

Mass: 10:00 a.m.

Friday, January 2

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.

Saturday, January 3

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

Sunday, January 4

Second Collection for Church Renovation