

St. Frances Cabrini Parish

Our Mission: Worship God • Love Others • Make Disciples • Educate the Young

December 11th 2022 • Third Sunday in Advent



MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. – Fri. - 8:30 am

Sat. 8:30 am, *5:00 pm Vigil Mass -English • 6:45 pm - Vietnamese

Sun. 8:00 am, 9:30 am, *11:30 am, 1:00 pm (Assyrian), & 5:30 pm

* Saturday 5:00pm Vigil Mass and 11:30am Sunday Mass will livestream on Facebook

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSON)

Saturdays 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm in the church library and by appointment. See page 3 for First Friday Reconciliation times.

BAPTISM: Please visit www.sfcabrin.org website under Sacraments / Baptism for more information. If you have questions call Merry Kaelani at 408-879-1120 #14.

Next Baptismal Preparation Class is on January 16, 2023

MARRIAGE: Couples must contact the priest they wish to witness the sacrament at least six months prior to the proposed date of the wedding.

Anointing - SFC Emergency Line: 408-912-0440



St. Frances Cabrini Parish

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday • Wednesday • Thursday

9:00am to 3:00pm

www.sfcabrin.org • Facebook:
www.facebook.com/sfcscjca/

The barren deserts will rejoice and flower.

Tired bodies will receive strength.

Aching hearts will be made glad.

- Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

PARISH CLERGY & STAFF

Pastor

Rev. James Okafor.....408-879-1120.....ext. 13

frjames@sfcabrin.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Vincent Dang.....408-879-1120.....ext. 12

frvincent@sfcabrin.org

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Rev. Robert McKay.....robert.mckay@dsj.org

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Bookkeeper

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SCHOOL

Principal

Ronda Clark.....408-377-6545.....ext. 3058

Vice Principal

Laura Breiten.....408-377-6545ext. 3057

Office Manager

Susan Porria.....408-377-6545.....ext. 3001

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. - Philippians 4:13

Advent Joy!

Growing up as a child in the Eastern part of Nigeria, the 3rd week of Advent was the best week before Christmas for me for two reasons. It was when the school was off, and no school for the next three weeks. It was also a week that my parents took my siblings and me to buy new clothes and shoes for Christmas. As an adult, I learned that the third Sunday of Advent is a unique Sunday of the four Sundays of Advent. The 3rd Sunday of Advent is the *Gaudete* (Rejoice) Sunday. This Sunday lightens the penitential tone of Advent, encourages, and calls on us to share the joy of Christ's coming. We also light the 3rd of the Advent Candles, which is rose or pink-colored. Thus, the readings of this Sunday in different ways invite us to share in this Advent joy.

The Prophet Isaiah (35: 1-6a,10), in our first reading, interjects the tone of joy at different parts of the reading. He points out the joy God's people will experience at the coming of the Messiah. Isaiah emphasizes that "*those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.*" St. James (5:7-10), in our second reading, calls our attention to one of the important virtues we need in our Christian journey to share in this Advent joy: Patience. Joy is rooted in patience because patience brings peace, contentment, and hope. In addition, both John the Baptist's inquiries from prison about Jesus and Jesus' appreciation of the person of John the Baptist in the Gospel today (Matthew 11:2-11) call our attention to another important virtue we need to experience the advent joy, which is appreciating the gifts of one another.

As the Church invites us to experience the advent joy, the question we can ask ourselves should be, what is that in my life that takes away my joy? We can pray for the gift of patience that will help us to be patient with ourselves, with people in our life, and even patient with our God, trusting and believing that God knows the best and His time is the best. Also, we remember that gratitude blossoms into joy. Reflect on different ways God is calling you this season to rekindle the desire to appreciate his presence in your life and the beautiful gifts he has given you through the gifts of people in your life. As we continue our preparations to celebrate the joy of Christmas, let us ask the good Lord to help us to experience this joy and be instruments to share this joy with others. Amen.

On Saturday, 12/03, we had an Advent retreat for candidates and families preparing for their first Holy Eucharist/Holy Communion. Within the retreat, the candidates made their first reconciliations/confessions. Watching the spiritual support, the candidates received from their families and catechists throughout the retreat was uplifting. We thank the parents/guardians and the catechists who prepared these candidates. The candidates will continue their formation in preparation for the First Eucharist/Holy Communion during the Easter season on May 13th, 2023. Remember to check our Advent Schedule on page 4 of the bulletin and plan to participate in the upcoming programs. I look forward to seeing you.

St. Frances Cabrini- Pray for us!

Reconciliation is held in the church library **every Saturday** from 3:30pm to 4:30pm, and on the **First Friday** of each month during **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**, from 9:30 to 10:30am and again at 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM.

SFC Parish-wide Advent Reconciliation
Monday, Dec. 5th at 7:00pm

Mass Intentions December 10th to 18th, 2022

SAT: 8:30 am - Ruth Kofed † - VD
3:30 pm - Confession - JO
5:00 pm - Don Trenary † - JO

SUN: 8:00 am - Bill and Sylvia Bennett, Spec. Int.
For continued good health - JO
9:30 am - People of the Parish
Sadie and Joe Dimiceli † - VD
11:30 am - Carol Anderson † - VD
1:00 pm - Assyrian Mass - PS
5:30 pm - Kevin J. Ryan † - RM

MON: 8:30 am - Janice Jones, Spec. Int. - VD

TUES: 8:30 am - Joan Kolakowski, Spec. Int - VD

WED: 8:30 am - Theresa Barrow † - VD

THURS: 8:30 am - Joan Darcy Kuenzli † - JO

FRI: 8:30 am - The working poor in our communities - VD

SAT: 8:30 am - Dave and Paula Rutowski † - JO
3:30 pm - Confession - RM
5:00 pm - Kevin C. Ryan † - RM

SUN: 8:00 am - Mario Brunoro † - VD
9:30 am - People of the Parish - VD
11:30 am - Carol Anderson † - PS
Arturo Perez Castro †
1:00 pm - Assyrian Mass - JO
5:30 pm - Bud Jobe † - JO

JO = Fr. James Okafor • VD = Fr. Vincent Dang
PS = Fr. Paul Soukup • RM = Fr. Robert McKay

THE LOOK OF LOVE

What does love look like?
It has feet to go to the poor and needy.
It has eyes to see misery and want.
It has ears to hear
the sighs and sorrows of others. —St. Augustine

We Rejoice

That God has drawn near us in
the incarnation of Christ.

Let Us Pray for the people in our parish community who are homebound, sick, recovering, or are confined to rest homes, that Jesus be their strength and comfort. This week we especially pray for: **Janice Jones, Aaron James Sosa, Alice Bonvechio, Denise Duvall, Elizabeth, Aaron James Sosa Gutierrez, Bill Cerrato, Kelly Gibson, Maddox Vasquez, Chris Aguilar, Elvira Canales, Jim Butler, Bill Smith, Audrey Schenck, Diana Gray, Frieda Flocchini, Helen Shrifin, Michael Oliver, Mark Karrigan, Aiko Karrigan, Yumee Wateska, Charlie Schenck, Sue Coffaro, Alice Mancuso, Joan Kolakowski, and Shelley Lanier.** Please keep them and their families in your prayers. If you wish to have a loved one placed in Let Us Pray, call the parish office at 408-879-1120 #20.

THE ONE FOR WHOM OUR HEARTS LONG

Put yourself in the scene of today's Gospel passage. John the Baptist is in prison. He has heard stories of what Jesus is doing, and wants reassurance that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah. John's disciples and those who surrounded Jesus were faithful Jews who would have known Isaiah's prophecies by heart. God would send One who would bring sight to the blind, healing to those who were ill, salvation to all who longed to know God's mercy and peace. Jesus' response to the disciples' question rings as powerfully in our ears today as it surely did for the people who were with him that day. His actions are precisely those that the people had been told to expect. Jesus is the One for whom the people have been patiently yet anxiously waiting, like the farmer who waits for the fruits of his labor. Jesus is the One for whom our hearts long. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The barren deserts will rejoice and flower. Tired bodies will receive strength. Aching hearts will be made glad (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10).
Psalm — The Lord saves us when he comes (Psalm 146).
Second Reading — Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (James 5:7-10).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent
Monday: Our Lady of Guadalupe
Tuesday: St. Lucy
Wednesday: St. John of the Cross
Friday: Las Posadas begins

We Honor

The Blessed Mother Mary for her
trust and humility.

We celebrate

That God has drawn near us in
the incarnation of Christ.



ADVENT SCHEDULE

ADVENT SCHEDULE

Monday, Nov. 28th - Thursday, December 15th
Visiting the elderly and homebound parishioners

Saturday, Dec. 3rd
1:00pm - FHC Reconciliation

Monday, Dec. 5th
7:00pm - SFC Parish Reconciliation

Wednesday, Dec. 7th
7:00pm - Vigil Mass
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday, Dec. 8th
8:30am + 10:30am (School) 7:00pm
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday, Dec. 12th
8:30am Mass - Our Lady of Guadalupe

Thursday, Dec. 15th
6:30pm - School Christmas Performance

Friday, Dec. 16th
8:30am Mass for School Christmas break

Saturday, Dec. 17th
9:00am - 12:00pm - Christmas Food Box Distribution
2:00pm - Advent Day of Reflection in the church

Wednesday, Dec. 21st - Thursday, Dec. 22nd
6:00pm - Simbang Gabi

Saturday, Dec. 24th
5:00pm (Children's Mass) - 10:00pm Christmas Vigil

Sunday, Dec. 25th Masses
8:00am, 9:30am, 11:30am, 1:00pm, 5:30pm

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help will be prayed after the Rosary following 8:30 AM Wednesday Masses, except the first Wednesday of the month.

On our Patroness

St. Frances Cabrini (1850-1917)

Feast Day: November 13th



Did you know that Mother Cabrini was baptized hours after her birth because she was sickly? Her whole life, Mother Cabrini suffered from poor health. Maria Francesca Cabrini was born 2 months premature on July 15, 1850 and her parents had her baptized because they feared for her life. As a young adult, two religious communities refused to accept her because of her health. After she founded her community and wanted to found missions outside of Italy, her doctors predicted that she only had a few years to live. Yet, she went on to live over 20 more years and found missions in the United States and Central and South America.

Mother Cabrini's life teaches us how to gracefully accept the crosses we are given and trust God's grace to sustain us in what He is calling us to do. **St. Frances Cabrini- Pray for us!**

Christmas Anticipation Prayer

Beginning on St. Andrew the Apostle's feast day, November 30, the following beautiful prayer is traditionally recited fifteen times a day until Christmas. This is a very meditative prayer that helps us increase our awareness of the real focus of Christmas and helps us prepare ourselves spiritually for His coming.

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment In which the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, (mention your prayer request here) through the merits of Our Saviour Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen. [EWTN's Christmas Devotions](#)

JUSTICE AND OBEDIENCE

Justice is the insurance we have on our lives, and obedience is the premium we pay for it.

—William Penn

Prayer to Saint Joseph

The prayer to Saint Joseph will be prayed after the 8:30 AM Mass on the first Wednesday of the month.

Wednesday, January 4th



One idea to do as a family for the third Sunday of Advent

Prepare your prayer table with a purple cloth, your Advent wreath (candles unlit), and a Bible. Begin by asking family members: “**If you could have a free ticket to any performance, whom would you choose to go see, and why would that be your choice?**” Invite family members to listen to today’s Gospel, for what Jesus says is the reason people went to the desert to see John the Baptist. Make the Sign of the Cross together.

Light two purple candles and the rose (pink) candle on your Advent wreath and pray: **Lord, today we ask your blessing upon all prophets who preach your Word to us. Open our ears to hear the message they bring. Amen.**

Listen and Reflect

Proclaim today’s Gospel.

- Ask why Jesus says people went out to the desert to see John the Baptist (to see a prophet).
- Recall that a prophet is a person who proclaims the Good News of Jesus Christ. Invite family members to name prophets in the Bible (such as Isaiah) and those whom they would consider modern-day prophets (such as Mother Teresa or the pope). -- Welcome all suggestions.

Gospel Connections

- Connect to today’s opening activity. Ask each family member: “If you had the choice between a free ticket to go see (name that family member’s favorite performer) or a free ticket to go see a prophet in the desert, which would you choose and why?”
- Ask all family members: “Is it more important to see the people you have mentioned, or the prophet Jesus mentions? Why?” (Welcome all responses.)
- Help family members understand that the prophet’s message—God’s message—is one that strengthens our faith and leads us to everlasting life. It is a message that lasts forever. Our favorite performers will be famous for a time but not forever.
- Remind family members that to be a prophet means proclaiming the Good News of Jesus. Our Baptism makes us sharers in this ministry of proclaiming the Good News.
- Come up with one or two ways your family can proclaim together the Good News to others in the days between now and Christmas Day. Make an action plan to follow

Conclude

- Lead your family in praying that world leaders will proclaim the message of justice for all people; that modern-day prophet will remain faithful in proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ throughout the world; that your family will proclaim the Good News to others through your words and deeds; for the sick and those who have died; and for your prayer intentions.

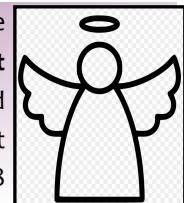
- Pray the Our Father.
- Make the Sign of the Cross and conclude by singing the song you sang at the beginning of today’s session.

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SFC's Cub Scout Pack 334 followed an annual tradition of hand making ornaments and decorating a tree at Christmas in the Park. Be sure to check it out if you visit the park. Interested in joining Scouts?

Contact Ricardo Torres
Pack334cubmaster@gmail.com



Calling all Altar Angels! We will be decorating the church for **Christmas at 9:30AM on Saturday, December 24th** and we need your help. To volunteer, contact Elizabeth.Drew@gmail.com - 408-242-4598 or just show up. Volunteers must meet DSJ volunteering requirements.

Sign up to stay updated! Did you know we now have a weekly E-Newsletter? If you would like to receive the SFC Newsletter, we would like to send it to you! Click the tab below or go to www.sfcabroni.org, and click on the tab on the Home Page.

SFC eNewsletter sign up



Don't forget! Pick up an SFC 2023 calendar. Available at the back of the church. While supplies last!



Need a Mass intention?

Call Jean in the parish office at 408-879-1120 #20

SFC's Annual Holiday Food Drive - DEC. 17th!

With less than a week away, we hope to provide over 200 hams with a box of non-perishable groceries to families in need on Saturday, Dec. 17th when we hold the Christmas Food Box Drive. To make this a success, we are reaching out to our community for donations. We appreciate any financial support. Please make checks payable to SFC MEN'S CULB, memo line "Holiday Food Drive" or, non-perishable canned goods can be dropped off at the parish office. Thank you in advance for your support of our program. If you have any questions or concerns, please call John Dahl - SFC Men's Club at 408.807.5756.



Catholic Commentary on The Chosen aims to help Catholics actively engage with the immensely popular TV series depicting the life of Christ.

In this introductory episode, Dr. Scott Hefelfinger and Dr. Michael Barber explain their initial attitudes toward The Chosen, ground The Chosen's creative license in portraying the life of Christ in the teaching of the Catholic Church and Scripture, and discuss the historical context in which the Gospels were written. Watch The Chosen on FORMED: <https://watch.formed.org/the-chosen>

Sunday Offertory and Faith Direct collections for the month of October, 2022

Received - \$57,821

Budgeted - \$47,128



Total ADA collected as of October 31st -

\$148,932.93

Thank you for your generous support of
St. Frances Cabrini Church.

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 12/12 | Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass / 8:30am
Rosary and Procession 8:00am |
| 12/16 | Adoration / CH / 9:00am to 12:00 Noon |
| 12/17 | - Funeral Mass / Salvatore Rancadore / 10:30am
- Sacred Heart Fraternity - 11:00am - PC
- Christmas Food Box Distribution / Gym / 9am to 12pm
- Advent Day of Reflection with Fr. James / CH / 2:00pm |
| 12/21-22 | Simbang Gabi 6:00pm Mass. Reception to follow / CH / EH |



SIMBANG GABI 2022

The SFC Filipino American (FilAm) Group invites everyone to its 8th annual Simbang Gabi on Wednesday, December 21st, at 6PM and Thursday, December 22nd at 6 PM. Reception will follow in Essig Hall.

Simbang Gabi, meaning “evening Mass”, is a traditional 9-day celebration to start the Christmas season. Simbang Gabi is originally a novena (nine-day series of Masses) that is held before dawn. Practical adaptation to modern urban environments has moved the Mass time to early evening or after dawn, often with fewer days of celebration.

PLAY THURSDAY NIGHTS!

ST. FRANCES CABRINI

BASKETBALL OPEN GYM BEGINS DECEMBER

TEAM A **VS** **TEAM B**

WARM UP 6:30PM **PLAY 7:00PM** Essig Hall - SFC Gym
Games 1 hour - Doors close 9:00pm

Players Junior High & Up Come out; have fun Call your own fouls. No-ref games. Disagreements settled by director

Games Won by 2 Points - Prize at the end of Season

More Information: E-mail phaley84@gmail.com

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Altar Society / Church Environment

Elizabeth Drew.....elizabeth.drew@gmail.com

Evangelization

Lee and Cathy Campbell.....lrhcampbell@gmail.com

Home Ministries

Grace Rivero.....408-879-1120 #20

Liturgy Committee

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Ushers -Greeters

James Sawaya.....sawaya24@sbcglobal.net

Wedding Ceremony Coordinator

Maria Sarmiento.....mosarmien@yahoo.com

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT**Bible Study**

Donna Tkach.....408-356-2582

Cursillo

Cathy Cambell.....cmc4realty@yahoo.com

Intercessory Prayer Group

Rebecca Valverde.....alegrereb@comcast.net

Marriage Enrichment / Date Night

Chris and Ann Aguilar.....aguilarwwme@gmail.com

Rite Of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Tim Van Overen.....rcia@sfcabrin.org

SFC eNewsletter sign up**PARISH LIFE****Assyrian Catholic Community**

Doris Bebla408-315-6608

Bingo

Joe Roulin.....Joesmercedes@yahoo.com

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Mike Livingston.....mlivingston@sfcschool.org

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Finance Council

Tim Smith.....tsmith19983@yahoo.com

ICF Bocce Ball

Camille Orlando.....camille.orlando@yahoo.com

Italian Catholic Federation

Debbie Piro.....debpiro123@yahoo.com

Ladies League

Linnea Sheehy.....SFCLadiesleague@gmail.com

Men's Club

Dave Citrigno.....mensclubcabrini@gmail.com

Parish Council

Sam Nickolas.....sgnickolas@comcast.net

St. Frances Cabrini Food Pantry

SFCpantry@gmail.com408-879-1120.....Ext. 4

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